

## RE.

EX19.2 Support for The Next Phase of Waterfront Revitalization

## TO.

Mayor Olivia Chow and Members of the Executive Committee

## DATE.

06 December 2024

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## Dear Mayor Chow and Members of the Executive,

We are writing to thank the City of Toronto for their work to continue the incredible waterfront revitalization work that has been accomplished with all three levels of government through partners, including Waterfront Toronto. The mandate of our Business Improvement Area is to support the development of Toronto's waterfront as a premier destination that is well-connected to the rest of the city and beautiful, clean and vibrant all year-round. Our business community has benefitted significantly from the development of Queens Quay, the eastern waterfront and now the Port Lands to date, and we are encouraged to see continued tri-level commitments to maximize the waterfront's growth potential.

We are pleased to see commitment to continued enabling infrastructure support, including eastern waterfront and Port Lands development, recreation space and housing infrastructure investments. We are specifically pleased to see progress toward:

- A 'destinations/attractions' study that can maximize development of the waterfront corridor as an attraction that will eventually extend through the central waterfront and its Harbourfront Centre and Power Plant Gallery, the Malting Silos area that includes the Canada Ireland Foundation, the City and Bentway's 'Under Gardiner Corridor Public Realm Plan,' as well as the revitalizations of Exhibition Place and Ontario Place, too.
- Marine Use Strategy advancement, which we expect will include additional marine transportation connections around the harbour, and expanded dock and pier space to operate commercial and tourism vessels.
- Continued commitments to the Waterfront East LRT's full funding soon, including expediting interim bus-lane solutions on Queens Quay East. While we expect the long-term solution for transit is a dedicated and continued eastern expansion of the light-rail currently on the western waterfront, we appreciate the consideration of bus-priority lanes in the interim that will assist in moving people prior to the LRT's full construction, and without removing current lanes of mixed-use travel.

Thank you for this exciting next step for the waterfront. Our organization will encourage businesses to provide support and feedback as we learn additional details about the future of waterfront growth.

Sincerely,

Tim Kocur, Executive Director Waterfront BIA