

Toronto Island Park Master Plan (TIMP)

Confronting Anti-Black Racism Advisory Committee

June 09, 2025





Toronto Island Today

- 242 ha of parkland (598 acres)
- Place of Indigenous Significance
- 1.5 million annual visitors
- Home to over 700 residents
- Hanlan's Beach Significance to 2SLGBTQ+
- Six ESAs, (2 monitored as part of federal sustainability index), a candidate ANSI and a Provincially Significant Wetland
- Toronto Water Treatment Plant
- School, Centreville, Public Marina, Yacht Clubs, etc.
- Billy Bishop Airport
- A natural oasis and escape from the city

Toronto Island Park Master Plan

City Council adopted the Toronto Island Master Plan in July 2024: [Toronto Island Park Master Plan](#)

- The Toronto Island Park Master Plan is a **25-year vision and roadmap** to protect the Island's ecology and cultural significance, and to re-invest in aging infrastructure while ensuring Toronto Island remains resilient, accessible, and inclusive for future generations.
- The Plan is the result of **4 years of strategic design and engagement** that reached thousands of people.
- Staff will continue ongoing engagement through implementation, including presentations to Advisory Committees, such as CABRAC.

Toronto Island Park Master Plan

- Proposed approach is a ‘**Light Touch**’ Implemented over time through priority projects, changes to park operations and programming, continued engagement and approved budgets.
 - **Fully coordinated** w/ ferry fleet replacement, Jack Layton Ferry Terminal improvements, visitor experience, TRCA Flood Mitigation, and Marine Use Strategy
 - The Plan addresses climate pressures, rising visitor demand, Indigenous placekeeping priorities, and improvements to the visitor experience to support a more **sustainable and welcoming Island Park**.
 - PFR’s approved Budget and 10-year Capital Plan includes **\$23M for new Toronto Island capital projects** in addition to funded projects related to flood protection, Jack Layton Ferry Terminal, Ferry Fleet Replacement, and other investments.
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Toronto Island Park Master Plan

6 GOALS



15 STRATEGIES

GOALS

STRATEGIES

REVEALING
AN INDIGENOUS
PLACE

Reconciliation
+ Placekeeping

IMPROVING
ACCESS AND
CONNECTION

Wayfinding

Movement
On Land

Movement
On Water

SUPPORTING
THE NATURAL
ENVIRONMENT

Natural Area
Protection

Shorelines +
Park Environments

Resilience
+ Sustainability

ENHANCING
VISITOR
EXPERIENCE

Programming
+ Events

Interpretation

Four-Season
Park

Park
Amenities

ELEVATING
EQUITY AND
BELONGING

Equity

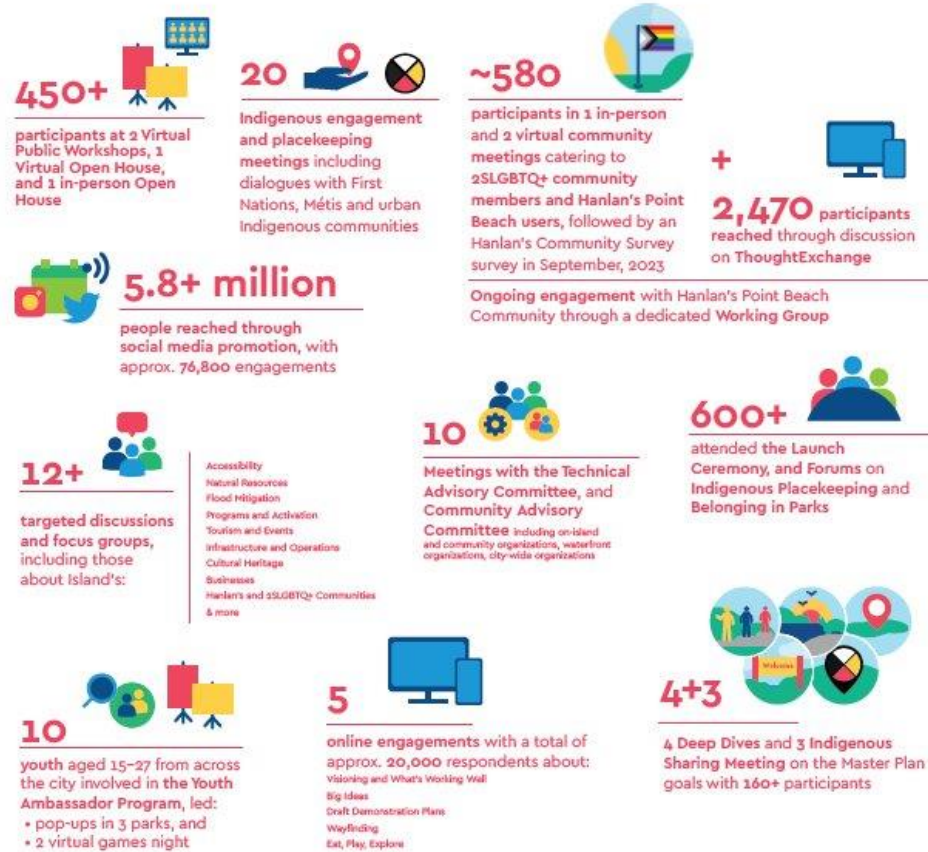
Accessibility

Cultural
Heritage

CELEBRATING
2SLGBTQ+
SIGNIFICANCE

Approach
to Hanlan's

Who was engaged...



www.toronto.ca/islandmasterplan

- Over 24,000 people engaged
- All feedback documented and shared through 'what we heard reports'
- Engagement has included First Nations, Urban Indigenous communities, Island residents, business and advisory groups, Hanlan's Point users, 2SLGBTQ+ , equity deserving communities and youth and the Island overall.
- Agencies serving African, Caribbean, and Black Communities were invited to participate in engagement activities and approximately 11% of respondents to surveys identified as "Black, Indigenous, Person of Colour"

...what we heard...



- Ferry passenger improvements and visitor experience
- Recognition of Hanlan's Point significance to 2SLGBTQ+ and related improvements
- Protection of natural environment
- Prioritizing flood mitigation
- Co-management opportunities, ceremonial space, and Indigenous naming (e.g. Mnissing)
- Access and accessibility

...and how we'll keep the conversation going

- Implementation of TIMP projects will provide opportunities for engagement with community members and stakeholders including Queer, Indigenous, Black, and equity-deserving communities, racialized populations, and low-income communities.
- Engagement will continue through the Indigenous Advisory Circle, Toronto Island Working Group and the Hanlan's Point Beach Working Group, re-launching before summer.
- Working groups will reflect Council recommendation for stakeholder participation specifically from representatives of Indigenous and diverse communities .
- Ongoing outreach for specific projects or issue areas (e.g. Natural Environment, Island-side ferry landing design, visitor experience) .
- Transitioning from the 'Master Plan' to demonstrate that actions are underway!



Highlights of short-term projects



Master plan highlights: first steps

Some of the Master Plan projects and initiatives beginning in the near term include:



Revealing an Indigenous place

- Identifying space at Snake Island to support Indigenous ceremony and programming.
- Co-developing visions with Indigenous communities for cultural markers, gateways, and the cultural narrative trail.
- Working with communities, identifying naming opportunities.



Supporting the Natural Environment

- Implementing early flood mitigation.
- Identifying opportunities to expand, improve and improve habitat.
- Developing an Island Charter to help all Island visitors see themselves as stewards of the park.
- Optimizing Park Operations and Management practices towards park naturalization improvements



Enhancing Visitor Experience

- Updating the website.
- Expanding four-season facilities.
- Improving food and beverage options and services with new food and beverage contracts with multiple vendors.
- Studying feasibility of a Welcome Centre.



Elevating Equity and Belonging

- Park accessibility improvements.
- Studying the Island's Cultural Heritage in collaboration with different communities.
- Improving access to underused park areas.



Improving Access and Connection

- Ferry Fleet Replacement.
- Upgrading Jack Layton Ferry Terminal.
- Expanding Bike Rentals.
- Establishing information hubs, new Island Map and adding wayfinding signs.



Celebrating the 2SLGBTQ+ significance

- A Community Safety Strategy for Hanlan's Island and Beach.
- Restoring and protecting Hanlan's Beach dune habitat.
- Developing a Hanlan's Cultural Heritage Study.
- Acknowledging the significance of Hanlan's Point to the 2SLGBTQ+ Community (i.e. interpretive sign/marker)

Highlights of mid- and long-term projects



- Indigenous place names and Ceremonial and gathering spaces within the park
- Managing and protecting natural areas and monitoring the park's ecological performance
- Establish a Welcome Centre at Centre Island landing
- Improvements to ferry landings (four-season experience, circulation, amenities)
- Complete trail improvements to improve park accessibility
- Assess the feasibility of a marketplace at Centre Island Landing to support four season use
- Develop a Park Management Plan to protect and manage uses in active and natural areas holistically

Staying engaged

- Parks and Recreation will continue to invite stakeholders from diverse communities to participate in engagement
- Toronto Island Working Group will be expanded with a civic lottery, to enhance representation from across Toronto
- In 2025, the [Toronto Island Community Engagement website](#) will be updated and publicized through social media and stakeholder channels

Contact

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