



April 7/2000



Presentation by Halina Cieszynska, Project Manager, City of Toronto Millennium Office, on behalf of the Fort Rouillé Re-dedication workgroup to the Board of Governors of Exhibition Place.

### **Fort Rouillé**

The Toronto District School Board and the City of Toronto have partnered on a number of millennium initiatives throughout the year including the re-dedication of this little known historical site located on the Exhibition Place grounds. The Fort was a small trading post built by the French in 1750/51, to intercept the Native traders using the Toronto portage before they could cross Lake Ontario to trade with the English at Fort Oswego. In 1984, to celebrate Toronto's Sesquicentennial, high school students under the direction of a team of archeologists excavated the Fort Rouillé site, in a joint effort between the Toronto District School Board and the City of Toronto.

### **Re-dedication**

The Toronto District School Board's Millennium Celebrations Committee, initiated the idea for the re-dedication of the Fort and approached the City's Millennium Task Force for support. Subsequently, a joint workgroup has come together to plan the re-dedication event. It includes representatives from the Toronto District School Board, Millennium Celebrations Committee, the City of Toronto Millennium Office, the City's Access & Equity Centre and Exhibition Place. The project is also sponsored by the LEARNXS Foundation and Laidlaw.

The proposed event is planned for the morning of October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2000 and the celebrations include:

- about 150 children who will develop temporary sidewalk art around the site;
- the planting of a tree at the site;
- the blessing of the site by a Native elder;
- the development of a publication highlighting the people and activities around the Fort in the mid-seventeen hundreds for distribution through schools, heritage sites and other City locations;
- an invitation to the children to attend a luncheon near the site

### **Objective**

- To seek approval from the Board of Governors for the Re-dedication project
- To seek sponsorship, in part or in whole, for the children's luncheon and/or the production costs of the publication (The Board could have logo recognition on all media releases and associated publications)
- To request that the Board of Governors consider the future development and placement of appropriate signage throughout the grounds, identifying the site and its significance
- To identify the potential for a full excavation of the obelisk that currently marks the site, as full exposure of the monument would significantly enhance the historic and aesthetic value of the this important landmark.

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December 21, 1999

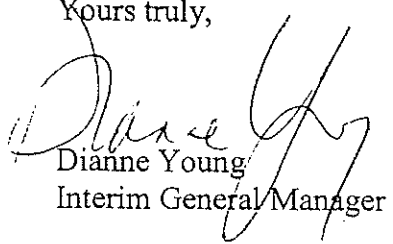
Councillor Chris Korwin-Kuczynski  
Suite 4, City Hall  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Councillor Korwin-Kuczynski,

Thank you for your letter of December 16, 1999 regarding the rededication of Fort Rouille. This is a very exciting project and Exhibition Place would be pleased to be part of it.

I have asked Ms. Kathryn Reed-Garrett, Director of Business Development, to participate in the planning process. Ms. Reed-Garrett can be reached at 263-3606. I have also passed your letter to Mrs. Fatima Scagnol, Corporate Secretary, and asked her to include a presentation by your group at the Board of Governors' meeting of January 28, 2000. I will look forward to hearing the details of the proposal at that meeting.

Yours truly,

  
Dianne Young  
Interim General Manager

Cc: Councillor Joe Pantalone  
Mrs. Fatima Scagnol  
Ms. Kathryn Reed-Garrett

Ltrs99+fortROUILLE





# Celebrate!

December 16, 1999

Ms. Diana Young  
General Manager  
Exhibition Place  
Toronto, ON M6K 3C3

Re: Rededication of Fort Rouillé

Dear Ms. Young:

The Rededication of Fort Rouillé is part of the Toronto District Board's Millennium Program. The purpose of the rededication is to celebrate the history of Toronto's First Nations, the first French settlers and the founding of the British community in the City of Toronto. The event will also raise awareness about one of Toronto's least known historical sites and will serve as an educational experience for students.

The Fort, which is located on CNE grounds, was excavated during Toronto's Sesquicentennial celebrations in 1984, through a City of Toronto and School Board partnership. The actual excavation was undertaken by high school students under the direction of professional archeologists and revealed new information about the largest of the French posts between Fort Frontenac (Kingston) and Fort Niagara.

The City of Toronto is once again partnering with the School Board in the rededication of the Fort, through the Toronto Millennium Task Force, the Toronto Millennium Office, the Access and Equity Office and Parks and Recreation.

The work group, currently developing ideas around the Fort's rededication would like to seek your support in the development of the project.

**Millennium Task Force**  
Councillor Chris  
Korwin-Kuczynski, Chair  
Councillor Brian Ashton  
Councillor Blake F. Kinahan

Metro Hall  
55 John Street  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON  
M5V 3C6

tel.: (416) 338-2001  
fax: (416) 696-3608

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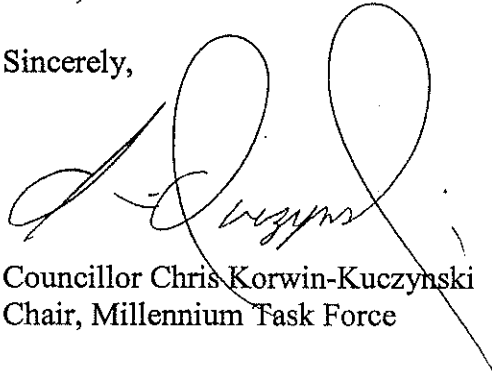
First, we would like to request the participation of someone from your staff in this endeavour so that a mutually satisfactory proposal can be developed. We anticipate that this will involve two or three meetings. We invite you to send a representative to our next planning meeting to be held on Wednesday, January 12, 2000 at 9:30 a.m., in the Toronto Millennium Office, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Metro Hall, 55 John. Street.

Second, we would like to have the opportunity to make a brief presentation about the project at the February 2000 Board of Governors Meeting.

Given the physical location of the Fort, the participation of Exhibition Place, in this process, is vital.

If you require further information in this regard, please contact Donald J. Nethery, Chair, Millennium Celebrations Committee at 397-3682.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Korwin-Kuczynski". The signature is written in a cursive style with large, looping letters. It is positioned above the printed name and title of the signatory.

Councillor Chris Korwin-Kuczynski  
Chair, Millennium Task Force

c.c. Donald J. Nethery  
Chair, Millennium Celebrations Committee