

**Toronto
Port
Authority**



**Administration
Portuaire
de Toronto**

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March 25, 2011

His Worship Mayor Rob Ford
City of Toronto
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West, 2nd Floor
Toronto, ON
M5H 2N2

Your Worship:

Re: \$5 million Harbourfront Centre funding shortfall


I write to you today regarding local media reports that, as a result of the anticipated federal election and the resulting non-approval of Finance Minister Jim Flaherty's 2011 Budget, Harbourfront Centre will experience a \$5 million funding shortfall this summer. This is of great concern to our agency. Harbourfront Centre attracts over 12 million visits each year to our neighbourhood, and the 4,000 annual events are a key attraction for people from across the Greater Toronto Area.

As a stakeholder in the waterfront community, the Toronto Port Authority would be pleased to play a lead role in helping to resolve this unfortunate situation. At our Board Meeting next week, I will recommend that the TPA contribute up to \$500,000 towards a private sector solution to the Harbourfront Centre's temporary \$5 million programming budget shortfall. This one-time \$500,000 donation for specific programming sponsorships on behalf of our many stakeholders will, I hope, encourage the private sector to join us in this attempt to ensure that the GTA is not negatively impacted by the timing of the pending election.

I look forward to discussing the matter with you at your convenience.

Respectfully,

TORONTO PORT AUTHORITY


Mark McQueen
Chairman

cc: The Honourable Jim Flaherty, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Finance

The Honourable Chuck Strahl, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities

The Honourable Rob Moore, P.C., M.P.
Minister of State (Small Business and Tourism)

The Honourable Michael Chan, MPP
Minister of Tourism and Culture Ontario

The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, MPP
Minister of Transportation Ontario