



PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE

Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A2

MAY 19 2016

Dear Mayor Tory and Co-signatories:

Thank you for taking the time to write to me concerning your interest in Canada rejoining the Bureau International des Expositions (BIE).

As outlined in your letter, the previous government withdrew Canada's membership from the BIE; however, should the city of Toronto choose to submit a bid to host an exposition – a process that begins with a decision by City Council taking a position on this issue – our Government is prepared to explore next steps.

We are committed to strengthening Canada's place in the world as well as restoring our country's reputation as an active and constructive partner of the international community.

As this issue would also be of interest to the Minister of Canadian Heritage, the Honourable Mélanie Joly, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Honourable Stéphane Dion, I have asked that a copy of our exchange be sent to their offices for their information.

Thank you once again for the letter, and I wish you all the best.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Justin Trudeau", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

His Worship John Tory et al.  
Expo 2025 Canada  
Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen Street West, Suite A 5  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5H 2N2

May 20, 2016

Dear Mayor Tory,

**Re: Private sector support for the ongoing exploration of an Expo 2025 bid**

We write today as Toronto business leaders who understand the power of a moment to align stakeholders and to get bold things done for our city.

Expo 2025 has the potential to enhance Canada's brand, to accelerate work that is already planned for Toronto's Portlands, and to enhance the economy in our region.

Canada is a beacon on the planet for multiculturalism and pluralism, and there is no better place than Toronto to welcome the world to an Expo, where more than 50% of our citizens are born outside of the country. Our Prime Minister is committed to re-shaping the perception of Canada on the global stage, and we believe an Expo is a great tool to do so, and that our city's "citizen ambassadors" will be great intermediaries between their home and native lands.

All levels of government are committed to completing vital infrastructure such as flood proofing the Don River, cleaning up the Portlands and completing the transit links in the area. An Expo effort will accelerate this work, and the incremental costs of hosting an Expo are modest in contrast with the benefits. Unlike an Olympic bid, the costs of pavilions are paid for by visiting countries, and unlike stadiums, the legacy of an Expo is a vibrant mixed use neighbourhood with beautiful public realm, affordable housing, retail and institutional uses.

Economically speaking; before, during and after, Toronto benefits from an Expo. Before, Toronto benefits from the construction jobs and materials purchased in preparation for an Expo. During, Toronto benefits from the activity associated with 40 million turnstyle visits. After, Toronto benefits by selling the land it owns for hundreds of millions of dollars and collecting \$50M-\$70M in property tax per year, in perpetuity.

It is understood that more work needs to be done to prove to ourselves that we can host this event in an economic and socially responsible way, and to meet the requirements of your own Mega Events framework.

An Expo bid requires alignment of three levels of government, and all look to the City of Toronto first, for its commitment to the effort. We write today to ask for your leadership on this file, and to request that City Council give us permission to study this opportunity further, at no cost to the City. The Expo bid team is made up of a broad and deep cross section of volunteers from the arts, culture, labour and business. There are hundreds of volunteers, who have logged thousands of hours, and they remain ready to do more heavy lifting to prove the merits of the plan.

The undersigned are willing, as your private sector partners, to assist in this effort with a financial contribution to underwrite the costs of the next step of studying Expo 2025.

May 20, 2016

Mayor John Tory  
Office of the Mayor  
City Hall, 2nd Floor  
100 Queen St. West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Mayor Tory:

### **Re: Canada's EXPO 2025 Bid**

We the undersigned coalition of business leaders in the construction, design and infrastructure sectors are writing to encourage you and all City Council members to support Canada's proposed EXPO 2025 bid.

EXPO events enable host countries to define themselves on a global stage, showcasing their talent, ingenuity and culture. EXPO 2025 Canada will give our nation an excellent opportunity to punch above our weight, leveraging our assets to host the world and celebrate the very best in human endeavour. Toronto's Port Lands is widely regarded as the ideal hosting site. An innovative and sustainable development model would be a dynamic catalyst for the Toronto region. EXPOs have a far larger attendance than other international events, including the Olympic Games, in part because this event spans six months creating long-term economic benefits and giving the host city a global cultural legacy.

We recognize that there will be challenges to hosting this event, but this region's positive experience with the 2015 Pan Am/Parapan Am Games proves that we have the capability to stage a large scale event. Our shared success has always hinged on partnership and collaboration and we believe that by working together with other orders of government, we can develop a compelling bid submission.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

*Bob Blazelevski*

Bob Blazelevski  
COO & Executive Vice President,  
DiamondCorp



Rob Bradford  
Executive Director, Toronto and Area Road  
Builders Association (TARBA)



Richard Lyall  
President,  
Residential Construction Council of Ontario  
(RESCON)



Andy Manahan  
Executive Director,  
Residential and Civil Construction Alliance of Ontario  
(RCCAO)



Gerry Mulhern  
Executive Director,  
Ontario Concrete Pipe Association



Jack Oliveira  
Business Manager,  
LIUNA Local 183



Aldo Paganelli  
President, Toronto Zenith Contracting Limited



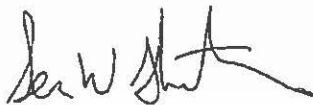
Sandro Perruzza  
CEO, Ontario Society of Professional Engineers



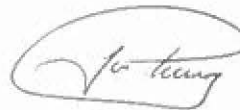
Phillip Rubinoff  
President, Laurier Homes



Richard Soberman,  
Professor Emeritus, University of Toronto Engineering



Sean W. Strickland  
CEO, Ontario Construction Secretariat



Joe W. Tiernay  
Executive Director,  
Ontario Good Roads Association

May 22, 2016

**To: Mayor Tory and members of the City of Toronto Executive Committee**  
**From: David Crombie**

There comes a time in the life of every major city where one must look ahead and envision where we want to be in the long-term ... how will we achieve prosperity, and also new and expanded opportunities for our children, youth, and citizens.

That is a key reason as to why I support efforts to further explore a Toronto bid for Expo 2025.

As we all know, and also felt and experienced first-hand, there has been an unmistakable positive energy and "buzz" created by our hosting the Pan Am / Parapan Games. Toronto can do it, and do it well: a world event executed superbly, on time and under budget, generating enormous citizen involvement and pride and bringing about a concrete legacy of investment. It's a spirit and a legacy that Expo could achieve as well.

As you know, I have spent much of my life seeking to improve our waterfront, and the full regeneration and revitalization of this very special and unique area of our watershed, and our Greater Toronto Region. Collectively, we want to do it and we want to do it right.

We have an excellent Waterfront / Port Lands site available for Expo, one that would actually be unique in the world amongst other Expo bids. A 2025 bid could, in fact, help be a catalyst (with hard and fast deadlines) for needed infrastructure, transit, and flood protection ... all things that must also occur before major re-development (regardless of what it is) goes in there.

This flood proofing is also critical to the mayor's SmartTrack initiative & for the Premier's RER (Regional Express Rail) station and is needed for the future Port Lands re-development and acceleration that Council wants to see happen, and that it unanimously supported in 2012.

You may also be aware that a few years ago former provincial Finance Minister Greg Sorbara completed a comprehensive report on tourism in the province "*Discovering Ontario: A report on the future of tourism*" calling for a doubling of the tourism revenues by the early 2020's. An Expo in Ontario would significantly advance efforts towards that target and would boost Ontario's tourism standing, profile and jobs in a meaningful and concrete way.