



LYTTON PARK RESIDENTS' ORGANIZATION INC.  
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Hon. Doug Ford, Premier, [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Hon. Lisa MacLeod, Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism & Culture Industries, [lisa.macleodco@pc.ola.org](mailto:lisa.macleodco@pc.ola.org)

### **Future of Ontario Place – Open and Transparent Consultation with the City and the Public**

Lytton Park Residents' Organization (LPRO) is an incorporated non-profit association, representing member households from Lawrence Avenue West to Roselawn and Briar Hill Avenues, Yonge Street to Saguenay and Proudfoot Avenue.

One of the lessons we have all learned from the Covid-19 pandemic is the importance of open public space where people can gather safely. Ontario Place has been an important destination for all Ontarians for more than 40 years. We must keep that space public.

We strongly request that the Province work with the City of Toronto and consult with the public openly and transparently, about what they would like to see at a revitalized Ontario Place. The 155-acre site is owned by the public and the public must have a say in its future.

We support former Premier Bill Davis's statement,

*"Ontario Place is and was a Crown Corporation so as to serve the public of Ontario – those living in the GTA and visiting from away. It would be a shame and a disservice if commercial gain replaced the public interest on the present site of Ontario Place."*

We support the principles set out by *Ontario Place for All*:

- Ontario Place must be for ALL and kept publicly accessible.
- Before any changes, there must be a thoughtful, comprehensive public review, with a full and robust public consultation.
- Public interest, not commercial interest, must drive the new vision.
- No casino.

Future plans must:

- acknowledge the waterfront's Indigenous heritage
- maintain Ontario Place as part of Toronto's waterfront park system
- be integrated with the revitalization of Exhibition Place
- celebrate Ontario
- preserve Ontario Place as a recognized cultural heritage landscape including the Cinesphere, the Pods, and the newly added Trillium Park.

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As well, we support the more specific principles approved by Toronto City Council in 2019 as set out in, *Proposed Guiding Principles for the Revitalization of Ontario Place*, based on the Central Waterfront Secondary Plan.

### **a. Removing Barriers/Making Connections:**

- i. integration of planning, programming and governance and consider rationalizing land ownership matters at Ontario Place and Exhibition Place in order to realize natural synergies between the two properties;
- ii. explore opportunities to reduce the barrier effect of Lake Shore Boulevard West between Exhibition Place and Ontario Place; and
- iii. ensure any future planning along Lake Shore Boulevard West is coordinated with a strategy to improve connectivity between the two properties, and provides a human-scaled edge to the popular Martin Goodman Trail;

### **b. Building a Network of Spectacular Waterfront Parks and Public Spaces:**

- i. secure and enhance public access for the full length of the Ontario Place shoreline;
- ii. retain Trillium Park and the William Davis Trail as key place-making features at Ontario Place;
- iii. explore low-impact recreational uses for the West Island shoreline; and
- iv. consult with Indigenous peoples, including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation on opportunities to weave Indigenous place-making into the fabric of Ontario Place;

### **c. Promoting a Clean and Green Environment:**

- i. utilize findings of the Council-endorsed Waterfront Transit Network Plan to improve access to, from and between Ontario Place and Exhibition Place;
- ii. explore opportunities to consolidate large expanses of surface parking below grade in order to create a more walkable and transit-supportive environment;
- iii. implement the City's draft biodiversity strategy, build on the success of Trillium Park, extend green corridors into Exhibition Place; and
- iv. protect and strengthen the site's shoreline Natural Heritage features;

### **d. Creating Dynamic and Diverse New Communities:**

- i. Ontario Place should include a mix of non-residential uses and activities that reflect its waterfront location and rebuild its original goal of being a showcase and destination for Ontario;

### **e. Openness and Transparency:**

- i. make decisions through public process, with full transparency of the government decision-making process; and
- ii. responsiveness to the broader community.

We look forward to your government's response to this request.

Sincerely,  
Maureen Kapral  
Vice-President, Lytton Park Residents' Organization

c: Toronto Area MPPs  
Mayor John Tory and City Council  
Ontario Place for All