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Ontario



WATERFRONT TORONTO ANNOUNCES WINNER OF JARVIS SLIP DESIGN COMPETITION

Jury selects "Sugar Beach"

February 01, 2008 - Waterfront Toronto, joined by its government partners, today announced that a team led by Claude Cormier Architectes Paysagistes Inc. is the winner of the Jarvis Slip Public Space Design Competition. The design competition was held to produce an innovative design and to bring a fresh, new perspective to the one-acre site at the foot of Lower Jarvis Street.

"We value the commitment and design standards set by all three teams and their understanding of this vital piece of public space on Toronto's waterfront," said Waterfront Toronto Chair Mark Wilson. "We look forward to working with Claude Cormier Architectes Paysagistes Inc. in animating this very important public amenity."

The jury unanimously selected the Claude Cormier team's design "Sugar Beach" as the winning submission. "The jury appreciated the big idea approach for the design of Jarvis Slip with its connectivity and integration to the central waterfront promenade design, and the proposal for the establishment of a larger greater system of beach designs throughout Toronto's waterfront" stated Siamak Hariri of Hariri Pontarini Architects, and Chair of the jury.

The winning design successfully created three distinct spaces, a public plaza, a promenade, and a sand beach along the dock wall. Sugar Beach is the second urban beach proposed for Toronto's downtown waterfront, following the first very successful HtO Park. The conceptual reference for Sugar Beach is based on the industrial heritage of the adjacent Redpath Sugar Refinery, just west of the site. The jury agreed that the design had a confidence, a purity and a playfulness that would make "Sugar Beach" a favourite destination.

Other members of the jury included architects Peter Clewes, Lisa Rapoport, and landscape architect Greg Smallenberg.

"Our Government understands that Torontonians want to see real progress in the revival of their waterfront and we're proud to be a partner in this remarkable transformation," said Senator Michael Meighen on behalf of Canada's Environment Minister John Baird. "I want to congratulate the winning firm for designing a welcoming

public space on Toronto's waterfront that will encourage Canadians to enjoy the water's edge. By investing in the revitalization of Toronto's waterfront we are not only supporting the downtown economy but also the Canadians who work and live here."

Waterfront renewal is being led with the creation of parks and public spaces. Jarvis Slip Public Space will be among five major parks and public spaces in the revitalized East Bayfront community. This site will be a key component in Toronto's network of world renowned waterfront public spaces.

"We have emerged with an incredible design that will be a defining feature on our waterfront for generations to come," said Public Infrastructure Renewal Minister David Caplan. "Claude Cormier's outstanding design for the Jarvis Street Slip is another example of the tremendous progress we're making to transform the Toronto's waterfront into a more people-friendly part of the city."

The jury felt that the Claude Cormier "Sugar Beach" team best addressed the competition's key objective of providing a signature urban public space that will anchor the new East Bayfront community.

The other members of the Sugar Beach design team include David Leinster of the Planning Partnership and Beth Kapusta, both of Toronto, as well as lighting designer Leni Schwendinger of New York.

"On behalf of the City, I would like to congratulate Claude Cormier Architectes Paysagistes Inc.," said Mayor David Miller. "All three competitors have experience in revitalizing Toronto's waterfront and all of them represent the kind of brilliant thinking and imagination that will make Toronto's waterfront a place truly for people. I want to thank them all for their dedication to this challenge."

The additional teams participating in the design competition were Janet Rosenberg + Associates and West 8 + DTAH.

In addition to providing a public gathering space for the future East Bayfront community, the Jarvis Slip Public Space will also serve as forecourt to the adjacent First Waterfront Place, which will be the home of Corus Entertainment.

"Corus Entertainment is proud to be an active participant in the transformation of the Toronto waterfront," said John Cassaday, President and CEO, Corus Entertainment Inc. "We congratulate Claude Cormier's Sugar Beach team on their well-deserved selection and look forward to working with them in making our city's waterfront a vibrant, thriving community."

Construction of this \$4M project is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2009 and to be complete in 2010.

The federal, provincial and city governments established Waterfront Toronto to oversee and lead the renewal of Toronto's central waterfront. Waterfront Toronto currently has a number of major waterfront projects underway in the West Don Lands, East Bayfront and Central Waterfront.

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