

Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

Hon. Neil Lumsden, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport

Hon. Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure

Jennifer McKelvie Interim Mayor, City of Toronto



Dear Premier Ford,

I am joining many voices in calling on you to rethink your government's direction for Ontario Place.

The public realm master planning process has confirmed our worst fears - very little of the open space being used right now will remain open and accessible to the public.

The Therme renderings show that the scale and design of the spa seriously undermines the cultural heritage value of OP, requires the clear-cutting of hundreds of mature trees and results in the destruction of established habitat, and erases any trace of Ontario.

As expensive commercial venues, neither Therme nor the expanded Live Nation is consistent with the original intent that Ontario Place is a resource that democratized the waterfront for everyone. Crucial decisions continue to be made behind closed doors.

The master planning team needs to be given the scope to create an overarching vision for the entire site in collaboration with Waterfront Toronto, the Province's extraordinary waterfront revitalization lead.

Continuing with the current plan will be a generational mistake and a huge loss to Ontario.

It is not too late to change direction.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

[your-name] [your email]