

# DESIGN COMPETITION

FORT YORK VISITOR CENTRE



## Visitor Centre Design Competition/Fort York National Historic Site

### Expression of Interest (EOI) -- Stage I

The City of Toronto invites design consultant teams, led by a registered Canadian architect, to submit Expressions of Interest (EOI) to participate in a national competition for the design of a new Visitor Centre at Fort York National Historic Site. "Stage I" of this two stage design competition is a call for Expressions of Interest.

In 2012, Canadians will commemorate the bicentennial of the War of 1812 and the subsequent 200 years of peace and prosperity. This milestone offers a timely opportunity to make a significant investment in Fort York, the birthplace of urban Toronto, the site of a turning point in the War of 1812, the city's oldest establishment, an outstanding resource for learning and discovery, and a cornerstone in the City's plans for urban revitalization.

The ± 25,000 square foot Visitor Centre, estimated at approximately \$15 million (not including landscape and exhibition components) and scheduled to open in June 2012 (the building construction to be completed by December 2011), will function as a 'Hub', connecting the visitor to the entire 43 acre (18-ha) national historic site, connecting the site to the neighbouring communities, and contributing to a more coherent identity and improved visitor experience.

The purpose of this call for EOI is to invite design consultant teams with a commitment to design excellence and a proven ability to design, develop and construct such buildings in a manner sympathetic to the surrounding cultural heritage landscape, to submit their qualifications. A Canadian architect should be the lead consultant of the team. International architects may participate on teams led by a Canadian architect. An Ontario Architect with OAA registration is required to be part of the consultant team. Landscape architects, heritage professionals, interior designers, structural and/ or civil engineers, mechanical and electrical engineers, lighting designers, exhibition designers and graphic designers are also encouraged as participants on each team of consultants.

Interested teams should submit an executive summary, followed by a folio of relevant design work (i.e. museum, cultural heritage landscapes, exhibition buildings, galleries, similar building types). This should not exceed 10 pages, double sided, excluding appendices. Appendices should include curricula vitae of the team members.

A selection of up to five (5) short-listed teams will proceed to "Stage II" of the competition, which calls for a design concept for the Visitor Centre and the surrounding grounds. Stage II submissions should express outstanding design and program excellence in order to reflect the City's aspirations that the story of Fort York be told in meaningful and compelling ways in order to emphasize its relevance to both local visitors and tourists today.

Stage II submissions will be judged by a jury. The successful team will be retained to complete detailed designs and working drawings for the project. To obtain a copy of the Request for Expression of Interest (REOI) and more details, please refer to the City of Toronto's call documents website at:

<http://www.toronto.ca/calldocuments/> (Professional Services link)

or

<https://wx.toronto.ca/inter/pmmd/calls.nsf/0/65B0BCCAF44F7C718525755F006EB357?OpenDocument>

**Submission Deadline is 12:00 noon (local time) on March 11, 2009.**