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# ***Preface***

On 30 March 1988, the federal government appointed the Honourable David Crombie to act as a one-person Royal Commission to study the Toronto waterfront.

The Commission has a mandate to “make recommendations regarding the future of the Toronto Waterfront, and to seek the concurrence of affected authorities in such recommendations, in order to ensure that, in the public interest, federal lands and jurisdiction serve to enhance the physical, environmental, legislative and administrative context governing the use, enjoyment and development of the Toronto Waterfront and related lands”, and, particularly, to examine the role and mandate of the Toronto Harbour Commissioners; the future of the Toronto Island Airport and related transportation services; the issues affecting the protection and renewal of the natural environment insofar as they relate to the federal responsibilities and jurisdiction; the issues regarding the effective management of federal lands within the Toronto waterfront area; and the possible use of federal lands, facilities, and jurisdiction to support emerging projects, such as the proposed Olympic games and World Fair 2000.

The Commission’s recommendations are based on information from research studies and hearings. During its first year, the Commission published seven major reports:

*Environment and Health: Issues on the Toronto Waterfront; Housing and Neighbourhoods: The Liveable Waterfront; Access and Movement; Parks, Pleasures, and Public Amenities; Jobs, Opportunities, and Economic Growth; Persistence and Change: Waterfront Issues and the Board of Toronto Harbour Commissioners; and The Future of the Toronto Island Airport: The Issues.*

Beginning in January 1989, and over a period of six months, the Royal Commission held a series of public hearings; more than 300 groups and individuals came forward with submissions that illustrated people’s profound



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interest in the future of their waterfront. A list of all deputants can be found in the appendix to this report.

The Commission will continue to gather information, invite public participation, and publish further material over the next year. During that time, the Commission will make further recommendations on important matters of public policy related to the waterfront, consistent with its mandate, as circumstances and opportunities allow.

