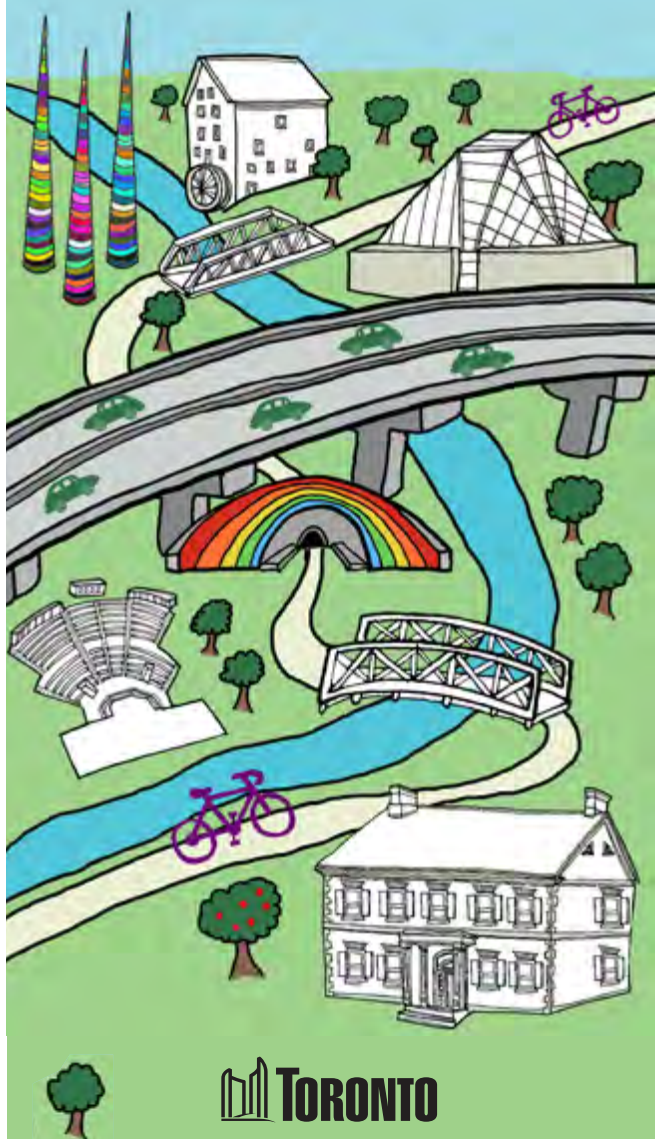


# EXPLORE NORTH YORK

Art, History and Nature  
Self-Guided Tours



STEELES AVE W

FINCH AVE W

KEELE ST

DUFFERIN ST

WILSON AVE

ALLEN RD

DUFFERIN ST

BATHURST ST

AVE W

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

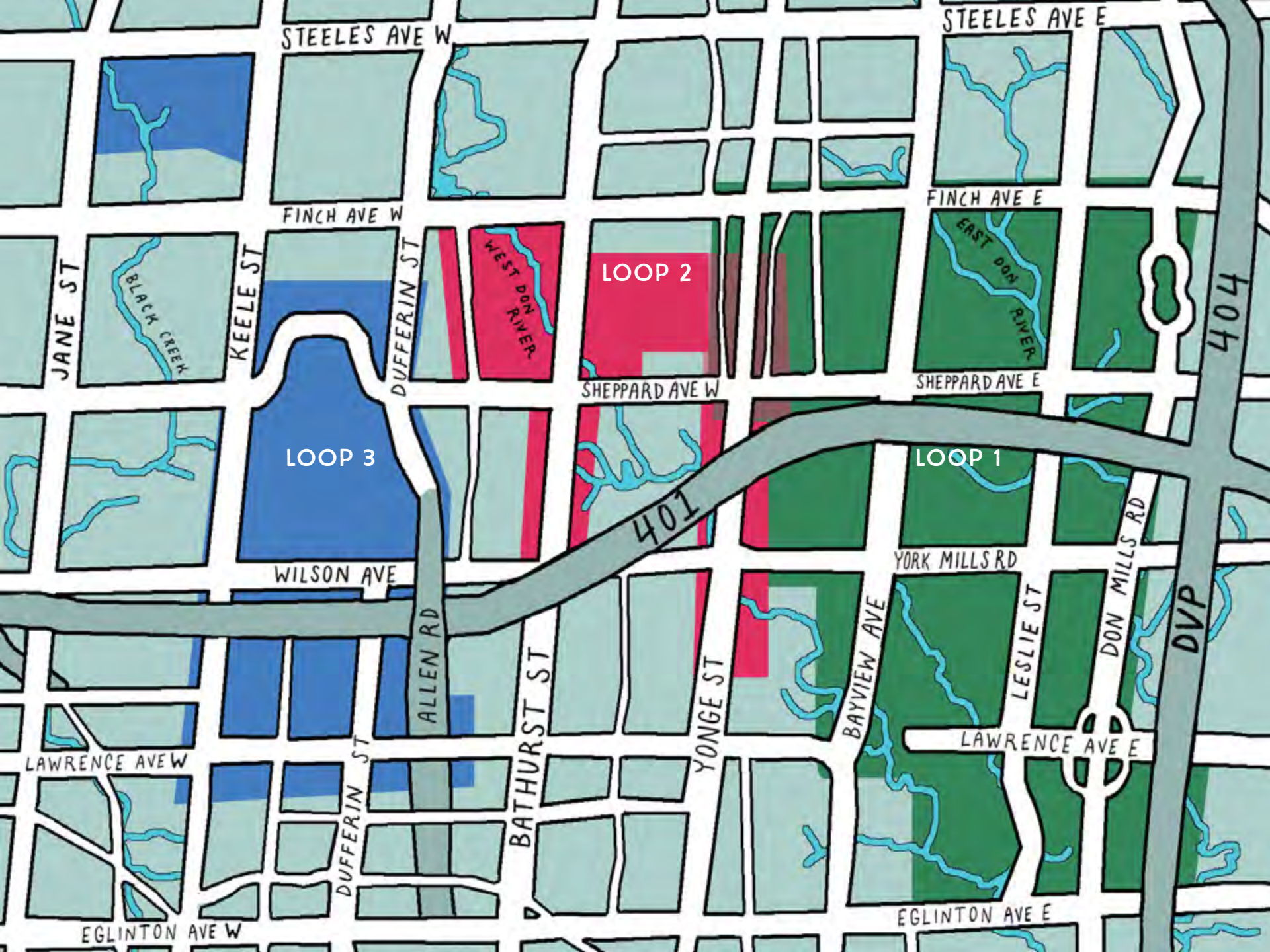
About Cultural Hotspot.....	1
About the Cultural Loops.....	2
Tips for Exploring the Hotspot .....	3
Message from Deputy Mayor Denzil Minnan-Wong	4
<b>Loop 1</b>	
Culture & Nature Walkabout	5
Nature of Wilket Creek	13
Public Art Discovery Tour	19
Historical Mini Tour	
– Grand Estates of North York	29
<b>Loop 2</b>	
City With Heart	33
Historical Mini Tour – Willowdale	39
Historical Mini Tour – York Mills	47
City Within A City	51
Mini Tour – Art Everywhere	57
<b>Loop 3</b>	
Black Creek Pioneer Village	61
York University Art Inside and Out	65
Public Art Discovery Tour 2	73
Wildlife Activity	81
HOT Eats.....	85
References.....	91
Acknowledgements.....	93

---

The Cultural Loops Guide is produced by City of Toronto Arts & Culture Services, Economic Development and Culture Division. For more information visit [toronto.ca/culture](http://toronto.ca/culture).

Cover art and interior maps: Daniel Rotsztain. Cover illustration is an artistic rendering inspired by community, culture and creativity in North York.





STEELES AVE W

STEELES AVE E

FINCH AVE W

FINCH AVE E

JANE ST

KEELE ST

DUFFERIN ST

WEST DON RIVER

LOOP 2

EAST DON RIVER

SHEPPARD AVE W

SHEPPARD AVE E

LOOP 3

LOOP 1

WILSON AVE

401

404

YORK MILLS RD

LAWRENCE AVE W

ALLEN RD

BATHURST ST

YONGE ST

BAYVIEW AVE

LESLIE ST

DON MILLS RD

DVP

LAWRENCE AVE E

EGLINTON AVE W

EGLINTON AVE E





## ABOUT CULTURAL HOTSPOT

From May through October 2016, Toronto recognized North York as one of the city's Cultural Hotspots. The Cultural Hotspot initiative, now in its third year, shines a spotlight on arts, culture and community by celebrating, connecting and investing in diverse neighbourhoods outside Toronto's core. The Cultural Hotspot:

- **Celebrates** local culture, heritage, creativity, business and community with special events, festivals and art happenings, building community pride
- **Connects** the Hotspot community, promotes new partnerships and shares this exciting area with all of Toronto through community gatherings, events, outreach and media campaigns
- **Grows** creative capacity in the area with workshops, courses, youth employment and mentorship, and legacy projects like the Cultural Loops Guide

Visit [toronto.ca/culturalhotspot](http://toronto.ca/culturalhotspot) for details.

## ABOUT THE CULTURAL LOOPS

The North York Cultural Hotspot spans a vast geographic area and many local neighbourhoods with unique features. Designed as a series of self-guided tours, the Cultural Loops encourage residents and visitors to explore the Cultural Hotspot neighbourhoods and get an inside look at art, culture, architecture, history and parklands in the area.

A one-time agricultural community just north of Toronto, North York was formed as a township in 1922. As North York urbanized, it was called the Borough of North York in 1967. It became the City of North York on February 14, 1979. To commemorate receiving its city charter on St. Valentine's Day, the city's corporate slogan was "The City with Heart". This bustling area is steeped in a rich history and is home to lush green spaces, public art, diverse cultural communities and arts and heritage sites.

## LOOP 1

The eastern part of North York is home to some of the city's most picturesque parklands. The East Don Parkland offers fantastic opportunities for hiking and biking through beautiful green ravine spaces. The Don River Trail connects to the Toronto Botanical Garden, which spans four acres. This Loop is also home to cultural centres and institutions including Aga Khan Museum & Park, the Ismaili Centre, the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre and the Ontario Science Centre. Strap on your walking shoes, or hop on your bicycle and get ready to explore all that Loop 1 has to offer!

## LOOP 2

Loop Two features one of the longest streets in the country – Yonge Street is a hive of activity, with a lively roster of festivals and events at Mel Lastman Square, and year round performances at Toronto Centre for the Arts. Just off of Yonge Street, Gibson House Museum offers an opportunity to step back in time and learn about early Toronto. If you're feeling a bit peckish while touring this loop, worry not! There are loads of local restaurants boasting international cuisines. Head west to Bathurst Street and you'll find still more to explore – Bathurst is the heart of Toronto's Jewish community. Loop 2 is a cultural hub, with spaces to celebrate diverse cultures through festivals, exhibitions and food.

## LOOP 3

Steeped in history, Loop Three features Black Creek Pioneer Village, an open-air heritage museum that represents life in 19<sup>th</sup> century Ontario. Further south, is Downsview Park, with a storied military history. Both UrbanArts and Art Starts are in this loop, engaging people of all ages in a variety of arts programs year round including the creation of many murals that can be seen throughout the loop. History, green space, art – Loop 3 has it all.

While you're out and about discovering, remember North York also has a wide array of distinct cuisine. Turn to page 85 and learn more about **HOT Eats**, featuring over 50 local eateries!



## TIPS FOR EXPLORING THE HOTSPOT

- Places highlighted in this guide include private homes and buildings. Stay on the sidewalk to observe.
- Maps are not drawn to scale, use as a reference only.
- Cross streets safely at traffic lights and crosswalks.
- TTC transit services are subject to change. Plan your trip at [ttc.ca](http://ttc.ca).
- Use caution on all routes, as recreational trails may be slippery or obstructed.
- Cyclists must use streets with caution; consider your level of experience and your comfort level in traffic and weather conditions.
- While outdoors, be sun safe, visit [toronto.ca/health/sun](http://toronto.ca/health/sun).
- Take care to stay on paths and well-trodden trails in parks and woodland areas as the sap of the Wild Parsnip and Giant Hogweed can cause severe burns. Both plants resemble the common Queen Anne's Lace.
- Respect our environment and keep Toronto beautiful.

**Note:** TTC directions are given throughout the Loops Guide, however, it's best to check the TTC Trip Planner prior to your visit in case of unexpected service changes and to find a route that is good for you. Visit [ttc.ca/Trip\\_planner](http://ttc.ca/Trip_planner).





## MESSAGE FROM DEPUTY MAYOR DENZIL MINNAN-WONG

From May through October 2016, the Cultural Hotspot, a City of Toronto and partner-produced initiative, spotlighted the vibrant and diverse neighbourhoods of North York.

The Cultural Loops Guide is a legacy project of the Cultural Hotspot and features a series of self-guided tours for residents and visitors to explore.

The tours offer something for everyone. Nature enthusiasts will enjoy the Don River Trail and Edwards Gardens, which offer opportunities to see migrating birds and spawning fish. Cycling trails take you past works of art, like the iconic rainbow tunnel mural.

Many City-owned and run sites are featured in the self-guided tours, which include beautiful green spaces, historic sites, and cultural and community centres. These crafted tours are a sample of what this culturally rich area of the city has to offer.

History buffs will enjoy sites like Gibson House Museum and Black Creek Pioneer Village. Art lovers can take in performances, festivals and more at venues like the Toronto Centre for the Arts, Mel Lastman Square, York Woods Library and Lee Lifeson Art Park.

Beautifully-curated exhibits and architecture can be seen at the Aga Khan Museum & Park while food aficionados can satisfy their appetites at the wide variety of restaurants featuring cuisine from around the world.

In addition to the many great public spaces and art work that can be found in North York, there are many organizations making the area a vibrant cultural hub.

Some of those include: North York Arts, Art Starts, UrbanArts, VIBE Arts, North York Visual Artists, the Willowdale Group of Artists, North York Historical Society, PEACH, Canadian Film Centre, Korean Canadian Cultural Association, Baycrest Health Sciences, Friends of Earl Bales Park, North York Community House and many more.

As a proud North York resident and Councillor – I encourage you to discover and enjoy the many exceptional experiences that North York has to offer in this guide.

**Deputy Mayor Denzil Minnan-Wong**  
*Councillor, Ward 34 Don Valley East*

# LOOP 1

## CULTURE & NATURE WALKABOUT



Explore North York's spectacular culture, art and nature in the Milne Hollow area. Milne Hollow was an active industrial site in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and is now a natural green space filled with wildlife, public art and North York's cultural institutions and centres.

**Location:** Milne Hollow, East Don River

**Interests:** Art, Architecture, Nature

**Estimated time:** 2 hours

**Type:** Walking and cycling

### ▼ Getting to tour start:

Take the 404/Don Valley Parkway and exit at Eglinton Avenue. Follow the directional signage on the road for Aga Khan Museum to get to Wynford Drive – one light north of Eglinton Avenue off Don Mills Road. Paid parking is available at the Aga Khan Museum.

Take either the 100 Flemingdon Park or 25 Don Mills bus. From Broadview or Eglinton station, take the 100 Flemingdon Park bus and get off on Wynford Drive at the Aga Khan Museum. From Don Mills or Pape station, take the 25 Don Mills bus and get off at Don Mills and Wynford and walk five minutes east on Wynford Drive.



## 1. AGA KHAN PARK, 77 WYNFORD DR.

An urban oasis beckons at the Aga Khan Park, a picturesque site that encompasses the Aga Khan Museum and Ismaili Centre, Toronto. Spirit, art, and nature are combined in a contemporary context while maintaining a core connection to the history of Islamic culture and civilizations. Together, these three spaces draw on the strength of Toronto's diversity to form the city's newest cultural hub.

The formal gardens across from the Museum feature five reflecting pools that mirror their surroundings. Pebbled pathways and two symmetrical serviceberry orchards offer a peaceful space for quiet contemplation. Beyond a perimeter of emerald cedar hedges, the gardens flow into the 17-acre Park. The Park is home to programming including festivals, film screenings, and community events. Park tours are available all summer long. To learn more about the Park, visit [agakhanpark.org](http://agakhanpark.org).



### ISMAILI CENTRE, TORONTO

The Ismaili Centre, Toronto, designed by architect Charles Correa, stands within the Aga Khan Park. The Centre incorporates spaces for social and cultural

gatherings, intellectual engagement and for spiritual reflection. Ismaili Centres are symbolic markers of the permanent presence and core values of Ismaili communities around the world. The Ismaili Centre, Toronto is open for booked tours. To book a free, guided tour and learn more about its architecture, function, and the Ismaili community and Canada, visit [bookeo.com/tourstoronto](http://bookeo.com/tourstoronto).



## AGA KHAN MUSEUM

The first museum in North America dedicated to the arts of Muslim civilizations, the Aga Khan Museum, designed by Moriyama & Teshima Architects in association with Maki and Associates, boasts a Permanent Collection of over 1,000 artifacts from as far back as the 8<sup>th</sup> century. Relax in the light-filled courtyard, or view a private collection of ceramics in the first-floor Bellerive Room (no ticket required). Discover mythical creatures, curated treasures, and architectural wonders in the galleries, and enjoy free access to the Museum and its exhibitions every Wednesday evening. Feast on inspired cuisine headed by Mark McEwan at Diwan's patio or elegant dining room, featuring hand-painted wall panels from 19<sup>th</sup>-century Damascus and a stunning view of the Aga Khan Park. For more information, visit [agakhanmuseum.org](http://agakhanmuseum.org).

## 2. JAPANESE CANADIAN CULTURAL CENTRE, 6 GARAMOND CT.



**Directions:** The Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre is located on Garamond Court, north of Aga Khan Park. Cross to the north side of Wynford Drive at the crosswalk in front of the Aga Khan Museum parking lot. Walk west on Wynford Drive and turn right at Garamond Court. Look for signage on the west side of the street.

---

Founded in 1963, the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre (JCCC) is one of the largest and most vibrant Japanese cultural centres in the world. It offers Japanese traditional and contemporary cultural programs and workshops, martial arts, seasonal festivals, musical performances, film screenings, art exhibitions and library facilities. The JCCC is also home to the Toronto Japanese Film Festival and Moriyama Nikkei Heritage Centre, a 9,000 square foot cultural and educational hub. Enjoy the permanent exhibition at the Moriyama Nikkei Heritage Centre including historical photos and artifacts. Hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. For more information, visit [jccc.on.ca](http://jccc.on.ca).

## 3. NOOR CULTURAL CENTRE, 123 WYNFORD DR.

**Directions:** Walk east on Wynford Drive and cross to the south side before crossing the bridge over the Don Valley Parkway. Continue heading east to find the Noor Cultural Centre on the right.

---

The Noor Cultural Centre is a centre for Islamic learning and the celebration of Islamic culture. The building was designed by celebrated architect



Raymond Moriyama in 1963 to house the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre. It received international acclaim for its architectural beauty. The building is a classic example of adaptive reuse - what was created

for the Japanese Canadian community as their first Canadian cultural centre was subtly, but very effectively adapted for use as an Islamic space in 2001 by Moriyama's architectural firm. The theme of light was incorporated – the Arabic word Noor refers to spiritual light. Wood screens were chosen to control the light within the building and were inscribed with ancient Arabic calligraphy to fit Islamic building traditions. The Noor Cultural Centre offers regular religious and educational programs. For more information, visit [noorculturalcentre.ca](http://noorculturalcentre.ca).



#### DID YOU KNOW?

This area is also home to the Korean Canadian Cultural Centre at 1133 Leslie St. ([koreancentre.on.ca](http://koreancentre.on.ca)), the Ontario Science Centre at 770 Don Mills

Rd. ([ontariosciencecentre.ca](http://ontariosciencecentre.ca)), the Thorncliffe Neighbourhood Office – Flemingdon Park at 10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 104 ([thorncliffe.org](http://thorncliffe.org)) and the Flemo City Media Studio located in the Dennis R. Timbrell Resource Centre at 29 St. Dennis Dr. ([flemocity.com](http://flemocity.com)). You can find a colourful mural painted by local artist Tasneem Dairywala and youth at the Flemo City Media Studio as a SPARK Project of Cultural Hotspot in 2016.

## 4. HIGH WATER MARK



**Directions:** Walk east on Wynford Drive. Find a concrete path on the north side of the road immediately past Concorde Place. Follow the path past the tennis courts until the trail leads under a railway bridge.

*High Water Mark* is an art installation by Robert Sprachman commissioned by the City of Toronto in 2011. It highlights the importance of the Don River and its water, reminding people that the water can be both tranquil and powerful. Each suspended stone is

inscribed with a year and represents the height that the floodwaters could have reached in that particular year.

## 5. SALMON JUMPING POINT



**Directions:** Continue on the trail and stop at a bridge crossing to the east side of the river.

Look at the river and you will see rocky ramps built by Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA). These structures help provide a passage for jumping fish such as salmon. Each fall, usually in October, you can spot large Chinook salmon fighting their way up past here, travelling north of Highway 7 into Vaughan to spawn. Brown Trout are also found in the Don and can be seen travelling upstream in the spring. Year round, 21 varieties of fish breed in the Don.



## 6. RAINBOW TUNNEL MURAL

**Directions:** Continue on the trail. When the trail diverges, turn left and walk into the tunnel to see the mural.

This mural is most often seen by those driving north on the Don Valley Parkway. The original rainbow, at the entrance to the tunnel, was painted in renegade fashion over 40 years ago by Norwegian BC Johnson, in memory of his friend Sigrid. The mural is an upside down smile for Sigrid to look down on from above. The mural was frequently vandalized and Johnson returned to restore it many times. As part of the improvements to the East Don Trail system, residents asked to have the rainbow restored. The City's Parks Forestry and Recreation engaged Mural Routes to restore the mural and to enhance it by painting the interior of the tunnel and adding another rainbow at the other end. Participants in mural workshops held at Flemingdon Library helped with the design concept. Lead artist Rob Matejka was assisted by Anthony Delacruz, local youth and many volunteers to paint the mural. The over 60-foot-long mural depicts urban and natural scenes in four rainbow-coloured seasons.



**DID YOU KNOW?** Mural Routes runs mural workshops year-round. Mural Routes creates, promotes, educates, advises and links artists, organizations and others interested in the development of public wall art and has become the primary advisor for communities engaged in producing public wall art in the GTA and beyond. To learn more about Mural Routes, visit [muralroutes.ca](http://muralroutes.ca).



## 7. MOCCASIN TRAIL PARK

**Directions:** Continue on the trail.

---

This well-used neighbourhood park features walking paths through a ravine forest and around a large pond.

If you are feeling tired, this is an opportunity to leave the trail and connect with public transit. Follow Moccasin Trail, which leads to The Don Way East, where you can catch the 162 Lawrence bus to Lawrence station or walk two blocks west to get to Don Mills Road to catch the 25 Don Mills bus to Don Mills or Pape station.

## 8. BIRD WATCHING POINT



**Directions:** Retrace your steps along the trail back through the tunnel, over the bridge and turn left. Follow the watershed north and look for birds.

---

Milne Hollow Park is rich in diverse habitats and home to a variety of migrating and local birds. The Toronto Bird Flyway project has put up markers designating this valley as one of three Toronto flyway corridors, as such they have planted native trees and shrubs to feed and shelter both resident and migrating birds, creating a suitable avian habitat. Two hundred kinds of birds pass through the Don Watershed each year, and 83 stay to breed. For a list of birds you might find here, see page 81.



## 9. MILNE HOUSE



Milne House circa 1955

**Directions:** Continue on the trail heading north, turn right (there will be a parking lot on your left) to find Milne House straight ahead.

**\*Note:** This building is currently under renovation.

Please observe the house from the trail only.

Built between 1860 and 1865, this Gothic Revival style farmhouse is the only remaining building from the community of Milneford Mills, developed by Alexander Milne. It is one of few buildings still on a riverside site in the Don Valley. The house was renovated in the 1950s and was in use until the 1960s.

**ABOUT MILNEFORD MILLS:** In 1827, Alexander Mine built a three-storey mill on Wilket Creek in Edwards Gardens, but because of a low water supply, relocated it to this spot five years later. In 1850, this area became a thriving community made up of 16 buildings including houses, barns, a woolen mill, a sawmill, a dry goods store, housing for workers and several sheds. By 1861, Milneford (Milford) Mills produced over 2,000 metres of cloth per year and almost 122,000 metres of lumber. A devastating flood in 1878 swept away the mill dam, logs in the pond, both mills and the bridge. Milne House miraculously survived the flood.

## 10. MAKING YOUR WAY BACK TO THE NATURE OF WILKET CREEK TOUR OR CONTINUE TO THE WALK IN THE GARDENS TOUR

**Option one:** To head back to the Ismaili Centre, Toronto, follow the trail back.

**Option two:** If you wish to connect to public transit, follow the trail north passing the Milne House to Lawrence Avenue East.

**Option three:** If you wish to continue to explore more of North York's beautiful green spaces, see the Nature of Wilket Creek tour on page 13.



## MILNEFORD MILLS

---

### Useful Information

Aga Khan Museum, exhibitions, programs and info: [agakhanmuseum.org](http://agakhanmuseum.org)

Discover the Don, more walks on Don: [discoverthedon.ca/walkthedon](http://discoverthedon.ca/walkthedon)

Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre, programs and info: [jccc.on.ca](http://jccc.on.ca)

Mural Routes, programs and info: [muralroutes.ca](http://muralroutes.ca)

Noor Cultural Centre, more info: [noorculturalcentre.ca](http://noorculturalcentre.ca)

North York Historical Society, more history: [nyhs.ca](http://nyhs.ca)

Robert Sprachman, more art: [sprachman.ca](http://sprachman.ca)

Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA), info: [trca.ca](http://trca.ca)

### Sources

Aga Khan Museum

*Birding in Toronto* by City of Toronto

Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre

Noor Cultural Centre

North York Historical Society

Parks, Forestry & Recreation, City of Toronto

Robert Sprachman

The Don Watershed Regeneration Council

Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA)

### Photo Credits

Aga Khan Park and Ismaili Centre, Janet Kimber

Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre

Noor Cultural Centre, [interiorimages.ca](http://interiorimages.ca)

High Water Mark, Robert Sprachman

Salmon Jumping Point, Ann Brokelman

Rainbow Tunnel Mural, Mural Routes

Moccasin Trail Park, Sunil Tantirige

Bird Watching Point, Parks, Forestry & Recreation

Milne House, Toronto Public Library



## NATURE OF WILKET CREEK




Enjoy walking or cycling along Wilket Creek. Begin in manicured gardens, meander through the ever-changing valley, climb the shore of an ancient lake and descend into the wider valley of the West Don River. This tour follows one of the self-guided Walk the Don tours put together by Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA) and the Don Watershed Regeneration Council. For more walking tours of the Don River, visit [discoverthedon.ca/walkthedon](https://discoverthedon.ca/walkthedon).

**Location:** Wilket Creek

**Interests:** Nature

**Estimated time:** 2 hours

**Type:** 



## ▼ Getting to tour start:



Take Highway 401 and exit at Leslie Street. Drive south on Leslie to Lawrence Avenue and take the first right after the lights into Edwards Gardens' parking lot. Free parking is available.



From Eglinton station, take the 51 Leslie, 54 Lawrence East or 162 Lawrence-Donway bus to the intersection of Lawrence Avenue East and Leslie Street. The Toronto Botanical Garden is on the southwest corner.



## 1. TORONTO BOTANICAL GARDEN, 777 LAWRENCE AVE. E.

The Toronto Botanical Garden offers an array of 17 award-winning themed gardens spanning nearly four acres, designed to educate and inspire. You will also find a range of indoor and outdoor programs for all ages including The Edwards Summer Music Series, an organic farmers' market, garden tours and nature day camps. Enjoy the Garden Café (with patio) before or after a walk through the gardens. For more info, visit [torontobotanicalgarden.ca](http://torontobotanicalgarden.ca).

## 2. EDWARDS GARDENS, 755 LAWRENCE AVE. E.



**Directions:** Located adjacent to the Toronto Botanical Garden.

Beautiful roses, wildflowers, extensive rockery in the valley

and Wilket Creek running through, make Edwards Gardens a popular destination for flora lovers and photographers. Among the formal gardens and brilliant floral displays, there is much more to explore

including rock gardens, a greenhouse, wooden arch bridges, a waterwheel, fountains and many walking trails.

### 3. WILKET CREEK PARK

**Directions:** Walk south on the path following Wilket Creek that runs through Edwards Gardens and find the Bata Trail signage to enter Wilket Creek Park.



This park offers scenic trails filled with plenty of undisturbed woodland, excellent for nature walks. This is also a popular spot for local cyclists. Several

uncommon bird species visit here as a stop-over point during seasonal migrations and mature coniferous and deciduous trees can be found along the valley walls. For a list of birds and trees you might find here, see page 81.



### 4. ANCIENT LAKE IROQUOIS

**Directions:** Continue on the path until you see a steep cliff on the right.

When the last glaciers retreated from Toronto, between 13,000 and 14,000 years ago, deep layers of till, silt and clay were left behind. Water levels rose significantly, creating Lake Iroquois. As glaciers retreated, land levels slowly rose, water eventually drained through the St. Lawrence River Valley and the shoreline receded to its present location some 8,000 years ago. The Lake Iroquois shoreline is an easily detected landscape feature and can also be seen at the Scarborough Bluffs.

### 5. ENJOYING THE SCENERY



**Directions:** Continue on the path until you reach a bridge on the right, cross it, follow the footpath climbing the hill – use the Sunnybrook Park signpost as your guide, but turn

left at the top of the hill before you get to the signpost. Follow the footpath along the edge of the escarpment (this is a more scenic route). Alternatively, you can follow the directions on the signpost at the top of the hill.

---

Enjoy the great scenery here – large sugar maple and eastern hemlock trees dominate the landscape. During springtime, trilliums, the official flower of Ontario, are abundant in this area.

## 6. SUNNYBROOK PARK



**Directions:** Continue on the path until it opens onto a large, groomed playing field. If you followed the directions on the signpost, continue on the path until it opens onto a parking lot.

Walk across the parking lot to enter Sunnybrook Park. Follow the woodchip path along the south side of the field.

---

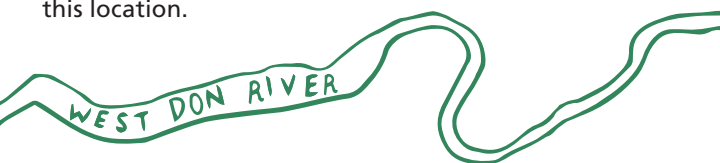
Sunnybrook Farm was the estate of Major Joseph Kilgour. His wife, Alice Kilgour, donated Sunnybrook Farm to the City of Toronto in 1928 to be used as a park. During World War II, this parkland was used as a transit camp for troops preparing to leave for Europe. In 1943, part of the land was transferred to the Government of Canada to build a new hospital, Sunnybrook Military Hospital for Canadian veterans, now Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre. Major Kilgour was an excellent horseman and today his barn survives as Sunnybrook Stables. The park is also home to bike trails, dog parks and fields used for sports and recreation.

## 7. WEST DON RIVER

**Directions:** Continue along the woodchip path to the far end of the field. At your left you'll find cement steps with an iron railing. At the bottom of the steps is a parking lot. Turn left and walk across the lot. Cross the bridge straight ahead of you – there is a great view of the West Don River from the bridge. To avoid the steps, walk down the roadway past the riding stables. The roadway leads to the parking lot. Allow an extra 15 minutes for this route.

---

The West Don River begins in Vaughan near Keele Street and Kirby Road. It flows from the Oak Ridges Moraine south by way of G. Ross Lord Park, passing through Earl Bales Park, Hoggs Hollow at Yonge Street, Glendon Forest behind York University to this location.



## 8. MAKING YOUR WAY BACK OR CONTINUE

**Directions:** Cross the bridge and follow the footpath. Turn left onto the paved trail past the washroom facility in Serena Gundy Park and left again to get to a steel suspension bridge to the parking lot. Proceed to the far right end of the lot to find the next washroom facility. From here:

**Option one:** To return to Edwards Gardens, follow Wilket Creek, on the left upstream, and walk through the valley.

**Option two:** To connect with public transit, turn right to exit the park to get to Leslie Street and Eglinton Avenue East. The 51 Leslie and 34 Eglinton buses are available at this intersection.

**Option three:** If you wish to continue to explore this area, with the Don River on your right hand side, follow the concrete path south. Walk past the underpass and a parking lot. Walk across the parking lot and continue on the trail straight ahead. The trail leads to E. T. Seton Park, eventually connecting to the Lower Don Recreational Trail. See below for what you can find at E. T. Seton Park near the Overlea parking lot.

### ✦ EXPLORE MORE



#### NATURESCAPES

*Naturescapes* was created by Art Starts as a Signature Project of the 2016 Cultural Hotspot. These painted wooden stumps are vibrant in colour and function as

seating. This installation is a part of a multi-site public art, youth mentorship and legacy project. Artists Rob Matejka and Natasha Kudashkina and local youth artists Stephanie Bellefleur, Daniel Petsinis, Richard Petsinis, Victor M Vazquez Raos and Candace Kumarby painted and installed them to enhance the beauty and increase the visibility at park gateways and pathways. See page 53 for information on the mural and fence installation created as a part of this project.

#### Useful Information

Discover the Don, more walks on Don:  
[discoverthedon.ca/walkthedon](http://discoverthedon.ca/walkthedon)

Toronto Botanical Garden, programs and info:  
[torontobotanicalgarden.ca](http://torontobotanicalgarden.ca)

Toronto Parks, info: [toronto.ca/parks](http://toronto.ca/parks)

Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA), info: [trca.ca](http://trca.ca)





### Sources

*About Sunnybrook*, Sunnybrook Health Science Centre

*History*, Sunnybrook Stables Limited

Parks, Forestry & Recreation, City of Toronto

The Don Watershed Regeneration Council

Toronto Botanical Garden

Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA)

### Photo Credits

Toronto Botanical Garden

Wilket Creek Park, Lucy Cherniak

Naturescapes, Art Starts



# PUBLIC ART DISCOVERY TOUR




Explore North York's public art on streets, in buildings and subway stations. Entering a station on the Sheppard subway line is like stepping into artwork – walls, floors and columns are covered with art. Take this tour to discover them all.

**Location:** Starts at Don Mills Road, travels through several neighbourhoods and ends on Yonge Street

**Interests:** Art, Mural

**Estimated time:** 2 hours

**Type:**  You'll be getting on and off the subway and buses, a day pass will make this more economical. For more information, visit [ttc.ca](http://ttc.ca).

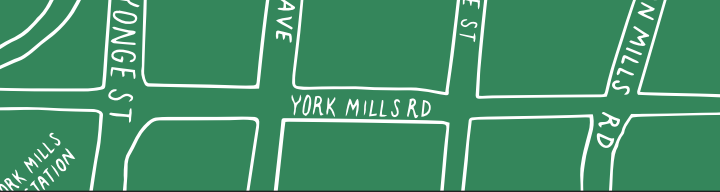
## ▼ Getting to tour start:



Take the 404/Don Valley Parkway and exit at Lawrence Avenue. Drive west on Lawrence to Don Mills Road. CF Shops at Don Mills is located at the southwest corner of the intersection.



You can either take the 54 Lawrence East or 25 Don Mills bus. From Eglinton station, take the 54 Lawrence East bus and get off at Don Mills Road. From Don Mills or Pape station, take the 25 Don Mills bus and get off at Lawrence Avenue East.



## 1. SUPERNOVA

**Directions:** Located in Town Square at CF Shops at Don Mills.

*Supernova* is a clock tower and sculpture that features 1950s model homes exploding in all directions from the core. Created by celebrated

Canadian artist Douglas Coupland, it speaks to the Don Mills area's building boom in the mid-1950s. Don Mills was planned as a model town, a "New Town" complete with schools, churches, industry and the latest in shop-ping facilities. It was to become a model for others to follow such as Flemington Village and Yorkwoods Village.

**DID YOU KNOW?** An audio tour of this area is available on Heritage Toronto's YouTube channel. To learn more about Don Mills' past and present, look for Don Mills iTour at: [youtube.com/heritagetoronto](https://youtube.com/heritagetoronto).



## 2. DON MILLS MONTAGE

**Directions:** Located at CF Shops at Don Mills on Lawrence Avenue between the LCBO and McEwan.

Created by Charles Staffer, this vibrant mural was originally installed at Don Mills Centre, an earlier shopping mall on the site. Taking elements of the neighbourhood, Staffer depicted them as abstract motifs.



### DID YOU KNOW?

The first library in this area was a small library established in 1855, as a part of a red brick

schoolhouse built in 1853. Until the Don Mills Library was officially opened in 1962, the public library in Don Mills was located inside a general store, then in an abandoned military hut, which later became a hen house. Don Mills Library is now a local cultural hub offering regular programs, events and an art exhibit space. It is located at 888 Lawrence Ave., just west of Don Mills Road. To learn more about Toronto's public libraries, visit [torontopubliclibrary.ca](https://torontopubliclibrary.ca).

### 3. CONNECTIONS



**Directions:** Leave CF Shops at Don Mills and take the 25 Don Mills bus north and get off at George Henry Boulevard. The mural is located on the west side of Don Mills Road.

This mural was created by Mural Routes in 2016 as a Signature Project of the Cultural Hotspot. The design works with the existing grooves of the retaining wall to create an array of coloured blocks, interspersed with textile patterns from around the world. The mural represents the connectivity of North York's diverse cultures and creates a colourful gradient that can be appreciated by pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers alike. The project also included a free Introduction to Mural Art program, during which an intergenerational group of local residents exchanged ideas for the piece while developing mural art skills. The 760-foot mural was painted by Rob Matejka, Tara Dorey, Frances Potts, three youth assistants and numerous volunteers.



**DID YOU KNOW?** There are two beautiful heritage buildings nearby. David Duncan, dairy farmer and the

first Ontario breeder of Jersey cows, lived in a Gothic style farmhouse built circa 1865. This house is now the Duncan House Restaurant at 125 Moatfield Dr. For more information, visit [davidduncanhouse.com](http://davidduncanhouse.com). Graydon Hall, a 29-room Georgian manor built in 1936 on a 100-acre estate is at 185 Graydon Hall Dr. It is now an event facility. For more information, visit [graydonhall.com](http://graydonhall.com).

### 4. FOUR SEASONS



**Directions:** Walk north on Don Mills Road to Sheppard Avenue. *Four Seasons* is located at the southeast corner of Sheppard Avenue and Don Mills Road.

Inspired by Laurentian pencil crayons (a staple in Canadian homes until they were discontinued in 2012), four large brightly coloured striped cones that range from 48 to 60 feet in height were created in 2014 by Douglas Coupland. Each cone represents one of the four seasons, starting

with the fall, the tallest and most prominent cone at the corner of Sheppard Avenue and Don Mills Road. The rest of the cones are placed intermittently, continuing toward Forest Manor Road. The colour

palettes of the sculptures vary, reflecting the different seasons. More of Coupland's work can be found in the area, including at Don Mills subway station entrance and at Parkway Forest Community Centre, 55 Forest Manor Rd.

## 5. NORTHERN DANCER

**Directions:** Walk to the northeast corner of Sheppard Avenue and Don Mills Road. Look for a plaque near the stairway.



This art installation by Stephen Cruise pays tribute to a racehorse owned by E.P. Taylor, Northern Dancer. Northern Dancer was the first Canadian-bred and owned horse to win the Kentucky Derby and won 14 of 18 races including the Queen's Plate. He was then retired to stud and became the first animal inducted into the Canadian Sports Hall of Fame in 1965. Taylor's horse stable property, Windfields Farm (now Windfields Park), is located on Bayview Avenue. To learn more about Windfields, see page 30.



**DID YOU KNOW?** Fairview Library is located just a few minutes' walk from here at 35

Fairview Mall Dr. It is home to one of three Toronto Public Library theatres. Local groups such as Stage Centre Productions perform at the theatre regularly. The library also features exhibition space and artists are invited to submit an application to show.

## 6. BEFORE/AFTER



**Directions:** Enter Don Mills station at the concourse level. There are several entrances at Sheppard Avenue and Don Mills Road.

Don Mills station is covered with Stephen Cruise's work *before/after*. He took inspiration from the nearby Don River and Don Valley. Patterns on the walls represent the soil and water of the Don. The station was imagined as an archaeological dig site with found objects such as fossils of fish, turtles and local flora and fauna, revealing what can be found outside the station within its walls.

## 7. AMPERSAND



**Directions:** Take the subway westbound and get off at Leslie station. Look around on concourse and platform levels and at the bus terminal.



17,000 tiles of 3,400 different handwriting samples cover the walls of Leslie station. The handwriting samples were collected from the local community in 1997. Created by Canadian artist Micah Lexier, *Ampersand* acknowledges both the individuality of a person and the person being part of a larger community.



## 8. KIDS PLAY

**Directions:** Take the Leslie Street exit and look to the left to find an overpass.

This mural is a City of Toronto project managed by Mural Routes. Artist Bill Wrigley drew inspiration for it as he thought about his childhood while driving in traffic. He remembered the freedom and joy he felt leaping, jumping and swinging as a child in the 1960s and wanted this mural to remind other drivers of their childhood. To learn more about the artist, visit [billwrigley.com](http://billwrigley.com).

## 9. PASSING

**Directions:** Take the subway westbound from Leslie station and get off at Bessarion station. The art is located throughout the station.



*Passing* reflects people who once used, presently use and those who will use the subway station. Artist Sylvie Bélanger photographed activities of people in a subway station and combined the imagery digitally to reflect the different ages, genders, races and cultures of transit goers.

## 10. FROM HERE RIGHT NOW

**Directions:** Take the subway westbound from Bessarion station and get off at Bayview station. The art is located throughout the station.



Whimsical images float everywhere in Bayview station. Artist Panya Clark Espinal created 24 drawings of everyday objects that can be found on the walls and floors. The images are larger-than-life, stretched and

distorted. However, as you walk further away and look at them from certain angles, you will be able to see them clearly.

## 11. IMMERSION LAND



**Directions:** Take the subway westbound from Bayview station and get off at Sheppard-Yonge station. Look straight ahead as you get off the subway.

Made from 1,500,000 tiles, this panoramic landscape creates the feeling of being surrounded by southern Ontario's nature. Artist Stacey Spiegel used a panoramic camera to take 150 photographs to capture what can be seen from the road while travelling through Ontario, she then blended the images to create this 1,000 square metre wrap-around mosaic.

## 12. BREAKING GROUND



**Directions:** Take the subway southbound on Line 1 Yonge-University to York Mills station. Walk up to the concourse level and look for the art across from the collector's booth.

This quilt was made by artist Laurie Swim, commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of an accident that took place near Old York Mills Road and Yonge Street. On March 17, 1960, five Italian immigrant workers were tragically killed while constructing a tunnel in the area. The quilt hangs here as a reminder of the importance of workplace safety, a tribute to the workers who lost their lives and as public recognition of the contribution that immigrant workers have made to the development of the province.

## 13. TOP OF THE NORTH HILL - 1850'S AND TRAFFIC AT YONGE AND SHEPPARD - 1860'S



**Directions:** Take the subway northbound and get off at North York Centre station. Murals are located at platform level, one on the northbound platform and the other on southbound platform.

On the northbound platform is *Top of the North Hill – 1850's*. This North York heritage mural depicts the rural view of Hogg's Hollow (Yonge Street and York Mills Road area) and Lansing (Yonge Street and Sheppard Avenue area). It reminds us that our modern cityscape was once occupied by sawmills and cleared

farmland. Across the top of the mural are names of the old farming communities of North York.

On the southbound platform is *Traffic at Yonge and Sheppard – 1860's*. This mural depicts a more modern view of Yonge Street and Sheppard Avenue area with buildings. Local landmarks such as the Dempsey Store (see page 41) and the Yonge Street stage-coach can be found.

These two murals were created by North York artists Nicholas and Susana Craven, commissioned by the City of North York in 1988.

## 14. DANCE



**Directions:** Walk out of the North York Centre station to street level on Yonge Street. The art is on a median in front of the North York Civic Centre. Please observe from a distance and be cautious about traffic.

*Dance* consists of 14 larger-than-life size silhouettes of ballet dancers and 124 small figures. It was created in 1998 by Toronto artist Robert Sprachman. The artist took inspiration from movement and human interaction on busy Yonge Street. The dancers represent people engaging with each other socially.

## 15. BIRDS IN FLIGHT



**Directions:** Walk inside the North York Civic Centre and look up.

Canadian artist Micheline Beauchemin created this work in 1978. Well-known for her tapestries, Beauchemin worked with a variety of materials including fibres and aluminum. Her works are in collections across the country including the National Gallery of Canada. Beauchemin received numerous awards including the Governor General's Award in Visual and Media Arts. North York Civic Centre is open on weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. and weekends and holidays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.



## 16. GREEN BETWEEN

**Directions:** Walk out to Yonge Street following the watercourse in front of North York Civic Centre. Turn right to walk south to North York Boulevard and look to the right to find Toronto Centre for the Arts. Walk to the north entrance of the building to find the sculpture.

This large abstract sculpture by Peter Hide comprises steel plates, slabs, beams and cylinders that have been welded together. The left side of the sculpture consists of a gently curved plate and the right side is made up of smaller pieces of steel to represent contrast of textures.

## 17. ONE HUNDRED LINKS - 1 CHAIN



**Directions:** Walk north on Yonge Street and turn left on Park Home Avenue on the north side of the street to find Gibson Park. Art is located at both east and west entrances to Gibson Park as well as the connecting walkway in between.

This site-specific artwork by Stephen Cruise, commissioned by the City of North York in 1997, commemorates the life of David Gibson, Gibson House and the historical significance of the area. The artwork consists of various elements placed throughout the park. At the east entrance are two brick pillars and pavers, inspired by David Gibson's diary. On the cap of one pillar is a bronze cast of a horse. On the other pillar is a bronze cast apple, representing David Gibson's orchard. The pavers are meant to connect the east entrance to the west entrance. At the west entrance there is a bronze stake with chain links topped with a gold-leaf apple, a bronze cast of a foal and inscribed farm boulders. The stake denotes David Gibson as a surveyor, with Gunter's chain, a measurement tool used for land survey. The foal is a life-sized cast bronze sculpture of the Gibson family's colt, Logo and is modelled from a 1905 Gibson family photo. The boulders show land that had yet to be cleared. To learn more about the history of the site and the Gibson family, see page 42.



## 18. GIBSON MEMORIAL MURAL

**Directions:** Look for a large black granite wall at Gibson Park.

Etched in black granite from photographs of the Gibson family, this memorial mural provides a glimpse

into the rural life of this area in early 1900s. David Gibson married Eliza Milne in 1828 and they had four sons: James, William, Peter and George and three daughters: Elizabeth, Margaret and Mary. From left to right, the mural shows:

- Vernon White Gibson, grandson of David Gibson and friends under tree on Gibson Farm, early 20<sup>th</sup> century
- Eva Gibson, granddaughter of David Gibson with Logo on Gibson Lane, early 20<sup>th</sup> century
- Elmore Gibson, great-grandson of David Gibson, 1906
- Ansel Gibson, great-grandson of David Gibson, early 20<sup>th</sup> century
- Mabel Gibson, granddaughter of David Gibson and husband Will Schmidt, 1906
- Peter Silas Gibson, son of David Gibson and wife Eliza Jane Holmes with grandchildren

## 19. TIMETRACK

**Directions:** From Gibson Park, walk north on Beecroft Road to find Dempsey Park on the west side of the road.



Art is installed along Dempsey Park's pathways. *Timetrack* is a site-specific art installation that reminds visitors of the site's past as a part of the Gibson family farm. Created by Millie Chen and

Warren Quigley, the bronze cast artwork appears at irregular intervals on the park's pathways and shows symbols of the site from the past. For more information, look for a plaque in the park.



## 20. HERITAGE MURAL, 5576 YONGE ST.

**Directions:** Walk to Yonge Street and head north on the west side of the road. This mural is located behind Shoppers Drug Mart in the parking lot off Tolman Street. It is about a 10-minute walk.

This mural shows heritage sites that used to exist on or near the Gibson family farmland. Even the street where this mural is located is named after the last surviving apple tree from the Gibson Family Farm's orchard (Tolman). This tree can be found today at



the corner of Yonge Street and Park Home Avenue. The mural includes the Gibson House (now Gibson House Museum), Dempsey Store (see page 41 for more information), Fire Hall Tower (see page 37 for more information) and a public art installation commemorating David Gibson (#17 of this tour).

**DID YOU KNOW?** This area is known for its large Korean population. You can find many Korean restaurants on Yonge Street along with bakeries and karaoke establishments. Flip to page 85 for a list of HOT Eats restaurants to visit.

## 21. MAKING YOUR WAY BACK OR CONTINUE

**Option one:** To head back to CF Shops at Don Mills, take the Line 1 Yonge-University subway southbound from Finch station at Finch Avenue and Yonge Street to Lawrence station and take the 54 Lawrence East bus.

**Option two:** If you wish to continue to explore this area, walk north on Yonge Street and turn left onto Hendon Avenue towards Hendon Park. It connects to the Finch Hydro Corridor, a series of trails that lead all the way down to Dufferin Street that are great for cycling.

---

### Useful Information

Mural Routes, programs and info: [muralroutes.ca](http://muralroutes.ca)

### Sources

Bill Wrigley

*Creating Memory* by John Warkentin

*Douglas Coupland's 'Four Seasons' Enliven ELAD's*

*Emerald City* by Jack Landau

Gibson House Museum

*Honoured Member Stores, Dancer Northern* by  
Canada's Sports Hall of Fame

*Micheline Beauchemin* by National Gallery of Canada

Mural Routes

*Sheppard Subway Public Art Program 2002* by Toronto  
Transit Commission Toronto Arts Online

### Photo Credits

Connections, Mural Routes

Dance, Robert Sprachman

Heritage Mural, Gibson House Museum

# HISTORICAL MINI TOUR

## - GRAND ESTATES OF NORTH YORK



Take a short drive and explore the picturesque and elegant former grand estates of North York to discover a wealth of history and culture.


**Location:** Bayview Avenue

**Interests:** Architecture, Art

**Estimated time:** 1 hour or less

**Type:** 

### ▼ Getting to tour start:

 Take Highway 401 and exit at Bayview Avenue. Drive south on Bayview for about four minutes to find



the Canadian Film Centre entrance on the left. The nearest intersection is Bayview Avenue and Bayview Ridge.



## 1. WINDFIELDS, 2489 BAYVIEW AVE.

**Note:** The Canadian Film Centre is not open to the public. Book a docent tour before your visit by calling 416-445-1446 x 312.

Windfields Estate was the home of E.P. Taylor, a Canadian businessman who formed Canadian Breweries Limited in the 1930s, and post-World War II, formed Argus Corporation. Taylor spearheaded the development of the nearby Don Mills community in the 1950s. He also built the O’Keefe Centre (now the Sony Centre), an important Toronto cultural landmark. Taylor was a breeder of champion horses and the owner of Northern Dancer, the first Canadian horse to win the Kentucky Derby in 1964 (see page 22). The archeological record of the Windfields property extends back to the early 1800s, when the area was settled by Loyalist émigrés, who were among York Township’s earliest pioneers.

The Windfields Estate was built in 1936 in American Colonial design. In the late 1960s, the house and 20 acres of the estate were given to the city of North York. In 1986, it was leased to the Canadian Film Centre, founded by Toronto-born filmmaker Norman Jewison (*In the Heat of the Night*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Moonstruck*) and became the Canadian Film Centre.

The Canadian Film Centre (CFC) is a charitable organization whose mission is to invest in and inspire the next generation of world-class Canadian content creators and entrepreneurs in the screen-based entertainment industry. For more information, visit [cfccreates.com](http://cfccreates.com).

**DID YOU KNOW?** Financier and art collector Frank P. Wood’s estate is nearby, at 2365 Bayview Ave. Wood was a benefactor of the Art Gallery of Ontario and left his estate and art collection to the Gallery. Built in 1930, this house, built out of limestone, was designed by the prestigious New York firm of Delano and Aldrich. In 1967, this property was purchased by the Crescent School, a private school for boys.

## 2. CLIFFORD SIFTON ESTATE, 306 LAWRENCE AVE. E.



Clifford Sifton and his sons  
circa 1916

**Directions:** Drive south on Bayview Avenue and drive up the ramp on the right to head west on Lawrence Avenue East. Immediately turn right into the driveway of the Toronto French School.

**Note:** Active school, stay on the driveway to observe.

---

Toronto French School was once an estate of Sir Clifford Sifton, a lawyer and politician. Sifton was a cabinet minister in the government of Sir Wilfrid

Laurier. He left politics in 1911, became a businessman and was knighted in 1915. At this site, three historic houses can be found. The one on the east is a 22-room house in a mixture of Tudor and Dutch designs built in 1923. The other two houses on the west were built for Sifton's sons Clifford and Arthur. The east house was sold to the Ursuline Nuns in 1947 and the younger Clifford retained part of the property until 1967. Today the houses make up the Toronto French School.



## 3. GLENDON, 2275 BAYVIEW AVE.

**Directions:** Glendon Hall is located inside York University's Glendon campus. Turn left from the Toronto French School to head east on Lawrence Avenue East and drive straight ahead to enter the main entrance of Glendon campus. There are several parking lots around the campus.

**Note:** Active school, please be respectful.

---

Glendon campus was the estate of financier Edward Rogers Wood, Frank P. Wood's brother (see Did You Know? on page 30). The estate was presented to the University of Toronto in 1949 by Edwards' wife, Agnes Wood, with a condition that the tallest building

not be taller than the tallest tree on campus. It was bequeathed to York University in the 1950s. The campus features lush parklands, rose gardens and walking trails by the Don River. Here are some places on the campus to visit:

### GLENDON HALL AND ROSE GARDEN

Glendon Hall was the home of Edward Rogers Wood and his family. This elegant building is an Italian style villa built in 1925. In front of Glendon Hall is, avid gardener and wife to Edward, Agnes Wood's Rose Garden.

### PUBLIC ART

York Hall at Glendon campus is home to three beautiful public sculptures. Outside the building on the west end, is *Earth and Steel* by Kosso Eloul, on the south wall is *The Whole Person* by Lionel Thomas and on the sides of the south door are E. B. Cox's stone reliefs.



**DID YOU KNOW?** In 1930, Edward Rogers Wood gave a portion of his estate to his

daughter Mildred and her husband. They built a house, Chedington, just to the north of her parents' home, Glendon Hall. When Bayview Avenue was improved, it was re-routed to veer 300 metres to the west so as not to separate Chedington and Glendon Hall. That slight bend in the street remains today. In 2013, Chedington was demolished due to fire damage.

---

### Useful Information

Canadian Film Centre, programs and info:  
[cfccreates.com](http://cfccreates.com)

North York Historical Society, more history: [nyhs.ca](http://nyhs.ca)

### Sources

Canadian Film Centre

*Creating Memory* by John Warkentin

North York Historical Society

York University Glendon campus

### Photo Credits

Windfields, Canadian Film Centre

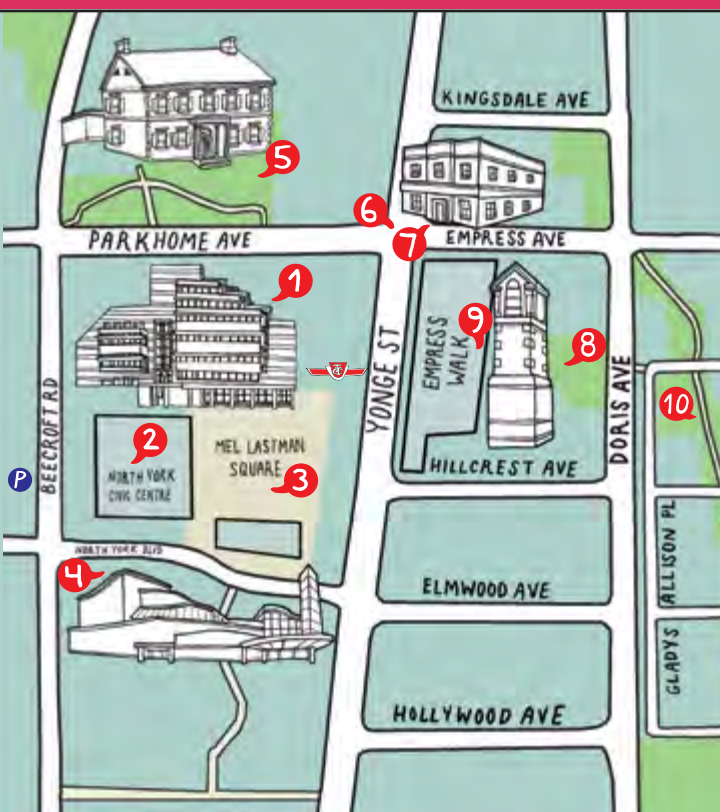
Clifford Sifton Estate, City of Toronto Archives

Glendon, York University Glendon campus



# LOOP 2

## CITY WITH HEART




North York was formerly an agricultural hub that later boomed with industry transforming the area into the sprawling suburb, with many diverse neighbourhoods that it is today. North York's public business is rooted at the civic centre. And the area's many municipal, arts, culture and heritage, buildings and organizations branch out from here. Discover this city with a heart on this civic tour.


**Location:** North York Centre


**Interests:** History

**Estimated time:** 1 hour or less

**Type:** 

### ▼ Getting to tour start:

 Take Highway 401 and exit at Yonge Street. Drive north on Yonge Street and turn left on Sheppard Avenue. Turn immediately right onto Beecroft Road and drive two minutes north. Paid parking is available on Beecroft Road beside the York Cemetery. Park the car and cross the street to the east side to get to North York Central Library.

 Take the Line 1 Yonge-University subway and get off at North York Centre station. Take the North York City Centre exit. Follow the hallway on ground level to the opposite end to get to the entrance of North York Central Library.

## 1. NORTH YORK CENTRAL LIBRARY, 5120 YONGE ST.



The North York Public Library Association Board, a community organization for library services was formed in 1950, and operated a library on the ground floor

of the North York Memorial Hall, located on the west side of Yonge Street, south of Park Home Avenue. In the early 1950s, the library comprised the location in Memorial Hall, a portable classroom to house the children's library, and a bookmobile. When it was not on route, the bookmobile was parked in a small driveway in front of the now demolished Harold Holmes Gibson House on the southwest corner of Yonge Street and Park Home Avenue.

The land where the house stood was purchased by North York Public Library Board. In 1959, the Gladys Allison Building was opened by the North York Public Library and the exterior featured Toronto artist Harold Town's friezes. When the site was redeveloped to become North York City Centre in 1987, a new North York Central Library was incorporated in the plan. The Gladys Allison Building was replaced with a seven-storey library, four times larger than the former one. Town's artwork was saved from the old building and was placed on the wall above the new building's main entrance. In 1998, the North York Central Library became part of the new Toronto Public Library following municipal amalgamation. It is now one of two research and reference libraries in Toronto and holds more than 600,000 items.

## 2. NORTH YORK CIVIC CENTRE, 5100 YONGE ST.



**Directions:** North York Civic Centre is located adjacent to the North York Central Library.

North York Civic Centre was designed by Adamson

Associates in 1974 and received the Governor General's Medal for Architecture in 1982. It was called North York City Hall when North York became a city in 1979. The building is designed with an atrium concept, with each floor overlooking the floor below. The sloping roof provides plenty of natural light. It is now home to North York Community Council and local municipal departments.

### 3. MEL LASTMAN SQUARE, 5100 YONGE ST.



**Directions:** Mel Lastman Square is located in front of the North York Civic Centre.

---

Mel Lastman Square is a local cultural hub that hosts a number of Toronto's major annual events including a Canada Day Celebration, Cultura, Korean Harvest Festival, Hispanic Fiesta, Sunday Serenades as well as a weekly farmers' market. The farmers' market at Mel Lastman Square runs on Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., June to October. The square features an amphitheatre, reflecting pool/skating rink and a watercourse that runs from the street level to the lower level. It was designed by J. Michael Kirkland and officially opened in 1989. It was named for Mel Lastman, the mayor of North York from 1973 to 1997 and the mayor of Toronto from 1998 to 2003. He is one of the country's longest serving mayors. For Mel Lastman Square events, visit [goo.gl/QXaXP5](http://goo.gl/QXaXP5).

### 4. TORONTO CENTRE FOR THE ARTS AND NORTH YORK ARTS, 5040 YONGE ST.



**Directions:** Follow the watercourse up to Yonge Street. Turn right to walk south on Yonge Street and turn right on North York Boulevard.

---

Toronto Centre for the Arts (TCA) is one of Toronto's premiere performing arts facilities. The centre includes the 1,856-seat Apotex Theatre, 1,025-seat George Weston Recital Hall, a studio theatre and two art gallery spaces.



TCA is home to North York Arts (NYA), an arts service organization that believes in creative expression and inclusive arts programming to enliven neighbourhoods and bring people together. NYA provides arts events and programs to children, youth, family and seniors including programs to serve the new Canadians and communities within North York. For more information, visit [northyorkarts.org](http://northyorkarts.org).

## 5. GIBSON HOUSE MUSEUM, 5172 YONGE ST.



**Directions:** Walk past Toronto Centre for the Arts to Beecroft Road and turn right. Walk one block north. Turn right on Park Home Avenue and look

left to find Gibson House Museum.

---

Gibson House Museum is one of 10 historic sites operated by the City of Toronto. This two-storey red brick Georgian Revival farmhouse was formerly owned by David Gibson, surveyor, farmer and political reformer. The museum holds special events year-round and the site also features a heritage vegetable garden and gallery. For more information, visit [toronto.ca/gibsonhouse](http://toronto.ca/gibsonhouse). To learn more about the history of the site and the Gibson family, see page 42.

## 6. YONGE STREET



**Directions:** Walk east on Park Home Avenue to Yonge Street.

---

Yonge Street is a main street in North York and

is one of the oldest roads in the province. Named by Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe after his friend Sir George Yonge, the road was originally a military and fur-trading path connecting Lake Ontario and Lake Simcoe. Yonge Street was known as the longest street in the world, however, it is only true if the street is considered to be a part of Highway 11 which is no longer the case. Early North York pioneers settled in hamlets along Yonge Street including York Mills, Lansing, Willowdale and Newtonbrook. It's hard to imagine that in 1861, horse-drawn streetcar tracks were laid for the first time. Electric streetcars did not arrive until 1890 and 1973 marked the official opening of the York Mills subway station, with the final extension to Finch Avenue concluding a year later.

## 7. FIRST NORTH YORK HYDRO BUILDING, 5151 YONGE ST.



Building, ca. 1957

**Directions:** Cross to the east side of Yonge Street to get to the northeast corner of Yonge Street and Empress Avenue.

---

Constructed in 1929, this is the only surviving early 20<sup>th</sup> century municipal

building that exists in this area, though it has been re-purposed for retail use. Prior to the formation of the North York Hydro-Electric Commission in 1923, a

privately-owned radial railway company provided electrical power to the local residents. A second storey was added in 1948. A new hydro building opened in 1965, but this original building has remained.

## 8. FIRE HALL TOWER



Truck and crew, ca. 1957



Fire Hall Tower, 1957

**Directions:** Walk one block east on Empress Avenue to Doris Avenue and turn right. Look to the right to find the Fire Hall Tower located behind Empress Walk.

This tower was a part of North York's first fire hall that opened in 1942. The tower features a gabled roof, time clocks and a stone medallion. The medallion shows firefighting equipment with the inscription *Semper Paratus* ("Always Ready"). The fire hall was

designed by Toronto architect Murray Brown in the Colonial Revival style. Other parts of the fire hall were demolished for redevelopment in 1989.

## 9. FIRST NORTH YORK MUNICIPAL BUILDING



Building, 1957

**Directions:** From the Fire Hall Tower, look for a glass enclosed entrance into the Empress Walk building beside Second Cup.

On the site of this large condo and retail complex once stood North York's first municipal office. A portion of it can be seen

under encased glass here. It was a two-storey building, also designed by Murray Brown, built in 1923 to hold Council meetings. The main floor had two offices and the second floor held the council chamber, a small assembly hall and a members' room. In 1947, the building was expanded and was used for a variety of civic functions until the site's redevelopment in 1989.

## 10. LEE LIFESON ART PARK

**Directions:** Walk back to Empress Avenue and cross the street to the east side. Walk one block south to Princess Avenue to find Lee Lifeson Art Park on the left.

Lee Lifeson Art Park is named after the two world famous Willowdale musicians, Geddy Lee and Alex





Lee Lifeson Art Park

Lifeson of the rock band Rush. Geddy Lee was born in Willowdale and Alex Lifeson moved to Willowdale at the age of eight. Neil Peart joined the two childhood friends to form one of the most acclaimed rock trios. They have produced Gold and Platinum records and have received numerous awards including nine Juno awards and seven Grammy nominations. In 1996, Rush was the first rock band to receive the Order of Canada. Lee Lifeson Art Park offers opportunities to enjoy arts and creative activities by featuring open air performance space, room for arts installations, arts markets and arts programming including festivals, events and workshops.

---

### Useful Information

Gibson House Museum, programs and info:  
[toronto.ca/gibsonhouse](http://toronto.ca/gibsonhouse)

Mel Lastman Square, events: [goo.gl/QXaXP5](http://goo.gl/QXaXP5)

North York Arts, programs and info: [northyorkarts.org](http://northyorkarts.org)

Toronto Public Library: [torontopubliclibrary.ca](http://torontopubliclibrary.ca)

### Sources

Gibson House Museum

*Historic Walking Tour of North York Centre* by Toronto Public Library

North York Arts

North York Historical Society

*Proposal to Name New Art Park* by City of Toronto  
Toronto Centre for the Arts

### Photo Credits

Mel Lastman Square, North York Arts

Toronto Centre for the Arts

North York Arts, Aitak Sorahitalab

North York Historical Society

Toronto Public Library

Lee Lifeson Art Park, North York Arts

# HISTORICAL MINI TOUR - WILLOWDALE



This short tour takes you back through time to discover the diverse history of Willowdale in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Visit historic sites and buildings of the past.




**Location:** Willowdale


**Interests:** History, Architecture

**Estimated time:** 1 hour to less than two hours

**Type:** 

### ▼ Getting to tour start:

 Take Highway 401 and exit at Yonge Street. Drive north on Yonge Street to Empress Avenue. There are several paid parking lots near this intersection. Street parking is also available. From Yonge Street and Empress Avenue, follow the TTC directions below.

 Take the Line 1 Yonge-University subway and get off at North York Centre station. From Empress Avenue, walk two blocks on the east side of Yonge Street to Parkview Avenue and turn right. John McKenzie House is located on the northeast corner of Parkview Avenue and Doris Avenue.

## 1. JOHN MCKENZIE HOUSE, 34 PARKVIEW AVE.



Constructed in 1913, John McKenzie House was built on a plot of farmland purchased in 1884 by Philip McKenzie, an English immigrant trained as a carpenter. When Philip died, his son

John took over the farm and specialized in Holstein cattle until the local farming economy began to deteriorate. In 1912, John submitted plans to have a subdivision built on the family farm, which stretched east from Yonge Street to Bayview Avenue. He kept a small portion of the property and used the profits to construct an impressive two-and-a-half-storey home for his family of seven. The McKenzies also built a stable, milk house, and coach house on the property. The house contains 12 rooms, four bathrooms, and two sunrooms. The southern facade features a wrap-around veranda with stylized Doric columns. Interior features include leaded and stained glass windows, white oak panelled pocket-doors and wainscoting, beamed ceilings and 24 decorative iron radiators. John McKenzie House was slated for demolition in 1992. The Ontario Historical Society, a registered charity that has promoted and protected Ontario's history since 1888, stepped in to save and restore the buildings – the house is now their headquarters. To visit, call 416-226-9011 or email [ohs@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca](mailto:ohs@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca) to book an appointment.

## 2. WILLOWDALE CEMETERY



Willowdale Cemetery, 1914

**Directions:** Head back to Yonge Street and walk three blocks north to Church Avenue on the east side of the road. Find the Willowdale Cemetery beside the Metro grocery store.

**Note:** Cemetery, please be respectful.

Located by a busy street and a grocery store, this was the cemetery of the Willowdale United Church (previously Willowdale Episcopal Methodist Church), which was built in 1856. The church was sold in the 1950s and demolished in 1956. Many North York pioneers are buried here including Jacob Cumber along with other members of his family. Cumber was the founder of Willowdale, originally known as Kummer's settlement. Cumber Avenue, north of Finch Avenue, is named after the family – the road originally led to Cumber Mill.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Willowdale was named by David Gibson. When he petitioned the government for a local post office in 1855, a unique name for the community had to be provided to distinguish it from other communities/post offices in the province. David suggested "Willow Dale" because of all the willow trees growing in the area.



## 3. DEMPSEY STORE, 250 BEECROFT RD.



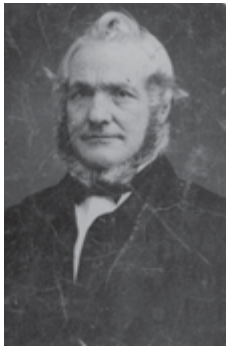
Dempsey Store, 1955

**Directions:** Cross the road to get to the west side of Yonge Street. Walk west on Churchill Avenue and turn left on Beecroft Road. Walk two blocks south to find Dempsey Store located in Dempsey Park on the right.

This building originally stood on the northwest corner of Yonge Street and Sheppard Avenue. It was built in 1860 by Joseph Shepard II, son of Joseph Shepard who was one of the earliest settlers of York in the 1790s. Joseph Shepard II operated a store that housed the local post office until 1888. It was the first general store in the area. Benjamin Brown purchased the building in 1904 and it was known as Brown's Store until 1921. In the early 1920s, it was sold to George and William Dempsey and came to be known as the

Dempsey Brothers Hardware Store. It was a very familiar North York landmark. The store was relocated to its present location in 1996 and is now home to the Shining Through Centre, which provides services to children with autism and their families. Visit [shiningthrough.ca](http://shiningthrough.ca) to find more about the centre.

#### 4. GIBSON HOUSE, 5172 YONGE ST.



Portrait of David Gibson

**Directions:** Walk one block south to Park Home Avenue and turn right. Find Gibson House Museum on the left.

This mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, red brick Georgian Revival farmhouse was home to David Gibson – surveyor, farmer, and political reformer – and his family. Born in Scotland in 1804, David Gibson was encouraged by his father to train as a land surveyor and to seek work in Canada. He arrived

in Lower Canada in May 1825 and worked there for a few months before moving to Upper Canada. He was appointed as Deputy Land Surveyor and surveyed for both the government and private individuals.

In 1828, David married Eliza Milne with whom he had seven children. In 1829, they bought this farm property of 105 acres on Yonge Street and settled into a frame house. Politically, David Gibson became influential in the life of Upper Canada. He was twice elected as the representative of the first riding of York in the Legislative Assembly. He was a member of the Reform Party and became involved in the Rebellion of 1837 as a moderate rebel.

Soon after the failure of the Rebellion in early December 1837, David Gibson was charged with treason, went into hiding and eventually fled to the United States. Eliza Gibson and her four children sought refuge with the neighbouring Cummer Family after government troops set fire to their home. Eliza managed to save David's journals, surveying instruments and the inner workings of the tall case clock (now on display in Gibson House Museum).

Eliza and the children joined David in Lockport, New York where he secured work as an engineer on the expansion of the Erie Canal. Gibson prospered during his years in the United States, and although pardoned in 1843, did not return to Canada until 1848. In November 1851, David, Eliza and their seven children moved into their new home. After the deaths of his parents, Peter Silas Gibson lived with his family in this home until 1916. The house is now Gibson House Museum, one of 10 historic sites owned and operated by the City of Toronto.



## ABOUT THE 1837 REBELLION OF UPPER CANADA

Freedom of religion. Separation of church and state. Transparent and accountable government spending. These simple attributes of responsible government seem reasonable and just today, but in 1830s Upper Canada, democracy was viewed as treason. Although members of the Legislative Assembly were elected by their communities, they had no decision-making power in government. Frustrated for years by the colonial government of Upper Canada and having exhausted all nonviolent actions to oust the small group of men who controlled public office (known as the Family Compact), William Lyon Mackenzie (journalist and first mayor of Toronto) assembled a group of men to take up arms and overthrow the government by force. Three days of tension in December 1837 culminated in a 20-minute skirmish at Montgomery's Tavern on Yonge Street. Though the Rebellion failed, it was an important factor in establishing responsible government in Canada and the union of Upper and Lower Canada. Many of the rebels including Mackenzie were forced to flee to the United States. In time, the rebels were pardoned and most returned to Canada.



**DID YOU KNOW?** The heritage apple tree growing in the parkette on the northwest corner of Yonge Street and Park Home Avenue is the last remaining apple tree from the

orchard planted by David Gibson on April 28, 1832. This tree is a Tolman Sweet apple tree and grafts were taken from this tree to grow new apple trees, later planted in Dempsey Park. The side street running west off Yonge Street (Tolman Street) just south of Finch Avenue is named after this apple tree.

## 5. MICHAEL SHEPARD HOUSE AND YORK CEMETERY, 160 BEECROFT RD.

**Directions:** Head back to Beecroft Road and walk one block south to the entrance of York Cemetery. Michael Shepard House is located inside the York Cemetery.

**Note:** Cemetery, please be respectful.



Michael Shepard House, 1961

This brick farmhouse is the same style as Gibson House. It was built in 1859 by Michael Shepard, son of Joseph Shepard (for more on Joseph, see #6). York Cemetery used to be Joseph Shepard's

property, which he was granted in 1805. Michael purchased part of the property from his father in 1837 just months before the Rebellion broke out. The rebel leader, William Lyon Mackenzie hid on this property before escaping to the United States to avoid imprisonment. Both Michael and his brother Thomas participated in the Rebellion as well and were imprisoned. The brothers escaped and fled to the United States, returning to Canada when they were pardoned in 1843. In 1859, Michael built this house and lived here until 1876. In 1916, the Toronto General Burying grounds (now the Mount Pleasant Group of Cemeteries) bought the house and the property. The land was converted for cemetery use, however, it was not used as a cemetery until 1946. The Michael Shepard House now serves as part of the offices for York Cemetery.

**DID YOU KNOW?** There are several well-known people buried in the York Cemetery. Tim Horton (former Toronto Maple Leafs player and co-founder of Tim Hortons coffee shops), Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna (daughter of Emperor Alexander III of Russia and younger sister of Tsar Nicholas II) and Barbara Frum (acclaimed CBC radio and television journalist) are all buried here.

## 6. JOSEPH SHEPARD HOUSE, 90 BURNDALE AVE.

**Directions:** Head back to Beecroft Road and walk south. Turn right at the second pedestrian walkway on the right to get to Burndale Avenue.

**Note:** Private property, observe the house from the street only.



Joseph Shepard House, 1968

This house was built circa 1835 by Joseph Shepard (1767-1837), a prosperous farmer and miller and the father of Michael, Thomas and Joseph II. He was a Loyalist who came to Canada in 1784. He

received a crown grant of 210 acres of land in 1805 on what is now Sheppard Avenue, stretching from Yonge to Bathurst Street. It is speculated that Sheppard Avenue was named after him. Joseph died before the 1837 Rebellion but his widow was sympathetic to the cause and sheltered the rebel military commander Anthony Van Egmond after the defeat of the rebels. He was captured by troops who also attempted to burn the house, but local stories say that they were prevented from doing so by Joseph's wife, Catherine Shepard. This building now remains as a private home.

## 7. ELIHU PEASE HOUSE, 20 HARRISON GARDEN BLVD.



**Directions:** Head back to Beecroft Road and walk three blocks south to get to Sheppard Avenue West. Turn left to get to Yonge Street and cross the road to the east

side. Walk three blocks south on Yonge Street to Avondale Avenue and turn left onto Harrison Garden Boulevard. Elihu Pease House is located in between the condos across from Avondale Park. It is about a 15-minute walk.

This house was built in 1834 and originally stood at 34 Avondale Ave. Elihu Pease was a tanner who built a tannery on his property south of Sheppard Avenue. He was a son-in-law of Jacob Cummer, the founder of Willowdale.

### ✦ EXPLORE MORE

You can visit more heritage buildings in North York. Two historically significant buildings are located approximately 10 minutes away by car from the Gibson House Museum.

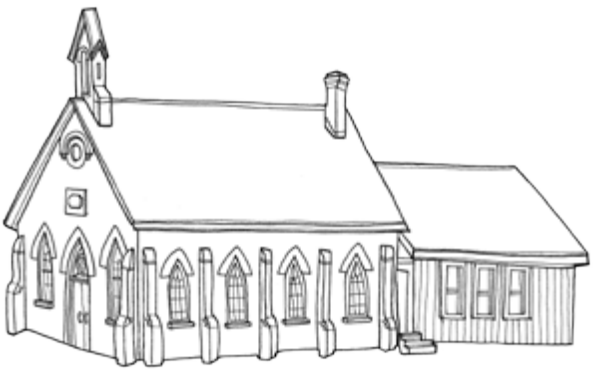
### ZION SCHOOLHOUSE, 1091 FINCH AVE. E.

**Directions:** From Gibson House Museum, drive north on Yonge Street and turn right on Finch Avenue. Look for Zion Schoolhouse on the south side after passing Leslie Street.



ZION SCHOOLHOUSE

Zion Schoolhouse, built in 1869, is the last unaltered one-room schoolhouse left in North York. It was built by the citizens of the surrounding farming community of L'Amaroux. One-room schoolhouses represent the first organized, publicly-funded and accessible system of education in Canada. Political and industrial world leaders in the 1950s and 1960s such as Lester B. Pearson (Prime Minister and Nobel peace Prize recipient) and H. R. MacMillan (founder of MacMillan-Bloedel, a multi-billion-dollar forestry company) had their education in humble, one-room schoolhouses like this one. It is now one of 10 historic museums operated by the City of Toronto. For visitor information, visit [toronto.ca/zionschoolhouse](http://toronto.ca/zionschoolhouse).



## ZION CHURCH CULTURAL CENTRE

### ZION CHURCH, 1650 FINCH AVE. E.

**Directions:** From Zion Schoolhouse, continue driving east on Finch Avenue and find Zion Church on the north side of the road. It is approximately a four-minute drive.

---

Originally the Zion Primitive Methodist Church built in 1873, Zion Church Cultural Centre and its cemetery plot are two of the only few remaining reminders of the 19<sup>th</sup> century farming communities of L'Amaroux. The Church is an example of Ontario Gothic style and was designated a heritage property under the Ontario Heritage Act. An addition was built in 1997-1998. A closed cemetery remains on the property. Today the Church is surrounded by urban sprawl, though it still stands on the highest elevated ground in Toronto. Zion Church Cultural Centre is now owned and operated by the City of Toronto. For more information, visit [toronto.ca/zionccc](http://toronto.ca/zionccc).

---

### Useful Information

Gibson House Museum, programs and info:  
[toronto.ca/gibsonhouse](http://toronto.ca/gibsonhouse)

Ontario Historical Society, info:  
[ontariohistoricalsociety.ca](http://ontariohistoricalsociety.ca)

Zion Church Cultural Centre, info: [toronto.ca/zionccc](http://toronto.ca/zionccc)

Zion Schoolhouse, programs and info:  
[toronto.ca/zionschoolhouse](http://toronto.ca/zionschoolhouse)

### Sources

Gibson House Museum

North York Historical Society

Ontario Historical Society

### Photo Credits

John McKenzie House, Ontario Historical Society

Portrait of David Gibson, Gibson House Museum

North York Historical Society

Toronto Public Library

# HISTORICAL MINI TOUR

## - YORK MILLS



From restaurants housed in historic buildings to the home of an artist that documented Canadian scenes, this mini tour features art and buildings dating back to the 1830s.

**Location:** York Mills

**Interests:** History

**Estimated time:** 1 hour or less

**Type:** 


### ▼ Getting to tour start:



Take Highway 401 and exit at Yonge Street. Drive south on Yonge Street and turn left on York Mills



Road. Park your car on Old Yonge Street and walk to Auberge de Pommier.

 Take the Line 1 Yonge-University subway and get off at York Mills station. Walk three minutes north on Yonge Street on the west side of the road.

## 1. AUBERGE DE POMMIER, 4150 YONGE ST.



This picturesque fine-dining French restaurant was constructed in what was once the pastoral Hoggs Hollow. James Hogg, a Scottish

immigrant and a successful businessman settled in this area in the 1820s. He had two sons, John and William Hogg who inherited the property and subdivided it in the 1850s. Only two worker's cottages were built circa 1860. In 1987, the cottages were re-purposed and have since been home to the restaurant.

## 2. C. W. JEFFERYS' HOUSE, 4111 YONGE ST.



**Directions:** Cross the road to the east side on William Carson Crescent. Walk south on Yonge Street and look for C. W. Jefferys' house on the left.

**Note:** Private property. Observe the house from the street only.



*The Pioneer, 1784*  
c. 1921  
Charles William (C.W.) Jefferys  
Pen and ink on paper  
Government of Ontario Art  
Collection, Archives of Ontario,  
621229

This house was built circa 1833 by Rowland Burr, who supervised the straightening of Yonge Street in the 1830s. Later it served as the parsonage of York Mills Presbyterian Church. From 1922 to 1951, it was owned and lived in by noted Canadian artist C. W. Jefferys (1869-1951). Jefferys worked as an artist and illustrator and taught drawing and painting at the University of Toronto. Look for a plaque in front of the house to read more about Jefferys. In 1956, the

house was moved back a short distance to allow for the widening of Yonge Street.



### 3. ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, 19 DON RIDGE DR.

**Directions:** Take the walking path beside C. W. Jefferys' house up to St. John's Anglican Church.

**Note:** Active church and cemetery, please be respectful.

---

The building you see now was built in 1843-1844 and is one of the oldest buildings in North York, designed by John George Howard replacing an earlier building. Over time, expansions were added to the building to serve the growing needs of the community, however, the sanctuary and the tower retain their original design. The cemetery located next to the church building is the resting place of many early North York pioneers. There are some notable interments here, including hockey player Lionel Conacher and artist C. W. Jefferys.



### 4. MILLER TAVERN, 3885 YONGE ST.

**Directions:** Retrace your steps along the walking path back to Yonge Street and head south to Mill Street. It is about a seven-minute walk.

---

John and William Hogg constructed this Georgian style commercial building in 1857 to replace an earlier hotel, which burned down in 1856. It was originally known as the York Mills Hotel and was used as a resting stop for people travelling. By the 1920s, it was known as the Jolly Miller and became a familiar landmark in the neighbourhood. The building passed through a number of owners and phases, including a period as an illegal gambling den in the 1930s. It also survived floods, Hurricane Hazel and threats of demolition. In 2004, the building was purchased by the City of Toronto. It was rented and restored by a private company and re-opened as the Miller Tavern.



C. W. Jeffreys Memorial

## 5. YORK MILLS VALLEY PARK

**Directions:** Wander around the green space behind the Miller Tavern.

---

York Mills Valley Park is a home to a heritage home and a public art piece:



### GEORGE PRATT HOUSE, 17 MILL ST.

This house was constructed circa 1890 by George Pratt, a prosperous York Mills miller. It was one of the first poured concrete houses in Ontario.



### C. W. JEFFREYS MEMORIAL

This bronze half-length sculpture of C. W. Jeffreys was created by Adrienne Alison in 2000 to commemorate the artist. It shows the artist holding paintbrushes and some of Jeffreys' works engraved on the pedestal.

---

### Useful Information

North York Historical Society, more history: [nyhs.ca](http://nyhs.ca)

### Sources

North York Historical Society

### Photo Credits

Archives of Ontario

## CITY WITHIN A CITY



Home to diverse communities, Ward 10 comprises many vibrant neighbourhoods like Clanton Park, Bathurst Manor, Westminster-Branson and Lansing-Westgate. These areas are a major centre of family life and day to day activities.

**Location:** Ward 10 (Steeles Avenue to the north, 401 to the south, Dufferin Street to the west and just east of Bathurst Street to the east)

**Interests:** History, Art


**Estimated time:** 1 hour


BAINBRIDGE AVE

EARL BALES PARK

Type:  

### ▼ Getting to tour start:

 Take Highway 401 and exit at Bathurst Street. Drive north past Sheppard Avenue West and look for the entrance to the Prosserman Jewish Community Centre on the left.

 Take the 84 Sheppard West bus from either Sheppard or Downsview station to the intersection of Sheppard Avenue West and Bathurst Street and transfer to the 7 Bathurst bus northbound. When on the Bathurst bus, look for the white and blue sign for Sherman Campus on the left.

## 1. PROSSERMAN JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE, 4588 BATHURST ST.



The Prosserman Jewish Community Centre (JCC) welcomes everyone to share the richness and traditions of Jewish culture with the community at

large through the advancement of physical, social and spiritual well-being. Various cultural and arts programs are offered at the JCC including visual arts programs for children, adults and seniors in the areas of drawing and painting and ceramics. For more information, visit [prossermanjcc.com](http://prossermanjcc.com). On the grounds in front of JCC building is Nathan Rapaport's bronze sculpture *Jacob Wrestling with the Angel*, depicting a scene from a biblical story.



### DID YOU KNOW?

The Sarah and Chaim Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre is located nearby at 4600 Bathurst St.

Featuring a collection of archival photographs, art, artifacts and testimony, the Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre houses the museum exhibit, *Young Voices from the Holocaust*, showcasing several collection highlights. The centre's interactive portrait gallery entitled, *We Who Survived*, is a photographic tribute to the members of their survivor speakers' bureau. The Hall of Memories is a memorial and place of remembrance and reflection for visitors. The centre hosts Holocaust Education Week annually in the fall. For admission and tour information, visit [holocaustcentre.com](http://holocaustcentre.com).



## 2. EARL BALES PARK

**Directions:** Head south on Bathurst Street. Walking takes approximately 15 minutes. Alternatively, take the 7 Bathurst bus southbound and get off at Bainbridge Drive.

Earl Bales Park is the fourth largest park in Toronto. It is a popular place for picnics during the summer, skiing and snowboarding during the winter and hiking all year-round. For ski and snowboard information, visit [toronto.ca/ski](http://toronto.ca/ski). See below for details about arts and culture in the park.

### EARL BALES COMMUNITY CENTRE

This multipurpose facility offers a variety of programs for all ages, including art studio, drama, dance, sewing, fitness, early years, youth drop-ins, outdoor adventures and more. The centre supports over 50 local groups, and has a banquet hall that is rented out for various functions. For info, 416-395-7873.

### BARRY ZUKERMAN AMPHITHEATRE



This outdoor amphitheatre hosts free, family-friendly cultural events all summer long. On Tuesday nights, enjoy a series of summer concerts featuring local musicians. On Thursdays, enjoy Family Fun! events. For more information, call 416-392-3846.



The walls of the amphitheatre feature vibrant murals, created in 2016 as a SPARK Project of the Cultural Hotspot in partnership with Park

People, StreetARToronto, Friends of Earl Bales Park and SKETCH. Collecting ideas from the dynamic Earl Bales Park community, youth artists led by Brad Longmore (known as Skcratchwon) painted this mural inspired by the parkland and the energy brought by the diverse activities in the park.

**DID YOU KNOW?** At the top of the ski hill, there is a great spot to enjoy and/or photograph the skylines of downtown Toronto and Yonge Street (north of York Mills Road).



### NATURESCAPES MURAL

*Naturescapes* was created by Art Starts as a Signature Project of the 2016 Cultural Hotspot. This

mural is a part of a multi-site public art, youth mentorship and legacy project. Artists Rob Matejka and Natasha Kudashkina and local youth artists Stephanie Bellefleur, Candace Kumar, Daniel Petsinis, Richard Petsinis, and Victor M Vazquez Ramos painted panels and installed them to help visitors shift the way they view green spaces in their communities, while increasing the visibility and ambience of the space.



### JOHN BALES HOUSE

Built circa 1824, this white stucco house is the oldest surviving building in North York. It is an example of early Ontario

vernacular architecture. John Bales emigrated from England in 1817 to York. In 1822, he moved to a 90-acre farm, which is now Earl Bales Park and lived in this house. The farm was sold in the 1850s, but the family remained in the area. The farm later became the York Downs Golf Club and the house served as the home of the groundskeeper. In 1975, it became a park and was named in honour of Earl Bales, a former Reeve of the Township of North York and great-grandson of John Bales. Currently, the Russian House, a non-profit charitable organization committed to promoting and maintaining rich Russian cultural traditions and helping new immigrants integrate into the Canadian way of life, makes its home at John Bales House. This vibrant organization organizes many cultural activities like concerts, lectures, senior, book and tour clubs, choir and much more. For more information, call 416-633-7877.

### HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL



Created in 1991 by Ernest Raab, the Holocaust Memorial is surrounded by eight marble walls, the “Wall of Remembrance”, engraved with thousands of names of Holocaust victims commemorated by their Canadian families, as well as

Holocaust survivors who rebuilt their lives in Canada and have since passed away. The site also includes a statue of Raoul Wallenberg, who is credited for saving the lives of more than 10,000 Hungarian Jews. Please be respectful as this site is a memorial.

### DR. JOSE P. RIZAL STATUE



The statue of Dr. Jose P. Rizal by F.B. Caede was given by the Philippine government to the City of Toronto in 1998 on the centennial of Filipino independence. Rizal was a doctor, philosopher and a poet, and his writings influenced the nationalist movement that led to

independence of the Philippines from Spain. He is known as the father of Filipino independence. Dr. Jose P. Rizal is also said to have been the first Filipino to set foot in Canada in 1888.

### 3. BATHURST-WILSON

**Directions:** Head south on Bathurst Street to Wilson Avenue. Walking takes about 25 minutes. Alternatively, take the 7 Bathurst bus southbound and get off at Wilson Avenue.

---

Today, the Filipino community is one of the largest communities in Ward 10. Tagalog is reported to be the third most spoken language, next to English and Russian. This area is recognized as Little Manila and is the centre of Filipino commercial activity along with Jewish eateries. If you haven't tried Filipino or Jewish cuisine, this is the place to start.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Taste of Manila, a popular event that celebrates Filipino food takes place here annually in August; it is organized by Philippine Cultural Community Centre. Look for news about the festival at [tasteofmanilatoronto.com](http://tasteofmanilatoronto.com).

### 4. BATHURST-WILSON PARKETTE, 3749 BATHURST ST.

**Directions:** Located on the Highway 401 retaining wall in Bathurst-Wilson Parkette at the intersection of Bathurst Street and Wilson Avenue.

---

The Mabuhay (Welcome) Garden at Bathurst-Wilson Parkette is a gathering space, which includes seating and landscaping, a pergola and flower plantings.

The parkette is also home to Ian Leventhal's monumental mural, which was funded as part of the City of Toronto's Clean and Beautiful City Initiative in 2005 and 2006. This significant neighbourhood feature is based on George Seurat's *A Day in the Park* and has sustained many years of enjoyment by the local community and those transiting through the area.

---

#### Useful Information

Heritage Toronto, walking tours: [heritagetoronto.org](http://heritagetoronto.org)

Park People, events in parks: [parkpeople.ca](http://parkpeople.ca)

Prosserman JCC, programs and info: [prossermanjcc.com](http://prossermanjcc.com)

Russian House: [rcchf.ca](http://rcchf.ca)

SKETCH, programs and info: [sketch.ca](http://sketch.ca)

StreetARToronto, more murals: [toronto.ca/streetart](http://toronto.ca/streetart)



Holocaust Memorial

### Sources

*Filipino Commemorative Monument – Earl Bales Park (Ward 9)* by City of Toronto

*Migration, Food and Identity in North York's Little Manila* by Heritage Toronto

North York Historical Society

Parks, Forestry & Recreation, City of Toronto

Prosserman JCC

Sarah and Chaim Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre

*Sculpture/Toronto* by June Ardiel

StreetARToronto

### Photo Credits

Sarah and Chaim Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre

Barry Zukerman Amphitheatre Mural, Park People Naturescapes, Art Starts

 **HERITAGE  
TORONTO**  
**PEOPLE.PLACES.EVENTS.**

## MINI TOUR - ART EVERYWHERE



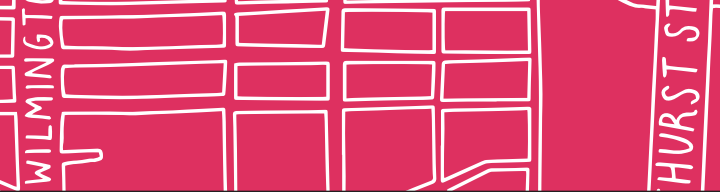
Local artists have been creatively transforming Bell Canada outdoor utility boxes in the neighbourhood. These murals were created as part of the Bell Box Mural Project, an independent, community-engaged art program operated by Community Matters Toronto. Since 2009, artists from the Bell Box Mural Project have painted 160 murals on Bell Canada outdoor utility boxes in 23 communities throughout Toronto, Southern Ontario and Quebec. The best way to explain the works is to let them speak for themselves. Images for all the amazing artwork on the boxes you will pass by can be found below.

**Location:** Ward 10, Finch Avenue West to the north, Sheppard Avenue West to the south, Wilmington Avenue to the west and Bathurst Street to the east

**Interests:** Art

**Estimated time:** 1 hour to less than two hours





Type: 

### ▼ Getting to tour start:



Take Highway 401 and exit at Bathurst Street. Drive north to Sheppard Avenue West.



Take the 84 Sheppard West bus from either Sheppard or Downsview station to the intersection of Sheppard Avenue West and Bathurst Street. The first mural is on the northwest corner.

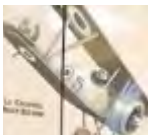


#### 1. 1. ANDRE KAN, 2016, 4400 BATHURST ST.



#### 2. CHRIS PEREZ, 2015, 17 BRYANT ST.

**Directions:** Head south on Bathurst Street. Turn right onto Sheppard Avenue West then turn right onto Bryant Street.



#### 3. TAK BUI, 2015, 10 WILMINGTON AVE.

**Directions:** Head south on Bryant Street and turn right on Sheppard Avenue West. Turn right onto Wilmington Avenue.

This mural acknowledges the nearby Downsview airport and depicts a WWI air battle in which renowned Canadian Lieutenant Colonel Billy Bishop shot down a German plane.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Downsview Park was at one time a Canadian Forces Base that has been converted to over 200 hectares of park space. It is now a growing park filled with walking trails, urban forests and wildlife. It also hosts cultural events, festivals and concerts all year-round, such as the North American Indigenous Cultural Festival, VELD Music Festival and Canada Day celebrations. For more information, visit [downsviewpark.ca](http://downsviewpark.ca).



#### 4. MARGARET CRESSWELL, 2015, 228 WILMINGTON AVE.

**Directions:** Head north on Wilmington

Avenue toward Cocksfield Avenue. The mural is located between Overbook Place and Barksdale Avenue.



**5. LOREN YEUNG, 2016,  
267 WILMINGTON AVE.**

**Directions:** Continue north on  
Wilmington Avenue to Maxwell Street.



**6. SAMANTHA LAM, 2016,  
282 WILMINGTON AVE.**

**Directions:** Continue north on  
Wilmington Avenue to Blue Forest  
Drive.



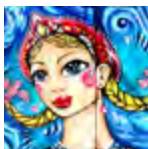
**7. AISHA ALI, 2015,  
306 WILMINGTON AVE.**

**Directions:** Continue north on  
Wilmington Avenue toward Cedar  
Springs Grove.



**8. ANDRE KAN, 2015,  
620 FINCH AVE. W.**

**Directions:** Head north on Wilmington  
Avenue. Turn right onto Finch Avenue  
West.



**9. NATASHA KUDASHKINA,  
2015, 550 FINCH AVE. W.**

**Directions:** Continue on Finch Avenue  
West heading west.

---

This is the 100<sup>th</sup> Bell Box mural painted in Toronto.



**DID YOU KNOW?**

Unison Health &  
Community Services'  
Bathurst-Finch hub is

located nearby at 540 Finch Ave. W. Here you can find a community quilt created during a SPARK Project of the Cultural Hotspot in 2016. Youth in the Bathurst-Finch neighbourhood came together to create pieces of art under the leadership of North York Visual Artists with support from the Bathurst-Finch Action for Neighbourhood Change program at Unison. The art pieces were joined together into a large quilt. Unison is a non-profit, community-based organization that offers a wide range of health and community services to people of all ages, cultures and backgrounds in northwest Toronto. Its vision is to build healthy communities. For more information, visit [unisonhcs.org](http://unisonhcs.org).



## 10. AISHA ALI, 2016, 4854 BATHURST ST.

**Directions:** Continue on Finch Avenue West and turn right on Bathurst Street heading south.

### ✦ EXPLORE MORE:

There are many more murals and art to explore in the neighbourhood, aside from the ones in the tour above. Here is a list:



**Laya Crust, 2016, 156 Almore Ave.**



**Laya Crust, 2015, 170 Faywood Blvd.**



**Ted Hamer, 2015, 95 Faywood Blvd.**



**Bareket Kezwer, 2016, Bathurst St. and Southgate Ave.**



**Margaret Cresswell, 750 Wilson Heights Blvd.**



**Andrea Manica, 2016, Armour Blvd. and Ridley Blvd.**



## INTERGENERATIONAL COMMUNITY MURAL, 3560 BATHURST ST.

This mural was created in the summer of 2016 as a SPARK Project of the Cultural Hotspot and engaged Baycrest Health

Sciences residents and clients in a large-scale, site-specific mural that celebrates community and enhances neighbourhood identity while giving an opportunity for different generations to form meaningful connections, learn from each other and create together. This project was led by Toronto-based artist Bareket Kezwer and facilitated by interdisciplinary staff at Baycrest.

### Useful Information

Bell Box Murals Project:

[facebook.com/bellboxmuralsproject](https://facebook.com/bellboxmuralsproject)

StreetARToronto, more murals: [toronto.ca/streetart](https://toronto.ca/streetart)

### Sources

Baycrest Health Sciences

Community Matters Toronto

StreetARToronto

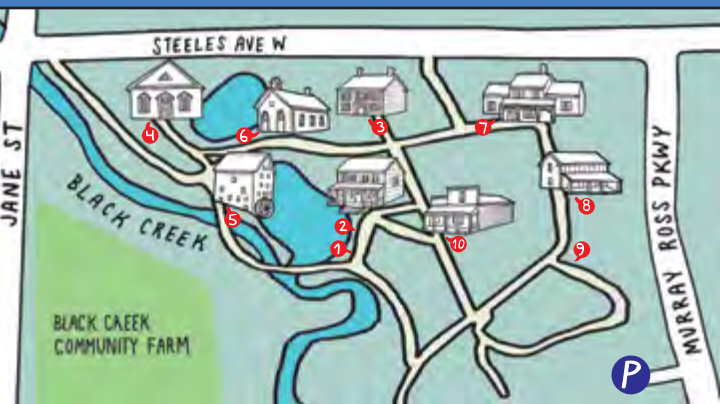
### Photo Credits

Bell Box Mural Project

StreetARToronto

# LOOP 3

## BLACK CREEK PIONEER VILLAGE



Black Creek Pioneer Village offers an opportunity to explore 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings with unique hands-on activities, a chance to see heritage-bred farm animals and beautiful gardens. Opened in 1960, the Village features a collection of many of the oldest heritage homes and farm buildings from Ontario, a few dating back to early 1800s. It is owned and operated by Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA). For more information, admission and hours, visit [blackcreek.ca](http://blackcreek.ca).


**Location:** Black Creek Pioneer Village


**Interests:** History, Architecture

**Estimated time:** 1 hour

**Type:** 

### ▼ Getting to tour start:

 Take Highway 400, 401 or 407 and exit at Jane Street and turn onto Steeles Avenue heading east. Turn right onto Murray Ross Parkway at the first light and look for the Black Creek Pioneer Village entrance on the right. Paid parking is available.

 Take the 60 Steeles West or 35B Jane bus. From Finch station, take the 60 Steeles West bus and get off at Murray Ross Parkway. From Jane station, take the 35B Jane bus and get off at Black Creek Pioneer Village.

There are many ways to explore the site and this tour suggests one of the ways that you can enjoy the Village. The tour follows one of the self-guided walking tours put together by Black Creek Pioneer Village and invites you to experience a day in the life of the pioneers.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Every Tuesday after 2 p.m., except during March Break and special events, individual and family admission is free. In July and August on weekdays, admission for children 14 years or younger is free with an adult admission.



**\*Note:** Some buildings and exhibits may be closed at certain times of the day/year.

## 1. STONG FAMILY'S FIRST HOUSE

This building is the oldest building at Black Creek Pioneer Village. It was built in 1816 by Daniel and Elizabeth Stong. The family lived here until 1832.

## 2. STONG FAMILY'S SECOND HOUSE

Unlike the sites visited so far on this tour, this house sits on its original location. Built with squared logs in 1832, it was the home of Daniel and Elizabeth Stong along with their two daughters and six sons. The Stong family were the original settlers of European descent to live on this property.

## 3. BURWICK HOME

This house, built in 1844 by Rowland Burr, was brought here from Woodbridge and is a good example of rural Georgian architecture. During the 1860s, many girls spent hours perfecting their needlework stitches. Today, children can practice their stitches on the needlework board in this beautiful house.

## 4. THE MANSE



Originally located in Richmond Hill on Yonge Street, this neo-classical style building dates back to 1835. It was a manse (house of the minister) to the Richmond Hill

Presbyterian Church until 1885. It was later used as a store, residence, Sunday school and office. Reverend James Dick lived here for 36 years. Children can practice their penmanship and write as Reverend James Dick might have.

## 5. ROBLIN'S MILL



Learn how a miller grinds grain into flour at this mill. Originally from Ameliasburg (one of the three original townships that formed Prince Edward County) and built in 1842

by Owen Roblin, it is the only operating stone mill in Toronto. Mills were often built by a riverbank, the water wheels provided power. The original wheel measured 30 feet in diameter. Constant contact with the water makes it necessary to replace the wooden



wheel after about 20 years of use. The current wheel weighs in at 6,000 pounds.

## 6. DICKSON'S HILL SCHOOL



In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, all of the students from several grade levels sat in the same classroom. If they had not done their homework, they would wear a dunce cap (cone-shaped hat). This school was built in 1861

and was dismantled brick by brick and moved here from Markham along with the original school bell.

## 7. DOCTOR'S HOUSE



Originally a farmhouse from Brampton, this house dates back to 1830. Today, it depicts how a country doctor of the 1860s may have lived and worked. Be sure to visit his office and see his medical tools!

## 8. MACKENZIE HOUSE



This house was a log cabin turned into a home, built circa 1830. The house is named after a Canadian politician Major Addison Alexander (Lex) Mackenzie

who lived in the house before it was moved from Woodbridge.

## 9. PHOTOGRAPHER'S SHOP

In the 1840s, photography was introduced and fascinated the Canadian public. Photographers experimented with various techniques and built impressive backdrops. Try on pioneer clothes at the Photographer's Studio and take your own family portrait.



## 10. LASKAY EMPORIUM AND POST OFFICE

Today we have large grocery stores, post offices and drug stores. In the

1800s, all of these stores were in one small building like this. Miller Joseph Baldwin built this store in 1845 in Laskay (hamlet in King Township) and it was brought to the Village in 1960. Its interiors and veranda were restored and reconstructed based on

photographs and extensive research into the goods sold in 19<sup>th</sup> century general stores.

## 11. CONTINUE TO THE YORK UNIVERSITY ARTS INSIDE AND OUT TOUR

York University offers a dynamic sculpture collection for you to explore. It is five minutes away by car and 20 minutes away by foot. From Black Creek Pioneer Village, head south on Murray Ross Parkway and turn left on Shoreham Drive. If you are driving, there are several parking lots across the campus. If you are walking, walk straight to Arboretum Lane to enter the campus. See page 65 for the tour.

### ✦ EXPLORE MORE



#### BLACK CREEK COMMUNITY FARM

A bright mural welcomes visitors to Black Creek Community Farm, Toronto's largest urban farm. It is located just minutes away at 4929 Jane St. A farmers' market and festivals take place throughout summer.

For more information, visit [blackcreekfarm.ca](http://blackcreekfarm.ca).

#### NATURE

Follow the trail south of the Village's parking lot from Shoreham Drive and take a hike through Black Creek Parkland stretching down to Finch Avenue to explore the exquisite nature of the area.

#### YORK WOODS LIBRARY AND THEATRE



York Woods Library is located at 1785 Finch Ave. W. It houses one of the three Toronto Public Library theatres. For more information, visit [torontopubliclibrary.ca](http://torontopubliclibrary.ca).

#### Useful Information

Black Creek Pioneer Village, admission and info: [blackcreek.ca](http://blackcreek.ca)

#### Sources

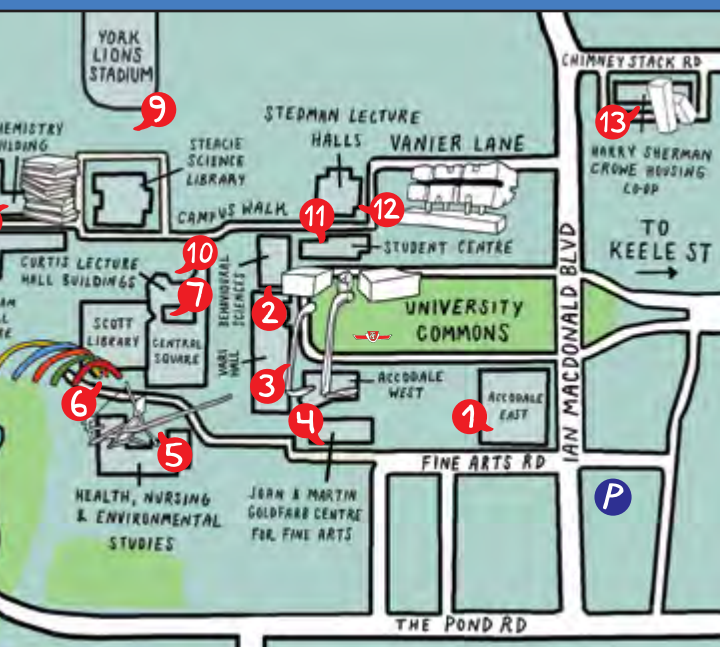
Black Creek Pioneer Village

#### Photo Credits

Black Creek Pioneer Village



# YORK UNIVERSITY ART INSIDE AND OUT




York University was established in 1959 and is Canada's third largest university with 53,000 students. It's School of Arts, Media, Performance and Design is a haven for young creatives, so it is no surprise that the campus gallery and its outdoor public art reflect this.


**Location:** York University Keele campus


**Interests:** Art

**Estimated time:** 1 hour

**Type:** 

## ▼ Getting to tour start:

 Take Highway 401 and exit at Keele Street heading north or take Highway 400 and exit at Finch Avenue West heading east then turn left onto Keele Street. From Keele Street, turn left onto Pond Road then turn right on Ian MacDonald Boulevard to find paid parking in the Student Services Parking Garage, just past Fine Arts Road. The gallery is located at the northwest corner of Ian MacDonald Boulevard and Fine Arts Road.

 From Downsview or Sheppard-Yonge subway stations, take the York University 196 express bus to campus. Get off at the University Commons. The gallery is at the southeast corner of the Commons.

## 1. ART GALLERY OF YORK UNIVERSITY

The Art Gallery of York University is a public art gallery that provides exhibitions, programs and related activities focusing on contemporary art. Its aim is to enrich the cultural and intellectual environment of



York University and the surrounding regions. On behalf of the university, the gallery maintains a permanent collection and outdoor sculpture garden. The gallery presents

exhibitions of contemporary art and undertakes an extensive award-winning publishing program. Their “Out There” program works with youth from the Jane and Finch area including programming in the gallery. Gallery hours are Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Sunday noon to 5 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, visit [theagyuissoutthere.org](http://theagyuissoutthere.org).

## ABOUT YORK UNIVERSITY SCULPTURE COLLECTION

Since 1959, York University has acquired a permanent collection of art. The art interacts with the natural and constructed campus surroundings, adding to the diversity of the space. The collection holds both late modern and postmodern sculptures including site-specific sculptures by influential artists from the 1960s and 1970s.

## 2. NOIRE, SOLAIRE, BASSE (LES TABLES DE SABLE, #2) BY JOCELYNE ALLOUCHERIE, 1993

**Directions:** Walk west alongside the Accolade East building and turn right to head north alongside Vari Hall. The sculpture is situated between the passageway separating Vari Hall and the Behavioural Sciences Building.



The art of Jocelyne Alloucherie draws from painting, sculpture and photography, and relates equally to the forms of furniture, architecture and landscape. Through

its use of man-made and natural stone (concrete and black Cambrian granite) this site-specific art references the landscape and architecture of its surroundings. The sculpture invites us to contemplate our location and relationship to the surrounding buildings. Illuminated by natural light and positioned against the view of the neighbouring architecture, the volumes of pale grey and greenish-black stand out against the limestone floor. *Noire, Solaire, Basse*, was commissioned in 1993 and is the first public sculpture by Alloucherie in Canada.

### 3. FONTANA D'ITALIA BY ENZO CUCCHI, 1993

**Directions:** Head south alongside Vari Hall and look for the sculpture east of the building.

---



Enzo Cucchi, one of Italy's most acclaimed artists, unveiled Fontana d'Italia (Fountain of Italy) in May of 1993 following five years of planning. A painter and sculptor of the Italian

Transavantgarde movement, Cucchi is best known for his emotive paintings of elongated figures inspired by Christian imagery and early Etruscan Art. From a crevice in the face of each of the bronze columns, water emerges, trickling down the base, and collects in the granite saucers below. *Fontana d'Italia*, one of seven fountains by Cucchi, is his first in North America. This piece was a gift of the artist to York University honouring the relationship between the two, which started in 1989 when Cucchi was an artist-in-residence at the university.

### 4. UNTITLED BY BRIAN GROOMBRIDGE, 1990

**Directions:** Walk west alongside Joan and Martin Goldfarb Centre for Fine Arts to find this piece hanging on the south wall.

---

Toronto artist Brian Groombridge has developed his own visual language of signs and symbols. Based on 15<sup>th</sup> century iconography, Groombridge's piece consists of two-dimensional images presented in the three-dimensional form of a billboard. Copper and stainless steel panels create a checkerboard-patterned structure which is surrounded by a latticework of exposed square tubing. Each of the steel plates contains an image of an androgynous figure juggling or playing a musical instrument. The use of copper in the piece refers to its importance within modern systems of communication to relay messages. This work was commissioned in 1991.

### 5. STICKY WICKET BY MARK DI SUVERO, 1978



**Directions:** Continue heading west until you see the sculpture situated north of the Health, Nursing and Environmental Studies building.

---

American artist Mark Di Suvero emerged as a major sculptor in the early 1960s with the second generation



of Abstract Expressionists. Di Suvero sought to bring sculpture out of the confines of the studio, gallery and museum into outdoor space. His work hinges on the fragile balance and tension between heavy girders, turnbuckles and cables. Di Suvero produced *Sticky Wicket* during the 10<sup>th</sup> International Sculpture Conference at York University in 1978. This five-day event assembled critics, art historians and artists from various corners of the world. In 1979, *Sticky Wicket* was donated to York University by the artist.

## 6. RAINBOW PIECE BY HUGH LEROY, 1972



**Directions:** Head north towards Central Square. Turn left and walk alongside Scott Library and find *Rainbow Piece*.

LeRoy, formerly an Associate Professor of drawing, painting and sculpture in the Faculty of Fine Arts, York University, was born in Montreal in 1939 and studied at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts to later be elected as a Fellow of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts in 1975. *Rainbow Piece* uses arched tubular elements with applied colour. Located within the pool of Scott library, the arcs of *Rainbow Piece* are reflected across the surface of the water, shifting with the movement of the sun and wind.

## 7. KEEP BY LIZ MAGOR, 2000



**Directions:** Head east toward Central Square. Enter Central Square and walk north down the hallway until you reach the Central Square courtyard. Find *Keep* in the courtyard.

*Keep* was commissioned by the Art Gallery of York University for the courtyard of York University's Central Square. The sculpture was produced with the assistance of technicians and students at York's L.L. Odette Centre for Sculpture. This project not only gave Magor the opportunity to work on a scale and in a medium she had never worked before, but also served as a teaching opportunity to demonstrate the techniques and tools of bronze sculpture production. The bronze sculpture is in the form of a hollow tree trunk, sealed at both ends with a sleeping bag protruding from one end. It was cast directly from an actual willow tree and the sleeping bag is a cast rubber mold made to withstand extremes in climate and temperature. The subject is human shelter and refuge in nature, raising conflicting feelings about shelter and security.

## 8. PASSAGE BY SUSAN SCHELLE, 1993

**Directions:** Exit the courtyard and head north walking past the Tim Hortons. Exit the Curtis Lecture Hall buildings. Head west on Campus Walk. You will pass by Steacie Science Library. Enter the Chemistry building across from the William Small Centre and find *Passage*.

---

*Passage*, a permanent installation created specifically for the lobby of the then new Chemistry and Computer Science Building in 1993, reflects the relationship between parallel systems of knowledge, as represented by the image of the book and the ginkgo leaf. Schelle layers her narrative with words such as: “purify, filter, sublime, essence, pulverize, solve, take, compose” to reference both the language of science and a romantic vision of the natural world. The ginkgo leaf represents the indigenous fauna of the local area.

## 9. AHQAHIZU BY RUBEN KOMANGAPIK AND KOOMUATUK (KUZY) CURLEY, 2016



**Directions:** Walk north on Thompson Road and turn right at the Life Sciences Building with the tennis courts to your left. Walk straight ahead to find York Lions Stadium. The sculpture is located at the front entrance by the ticket counter.

---

Carved from a 26-tonne piece of Stanstead granite, Ahqahizu (a-ka-hee-zu) is a giant Inuk soccer player. According to stories told in Nunavut, the Aurora Borealis are aksarnek, meaning the trails of spirits playing soccer, waiting for their return to human form to play by the light of the moon on the frozen sea ice. The sculpture, commissioned by York University and the Mobilizing Inuit Cultural Heritage project, is a symbol of hope and friendship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. Ahqahizu was unveiled on National Aboriginal Day 2016.

## 10. CRISSCROSS FLATS BY ANTHONY CARO, 1974

**Directions:** Walk back to Campus Walk and head east toward Curtis Lecture Halls and Central Square and find *Crisscross Flats* north of Central Square.

---

Anthony Caro, one of Britain’s foremost sculptors, accepted an invitation from York University during the 1973/74 academic year to work as an artist-in-residence. Over the next year, 35 works underwent processes of assembling, fabricating, reworking and finishing on the York University Campus.



Caro's process of welding large sheets of raw steel and prefabricated fragments allows the nature of the materials and techniques to guide the elements of composition. Ignoring the

tradition of the "pedestal", Caro uses the ground as his base in order to involve the spectator more intimately in the sculptor's space. *Crisscross Flats* was donated by the artist to the Faculty of Fine Arts in 1976 in recognition of the cooperation provided for the 1974 sculpture project.

## 11. THE ENCOUNTER BY WILLIAM MCELCHERAN, 1991



**Directions:** Continue east on Campus Walk to find *The Encounter* in the courtyard north of the Student Centre.

Interested in examining ideas of humanism, McElcheran's 'business' sculptures such as *The Encounter*, bring to light

the everyday working person or non-hero, almost as if to contrast the function of the monument as a symbol of recognition and celebration. The businessmen represented in *The Encounter* are on the verge of colliding, humourously referencing the fast pace of the urban working environment.

## 12. PRESENCE BY ARMAND VAILLANCOURT, 1967



**Directions:** Walk east toward Stedman Lecture Halls. Head northwest alongside the Stedman Lecture Halls and find *Presence*.

Armand Vaillancourt

was born in the Eastern Townships in Quebec. Historically, Vaillancourt's practice has served as an arena to explore Quebec's nationalist politics. Vaillancourt's sculptures, such as *Presence*, are often monumental and are shaped by the political tensions that have galvanized the various waves of the Quebec sovereignty movement.

## 13. KOBAR BY KOSSO ELOUL, 1970



**Directions:** Head east on Vanier Lane. Once at Ian MacDonald Boulevard, head north to Chimneystack Road. From there, head east. Once you arrive at Harry Sherman Crowe Housing

Co-op, head south to find the sculpture on the south side of the building.

---

Eloul's geometric stainless steel sculptures are frequently placed at unusual angles in order to challenge the laws of gravity. Embracing an industrial aesthetic, Eloul's abstract works create a sense of balance through a mutual tension between two forms, with one sculptural mass often balancing and resting upon the other. Described as minimalist, Eloul's sculptures transcend this thinking through the intensity of energy and implied movement which radiates from his structural configurations.

---

### Useful Information

Art Gallery of York University (AGYU), exhibits and info: [theagyuisonthere.org](http://theagyuisonthere.org)

### Sources

Art Gallery of York University (AGYU)

School of Arts, Media, Performance and Design,  
York University

### Photo Credits

Art Gallery of York University (AGYU)

School of Arts, Media, Performance and Design,  
York University



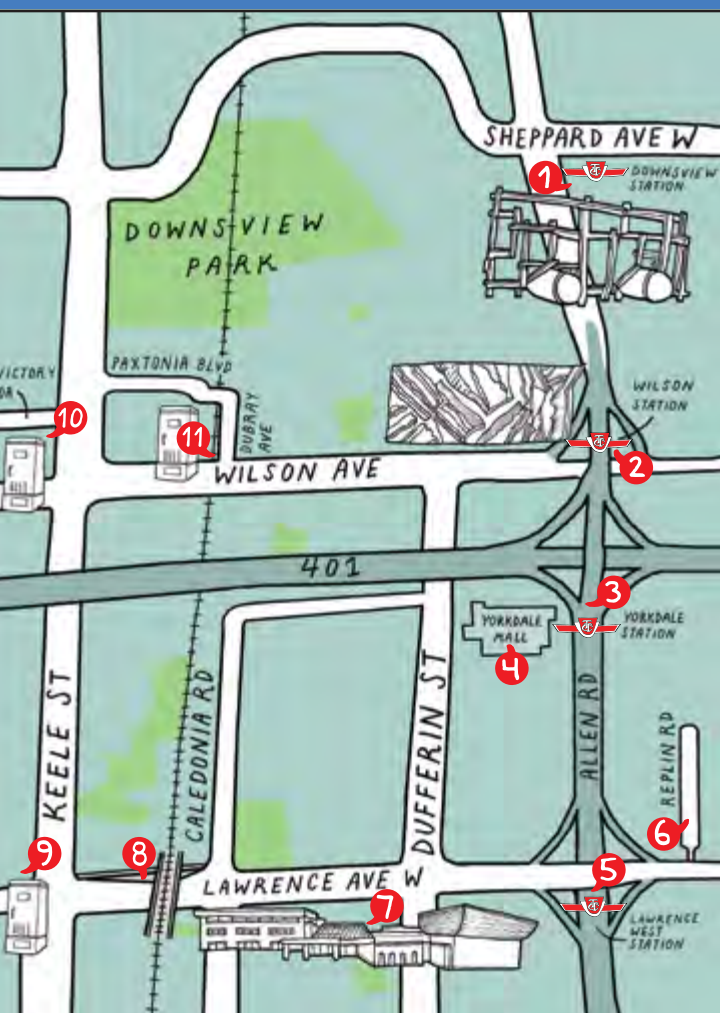
The Art Gallery of York University is a university-affiliated public non-profit contemporary art gallery supported by York University, the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ontario Arts Council, the City of Toronto through the Toronto Arts Council, and their membership.

# Gallery of York Uni





## PUBLIC ART DISCOVERY TOUR 2




North York west of Allen Road is home to a number of public art pieces, many of which have been created by local community arts organizations giving opportunities to artists and youth while making the neighbourhood colourful.


**Location:** Starts at Downsview station, travels through several neighbourhoods

**Interests:** Art

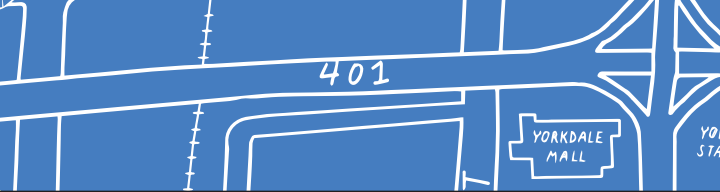
**Estimated time:** One and a half hours to two hours

**Type:**  You'll be getting on and off the subway and buses, a day pass will make this more economical. For more information, visit [ttc.ca](http://ttc.ca).

### ✓ Getting to tour start:

 Take Highway 401 and exit at Allen Road heading north. Downsview station is located on the southeast corner of Sheppard Avenue and Allen Road.

 Take Line 1 Yonge-University to Downsview station.



## 1. BONY BUS BY JOHN MCKINNON AND SLIDING PI BY ARLENE STAMP



There are two public art pieces that can be found at Downsview station. Outside the main entrance is a sculpture called *Bony*

*Bus* by local artist John McKinnon. This cheerful piece, shaped like a doodled bus and made of metal, was created in 2000.

Inside the station is *Sliding Pi* created by Canadian conceptual artist Arlene Stamp. It can be found both at platform level and in the stairway located in between bus and mezzanine level. *Sliding Pi* shows a mathematic pattern of colourful tiles. The design is based on a series of overlapping colourful rectangles. The amount of overlap between each rectangle is dictated by the decimal digits of pi, creating an effect as if the rectangles are sliding over to the side. The pattern is non-repeating as it is dictated by mathematics.

## 2. CANYONS BY TED BIELER



**Directions:** Take the subway southbound and get off at Wilson station. *Canyons* is located on the concourse level.

The relief sculpture refers to geological strata, a layering of rock and earth revealed when a cut is made into the surface of the earth, for example during underground excavations such as the construction of subways. *Canyons* is made of cast aluminum sections – the composition of intersecting diagonals is a play on Japanese painted screen traditions. Bieler taught at York University and has a number of public sculptures installed across Toronto and Southern Ontario.

## 3. KNOWLEDGE IS POWER BY ART STARTS



**Directions:** Take the subway southbound and get off at Yorkdale station – street level. The mural is located at the entrance.

Created by community arts organization Art Starts, local youth transformed the pillars and walls of the underpass just outside of the Yorkdale station into a community mural in 2010. It celebrates

the vibrancy of the Neptune and Lawrence Heights communities by depicting select community members and using bright colours.

#### 4. ART STARTS



**Directions:** Walk across a bridge that connects the subway station to Yorkdale Shopping Centre. Walk to the east end of the mall and take the elevator

located to the left of the Home Outfitters down to the lower level. Art Starts is located on the right.

Art Starts is an award-winning charitable, not-for-profit organization that uses the arts as a vehicle to encourage social change in Toronto's underserved neighbourhoods. The organization brings professional artists and communities together to work in and across all artistic disciplines. Art Starts understands that the arts are a medium for engaging residents, creating a shared sense of identity, identifying challenges and collectively working to overcome them. Founded in 1992, the organization has pioneered community-engaged arts practices in Ontario. Hours are Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, visit [artstarts.net](http://artstarts.net).

#### 5. SPACING ... AERIAL HIGHWAYS BY CLAUDE BREEZE



**Directions:** Take the subway southbound and get off at Lawrence West station. This mural is located at the northern entrance.

This large ceramic tile mural spreads across both inside and outside the station. Its vibrant colours and abstract patterns brighten the station.

#### 6. DEEP ROOTS, LIMITLESS HEIGHTS, 5 REPLIN RD.



**Directions:** Exit the Lawrence West station and walk east on the north side of Lawrence Avenue West. Look for a sign for Lawrence Heights

Community Centre and follow the directions. It is about a five-minute walk.

At Lawrence Heights Community Centre, you'll find a community mural painted by local youth under the mentorship of award winning artist Joshua Barndt. It speaks to the history of Lawrence Heights from its

development in the late 1950s to the present day as an affordable housing community and pays homage to the deep roots grown through the hard work and creativity of the community members. This mural was created by Art Starts, StreetARToronto, Toronto Community Housing and the Lawrence Heights Community Centre.

## 7. COLUMBUS CENTRE AND JOSEPH D. CARRIER ART GALLERY, 901 LAWRENCE AVE. W.



**Directions:** Walk back to Lawrence Avenue West station and take the 52 Lawrence West bus westbound. Get off at Dufferin Street and walk

on the south side of Lawrence Avenue West heading west. Look for signage for the Columbus Centre.

The Columbus Centre is Italian community centre offering a variety of programs in the areas of art, culinary, fitness and Italian language. Enjoy wandering around its sculpture garden behind the building or visit the Joseph D. Carrier Art Gallery, established in 1987. The gallery features three circular levels of display space similar to architect Frank Lloyd Wright's design of the Guggenheim Museum in New York. In the Upper Gallery is a free permanent exhibit called *Italian Canadians as Enemy Aliens*. Gallery hours are Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, visit [villacharities.com/carrier](http://villacharities.com/carrier).

## 8. LAWRENCE UNDERPASS MURAL, LAWRENCE AVE. W. AND CALEDONIA RD.



**Directions:** Continue on the 52 Lawrence West bus westbound and get off at Caledonia Road. Look for the mural on the retaining wall on the west side of the bus station.

This 385-foot-wide mural celebrates and promotes the importance of our planet as a vital source for all life forms. It aims to raise positive empowerment and awareness of global environmental issues. This mural was created by StreetARToronto in partnership with Centre for Spanish Speaking Peoples and painted by Essencia Art Collective.

**DID YOU KNOW?** The Centre for Spanish Speaking Peoples is located nearby at 2141 Jane St. It is a non-profit charitable organization that serves new immigrants from Spanish-speaking countries by offering various programs and services for all ages including settlement programs, legal clinics and annual youth and children's summer camps. For more information, visit [spanishservices.org](http://spanishservices.org).

The next three murals were painted as a part of the Outside the Box program for StreetARToronto, there are many more throughout the city, displaying the creative talent of local artists.



**9. OUTSIDE THE BOX  
MURAL BY JENN KITAGAWA,  
2016, LAWRENCE AVE. W.  
AND KEELE ST.**

**Directions:** Walk back to the bus station and continue heading west on the same bus. Get off at Keele Street and look for the mural on the northwest corner.



**10. OUTSIDE THE BOX  
MURAL BY SOPHIE PAAS-  
LANG, KEELE ST. AND  
VICTORY DR.**

**Directions:** Take the 41 Keele bus northbound to Paxtonia Boulevard, one stop past Wilson Avenue. Cross the street to the west side at Victory Drive to find this mural at the southwest corner.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Located inside Downsview Library is the Toronto Tools Library, where thousands of tools are available for you to borrow and use. Membership starts at \$50 per year for individuals. There are several locations across Toronto. The Downsview location is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. For more information, visit [torontotoollibrary.com](http://torontotoollibrary.com).



**11. OUTSIDE THE  
BOX MURAL BY IVA  
JERICEVIC, WILSON  
AVE. & DUBRAY AVE.**

**Directions:** Walk south on Keele Street to Wilson Avenue and turn left to head east on the north side of the road. Walk to Dubray Avenue and find this mural at the northwest corner.



## 12. MAKING YOUR WAY BACK

To go back to Downsview station, take the 96 Wilson bus eastbound to Wilson station then take the subway northbound.

### ✦ EXPLORE MORE

#### UrbanArts, 5 Bartonville Ave. E.



Three eye-catching murals now grace the exterior walls of the Falstaff Community Centre at nearby 50 Falstaff Ave. These murals reflect the people, landmarks and nature that make this community unique. Each mural was created with illustrations, photographs and photo collages by 30 dedicated local youth participating in UrbanArts' *Rustic Mosaic Project*, a Signature Project of the 2016 Cultural Hotspot, and lead artist, Zeesy Powers.

UrbanArts is a non-profit charitable organization that offers arts-based programs with a mandate to promote, engage and facilitate cultural and community development opportunities between artists, arts organizations and community members and community organizations. For more information, visit [urbanartstoronto.org](http://urbanartstoronto.org).

#### Rustic Bakery, 318 Rustic Rd.

Located in the middle of a residential area, this family-owned Italian bakery and grocery store is a true hidden gem. It has been operating since 1986 and is most proud of their red velvet cupcakes and handmade gelato. They are open seven days a week from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. For more information, visit [therusticbakery.ca](http://therusticbakery.ca).

#### Reggae Lane Mural, Reggae Ln.



Located in Toronto's Little Jamaica is the Reggae Lane Mural. This mural celebrates local reggae history by depicting local and legendary reggae artists including Johnny Osbourn, Stranger Cole and Bob Marley. Lead artist Adrian Hayles, The STEPS Initiative, SreetARToronto and The Laneway Project created this mural in 2015.

---

#### Useful Information

Art Starts, programs and info: [artstarts.net](http://artstarts.net)

StreetARToronto, more murals: [toronto.ca/streetart](http://toronto.ca/streetart)

UrbanArts, programs and info: [urbanartstoronto.org](http://urbanartstoronto.org)

## Sources

*Art on TTC* by Eli McIlveen

*Creating Memories* by John Warkentin

*Sliding Pi in Toronto* by Ivars Peterson

StreetARToronto

Ted Bieler

Villa Charities

## Photo Credits

Art Starts

StreetARToronto

UrbanArts



Lawrence Underpass Mural

# WILDLIFE ACTIVITY

North York is situated within both the Humber River and the Don River watersheds. It is home to a variety of different habitat types, including meadows, wetlands, early successional forests and mature forests that act as green corridors for wildlife to live in and move around the city. Whether you're birdwatching in the East Don, going for a stroll in Wilket Creek Park, or picnicking in Earl Bales Park, keep an eye out for the many different plants and animals surrounding you.

All of these natural areas are home to rich wildlife populations; however of special note is Milne Hollow, one of City of Toronto's Bird Flyway sites. Toronto's location along two major bird migration routes means that a wide array of birds use Toronto's river valleys as travel corridors. Through the Bird Flyways initiative, Milne Hollow has been transformed from a site of agriculture and industry to a diverse natural area that many bird species use to breed and rest. The trail system meandering through this site provides ample opportunity to try and spot some of the birds listed below. You can also look for the different plants and animals in our list by visiting any of North York's unique green spaces. Using the list of animals and plants below, see how many you can spot.

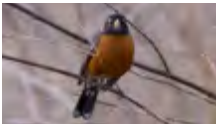
## Birds



American Goldfinch



American Redstart



American Robin



American Tree Sparrow



Baltimore Oriole



Black Capped Chickadee



Blue Jay



Canada Goose



Downy Woodpecker



Great Blue Heron



Hermit Thrush



Mallard



Northern Cardinal



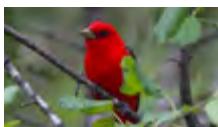
Purple Finch



Red-tailed Hawk



Red-winged Blackbird



Scarlet Tanager

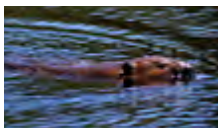


Tree Swallow

## Animals and Insects



American Toad



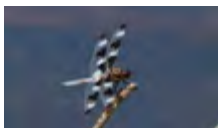
Beaver



Coyote



Deer Mouse



Dragonfly



Eastern Chipmunk



Eastern Cottontail



Eastern Grey Squirrel



Eastern Tiger Swallowtail



Garter snake



Midland Painted Turtle



Mink



Monarch Butterflies



Muskrat



Red Fox



Snapping Turtle



White Tail Deer

## Wildflowers

☐ Black-eyed Susan

☐ Blue Flag Iris

☐ Common Cattail

☐ Common Chicory

☐ Common Jewelweed

☐ Common Milkweed

☐ Cup Plant

☐ Joe Pye Weed

☐ Mayapple

☐ Mugwort

☐ New England Aster

☐ White Snakeroot

☐ White Trillium

☐ Wild Bergamot

☐ Woodland Sunflower

### Shrubs/Vines

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chokecherry       | <input type="checkbox"/> Purple Flowering Raspberry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Common Elderberry | <input type="checkbox"/> Red Osier Dogwood          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grey Dogwood      | <input type="checkbox"/> Riverbank Grape            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nannyberry        | <input type="checkbox"/> Staghorn Sumac             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pasture Rose      | <input type="checkbox"/> Swamp Rose                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poison Ivy        | <input type="checkbox"/> Wild Cucumber              |

### Trees

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Beech      | <input type="checkbox"/> Hop Hornbeam   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black Cherry        | <input type="checkbox"/> Red Oak        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black Walnut        | <input type="checkbox"/> Serviceberry   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bur Oak             | <input type="checkbox"/> Silver Maple   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Cottonwood  | <input type="checkbox"/> Sugar Maple    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Hemlock     | <input type="checkbox"/> Weeping Willow |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern White Cedar | <input type="checkbox"/> White Birch    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern White Pine  |   |

### Useful Information

Parks, volunteer opportunities:  
[toronto.ca/greentoronto](http://toronto.ca/greentoronto)

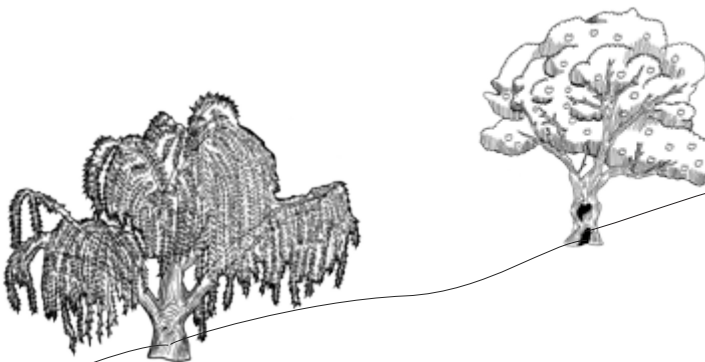
Biodiversity Booklet at Toronto Public Library, to help  
identify wildlife and birds: [torontopubliclibrary.ca](http://torontopubliclibrary.ca)

### Sources

Parks, Forestry & Recreation, City of Toronto

### Photo Credits

Ann Brokelman







Red Fox

# HOT EATS

A big part of celebrating North York's creativity, community and culture is revelling in the community's delicious and diverse food. **HOT Eats** highlights restaurants, cafés and bakeries in Hotspot neighbourhoods and with all of the Cultural Loops touring – you'll need to stop for a bite, before you head out again. **HOT Eats** features over 50 North York eateries that offer a wide variety of cuisines. Indulge your taste buds at the following North York **HOT Eats** restaurants listed below.

## LOOP 1

### BAKE CODE

4910 Yonge St.  
647-346-3888  
bakecode.com

*A modern fusion bakery-café combining the very best recipes and ingredients from Asia and Europe.*

### BATON ROUGE

5000 Yonge St.  
416-218-0094  
batonrouge.ca

*Baton Rouge specializes in fall-off-the-bone back ribs, reserve AAA steaks and fresh seafood.*

### BOBBETTE AND BELLE

3347 Yonge St.  
416-466-8800  
bobbetteandbelle.com

*This chic café offers a stunning array of classic French macarons, cupcakes and pastries. They also design elegant wedding cakes with great flavour and style.*

### CHATIME - NORTH YORK

5494 Yonge St.  
647-748-6887  
chatime.com

*A modern tea shop specializing in freshly brewed teas.*

### CHATIME - WILLOWDALE

175 Ravel Rd.  
647-348-8088  
chatime.com

*The #1 bubble tea brand in the GTA, with 1,000 locations worldwide. Chatime is famous for its great tasting, quality bubble tea.*

### COPPI

3363 Yonge St.  
416-484-4464  
coppi.ca

*Coppi delivers the quality and consistency of truly authentic Italian food. They provide an excellent culinary experience for lovers of food and wine.*

### CUCINA865

865 York Mills Rd.  
416-792-2865  
cucina865.com

*An Italian-Mediterranean grill and wine bar serving traditional classics and new favourites.*

### DIWAN

77 Wynford Dr.  
647-808-4361  
agakhanmuseum.org

*Enjoy a spectacular view of the Aga Khan Park while sampling food inspired by the Middle East, North Africa and the Indian subcontinent.*

### DRAGON PEARL BUFFET

865 York Mills Rd.  
647-352-2288  
dragonpearlbuffet.com

*An all-you-can-eat Chinese buffet with a vast number of food choices, including its namesake dessert, in an ornate space.*

### EGGSMART

4695 Yonge St.  
647-748-5584  
eggsmart.ca

*A great place to get together with friends and family in a warm and inviting environment. Serving a range of breakfast and lunch options at affordable prices.*

### FOX AND FIDDLE - YORK MILLS

865 York Mills Rd.  
416-792-8299  
foxandfiddleyorkmills.com

*A warm, cozy, yet vibrant atmosphere where you can enjoy superior entertainment, service, food quality and a range of domestic and imported draught beers.*

### GALLERIA SUPERMARKET

865 York Mills Rd.  
647-352-7788  
galleriasm.com

*Enjoy the taste of Korea in Galleria Supermarket's cafeteria. They offer a wide range of Korean foods in a casual, friendly atmosphere.*

### GONG CHA TEA

5449 Yonge St.  
647-346-2600  
gong-cha.ca

*Gong Cha strives to maintain exceptionally high standards by offering more than 50 kinds of customizable teas, coffee and blended drinks.*

### HAIDA SANDWICH

15 Northtown Way  
647-352-3344  
HaidaSandwich.ca

*Haida Sandwich is the biggest fast food franchise in the Middle East. All sandwiches are made fresh so each customer experiences a special taste.*

### ICHIBAN FISH HOUSE

15 Spring Garden Ave.  
416-512-7899  
ichibanfishhouse.com

*Offering a unique impression and professional customer service, along with fine Japanese cuisine.*

### IN

5460 Yonge St.  
416-224-2654

*Enjoy Asian cuisine in a comfortable dining atmosphere.*

### IQBAL KEBAB & SWEET CENTRE - PARKWAY FOREST

105 Parkway Forest Dr.  
416-491-2644  
iqbalkebab.com

*The finest Indian and Pakistani cuisine with a unique blend of African flavours. 100% halal meat and the freshest ingredients available on the market.*

### **IQBAL KEBAB & SWEET CENTRE - THORNCLIFFE**

2 Thorncliffe Park Dr.  
416-425-7866  
iqbalkebab.com

*A traditional Pakistani and Indian barbeque and dessert spot, serving halal fare in a spacious location.*

### **LOBSTER MONSTER**

3249 Yonge St.  
416-488-8755  
lobstermonster.ca

*Serving fresh Maritime lobster dinners, as well as a fun variety of lobster inspired dishes for both casual and special occasions.*

### **MEMORIES OF JAPAN**

900 Don Mills Rd.  
416-449-3773  
memoriesofjapan.ca

*Proudly serving Japanese cuisine for over 15 years, Memories of Japan offers a variety of authentic options and an elegant atmosphere.*

### **MILAGRO CANTINA**

3187 Yonge St.  
416-487-2855  
milagrorestaurant.com

*A traditional Mexican cantina offering classic cuisine and a large selection of tequila, mescal and cocktails in a relaxed atmosphere.*

### **MY SUSHI RESTAURANT**

5440 Yonge St.  
416-222-6463  
mysushirestaurant.com

*All-you-can-eat Japanese fare including maki, tempura and teriyaki, served in a casual, modern setting.*

### **N9 CAFÉ AND DESSERT**

23 Spring Garden Ave.  
647-891-8941  
facebook.com/N9cafe

*The best mille crepes in town, served with incredible coffee.*

### **ORANGE CARAMEL TEA CAFÉ**

5647 Yonge St.  
647-557-1498

*Providing a variety of organic loose-leaf teas, sandwiches and home baked goods. A friendly atmosphere with home-like décor gives patrons a cozy place to stay.*

### **PATIO INDIAN RESTAURANT**

15 Gervais Rd.  
416-449-0404  
kathmandurestaurant.ca

*A café style Indian restaurant serving hot and cold lunches, with patio seating in the summer.*

### **PETIT POTATO**

10 Ravel Rd.  
416-756-3311  
petitpotato.com

*A newly opened Taiwanese-Japanese restaurant offering a variety of Asian dishes and desserts. Traditional and fusion style cuisine is available.*

### **RIZ NORTH**

3321 Yonge St.  
416-322-6789  
rizonyonge.com

*Riz on Yonge is a certified gluten-free and celiac-safe restaurant. They offer a wide selection of Thai, Szechuan, Chinese, Vietnamese, Japanese and dim sum.*

### SILOAM SUSHI HOUSE

191 Sheppard Ave. E.  
416-224-0630

*This Korean and Japanese restaurant has been serving the North York community for 10 years.*

### SUSHI KIKU

808 York Mills Rd.  
416-331-8666  
sushikiku.com

*Sushi Kiku has a distinguished fusion of authentic Japanese cuisine and exclusive lounging. The restaurant is warm and comfortable yet urban-sophisticated.*

### SUSHI MOTO

4901 Yonge St.  
416-224-0741  
sushimoto.ca

*Try some excellent sushi in a modern yet comfortable atmosphere.*

*Sushi Moto opened its doors in 2010 and has been serving locals ever since.*

### THE CAPTAIN'S BOIL

5313 Yonge St.  
647-348-7808  
thecaptainsboil.com

*Providing a fresh, flavourful and fun dining experience. The Captain's Boil serves seafood tossed in Asian-inspired spices that customers eat with their hands.*

### THE FAMOUS OWL OF MINERVA

5324 Yonge St.  
416-221-7275  
owlfamily.ca

*The Famous Owl of Minerva is truly famous for its bone soup. Their nine different locations serve delicious authentic Korean dishes.*

## LOOP 2

### AVENUE SEAFOOD

1751 Avenue Rd.  
416-783-2288  
avenueseafood.com

*A friendly and welcoming family fish store that serves incredibly reliable and freshly cooked seafood.*

### COCO FRESH TEA & JUICE

17B Finch Ave. W.  
416-221-4135  
coco-tea.ca

*The world's largest bubble tea brand is now in Canada. With over 2,000 stores worldwide, CoCo serves great quality, with fair prices and friendly service.*

### DR. LAFFA

3027 Bathurst St.  
647-352-9000  
drlaffa.com

*Serving traditional family recipes and baked goods including flavourful Middle Eastern kosher shawarma and hummus and falafel, as featured on the Food Network.*

### HUH GA NE

19A Finch Ave. W.  
416-901-1288

*Located close to Finch station, this Korean restaurant serves a variety of authentic favourites 24 hours a day.*

**ISAAC'S BAKERY**

3390 Bathurst St.  
416-789-7587

*Serving a variety of fresh breads, bagels, and baked goods, including desserts, delicious pastries and gourmet donuts. Peanut-free.*

**LE MONTMARTRE FRENCH RESTAURANT**

911 Sheppard Ave. W.  
416-630-3804  
lemontmartrerestaurant.com

*Le Montmartre French Restaurant's award winning chef creates delectable dishes well accompanied with exclusive wines that are sensual on the palate.*

**MODO MIO BISTRO**

1923C Avenue Rd.  
647-351-6636  
modomiobistro.com

*Fresh homemade Italian food. Options include hot sandwiches, pizza, fresh pasta, healthy salads and desserts.*

**NAWAB EXPRESS ON AVENUE**

1753 Avenue Rd.  
416-519-4444  
nawabexpress.com

*Nawab Express is a global award-winning Indian restaurant serving fresh and healthy Indian eats along with Indian-inspired pub grub.*

**NOLBU KOREAN AND JAPANESE RESTAURANT**

3 Elmhurst Ave.  
416-221-4700  
nolbutoronto.com

*A sushi restaurant with Japanese and Korean options available for dine-in, take-out and delivery. Experience Nolbu's bar and karaoke in the evening.*

**PAESE RISTORANTE**

3827 Bathurst St.  
416-631-6585  
paeseristorante.com

*The Paese menu is a testament to its philosophy "Inspired in Italy and made in Canada."*

**PANCER'S ORIGINAL DELI**

3856 Bathurst St.  
416-636-1230  
Pancersoriginaldeli.com

*Toronto's oldest family-owned traditional New York style deli. Serving up the best homemade corned beef, pastrami and traditional deli meats.*

**PANTRY FOODS**

3456 Bathurst St.  
416-785-0996  
pantryfoods.ca

*Providing fresh, tasty, wholesome, straightforward, innovative food including dairy and vegetarian delights; from salads and sandwiches to flavourful desserts.*

**SATAY ON THE ROAD**

2003 Avenue Rd.  
416-488-5153  
satayontheroad.com

*Satay on the Road offers a wonderful array of delicious flavours that will delight and tease your taste buds.*

**SEOUL HOUSE**

180 Steeles Ave. W.  
416-707-4488  
Seoulhousebbq.ca

*Seoul House serves specialized Korean table BBQ and authentic Korean cuisine.*

**UMAMI SUSHI**

3459 Bathurst St.  
416-782-3375  
umamisushi.ca

*Umami Sushi is Toronto's original kosher authentic sushi establishment. Umami offers nut and dairy-free options.*



### AJI SUSHI ASIAN RESTAURANT

1325 Finch Ave. W.  
416-630-6333  
ajimenu.ca

*This restaurant offers all-you-can-eat sushi and authentic Asian cuisine, made with quality fresh ingredients.*

### COOKIEGRAMS

7 - 81 Brisbane Rd.  
416-663-7770  
cookiegrams.com

*Since 1988, Cookiegrams has been baking custom giant cookies and yummy gifts daily. Everything is made from scratch using only the finest ingredients.*

### FOX AND FIDDLE - FINCH

1285 Finch Ave. W.  
416-633-1286  
foxandfiddle.com/1285-finch-ave-w

*Open seven days a week, this British-style pub offers great daily specials and entertainment including karaoke and comedy nights, and free pool on Mondays.*

### GOLDEN STAR RESTAURANT

6 - 2133 Jane St.  
416-248-4228  
goldenstarrestaurant.ca

*Golden Star Restaurant is dedicated to providing customers the best quality food and flavours. It offers a range of Chinese and Caribbean style foods.*

### LA RISATA RISTORANTE

2777 Steeles Ave. W.  
416-665-4372  
larisata.ca

*A quaint restaurant with fine Italian cuisine and outstanding service. Serving a variety of traditional dishes cooked using fresh, handpicked ingredients.*

### MASTRO'S RESTAURANT

890 Wilson Ave.  
416-636-8194  
mastros.ca

*A family-run Italian restaurant that has been serving customers for 51 years, with both original owners.*

### MI PHO SONG VU

2109 Jane St.  
416-614-0149  
miphosongvu.com

*Serving a lengthy menu of Vietnamese, Chinese and Thai fare, plus fruit smoothies. Open daily from 7 a.m. to midnight.*

### OLIO E BRACI

1 Whitehorse Rd.  
416-398-1235  
olioebraci.com

*Fine Italian dining with a great family atmosphere, friendly service and quality food at affordable prices.*

### TENDER SHAWARMA AND GRILL

3893 Keele St.  
416-871-3411  
tendershawarma.ca

*Experienced chefs serve you the best grills, shawarma, doner and kebabs in Toronto. 100% halal and homemade traditional Turkish food. Open 7 days a week.*

# REFERENCES

To learn more about local organizations, events and festivals, visit the websites listed below:

## BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREAS

Duke Heights BIA: [dukeheights.ca](http://dukeheights.ca)

Wilson Village BIA: [wilsonbia.com](http://wilsonbia.com)

Yonge Lawrence Village BIA: [ylvbia.com](http://ylvbia.com)

Toronto Association of Business Improvement Areas:  
[toronto-bia.com](http://toronto-bia.com)

## ARTS & CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS/SITES

Aga Khan Museum: [agakhanmuseum.org](http://agakhanmuseum.org)

Airsa Art and Thought Association:  
[facebook.com/Airsa.Art.Thought.Association](https://facebook.com/Airsa.Art.Thought.Association)

Amazing Cat Performances:  
[sites.google.com/site/amazingcatperformances](https://sites.google.com/site/amazingcatperformances)

Art Gallery of York University: [theaguyisoutthere.org](http://theaguyisoutthere.org)

Art Starts: [artstarts.net](http://artstarts.net)

ArtReach Toronto: [artreach.org](http://artreach.org)

Black Creek Pioneer Village: [blackcreek.ca](http://blackcreek.ca)

Canadian Film Centre: [cfccreates.com](http://cfccreates.com)

Centre for Spanish Speaking Peoples:  
[spanishservices.org](http://spanishservices.org)

Civic Light Opera Company:  
[civiclightoperacompany.com](http://civiclightoperacompany.com)

Columbus Centre: [columbuseventcentre.com](http://columbuseventcentre.com)

Dreamation: [dreamation.ca](http://dreamation.ca)

First Story Toronto: [firststoryblog.wordpress.com](http://firststoryblog.wordpress.com)

Gibson House Museum: [toronto.ca/gibsonhouse](http://toronto.ca/gibsonhouse)

Greater Toronto Philharmonic Orchestra: [gtpo.ca](http://gtpo.ca)

Heritage Toronto: [heritagetoronto.org](http://heritagetoronto.org)

inPrint Collective: [inprintstudio.ca](http://inprintstudio.ca)

Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre: [jccc.on.ca](http://jccc.on.ca)

Korean Canadian Cultural Association:  
[koreancentre.on.ca](http://koreancentre.on.ca)

Mural Routes: [muralroutes.ca](http://muralroutes.ca)

Neighbourhood Arts Network:  
[neighbourhoodartsnetwork.org](http://neighbourhoodartsnetwork.org)

North York Arts: [northyorkarts.org](http://northyorkarts.org)

North York Historical Society: [nyhs.ca](http://nyhs.ca)

North York Visual Artists: [nyva.ca](http://nyva.ca)

Ontario Historical Society: [ontariohistoricalsociety.ca](http://ontariohistoricalsociety.ca)

PEACH: [peachyouth.org](http://peachyouth.org)

Phoenix Academy of the Arts:  
[phoenixacademyofthearts.com](http://phoenixacademyofthearts.com)

Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles:  
pomegranateguild.ca  
Prosserman Jewish Community Centre:  
prossermanjcc.com  
Shakespearience: shakespearience.ca  
Sinfonia Toronto: sinfoniatoronto.com  
SKETCH: sketch.ca  
Southern Currents Film & Video Collective:  
alucinefestival.com  
Stage Centre Productions: stagecentreproductions.com  
StreetARToronto: toronto.ca/streetart  
The STEPS Initiative: stepsinitiative.com  
Toronto Centre for the Arts: tocentre.com  
Toronto Korean Film Festival: tkff.ca  
UrbanArts: urbanartstoronto.org  
VIBE Arts: vibearts.ca  
Willowdale Group of Artists: willowdaleartists.com  
Zion Church Cultural Centre: toronto.ca/zionccc  
Zion Schoolhouse: toronto.ca/zionschoolhouse

## COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Baycrest Health Sciences: baycrest.org  
Black Creek Community Farm: blackcreekfarm.ca  
Community Matters Toronto:  
communitymatterstoronto.org  
Community Story Strategies:  
communitystorystrategies.ca  
Dallington Pollinators Community Garden:  
dallingtonpollinators.wordpress.com  
Friends of Earl Bales Park: facebook.com/earlbalespark  
Mentoring Arts Tutoring Athletics: matayouth.com  
North York Community House: nych.ca  
Park People: parkpeople.ca  
The Wadoka Academy: wadokaacademy.com  
Thorncliffe Neighbourhood Office: thorncliffe.org  
Toronto Public Library: tpl.ca  
Unison Health & Community Services: unisonhcs.org

## EVENTS AND FESTIVALS

Cultura Festival: culturafestival.ca  
Culture Days: culturedays.ca  
Doors Open Toronto: doorsopenontario.on.ca  
Hispanic Fiesta: hispanicfiesta.com  
Jane's Walk: janeswalk.org  
Korean Harvest Festival: koreanharvestfest.com/en  
Sunday Serenades: northyorkarts.org/sunday-serenades  
Taste of Manila: tasteofmanilatoronto.com

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

City of Toronto Arts & Culture Services wishes to thank the many partners and supporters who made the Cultural Hotspot possible. We would also like to thank the many individuals and organizations who generously shared their wisdom to help us develop the Cultural Loops Guide. We appreciate their time, stories, vignettes and photographs of North York communities that provided such valuable inspiration for the tours.

Special thanks to Daniel Rotsztain, *The Urban Geographer*, for creating maps for each of the tours and drawing of local buildings, history and nature.

## WE WISH TO ACKNOWLEDGE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM:

Aga Khan Museum

Allyson Adley and Audrey Willsey, Art Gallery of York University

Ann Brokelman, Photographer

Art Starts

Bell Box Murals Project

Bill Wrigley, Artist

Black Creek Pioneer Village

Canadian Film Centre

Daniel Rotsztain, Artist & Urban Geographer

Dorie Billich, Gibson House Museum and Zion Schoolhouse

Francette Maquito, York University Glendon Campus

Geri Smith, Black Creek Pioneer Village

Glenn Bonnetta, North York Historical Society

Heritage Toronto

Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre

Mural Routes

Noor Cultural Centre

North York Arts

Ontario Historical Society

Prosserman Jewish Community Centre

Robert Sprachman, Artist

Ryley Hughes, Ryerson University Placement Student

Sarah and Chaim Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre

StreetARToronto

Ted Bieler, Artist

Thomas Krzyzanowski, Toronto Public Library

Toronto Botanical Garden

Toronto Centre for the Arts

Toronto Region and Conservation Authority

Monica Radovski, Park, Forestry & Recreation

UrbanArts



SHEPPARD AVE W

SHE

401

YONGE ST

BAYVIEW AVE

YORK

EGLI



# CULTURAL **HOT** spot

celebrating creativity and community

[toronto.ca/culturalhotspot](https://toronto.ca/culturalhotspot)