



December 11, 2025

Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Re: MM35.4 Protecting the Ontario Science Centre Building and Preserving Recreation Assets for Flemingdon and Thorncliffe Park Residents

To Mayor Chow and Toronto City Council:

Save Ontario's Science Centre (Save OSC) is a grassroots group dedicated to reimagining, renewing, and reopening the Ontario Science Centre at 770 Don Mills Road for all Ontarians to enjoy.

Over 96,000 Ontarians have written to Premier Ford in support of the Ontario Science Centre at 770 Don Mills Road, and more letters are submitted every day.

**Save OSC strongly supports Councillor Matlow's motion, seconded by Councillor Burnside.**

We would like Toronto City Council to be aware that the Teluscape Exploration Plaza has been a special place in the neighbourhood for Flemingdon and Thorncliffe Park families for nearly 20 years, from the time of its opening in 2006 to its abrupt closure and fencing off from the community on June 21, 2024.

In a press release dated June 8, 2006, Lesley Lewis, the CEO of the OSC at the time, characterized Teluscape as follows:

*"The new green space created by the Ontario Science Centre will provide a much needed outdoor resource for the community in the immediate area as well as the visiting public," said Lewis. "Visitors can enjoy TELUSCAPE at no charge and will also have the opportunity to take part in various special events which may be ticketed."*

Further:

*Joe Natale, president, TELUS Business Solutions, said "TELUS is committed to supporting initiatives that encourage children to learn about science and technology. We believe TELUSCAPE will be one of the most innovative outdoor educational spaces in Canada, providing opportunities for children to interact, explore and experience the science of nature. TELUS is proud to support the creation of TELUSCAPE, a legacy initiative that will benefit families for generations."*

**Save OSC requests Toronto City Council's support and assistance to reopen the Teluscape Exploration Plaza for the public, including the Flemingdon and Thorncliffe Park communities, who were always intended to be beneficiaries of Telus' generous gift.**

Thank you,

Jason Ash, co-chair  
Save Ontario's Science Centre (Save OSC)  
[www.SaveScienceCentre.com](http://www.SaveScienceCentre.com)

**FULL PRESS RELEASE:**

**The Ontario Science Centre to create TELUSCAPE, a new outdoor venue**

**June 8, 2006**

The Ontario Science Centre is radically transforming its main entrance to create an interactive outdoor venue named TELUSCAPE, thanks to TELUS' \$10 million sponsorship. The Centre is redeveloping the 4,590 square metre (51,000 square foot) space in its forefront. This new outdoor experience is an important component of the Ontario Science Centre's \$47 million Agents of Change initiative. TELUSCAPE will open to Science Centre visitors and the community in late August 2006.

TELUSCAPE will be a unique environment that emphasizes the juxtaposition of the Science Centre between the natural environment of the Don Valley and the densely populated urban community in the immediate area. It combines native trees and a wetland with walkways, interactive experiences, installation art and an outdoor forum. TELUSCAPE will sit on the site of the Centennial Fountain which once contained a hundred-jet fountain designed by Raymond Moriyama as an iconic tribute to Canada's Centennial. A portion of the fountain will remain as a symbol of the Centre's heritage as a centennial project.

"TELUSCAPE is the first experience all visitors will encounter when they arrive at the Centre and will form their last impression when they leave," said Lesley Lewis, CEO, Ontario Science Centre. "The theme of the area is 'Question the Landscape,' with outdoor features and interactive experiences designed to encourage visitors to explore the different and sometimes surprising features of their surroundings."

Joe Natale, president, TELUS Business Solutions, said "TELUS is committed to supporting initiatives that encourage children to learn about science and technology. We believe TELUSCAPE will be one of the most innovative outdoor educational spaces in Canada, providing opportunities for children to interact, explore and experience the science of nature. TELUS is proud to support the creation of TELUSCAPE, a legacy initiative that will benefit families for generations."

The central location in TELUSCAPE is the Spiral Plaza which provides full access to all key features and a sensory transition between the city and the Science Centre. In the center of the spiral, visitors will discover FUNtain, a spectacular interactive sound sculpture created by Toronto artist Steve Mann. FUNtain will function like a musical instrument using water; it is played like a flute as visitors block various holes to create different notes.

"The new green space created by the Ontario Science Centre will provide a much needed outdoor resource for the community in the immediate area as well as the visiting public," said Lewis. "Visitors can enjoy TELUSCAPE at no charge and will also have the opportunity to take part in various special events which may be ticketed."

Other major features in TELUSCAPE include: a 60 square metre Wetland pond surrounded by a naturalized area planted with native grasses and wetland species that will evolve over time as plant species mature; TELUSCAPE Forum, a new program and event space, which will be carved out of the landscape and shaped by a grassy hill with seating for over 350; Climbing Spheres, a set of three large spheres which appear to be scooped out of the east wall of the TELUSCAPE Forum and will be sized for children to climb; and Water Maze which will invite visitors to navigate the maze without getting wet. One metre-high water-jet walls will shoot up in changing patterns, encouraging participants to stop, observe and plan a dry route through the maze.

TELUSCAPE includes surprising landscape features for visitors to discover and experience, including fibre optic reeds interspersed with real vegetation. The area will also be energized by large solar powered trees whose light patterns will appear to respond to each other.

TELUSCAPE will be open throughout the year to visitors and the community. This new outdoor experience will encourage visitors of all ages to appreciate and explore natural and urban surroundings with new eyes.

*TELUSCAPE is supported by lead Agents of Change contributions from TELUS and the Government of Ontario and National Media Partner: The Globe and Mail.*

*TELUS has supported the Ontario Science Centre's Agents of Change campaign with a \$10.1 million, 15-year sponsorship. Their support will extend the Science Centre's dynamic, interactive and educational experiences through TELUSCAPE and the Science Centre's curriculum linked on-site School Programs that currently welcome over 240,000 Ontario students annually.*

*In 2005, TELUS formed partnerships with five science centres across Canada to help promote technological innovation and learning in science and technology. Over the next 20 years, TELUS is investing \$43 million in the TELUS World of Science centres in Vancouver, Calgary and Edmonton, and the Ontario and Montreal Science centres.*

*The Ontario Science Centre uses science as the lens to inspire and actively engage people in new ways of seeing, understanding and thinking about themselves and the world. The Centre is also a leading developer of interactive exhibitions for science centres around the world. The Ontario Science Centre is an agency of the Government of Ontario.*

*Note to Editors: Renderings of TELUSCAPE are available; please contact Alicia Stanton at the Ontario Science Centre for more information.*



Teluscape Exploration Plaza prior to OSC closure on June 21, 2024:



Source: Ontario Science Centre



Source: <https://www.durhamradionews.com/archives/177433>





Teluscape Exploration Plaza prior to OSC closure on June 21, 2024:



Source: [https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction\\_Review-g155019-d187019-Reviews-Ontario\\_Science\\_Centre-Toronto\\_Ontario.html](https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g155019-d187019-Reviews-Ontario_Science_Centre-Toronto_Ontario.html)



Source: [https://www.wikiwand.com/en/articles/Ontario\\_Science\\_Centre#/media/File:Hydraulophone\\_at\\_Ontario\\_Science\\_Centre\\_imgp4940rp.jpg](https://www.wikiwand.com/en/articles/Ontario_Science_Centre#/media/File:Hydraulophone_at_Ontario_Science_Centre_imgp4940rp.jpg)





Teluscape Exploration Plaza closed and fenced off, since June 21, 2024:



Source: <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-closing-ontario-science-centre-was-difficult-decision-but-the-right/>



Source: <https://therightanglejournal.com/architectural-obsolescence/blog-post-title-two-ndh2w>





Teluscape Exploration Plaza (foreground), Ontario Science Centre (background), December 10, 2025:



*Source: Flemingdon Park community member*