

Waterside Inn: Business luxury

Mississauga's boutique hotel, the Waterside Inn, located right in the heart of Port Credit, and cosy to the Credit, is a gathering place for the best business clients.

With short or extended stay, it continues to be one of the prettiest and most relaxing hotels in the entire GTA, and located right near the GO Transit line for easy access to Toronto.

The Waterside Inn provides the perfect select setting for meetings, conferences and seminars — peaceful lakeside surroundings afford the focus one requires without the stress of long distance travel.

Located in Port Credit Village and only 20 minutes to downtown Toronto or Pearson International airport, The Waterside Inn offers uniquely designed and fully-equipped meeting rooms. Its executive boardrooms have state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment and complimentary internet connections in each room.

The Port Credit Ballroom offers a total of 5,430 square feet and it is divisible into three sections. The room is tastefully decorated in soft aqua colours and each section features an antique crystal chandelier.

Just perfect for weddings or company get-togethers.

The ceiling height is 12 feet to the lowest portion of each chandelier. The south section features a walkout terrace through three sets



The Waterside Inn meeting rooms are perfect for any business get together. With a great venue, great food, and close to GO Transit and only 20 minutes from Toronto, it's a bonanza for the best in business. Inset: Waterside Inn's director of Sales and Marketing Ms. Toni Frankfurter celebrated her first anniversary at the hotel last month.

of glass doors. The north section also offers natural lighting.

The south and north sections each offer electronic blackout curtains and all sections

feature electronic drop down screens and audio inputs to the house system.

For meetings, why not try the River Room?

Located close to the ballroom, the River Room offers boardroom seating for up to 15 persons. It offers natural lighting and features original artwork.

The Lakeshore Room is located on the second floor of the hotel and offers boardroom seating for up to 10 persons with plush, leather high-backed chairs.

The Hurontario Room is next door to the Lakeshore Room, and offers boardroom seating for up to 10 persons and also offers leather high-backed chairs.

The Lakeshore and the Hurontario Rooms can be combined to offer boardroom seating for up to 20 persons.

The Penthouse Suites — one and two bedroom — are flexible enough to be used as breakout rooms. These suites are well appointed and offer full kitchen facilities, along with living and dining rooms and balconies that offer sweeping views of Lake Ontario and/or Port Credit Marina.

With a brand new website to guide you through the entire hotel, including its fabulous Breakwater dining room, The Waterside is a business person's best friend when staying in Mississauga.

Check out its new website at www.watersideinn.ca.

A wonderful opportunity on our Waterfront

The Waterfront Task Force of the Mississauga Summit has been meeting for the past two years, studying waterfront renewal projects worldwide, debating different types of development plans, funding schemes and organizational structures, while at the same time dreaming about what could be achieved in Lakeview, and along the 22 km waterfront in Port Credit and South Sheridan.

Then just as the time was coming to unveil publically their recommendation: that a waterfront development corporation was the best vehicle to ensure the best planning, development and city assets, the Ford Brothers proposed the opposite for Toronto. The Fords attacked Waterfront Toronto and recommended a private sector solution including a ferris wheel, a monorail and a mega mall.

Last month the Waterfront Task Force held its last meeting prior to the Mississauga Summit and invited a pre-eminent architect, Ken Greenberg, with decades of experience in waterfront developments worldwide, and particularly Toronto, to speak. His talk: Toronto, a cautionary tale, provides great advice for Mississauga and the development of our waterfront but it's also good advice for many public and private organizations.

The Toronto aspiration to be reconnected with its Lake Ontario waterfront goes back several generations as the port, railways and industry cut the city off from its lakeside location. Similarly Lakeview in Mississauga hasn't had a view of, or access to, Lake Ontario since before WWII. Toronto has been disappointed with its attempts at waterfront development several times before, including with the federal government project, Harbourfront. In the '80s Toronto had the start of a good plan but with the recession of 1982 expedient decisions were made that allowed a condo curtain to be built. Now with the closure of the Lakeview generating station, what is Mississauga to do, follow Toronto's lead, leave it to the Ontario Government of OPG that owns the land, or get proactive?

In 2000, while Toronto was chasing the Olympic Bid, three levels of government formed Waterfront Toronto, with great flair and commitments of half a billion dollars each, but with some fatal flaws, according to Greenberg:

1. Too many competing agencies continued to exist, including Tedco, which was leasing land for industrial uses, Toronto Port Authority running the port and the airport, the Mayor's Waterfront Secretariat and several City departments, as well as Waterfront Toronto. Greenberg described this as "five different teams on the same field, no referees, and they didn't even know where the goal posts were." Competing groups with different objectives led to a very ambiguous situation. We risk this here in Mississauga.

BRIAN CROMBIE

VISIONING



2. A theory of environmental clean up that was unworkable. They needed to be able to borrow against the equity in the land so that you can get ahead of the development, but land was never transferred to the corporation and the corporation wasn't allowed to borrow at all. The clean up was therefore too slow causing a slower pace on everything else.

In the same 10 year time frame a beautiful

waterfront in Sweden was developed housing 10,000 people and employing 10,000. Land was ceded to the Corporation and it could borrow to fund clean up, development and itself.

3. Then a Mayor and his brother came in and said "I want to do something completely different", and every investor and developer lost faith. There is a fundamental disconnect between the timing of a good waterfront development or other real estate revitalizations and the typical election cycle. You need an organization that is impervious to changes in City Hall, and an independent Board with governance and appropriate long term time frames for development and value creation.

Compare the St. Paul MN. Corporation that has worked well through three administrations from different political parties, to the vulnerability in Toronto this fall to a change in Mayor - it was truly a drama in Toronto.

4. Organizational capability needs to be developed so that you're not beholden to high priced consultants, and you need a clear mandate. The private sector can't do it by itself because it can't create a piece of city, or create the conditions for attractive public realm. The public sector can't do it by itself because its job is to regulate not initiate and develop. A corporation should be established with the right planning for the best city, but also that will take into account developer economics. It should be set up immediately

so it's steering the planning from day one. "A good leader won't be found if you ask him to only execute a plan someone else developed," cautions Greenberg. The mandate is also critical; for example Build Toronto should really be called Sell Toronto as its job now is a fire sale of city land. Waterfront Toronto, with all the comments about going slow, has actually already attracted \$2.6 BN in private development.

5. Invest years in building credibility with the community and developers through constant community involvement, a long term plan and a realistic view of what is financially achievable.

In the end, the task force decided to recommend: that the highest value, (financial, environmental and social), for the City, for residents (existing and new), for the Province and its OPG lands, for the federal government and its Canada Lands, would be to work together in a Mississauga Waterfront Development Corporation, with a mandate to envision, plan and develop as a mixed use waterfront development community, Mississauga's waterfront.

Greenberg concluded: "what are you trying to build here, the excellence of what I've seen in the Lakeview Visioning or a well-behaved subdivision?" This is a once in a several generation opportunity to rebuild the face,

Brian Crombie is one of the co-chairs of the Mississauga Summit.

Hatch's Voermann wins engineering honour

Ontario's finest engineers will be honoured at the annual Ontario Professional Engineers Awards (OPEA) last month at the International Centre in Mississauga.

Only fitting too, since a Mississauga business man was one of the night's winners.

The awards, presented by the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers and Professional Engineers Ontario-celebrated the engineering of Ontario's resources, from railways to forests, and parks to mining.

Engineer Nils Voermann is the head of the Furnace Group and the Technologies Business Unit for Hatch Ltd., a Mississauga-based multi-discipline firm of 8,500 employees with 65 offices worldwide.

He and his team have an international reputation as design engineers and installers of the world's largest and most efficient metallurgical smelting furnaces. Through his combination of technical and leadership skills, Nils' career is distinguished by an uninterrupted progression of enormously innovative projects that have secured Hatch's successful technology business worldwide.

Voermann joined Hatch immediately after graduating from Queen's University and

soon became a key member of the firm's design team on the technologically new Furnace No.5 for Impala Platinum of South Africa.

This PGM smelting furnace was designed to operate at 40 MW, equal to the total combined power of Impala's four previous furnaces. Later, he was appointed leader of the company's Furnace Design Group where, through a string of innovative and successful technology-development projects, he managed to progressively build up the team to over 60 engineers and draftspersons.

The Furnace Design Group achieved global scope and became recognized as a world leader in its field.

For his achievements in the metallurgical furnace engineering field, he was awarded the Technology Transfer Award of the Canada Centre for Mineral and Energy Technology of Natural Resources Canada.

Due to his outstanding success in implementing new innovative furnace projects, Hatch promoted him to Global Managing Director of the Technologies Business Unit making him responsible for developing proprietary technologies in the



Nils Voermann

mining and metals, infrastructure and energy business sectors.