

## Chairs Committee Meeting – March 12, 2018 Item 6 – Board Communications with Government Stakeholders

Agenda Item	6. Board Communications with Government Stakeholders
Purpose	Discussion
Key Message	n/a
Areas of note/ Key issues	<ol> <li>Helen Burstyn will discuss recent meeting between Provincially appointed Board members and the Province.</li> <li>There are no materials for this portion.</li> <li>Marisa Piattelli will discuss attached memo outlining approach to Management support for Board's communications with Government Stakeholders.</li> </ol>
Expected Outcome	n/a
Key Takeaways/ Next Steps	n/a



## <u>MEMORANDUM</u>

To: Members of the Chairs Committee

From: Marisa Piattelli, Chief Strategy Officer

CC: Will Fleissig

Date: March 8, 2018

Re: Board Communications with Government Stakeholders

The purpose of this memo is to outline an approach for more robust support from management for the Board's outreach to and interaction with government partners.

Given the many points of entry for Waterfront Toronto's interaction with governments (tri-partite, bilateral, unilateral, inter and intra departmental, formal and informal) across a series of multi-disciplinary projects and across many players at both bureaucratic and political levels, the objective is to ensure that Board members are armed with full and up to date information and briefing materials in advance of meetings with governments.

It is our understanding that currently federal Board members meet with federal officials on a quarterly basis, provincial Board members meet as required and requested by both the reporting Minister and the Premier's office and municipal Board connect informally and individually with the Mayor's office. Board members also usefully re-enforce government connections and relationships across government appointment lines.

Historically, Waterfront Toronto has supported Board outreach to governments through a set of established processes – not codified in a protocol – but rather developed over time as operating practice:

- In advance of a government meeting with Board members whether that meeting is requested by government, by the Board or by management - a briefing note and often a deck are prepared by management outlining current issues and highlighting most recent discussions
- A pre-meeting call is arranged with Board members to review the briefing materials and provide any clarification as required
- If management is not participating in the meeting, a post meeting informal debrief session is arranged by the Chair or by other attending Board member for management. The latter ensures consistency of message and approach by management and the Board vis a vis government partners. It also provides another layer of facilitation and accountability in tracking government expectations.

In the past this process has been helpful to management and to the Board in coordinating and strategizing with Board members on optimizing our key relationship with governments.

Subject to concurrence by the Board, we would like to recommend that management returns to the above process in supporting Board meetings with government – with whatever additions or changes the Board may wish to provide. A key element to ensuring the maximum benefit and effectiveness of the process is for management to be aware in advance of planned Board meetings with governments.