

CTI INTRODUCTION INTRODUCTION

The mission of The Forks North Portage is to act as a catalyst, encouraging activities for people in downtown through public and private partnerships and revitalization strategies; and to work to ensure financial self-sufficiency.



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MANDATE AREAS

The Forks North Portage (TFNP) is responsible for the continuing renewal and stewardship of two sites in Winnipeg's downtown: North Portage and The Forks. Established as a community development corporation by the three levels of government in the mid 80s, The Forks North Portage has directly or indirectly assisted in the development of residential, commercial and institutional, recreational, educational, historical and cultural facilities in the downtown.

As landlord, property manager, developer, or facilitator, The Forks North Portage has participated in renewal projects to enhance the natural and built environment, while investing in the public realm and encouraging private sector investment.



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PORT NORTH PORTAGE

The North Portage neighbourhood shall be a centre of commerce, culture and living, integrated to form a diverse downtown community through a mixture of public uses including: residential, commercial and institutional, recreational, educational and entertainment facilities.



Since the establishment of NPDC in 1984, The North Portage area has seen the development of retail space at Portage Place with underground parking, office and commercial space along Place Promenade, the construction of One Canada Centre (home to Investors Group) and the ISM building (now IBM), the development of rental and special needs housing, a hostel development, a condominium project, the opening of downtown YM/YWCA and Prairie Theatre Exchange, and the conversion of heritage buildings to provide educational and social services.



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The Forks North Portage will continue to form strategic alliances with businesses, community groups and development agencies to help address social and economic issues and create opportunities to live, work, and play in the downtown.

Strategic Locations

The image of vacant buildings is a sign of an unhealthy downtown. TFNP will collaborate with partners such as CentreVenture to invest in residential, office and commercial projects at North Portage, Portage Avenue and adjacent areas. The Dayton block located across from the MTS Centre area has been identified as one strategic location for a mixed-use development. TFNP and Centre Venture are assembling properties within this block and the adjacent area north and will work with the private sector to redevelop the site.



Increasing the number of downtown residents is a priority and encouraging residential uses along Portage Avenue will help restore the vitality of the avenue. For the longer term, TFNP has identified the east and west development pads at Portage Place as another strategic site for redevelopment. The east and west pads on top of Portage Place have the infrastructure to support a 16-floor development on top of each pad for residential and office uses.



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ENHANCING EXISTING PROPERTIES



TFNP will continue to invest and enhance existing assets in the North Portage area. Rehabilitation of The Promenade is a priority. Located behind Portage Place, The Promenade is a well traveled pedestrian route for visitors from the Central Park neighbourhood. TFNP will undertake streetscaping and lighting work along The Promenade to enhance its character, contribute to a safe pedestrian environment and improve access in the area.



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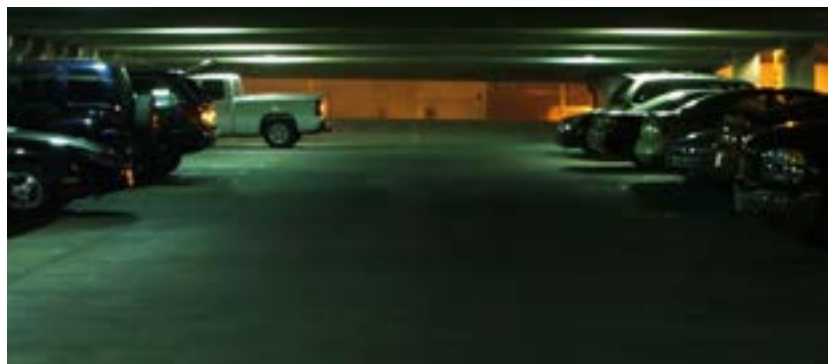
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ENHANCING EXISTING PROPERTIES

As part of ongoing business operations TFNP will continue to manage key assets at North Portage. TFNP's in house parking company, with responsibility for over 2500 parking stalls at North Portage and The Forks, will maintain parking facilities at high standards (e.g. lighting and safety) to provide comfort and convenience for customers while ensuring economic viability. It is the revenue generated through parking and our land leases that allows us to invest in projects in the downtown as well as to underwrite our costs at The Forks.

TFNP also owns and operates the 3D IMAX Theatre at Portage Place, combining education and entertainment. TFNP will ensure the theatre offers the most advanced projector technology for this destination that attracts some 140,000 visitors to Portage Place each year, with almost a third being school group bookings.



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While Winnipeg Police Service statistics report a continual reduction in downtown crime, concerns about personal safety must be addressed. TFNP will continue to work with the Winnipeg Police Service and partners such as the Downtown BIZ to implement programs that help address safety concerns. TFNP will lend its resources to participate in a coalition of downtown businesses established to enhance and coordinate security efforts.

TFNP will partner with community organizations and participate in broader initiatives to carry out projects that enhance the quality of life for residents within the North Portage neighbourhood. The Central Park redevelopment plan to create an outstanding public park is a CentreVenture initiative with support from The Winnipeg Foundation, the City and Province, TFNP and a private donor. TFNP will participate on the stewardship committee for this project to assist in a programming security and community events.



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PRO STRATEGIC PROJECTS

TFNP will act as advocate and facilitator to encourage initiatives at strategic locations adjacent to the North Portage area that will have a positive impact on the vitality of the downtown. This would include working with community stakeholders and the Downtown Council interested in redevelopment concepts for the downtown Bay store or working with the University of Winnipeg Community Renewal Corporation to assist the University with its new campus plan and its integration within the surrounding downtown.



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The Forks shall be developed as a “Meeting Place”, a special and distinct, all season gathering and recreational place at the junction of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers, through a mixed use approach including recreational, historical and cultural, residential and supportive commercial uses.



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& PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE



Over the centuries, the Red and Assiniboine rivers connected people from throughout the continent. Today, the meeting place theme extends to the vision and programming of The Forks. There is something for everyone – shops and restaurants, parks and promenades, gardens and a multitude of attractions.

There is a strong sense of public ownership of The Forks. The results of recent public consultations confirm what people value most about The Forks, namely:

- › sustaining the site as a unique, relaxed, attractive gathering place;
- › maintaining diverse, four-season activities;
- › increasing park-like green space;
- › hosting festivals, celebrations and concerts;
- › ensuring The Forks is accessible and affordable, including the provision of sufficient parking;
- › enhancing the site's historic roots; and
- › minimizing congestion.

Some 94% of the public surveyed in the past believe The Forks is well managed. To maintain this level of public trust TFNP will keep the above public views in mind as plans proceed over the next ten years and beyond.



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DEVELOPMENT PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

The Forks is committed to ensuring that new projects are designed to meet consistently high standards. The Forks Planning and Development Guidelines include the following guiding principles:

- › Create a rich pedestrian environment;
- › Ensure diversity of uses;
- › Promote innovation and excellence;
- › Ensure ease of access; and
- › Highlight heritage.

The Forks Heritage Advisory Committee and Heritage Interpretive Plan guide the development of heritage themes for the site.

The overall strategy is to create new and maintain existing heritage features to tell the story of The Forks in ways that contribute to the site's unique character.



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The Forks functions as a special place and a destination, yet it is an integral part of downtown Winnipeg. Establishing gateways to The Forks and strengthening recreational movement through The Forks are all part of continuing plans to ensure easy access both to and from The Forks. The creation of Waterfront Drive to the Exchange District and the Esplanade Riel pedestrian bridge to Broadway and St. Boniface are prime examples of connecting The Forks to other parts of the downtown.



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LINKAGE ACCESS AND LINKAGES

Sustainability is about environmental sensitivity and healthy living. Minimizing the need for surface parking can be achieved by promoting and providing a variety of transportation options to the site, including:

- › Public transit: The Forks site planning (in partnership with Winnipeg Transit, and other stakeholders) will encourage alternative means of linking The Forks and other downtown districts (e.g. rapid transit).
- › Cyclists/Pedestrians: The Forks will work with partners such as the Winnipeg Trails Association and the Winsmart Active Transportation Pathway (ATP), linking cycling and walking paths throughout the city and beyond.
- › Water Transportation: The Forks will support the Splash Dash Water Taxi service to provide a commuter service between docks in St. Boniface, The Exchange District, Osborne Village and Corydon Avenue.

Over the long term, by adding enhancements such as locker rooms, showers, bike racks or bike compounds The Forks will make it more convenient for visitors to choose environmentally friendly travel options to The Forks.



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TARGET ZERO

The Forks' Target Zero initiative aims to reduce the carbon footprint of The Forks. TFNP is investigating and implementing a variety of ways to green The Forks through attention to the site's energy supply, composting and water. Effective green building can lead to reduced operating costs by using less energy and water. The first initiative implemented is a geothermal heating and cooling system installation for The Forks Market.

As a next step the feasibility of a district geothermal system for The Forks site will be investigated. Other environmental improvements for The Forks Market will address recycling, bio-composting, waste oil fuel, solar loading and water reduction. The Forks will also undertake CO₂ reducing projects (e.g. tree plantings, bike racks) as a visible means of supporting the objectives of Target Zero.



TARGET ZERO:
2010 RECYCLE HERE

→ WHAT CAN YOU PUT IN THIS BLUE BOX?
ANYTHING YOU WOULD PUT IN YOURS AT HOME, INCLUDING:

- Plastic containers
- Drink cans
- Milk and juice cartons
- Juice boxes
- Glass jars and bottles
- All papers, magazines
- Cardboard

→ WHAT CAN'T BE RECYCLED HERE?

- Plastic bags
- Antifreeze, motor oil or anything corrosive
- Aluminum foil, pie plates
- Foam takeout containers
- Mirrors, window glass
- Drinking glasses, ceramics or cookware

The Forks



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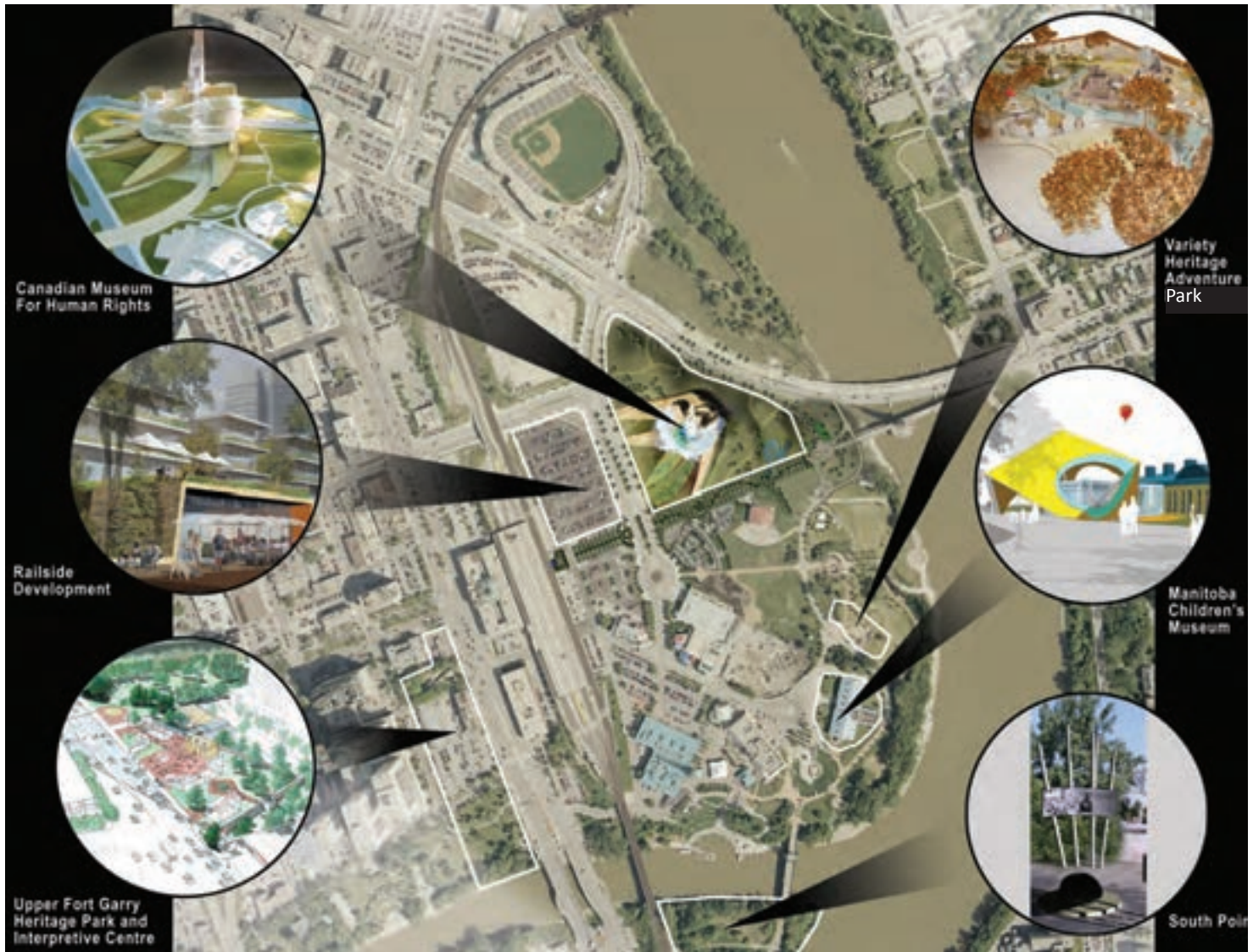
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PROJECTS PROJECTS PROJECTS

OVERVIEW OF DEVELOPMENT LOCATIONS

As The Forks enters its next decade of renewal, construction is well underway for the new Canadian Museum for Human Rights. This development will dramatically change the way visitors view the site, especially from an international perspective.



The momentum of renewal will continue with Variety Heritage Adventure Park, a new look for the Manitoba Children's Museum, planning for a First Nations program at the South Point, the development of Upper Fort Garry Heritage Park and Interpretive Centre, and a mixed use development across from the Canadian Museum for Human Rights.



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The Forks will become the home of the new international Canadian Museum for Human Rights when it opens in 2012. This will be Canada's first federal museum devoted to the topic of human rights. The Museum is expected to draw an estimated 250,000 visitors from around the world. Accessibility, parking and transportation, view lines and landscaping design are all being examined in the planning process to integrate this magnificent structure onto an eight-acre site at The Forks.



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TOP RAILSIDE DEVELOPMENT



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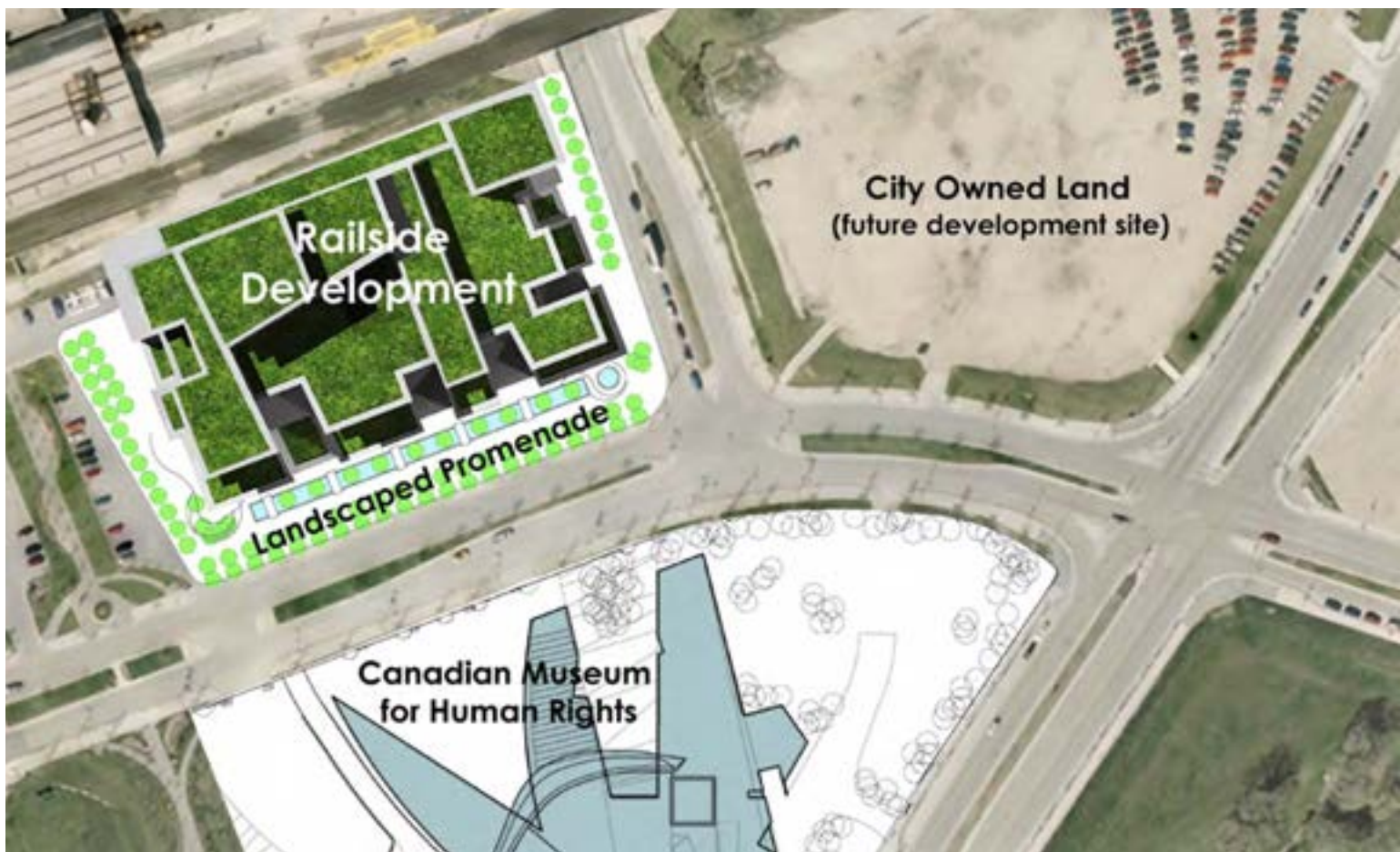
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RAILSIDE DEVELOPMENT

The concept of a mixed-use development combining parking, public spaces and commercial and residential uses is proposed for the rail side surface parking lot across from the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. The concept was identified in TFNP's previous ten year plan which encouraged the introduction of uses that provide shelter and activity for all-season pedestrian travel and provide for the creation of an active and pleasant pedestrian environment along Waterfront Drive.

With the development of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights across the street, it is timely to revisit the mixed-use concept as a means of transforming the surface parking lot into an attractive pedestrian environment, with structured parking acting as a buffer along the rail line and a landscaped promenade at ground level.



TOP RAILSIDE DEVELOPMENT DEVELOPE

The sustainable mixed use development would adopt a green approach and be developed with the following guiding principles:

- › Include public spaces, parking, commercial/other uses (eg. bookstore, fitness centre, day care);
- › Consider live/work, condominium, hostel, rental and market-affordable housing;
- › Design for four season climate (winter city strategy);
- › Demonstrate architectural design excellence; and
- › Commit to high quality public open spaces.

The proposed mixed-use development brings an opportunity to fulfill the original vision of the Forks as a place to live, work and play. The geographic location of The Forks with its supporting infrastructure (e.g. public market, restaurants, riverwalk) makes The Forks an attractive option for downtown living. Through the design of the residential components in the mixed-use development, TFNP will aim to attract a diverse population (empty nesters, seniors, young professionals), adding to the number and income mix of the downtown residential population.

An integrated planning process will explore all options for the design of the mixed use development as well as address transportation and parking needs of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights and The Forks site in general.



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Parks Canada

Parcs Canada



VARIETY HERITAGE ADVENTURE PARK

Parks Canada and Variety, the Children’s Charity of Manitoba, are working together to build a new adventure park at The Forks National Historic Site. The Variety Heritage Adventure Park will be accessible for children of all abilities. The play features will encourage imaginative, creative play while presenting the numerous historic stories of The Forks. Construction will begin this spring with an anticipated completion date slated for October 2010. Plans are also underway for upgrades over the next ten years to the river walkway and lighting systems at the Parks Canada National Historic Site.



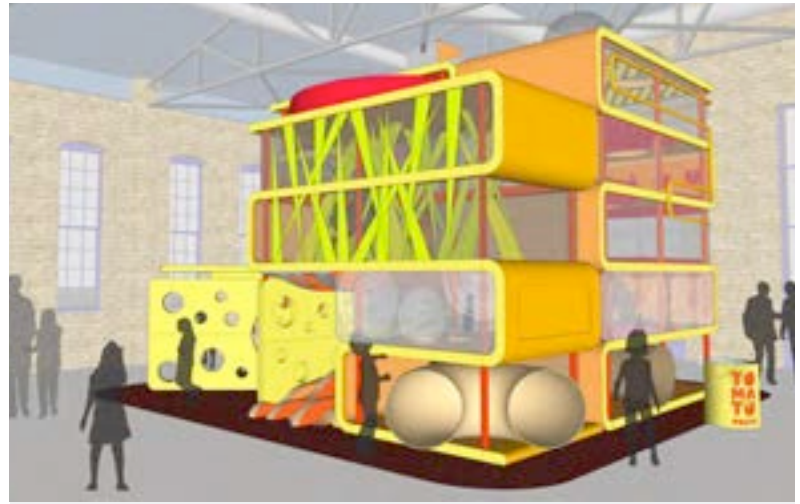
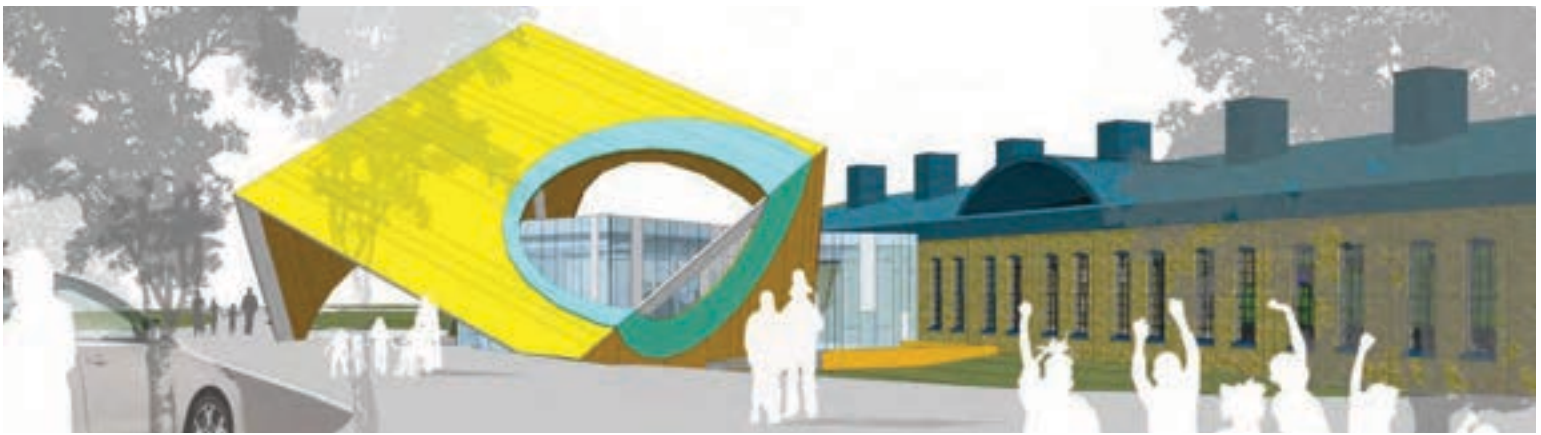
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The Manitoba Children's Museum (MCM) has launched a capital campaign to raise funds for the renewal of the Museum. The Museum has developed their plans to renew and refresh the exhibits and galleries in the historic CN train repair building. Twelve new galleries, an interactive Arts and Exhibition Centre and a new state-of-the-art Welcome Centre addition are all part of this major renewal of the Museum. Manitoba Children's Museum will unveil their new look in the spring 2011.



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PRECINCT SOUTH POINT PRECINCT SOUTH POINT

Since 1987 the area known as South Point has been notionally allocated to the Aboriginal community for development. This remains a special place for Aboriginal peoples who traded at The Forks over 3000 years ago.

Future enhancements within the South Point will be planned in partnership with Aboriginal groups and include limited building with an emphasis on the site's natural features. The vision for the site calls for a showcase Aboriginal program interpreting the various treaties as the central theme for the site, achieved through fixed site exhibits, events and programming. Complementary programming will include enhancements to the natural environment through restoring and protecting plant and animal species and habitats such as the monarch butterfly, and creating garden-based programming for school groups and inner city youth.



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The Upper Fort Garry site is one of the most significant historic sites in Western Canada. All that remains of the original Fort is the Governor's Gate which has been preserved on a small piece of heritage property.

The Forks is working with the Friends of Upper Fort Garry to develop the Upper Fort Garry Heritage Park and Interpretive Centre to educate visitors on the impact of the Fort on the history of Winnipeg, Manitoba and Canada. The project will depict the original Fort in symbolic form, connected to and celebrating the fort's history at The Forks.



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PROGRAMS & PARTNERS

The “meeting place” theme for The Forks is reinforced through the many public events that take place each year at the site, including Canada Day and New Years Eve celebrations, summer concert series, dance events, and some 100 other cultural, heritage and artistic third party events.

The Forks’ partners include levels of government, donors and sponsors who support the site’s many public events and site enhancements such as the skateboard plaza and winter River Trail.

Through sponsorship development and the work of The Forks Foundation, The Forks will continue to develop partnerships to enhance cultural and heritage features at the site and encourage healthy-living activities through recreational programs. An emphasis will continue to be placed on winter programming to promote a healthy living lifestyle during the winter season.



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PROJECT SCULPTURE PROGRAM PROJECT SCULPTURE PROGRAM

Over the next ten years The Forks will be adding points of interest to the site. The Forks has selected locations for sculptural installations that will express a number of themes, both historic and contemporary. This initiative will rely on the support of donors and sponsors.



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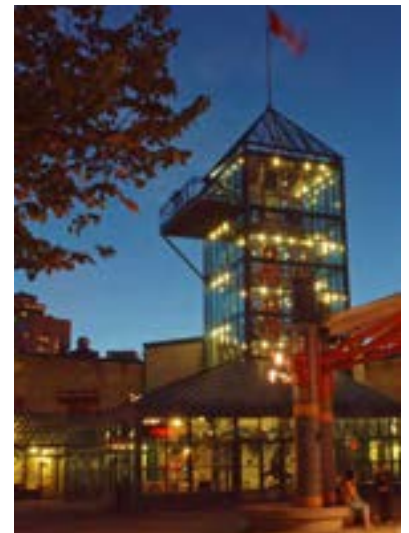
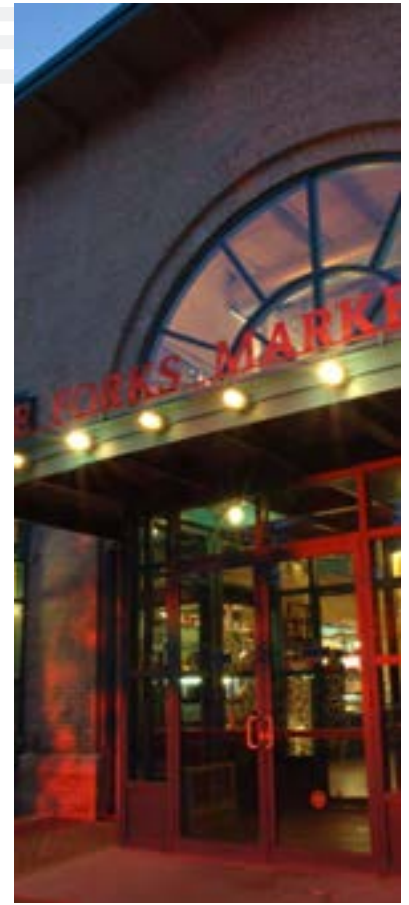
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THE FORKS MARKET

The Forks will continue its efforts to ensure The Forks Market remains a popular draw. It will accomplish this by providing a balance of fresh and healthy food choices, supporting locally produced products and implementing customer service programs catering to downtown residents.

Other activities will focus on infrastructure renewal to address the aging infrastructure of The Forks Market and the site in general. The Forks will continue to carry out capital improvements in The Forks Market for customer comfort and has implemented its first major Target Zero initiative to achieve energy savings in The Forks Market (e.g. geothermal heating and cooling system).



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NT WATERFRONT PLAN RFRONT V

Winnipeg's historical development at the confluence of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers has provided the downtown with a tremendous asset. The downtown is provided with a valuable natural, aesthetic, and recreational resource which adds greatly to the quality of life of residents and which serves well as an attraction to tourists.



There is greater potential for linkages between The Forks and adjacent lands. CentrePlan, the City of Winnipeg's downtown vision document, emphasizes the importance of integrating The Forks' development with the rest of the downtown in order to capitalize upon the opportunities that it provides.

The Forks adds to the quality of life for downtown residents, contributes to the city's economy, and draws over four million visitors annually to the downtown area. Visiting urban planning experts point to the potential of The Forks as a catalyst for revitalization in the downtown.

TFNP will promote the development of an expanded vision for Winnipeg's downtown waterfront by collaborating with stakeholders to prepare a master plan to create or strengthen linkages between the waterfront and other areas in proximity to the waterfront.

The area known as The Forks Marina Precinct is located along the Red River across from the baseball stadium and next to the Exchange District. Possible future uses would encourage walking and cycling through a forest parkland with riverside amenities such as a marina and some commercial development to complement the riverfront character. The waterfront master planning exercise would facilitate the completion of a development plan for this site.



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TFNP has built a strong financial base and is well positioned to partner with others financially to carry out proposed development plans. The operations of TFNP are sustainable through a development plan that envisions a combination of private, public and internal financial resources to fully implement the plan.

The following sets out the financial parameters required to implement the Concept and Financial Plan and ensures there are sufficient resources to sustain the improvements.

North Portage Neighbourhood

The North Portage Neighbourhood encompasses strong commercial, residential and public park components, including the area north of Ellice Avenue. Due to the maturity of the area, proposed enhancements are focused on key areas that will strengthen the anchor assets and solidify links to the immediate neighbours.

The Forks Site

The Forks site continues to be a popular destination for Winnipeggers and out of town guests. Future enhancements will provide a blend of activities, public space improvements and a major mixed-use development.

Combined contributions by TFNP, governments, other partners, sponsors and interested citizens will add new and lively focal points for the continuing revitalization of The Forks and spin-off benefits for the downtown in general.



