

Jobs & Employment

Round 2 Discussion Guide
September/October 2020



EMERGING IDEA ATTRACT NEW JOBS, EMPLOYERS & SECTORS

Employment uses have long been the defining feature of the Downsview lands. Companies like de Havilland and Bombardier, fuelled by the efforts of thousands of workers, have made major contributions to the aerospace industry here. The Canadian Armed Forces had a strong presence for years, and the decommissioning of the military base was one of many changes that surrounding communities have experienced over time.

Change continues today. There are now three subway stations and a GO station serving the area. Bombardier will be relocating in 2023 and through the id8 Downsview process we're imagining a new future for these 520 acres. The redevelopment of these lands can help address the economic challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic, respond to the needs of industry, help keep Toronto competitive, and at the same time support local main streets with diverse, locally-owned businesses.

VIRTUAL PUBLIC WORKSHOP

Join us on Tuesday, October 13 from 12-2 pm for a Virtual Public Workshop focused on Jobs & Employment, including a live presentation and small group discussions seeking public feedback. Register to participate at id8downsview.ca.

Can't attend the Workshop?

There are many ways to participate. All web events will be recorded and posted online. Complete our online feedback form at id8downsview.ca or give us a call (+1 647 245-3399), email us (info@id8downsview.ca), or mail us your thoughts to 70 Canuck Avenue, North York, M3K 2C5. All feedback received by the end of October will be summarized and posted online in November.



FEEDBACK DURING CONSULTATION ROUND ONE

People said that employment should be a big part of Downsview's future.

This was the strongest message shared by participants during Round One of the id8 Downsview consultation process. People shared several suggestions for Northcrest and Canada Lands to consider, including:



- create space for and attract anchor tenants that can create jobs and long-term, well-paying employment opportunities;
- look at opportunities for diverse businesses;
- create a centre for entrepreneurs offering 24/7 co-working and meeting space that reflects the diversity in the community;
- take advantage of the opportunities in the evolving and growing aerospace industry; and
- create meaningful and valuable jobs, including job opportunities for youth.

Some participants talked about the opportunity to continue to grow Downsview as a destination. Many people told us that it's Downsview Park, the Merchants Market, and the Hangar that draw them to the site today. Tomorrow it could also be vibrant, mixed use streets, cultural attractions, and institutional uses that attract activity.

IMPORTANT PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES

Toronto is an important economic engine for Ontario and Canada.

Identified as “Canada’s business and financial capital”, the City of Toronto says that “Toronto is competitive in almost every other major business sector from technology and life sciences to green energy; from fashion and design to food and beverage; from film and television production to music and digital media”.

At the Provincial level, the Growth Plan recognizes that the region is experiencing dramatic economic change. While traditional industries still play an important role, global factors are also transforming the area’s economy “with a shift towards knowledge-intensive, high value-added activities.” This change underscores the need to plan for both traditional industries and knowledge-based businesses, so that “communities are well positioned to leverage economic change”.

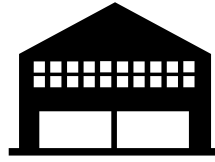
Strong public policies are in place to support the continued health of Toronto’s economy, and the future of these 520 acres in Downsview can and will make an important contribution to helping achieve these public priorities. Some of the most relevant municipal and provincial policies that we’re paying close attention to include the direction to:

- maintain lands for employment purposes;
- accommodate growth by prioritizing development close to transit;
- create employment uses that are transit-supportive, achieving minimum density targets around transit stations; and
- expand and support the office, high-tech industrial, light manufacturing, aerospace and aviation, and/or film sectors.

When planning the future of employment on these lands, the id8 Downsvievw team is thinking about:

We are targeting a wide range of jobs, employers and sectors in two main ways:

1. Innovative industries

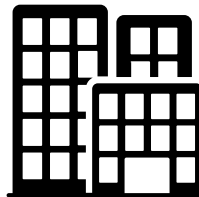


Building on the legacy and the contemporary examples of innovative industries

Making room for industries & businesses that need more space



2. Mixed-use employment



Integrating office uses into communities, especially near transit

Delivering vibrant urban places, services, & amenities to attract employees & employers



Integrating services into neighbourhoods

Attracting top talent

How to create a place that will attract top talent where employees (and therefore employers) want to be located by creating attractive and livable communities in which to live and work;

Remote working

How the nature of employment space continues to evolve, particularly in light of the major changes we're experiencing as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic with more people working remotely;

Harnessing innovation

How to harness the innovative past and present of industries and institutions on the site;

Recognizing heritage

How to best take advantage of some of the existing buildings on the site, creating a home for new business while recognizing the site's industrial heritage;

Complete communities

How employment complements 15-min neighbourhoods and complete communities;

Residential-compatible

How to attract jobs, employers, and sectors that are compatible with residential neighbourhoods – both existing and future; and

Strong local workforce

How to support the creation of meaningful and valuable jobs that support the development of a strong local workforce.

LEARNING FROM OTHERS

New employment uses continue to be integrated into cities in new and creative ways. The id8 Downsview team is looking at examples from around the world—and here at home—to think about how best to deliver mixed use, complete communities where people live, work, play, shop, and enjoy. The photos here show a few samples of our research.



Boston



London



Toronto



Washington

The Virtual Public Workshop for Jobs & Employment will be held on Tuesday, October 13 from 12-2 pm. To register for one or more of these meetings visit [id8downsview.eventbrite.com](https://www.id8downsview.ca). Can't attend the Workshop? There are many ways to participate. Complete our feedback form at [id8downsview.ca](https://www.id8downsview.ca) or give us a call (+1 647 245-3399), send us an email (info@id8downsview.ca), or mail us your thoughts to 70 Canuck Avenue, North York, M3K 2C5. All feedback received by the end of October will be summarized and posted online in November.

FEEDBACK WE NEED FROM YOU

1. What do you think of the emerging ideas for jobs and employment? Are there any you especially like or don't like, and why?
2. What types of business, job, and employment opportunities do you see yourself, your kids, or grandkids, and/or people from other communities wanting to have here? *Some of this feedback will directly inform the Framework Plan and some of it will likely help inform more detailed District Planning and Site Planning work that will happen later.*
3. The implementation will take decades, are there some ideas or areas that should be prioritized over others? If so, which ones and why?
4. Are there any other ideas that the id8 Downsview team should consider? Do you have additional comments or feedback?

Join the conversation on www.id8downsview.ca

Contact us at +1 647 245-3399
Downsview Hub, 70 Canuck Ave.
North York, ON M3K 2C5

Share your own Downsview story at [id8downsview.ca/stories](https://www.id8downsview.ca/stories)