



heart of toronto's waterfront

Harbourfront centre

York Quay Revitalization Fact Sheet

The revitalization of the Central Waterfront is improving the most heavily used and developed part of the waterfront by creating new public spaces, linking major waterfront destinations and giving the city the grand waterfront boulevard it deserves. The York Quay project is a key part of the overall revitalization of the Central Waterfront.

Location – York Quay Revitalization at Harbourfront Centre

225 Queens Quay West, between York Quay Centre to the west and Queens Quay Terminal to the east; between Queens Quay West to the north and the lakeside promenade and boardwalk to the south.

Overview

The revitalization of York Quay is comprised of three phases, two of which have been completed:

- *Phase 1* (completed 2006): Waterfront Toronto and Harbourfront Centre created a favourite destination on Toronto's waterfront by widening the water's edge promenade, adding a wooden boardwalk and constructing two new finger piers at York Quay.
- *Phase 2* (completed June, 2012): A new 300-stall underground parking garage to replace the surface parking lot on this prime waterfront site.
- *Phase 3* (now underway): The creation of two new public squares and an interim landscape for Harbourfront Centre's future cultural village.

Design Team

Michael Van Valkenburgh and Associates (MVVA)

Construction Team

Ellis Don

Project Dimensions

1.4 hectares

Parking Garage - Facts and Features

Garage Location: 225 Queens Quay West, on the south side of the street at the base of Lower Simcoe St.

Timeline: Construction began February 2011 and the garage opened to the public in June 2012

Garage owner: Harbourfront Centre

Quick garage facts:

- The 3-level 300-space garage increases parking capacity by one-third (from 200 spaces to 300 spaces), while opening up the surface area for public squares.

- The garage was finished on schedule and on budget despite the challenges of building adjacent to the lake.
- The centrepiece of the garage is a 3-storey open light well with a major artwork called *Light Cascade* by award-winning architect and designer James Carpenter to be installed in Sept. 2012.

About *Light Cascade*

- The piece comprises a 3-storey reflective curtain wall of glass and mylar rising from the underground base of the garage 17 metres upward to the landscape above.
- The structure will reflect natural light into the 3 levels of the garage, providing natural light underground.
- At night, light from the base of the piece brings a glow to the central light well and the square above.

Public Squares - Facts and Features

Timeline: Construction has begun and the site will be open to the public in spring 2013

Operator: Harbourfront Centre

Canada Square

A plaza space framed by 44 Metasequoia (redwood) trees at the southeast end of the site overlooking Lake Ontario.

Ontario Square

Featuring 'miniature forests' of native Ontario Aspen trees across the northwest part of the site, Ontario Square will also act as an event space, school bus drop-off/pick-up zone and open plaza space.

Future Cultural Village

An interim landscaped activity area with an info centre, tented activity areas and lawn is planned until financing and designs are completed for future low-scale development with cafés, restaurants, shops, artist studios and architect offices located north of Canada Square on the east side of the site.

Project Budget

The underground parking garage and the new surface landscape has a total budget of approximately \$45 million including design, construction and other project-related costs.

- Budget for underground garage: \$25 million
- Budget for surface landscaping for public squares: \$20 million