

# **LOWER DON LANDS QUICK FACTS**

### Size:

Actual: 125 hectare (308 acres)

#### Location:

Western edge: Inner Harbour
Eastern edge: Don Roadway
Northern edge: Rail corridor
Southern edge: Ship Channel

**Proximity:** 20 minute walk to downtown

## **Current/Previous Land Use:**

• The area is located on what was once the largest natural wetland on the Great Lakes.

• In 1912, the Board of the Toronto Harbour Commission began transforming Ashbridges Bay Marsh into a massive new industrial district.

## Planning:

- The Lower Don Lands plans will renaturalize the mouth of the Don River and return it to its rightful prominence within our city and on our waterfront, as well as protect more than 230 hectares of land currently at risk due to flooding.
- This area includes lands south and to the east of the Keating Channel, including most of the Port Lands north of the Ship Channel, and a portion of the South Riverdale community.
- Sun and wind movement studies have been used to shape the orientation of buildings and street blocks in the Keating Channel neighbourhood.
- 13,000 new homes (including 2,500 affordable housing rentals)
- 500,000 sq. ft. of commercial/retail space
- 130 Acres of parks/public spaces including 58 acres of parkland with two event spaces
- Five boat launches along the 5,200 linear metres of waterfrontage
- Three schools with recreation centres, three cultural centres, five child care centres, and one library
- Six LRT stops that ensure public transit within a five-minute walk of all residences and commercial and retail establishments
- Ultra-broadband access throughout
- A coordinated and comprehensive neighborhood public art strategy

# **Design Team/Team Leader:**

Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates Inc., Landscape Architect

#### Team Members:

- AECOM, Civil and Municipal and Marine Engineer
- Applied Ecological Services, Inc., Regional Environmental Ecologist
- Arup, Traffic and Transportation Engineer
- Behnisch Architects (Competition\_2008)
- Carpenter Norris Consulting, Sustainability Consultant
- Gladki Planning Associates, LTD (formerly GHK international Consulting)
   Urban Planner
- Great Eastern Ecology, Micro Ecologist
- Greenberg Consultants Inc., Urban Designer
- Limno-Tech, Hydraulic Engineer
- MMM Group Limited, Urban Planner
- Mack Scogin Merrill Elam Architects, Architect (2009 present)
- Phillips Farevaag Smallenberg, Landscape Architect
- RFR Engineering, Bridge Engineer
- Transsolar Energietechnik GMbH, Climate EngineerTeam Members

#### Awards:

- Institute of Transportation Engineers, Transportation Achievement Award, 2010
- American Institute of Architects, Award of Merit, 2009
- BEX International, Award for Best Futuristic Design, 2009
- Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, Sustainable Development Award, 2008
- American Society of Landscape Architects, Honour in Analysis and Planning, 2008
- City of Toronto, Urban Design Award, 2007

## **Clinton Climate Initiative: Member of the Climate Positive Development Program**

- The Lower Don Lands is one of 16 global founding projects of the Climate Positive Development Program, a Clinton Climate Initiative (CCI) program.
- Along with the other founding projects, the Lower Don Lands will demonstrate climate positive strategies, setting a compelling environmental and economic example for cities to follow.
- The program, launched in by President Bill Clinton in 2009, will support the development of large-scale urban projects that demonstrate cities can grow in ways that are "climate positive."
- Climate positive real estate developments will strive to reduce the amount of onsite CO2 emissions to below zero.