ONTARIO PLACE **revitalization**

URBAN PARK + WATERFRONT TRAIL AT ONTARIO PLACE



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ONTARIO PLACE revitalization

The Right Time for Revitalization



Archived photo of Ontario Place | 1971

May 22 **1971.**

Ontario Place opened its doors to Ontario.

In its first year more than 2.3 million people from across the province and beyond came to experience the cutting-edge architecture, stunning waterfront and multiple entertainment options offered by this new venue on the shores of Lake Ontario.

February 1 **2012.**

The government announced partial closure of Ontario Place and plans to move forward with the revitalization of Ontario

Place to make it a 'must visit' destination and landmark.

Aerial photo of Ontario Place



A Report to Government - Minister's Advisory Panel

- The Minister's Advisory Panel: seven community and business leaders
- Advised the government on a new vision for Ontario Place.



To help inform the new vision for Ontario Place, the panel's work included:

- Listening to Ontarians
- Hearing from key stakeholders
- Consulting previous studies and research
- Learning from other cities
- The government endorsed the report and its 18 recommendations in August 2012.



A New Vision

Imagine a new **year-round, multi-use waterfront destination** where individuals **live, work, play and discover** along the water's edge.



Design and development principles:

- Animating the site 24/7
- Creating easy **public access**
- Being flexible and having the ability to adapt to change
- Enhancing the natural beauty of the surroundings







Moving From Vision to Reality

Understanding the challenges and opportunities of Ontario Place



- **Discussions with the City of Toronto** on ways to collaborate with Exhibition Place.
- Market sounding with leading investors, thought leaders, urban planners and cultural institutions on their perceptions on possible development opportunities.
- Due diligence work. Investigating the site infrastructure, the geotechnical and environmental conditions.







Tonight's Conversation: The First Step — Park and Trail

We are moving ahead with the first step to revitalization by developing a park and trail – a new public realm – on the east island of Ontario Place.

- We heard that green space was top-of-mind for a new Ontario Place.
- The Minister's Advisory Panel Report recommended providing **public access to the waterfront** and an **urban park** for all to enjoy.
- Part of a **broader transformation** across Toronto's waterfront **leading revitalization with great parks** and public spaces.



Working with our Project Partners to Achieve Excellence

The province is working closely with its project partners create a park for all Ontarians that attracts **residents and tourists** to this spectacular part of the waterfront.



Project management, oversight for design and construction procurements, implementing the environmental assessment.





The Design Team







Connecting to Toronto's Waterfront

Working with Waterfront Toronto:

- Consultation and collaboration with the public.
- Creative design.
- Raising the bar for sustainability.





Conducting a Class Environmental Assessment



- **Project activities**
 - Design services, construction, landscaping, etc.
- Consultation
 - Government ministries and agencies
 - General public
- Details
 - Poster boards
- Your input
 - Comment sheet









Feedback from a Range of Groups is Important

We are talking with individuals, organizations and governments to gain insight on the urban park and waterfront trail.









Your Park. Your Ideas.

- We are here tonight to hear from you and build on previous conversations.
- What we heard from our Summer 2013 online and in-person survey....
 - ✓ Weekly park visits increase by four times in the summer season compared to winter.
 - ✓ Most popular park activities people highlighted:
 - Exercise
 - Rest and relax
 - Attend festivals and events
 - Access to waterfront



- We want your ideas! Our consultation process for the park and trail will include:
 - **Dec 4th:** EA open house, meet the design team, initial thoughts
 - January 2014: EA continuation; feedback on conceptual design
 - Early Spring 2014: refined design
 - Late Spring 2014: unveil final design

