



KUWABARA TO HEAD UP NEW WATERFRONT DESIGN PANEL

TORONTO, March 11, 2005 — Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation chair Bob Fung today announced the creation of the Waterfront Design Review Panel as part of the corporation's commitment to make design excellence a defining characteristic of the waterfront development that is slated to start later this year.

Fung also announced that internationally acclaimed architect Bruce Kuwabara will be the panel's first chair.

"Plans are complete for the first new waterfront neighbourhoods. As we move into implementation, it is critical that the standards called for in the plans get translated into what is actually built. The design review panel can help achieve this, particularly with Bruce Kuwabara's considerable talent and expertise," said Fung.

"It's an honour to be involved in something that is going to have such a tremendous impact on the fabric of our city. Both the vision and the high expectations that have been set must be met," Kuwabara said. "The design review panel gives us the forum and the expertise to take an integrated approach and make sure that the buildings, the streets, the parks all come together in a whole that is more than the sum of its parts."

The role of the Waterfront Design Review Panel will be to provide objective, professional advice to TWRC on the design components of development proposals, site plans and buildings, parks, streets and public art, design competitions for parks and public spaces and precinct plans. The panel will also provide advice to TWRC on waterfront development applications that the City of Toronto asks the corporation to comment on.

The panel will carry out its work within the framework of the City of Toronto's Official Plan, the Central Waterfront Secondary Plan, TWRC Precinct Plans, relevant urban design guidelines and zoning by-laws.

Sustainability will be a critical factor in the review process.

Specific projects TWRC anticipates that the panel will review in 2005 include the design components of developer request for proposals for the West Don Lands and the East Bayfront, the design of Don River Park and a design competition for Lake Ontario Park.

Precinct plans for the West Don Lands and the East Bayfront are expected to go to Toronto City Council for approval in May.

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The panel will be made up of eleven members — six architects, two landscape architects, one planner, one engineer and the chair who is a member of one of the above professions.

TWRC would like members of these professions who are interested in sitting on the design review panel to contact the corporation. TWRC hopes to have the panel selected and up and running by May.

The City of Vancouver, the City of Niagara Falls and the National Capital Commission in Ottawa have established, well respected design review panels. The City of Ottawa also recently approved the creation of a design review panel.

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