

York Quay Revitalization Project Phase II





# Why we're here

#### **Harbourfront Centre**

### • Harbourfront centre

- Harbourfront Centre is a non-profit organization which provides world-renowned programming in the arts, culture, education and recreation.
- It does this at a collection of distinctive venues on the 10 acre site it manages at the heart of Toronto's downtown waterfront.
- The Centre owns and operates several industrial buildings refurbished as cultural
  facilities. The Harbourfront Centre Site includes a hotel, restaurants, condominium
  dwellings, offices and a retail mall. The Centre's overall mandate is to retain in public
  trust the central waterfront acreage, to activate the site through cultural, educational
  and recreational activities and to keep the site accessible and open to all.
- No other institution embodies the diversity of the city and the mosaic of creative energy quite like Harbourfront Centre. Since its inception, the Centre has been introducing Toronto audiences to artists and art forms that would not normally be seen in commercial venues, exploring new and bold frontiers in the arts and creative expression.

#### **Waterfront Toronto**



The revitalization of Toronto's waterfront provides the city, the province and the country with an excellent opportunity to ensure that Toronto remains among the best places in the world to live, work and visit. Revitalization is a significant key to our future prosperity and Canada's much envied standard of living.

#### **Mission**

To put Toronto at the forefront of global cities in the 21st century by transforming the waterfront into beautiful, sustainable new communities, parks and public spaces, fostering economic growth in knowledge-based, creative industries and ultimately: re-defining how the city, province and country are perceived by the world.

#### Vision

Working with the community and public and private sector partners, the Corporation will create waterfront parks, public spaces, cultural institutions and diverse and sustainable commercial and residential communities. We will strive to ensure that Toronto becomes the city where the world desires to live.

## Context

### Site Description

- 1.4 hectares (3.5 acres)
- Surface parking managed by Harbourfront Centre (HFC)
  - 212 car capacity
  - \$1.2 million annual revenue
- Surface area owned by City of Toronto and leased to HFC on a long term lease.
- Sub-surface is owned by the Federal Government
- Zoned as park land (G)

#### York Quay Project





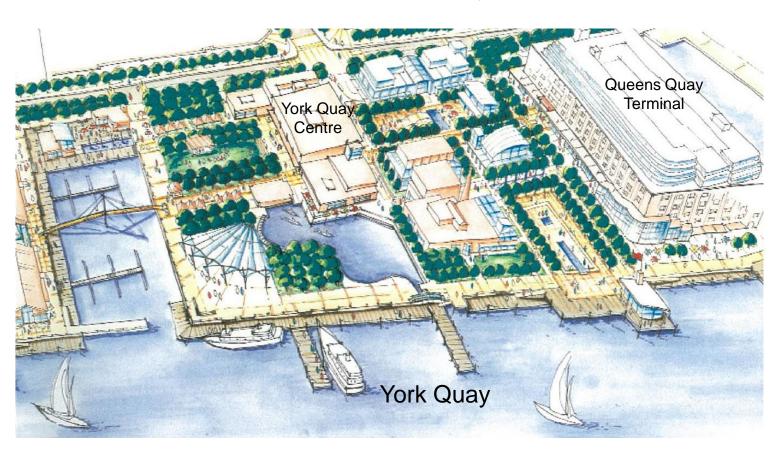
## **Planning Context**

Harbourfront Centre Master Plan, 2000



York Quay

# Planning Context Harbourfront Centre Master Plan, 2000



# York Quay Revitalization Project Phase 1

Phase 1 - York Quay Promenade (Completed 2005)



## York Quay Project, Phase 1

York Quay Promenade



before



after



after

# Planning Context Central Waterfront Master Plan, 2006







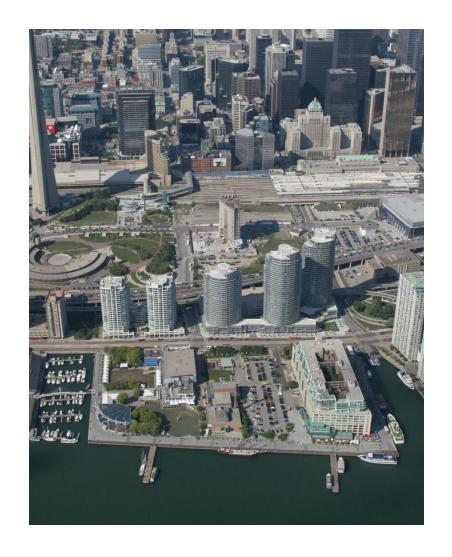




# What we've been doing

- Federal capital funding of \$25
  million had been committed to
  generate a more stable revenue
  stream
- Tested the feasibility of the 2000
   Harbourfront Centre master plan in the context of the 2006 Central Waterfront master plan
- The goal was to evaluate;
  - a) Urban design,
  - b) Programming, and
  - c) Financial feasibility of replacing 3.5 acres of surface parking with a vibrant mixed-use urban park and cultural and retail cluster on top of a new underground parking garage.

## Feasibility Study, 2008



### Methodology

- Developed and tested a shortlist of urban design ideas.
- Additional background studies were prepared including;
  - Demographic and Market needs analysis
  - Traffic impact study,
  - Geotechnical
  - Environmental soil and groundwater
  - Analysis of approvals required



#### Vision

The York Quay Project will be a vibrant waterfront destination located at the physical and cultural apex of Toronto's Waterfront. Harbourfront Centre embodies, like no other institution, the diversity of the city and the mosaic of creative energy that is Toronto.

- Design components for the York Quay Project could include:
  - a) A Cultural Village incorporating retail and cultural uses;
  - b) Two major public squares and public circulation areas;
  - c) Underground parking garage;
  - d) Improvements on current cultural facilities.

### Components

#### **Cultural Village**

The Cultural Village is a "village—like" fabric of culturally diverse retail and cultural uses adjoining the two major public squares.

#### **Public Squares**

Urban Square facing Queens Quay Boulevard Canada Square facing the lake

#### **Underground Parking Garage**

Approximately 300 stall garage that will replace the current surface lot

#### **Cultural Facilities improvements**

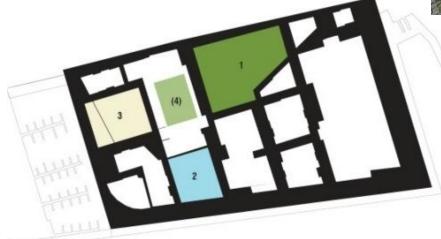
Improvements to the exterior of the Power Plant, Enwave Theatre, and Sirius Stage area

#### **Queens Quay Park**

Queens Quay Park is premised on the creation of one great urban park that encompasses the entire north end of the site. It is intended to be a catalyst for future retail development.



Conceptual Image



#### **Cultural Village**

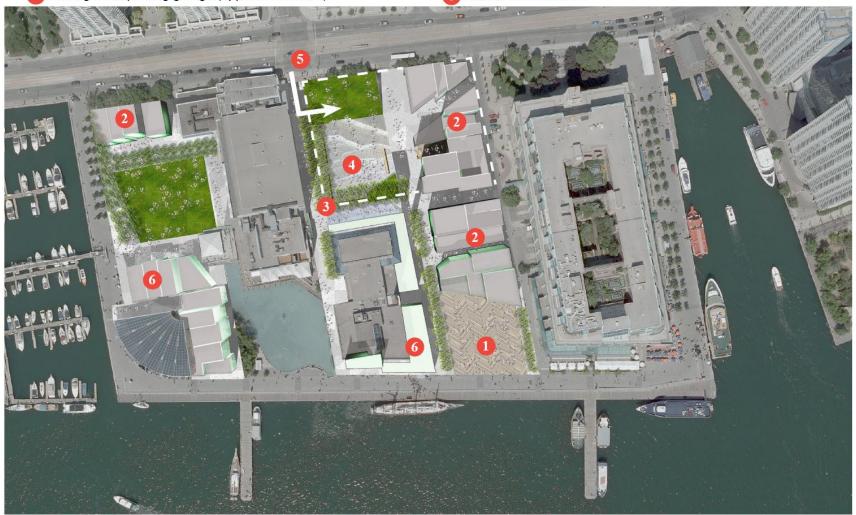
The Cultural Village is composed of two primary public squares and is a "village–like" fabric of culturally diverse retail and cultural uses.



Conceptual Image

- Canada Square
- 2 Cultural Village "Retail/Studio/Commercial" Space
- 3 Underground parking garage (approx. 300 stalls)

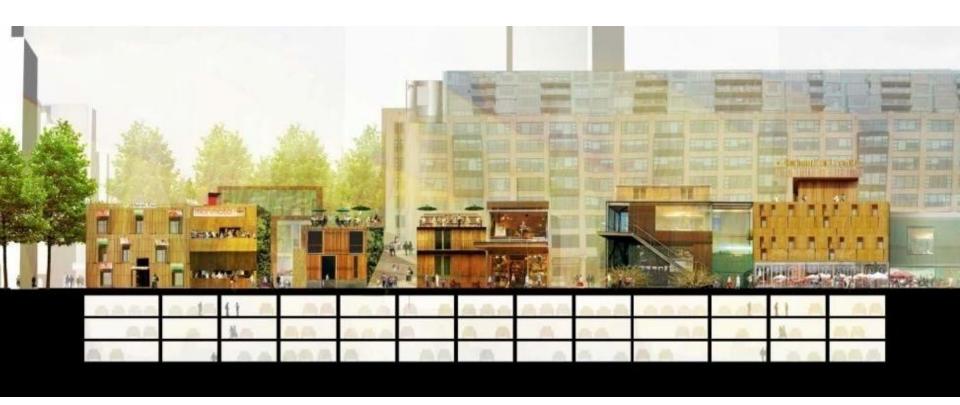
- Urban Square
- Ramp to below-grade parking and potential street-related retail
- 6 Future Cultural Uses



#### York Quay Revitalization Project components

- Phase 1 York Quay Promenade (Completed 2005)
- Phase 2 Underground parking garage (approximately 300 stalls), lake-facing square (Canada Square), and re-zoning for future phases
- 🔲 Future Phases Retail/Commercial/Studio Space (Cultural Village) and urban square









Conceptual Image

Cultural Village Retail Character























## Where we are now

# York Quay Revitalization Project Phase 1

Phase 1 - York Quay Promenade (Completed 2005)



### York Quay Revitalization Project Phase 2

Phase 2 - Underground parking garage (approximately 300 stalls), lake-facing square (Canada Square), and re-zoning for future phases



# York Quay Revitalization Project Future Phases

Future Phases - Retail/Commercial/Studio Space (Cultural Village) and urban square



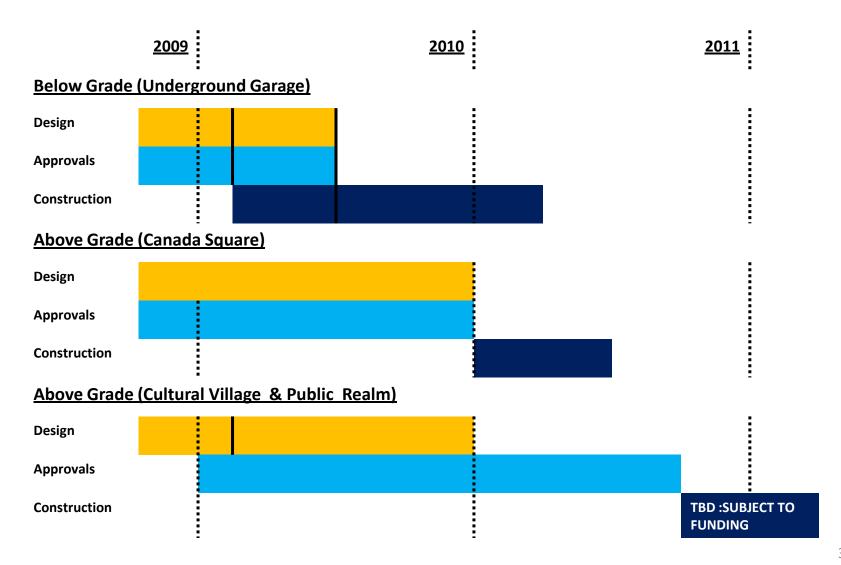
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# Next Steps

#### York Quay Project Phase II Process



## What we would like from you