

The Toronto Railway Historical Association Vision & Mission

In February 2002, the TRHA made a deputation to the City of Toronto's Economic Development and Parks Committee in support of the staff report which recommended the establishment of a railway museum as part of the City's agreement with O&Y Properties Inc for the restoration, development and operation of the John Street Roundhouse. Council adopted this report. Since 2002, in consultation with Culture Division staff, TRHA has continued to develop this vision for the Toronto Railway Heritage Centre, linking its three component sites. The existence of the three sites - two of them heritage properties - in close proximity to each other in downtown Toronto presents an unparalleled opportunity for the development of a superb railway heritage centre.

The three sites are:

- The John Street Roundhouse
- Roundhouse Park
- Union Station.

Among the benefits to Toronto of the Railway Heritage Centre:

- It will constitute a major new tourist attraction, bringing as many as fifty thousand visitors a year to Toronto.
- Developing new attractions is key to reviving tourism in Toronto which has been in decline since 2003.
- It will contribute to the revitalization of the Waterfront.
- The commercial tenants of the Roundhouse will generate property tax revenues that will flow to the City.
- It will be far more accessible than any other railway museum in Canada since it will be located in the heart of Toronto's tourist district.
- It will tell the story of the role of Toronto in the development of the railways and of Canada.

THE JOHN STREET ROUNDHOUSE, INCLUDING THE MACHINE SHOP, WAS DESIGNATED A NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE OF CANADA IN 1990 AND IS RECOGNIZED AS THE BEST SURVIVING EXAMPLE OF A ROUNDHOUSE IN CANADA.

TORONTO RAILWAY MUSEUM STANFORD DOWNEY ARCHITECTS INC JULY 25, 2011

TORONTO RAILWAY MUSEUM - TO ASSEMBLE, CONSERVE & PRESERVE TORONTO'S RAILWAY HERITAGE