

The Corleck Building
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Mayor Olivia Chow
Deputy Mayor Ausma Malik
Members of Toronto City Council
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON

Dear Mayor Chow, Deputy Mayor Malik and Members of Council,

On behalf of the Canada Ireland Foundation, I am writing to express our full support for Motion MM34.9 regarding the rehabilitation of the Amsterdam Bridge at Harbourfront Centre.

Canada Ireland Foundation is nearing completion of the Corleck, a new cultural centre on the waterfront that will provide a permanent home for Irish and Canadian artistic collaboration. Our work, like that of our colleagues at Harbourfront Centre, is rooted in the belief that arts and culture strengthen communities, spark imagination, and create a richer civic life for residents and visitors alike.

Harbourfront Centre and the Canada Ireland Foundation are part of a shared ecosystem of cultural destinations on the waterfront. The Amsterdam Bridge is a vital pedestrian connection within this network. It links people to performances, galleries, festivals, public art, and gathering spaces. Its closure has been felt not only by Harbourfront Centre, but by the surrounding cultural and community partners who rely on accessible and welcoming public space to connect with audiences.

Reinvestment in the Amsterdam Bridge is reinvestment in the public realm that frames and supports cultural activity. It enhances the visitor experience. It encourages people to explore the waterfront on foot. It strengthens the sense of a connected cultural district. Cultural organizations depend on these shared civic assets. When our public spaces are beautiful, accessible, and inviting, our programming reaches further and resonates more deeply.

We are pleased to offer our wholehearted support for this important initiative and commend the collaborative effort between Harbourfront Centre, CreateTO, City staff, and Deputy Mayor Malik in bringing this forward.

Thank you for your continued leadership and your commitment to the future of a vibrant, accessible, and culturally rich Toronto waterfront.

With kind regards,

William Peat

William B. Peat
Executive Director

Canada Ireland Foundation

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