

Update Downsview

Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee
September 9, 2025





Agenda

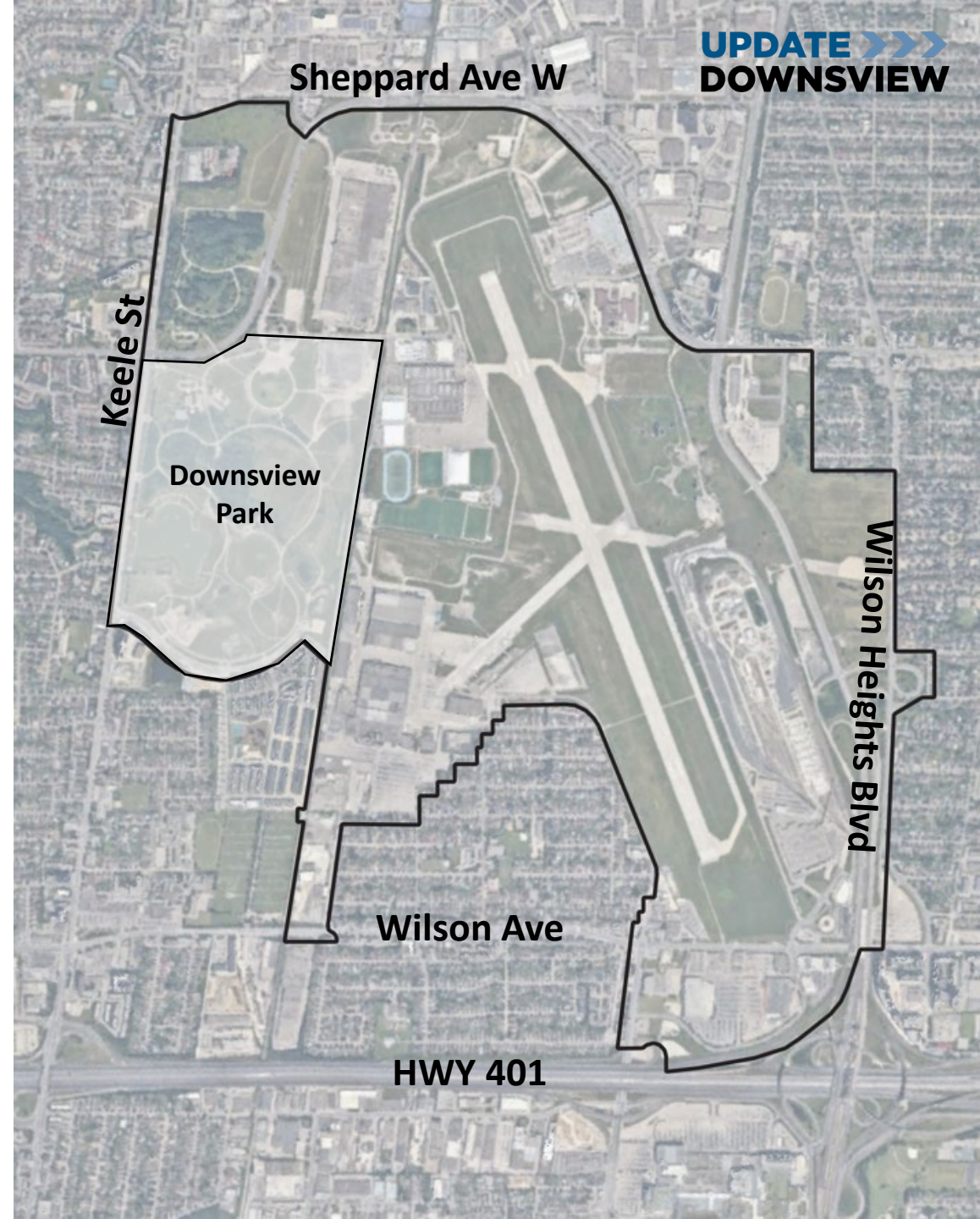
Indigenous Community
Resource Group (ICRG)

- Overview
- Terms of Reference
- Application Process
- Membership Selection
- Next Steps



Project Overview

- A master planning and redevelopment project for the former Downsview airport and surrounding lands
- A vision of building a resilient, sustainable, equitable complete community
- The City is working with the major property owners
 - Canada Lands Company
 - Northcrest Developments



Downsview Engagement Groups



Indigenous Community Resource Group (ICRG)

- The urban Indigenous focus groups from earlier phases of Downsview identified a need for an Indigenous group to support the implementation of the Community Development Plan actions
- A new advisory committee made up of 16 members who represent diverse Nations, genders, ages, and community roles
- The ICRG will provide feedback on proposed development in Downsview:
 - Housing
 - Community services and facilities
 - Employment and economic opportunities
 - Parks and open spaces
 - Recreation centre(s)
 - Streets and transportation



Terms of Reference

Application Process

- Invitations to apply were sent to:
 - Past Downsview urban Indigenous focus group participants
 - Additional Indigenous businesses and organizations added by Cambium Indigenous Professional Services (our consultant)
 - The AAAC Chair & Vice Chair as well as the Executive Director of TASSC to share with their networks
- We invited over 100 individuals and organizations to apply and received 30 applications
- Applications were open from July 23 to Aug 15, 2025

Membership Selection

1. Ranked applicants based on their community roles and intersectional identities to ensure diverse membership
2. Reviewed written responses and filled gaps in representation
 - From the July 29th meeting, the AAAC suggested we include youth, community advocates, housing providers, and someone with a legal/policy background
 - Gaps = Inuit, Métis people, men, 2-Spirit people, youth, small businesses, housing organizations, legal/policy background

16 Members of the ICRG

Nation

- 1 Inuk
- 2 Métis people
- 13 First Nation people representing:
 - Attawapiskat FN
 - Batchawana FN
 - Beausoleil FN
 - Cayuga Nation - Six Nations
 - Kebaowek FN
 - Mississaugas of the Credit FN
 - Obashkaandagaang FN
 - Shawanaga FN
 - Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory
 - Wasauksing FN
 - Wikwemikong FN

Gender

- 12 women, 4 men, 1 2-Spirit person, 1 LGBTQIA+ person

Age

- 3 youth, 10 adults, 3 seniors

Community Roles

- 3 Elders, 5 Knowledge Keepers, 11 Indigenous Community Leaders, 8 Indigenous Service Providers, 3 Business Leaders, 5 Cultural Leaders, 4 Artists, 2 Educators, 9 Professionals, 2 Students, 8 Community Citizens

Next Steps

Upcoming Meetings

- 1st ICRG Meeting (Introductions & Overview) = September 10th
- Virtual meetings will be held every 6-8 weeks until Dec 31, 2027

Discussion with the AAAC

- Do you have feedback about the application process or the membership selection methods?
- How do we envision the ICRG and AAAC interacting?
 - Note: 2 members from the AAAC applied and have been selected for the ICRG



**Miigwetch - Nia:wen – Nīkānītān manācihit
– Marsi – Nakuramik – Thank you**