Open House to Display Proposals for a New Visitor Centre at Fort York

Fort York has waited a long time for a building specially designed to enrich the visitor’s experience on the site and to support its operation. Until now the orientation presentation, the area for selling tickets, souvenirs and snacks, the staff lockers and offices have been housed in the original 1813-15 structures within the ramparts. This has caused much wear and tear on the historic buildings and been far from ideal in terms of how the fort functioned.

With the commemoration of the bicentennial of the War of 1812 edging closer, the Friends of Fort York in collaboration with the Fort York Foundation and the City of Toronto, which owns and operates the fort, resolved to raise funds for the construction of a Visitor Centre. A first step in this process is an architectural design competition. You’re invited to view the designs and to comment.

Five design teams were selected to participate in the competition from a field of 31 who submitted proposals following a Call for Expressions of Interest. The five finalists are: Baird Sampson Neuert Architects; Diamond and Schmitt Architects; du Toit Allsopp Hillier/du Toit Architects Limited; Patkau Architects Inc. with Kearns Mancini Architects Inc.; and rawdesign with Gareth Hoskins Architects.

**DATE:** Dec. 4 – Dec. 6, noon-6pm  
**WHERE:** Toronto City Hall, Members’ Lounge, 100 Queen St. W  
**REMARKS:** Mayor David Miller and Deputy Mayor Joe Pantalone will provide opening remarks on Fri. Dec 4 at noon
THE FRIENDS OF FORT YORK

...are pleased to send you our quarterly newsletter, *The Fife & Drum*, and occasional issues of *Drumroll*, to keep you abreast of happenings at the fort, interesting stories from its history, recipes, and the like. Also, we want to tell you about the exciting times ahead as many groups in Canada and the US prepare to commemorate the bicentennial of the War of 1812.

At Fort York our big project for 2012 will be to build a new Visitor Centre to house food services, orientation theatres, offices, community meeting rooms, a museum store, and a library-resource centre, thereby saving wear-and-tear on the historic buildings where these facilities are located today. We’ll also renovate many of the exhibits.

As we move ahead we would like to forge a stronger connection with you by inviting you to become a member of our organization if you are not a member already. See our application form below outlining the different levels of membership. Please consider this suggestion and support, if you can, our efforts on behalf of Fort York.

With membership comes the knowledge that you are contributing to a good cause and swelling the ranks of those who believe Fort York is important to Toronto. And when the Friends act and speak out to advocate the best interests of Fort York, we will do so a bit more confidently, slightly louder, knowing you are among our ranks.

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Yes! I would like to support the Friends of Fort York

I am pleased to: JOIN ☐ RENEW ☐

Name ____________________________

Address ____________________________

City ____________________________

Province: ____________________________ Postal Code: ____________________________

Phone (day) ____________________________

Phone (night) ____________________________

E-mail ____________________________

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP LEVEL

☐ INDIVIDUAL: $40

☐ FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: $60

☐ SPECIAL FRIENDS: $100-$249

☐ PATRON: $250 or more

PAYMENT OPTIONS

☐ CHEQUE (payable to Friends of Fort York)

☐ VISA AMOUNT ____________________________

Card #: ____________________________

Expiry Date: ____________________________

Name on Card ____________________________

Signature ____________________________

☐ Please send me more information on the Fort York Foundation

MAIL TO: Friends of Fort York, c/o Nancy Baines Membership Chair, 102 Roselawn Ave., Toronto ON, M4R 1E6