

# TORONTO ARTS \_ COUNCIL

## ANIMATING TORONTO PARKS 2026 PROGRAM GUIDELINES

**Application Deadline: June 9, 2026** *for activities happening in 2027*

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TAC is committed to equity and inclusion and welcomes applications from diverse cultural and geographic communities within the City of Toronto. Specific equity measures and programs are in place to ensure full access and participation by Black artists, Indigenous artists, artists of colour, artists who are Deaf, have disabilities, or are living with mental illness, artists who self-identify as 2SLGBTQIAP, newcomer and refugee artists, young and emerging artists and artists working outside the downtown core. Learn more about what we are doing to make TAC more accessible and inclusive in our [Equity Framework](#).

### **What does this program support?**

The *Animating Toronto Parks* program provides funding to professional artists, arts organizations, artist collectives, and non-profit organizations to create and present free arts programming in selected Toronto parks located in Etobicoke, York, North York, East York, and Scarborough. For the purposes of this program, “arts programming” may include the presentation of dance, literary arts, music, theatre, visual and media arts, community-engaged arts, Indigenous arts, and other fields of artistic practice.

Animating Toronto Parks is a Strategic Funding Program managed by Toronto Arts Council (TAC), in partnership with Toronto Arts Foundation’s Arts in the Parks initiative, City of Toronto Arts & Culture Services, Parks & Recreation (P&R), and community partner Park People.

**The maximum grant in this program is \$25,000.** Grants awarded may be less than the full amount requested. Applicants are not required to secure other sources of funding. The payment of artists’ fees is a requirement of this program.

Grant recipients will be provided with:

- funding toward artist fees and production elements;
- access to the park space (permit dates subject to approval by Parks & Recreation);
- coverage under the TAC’s liability insurance;
- information regarding additional requirements, such as emergency action plan, waste and recycling diversion plan, etc., or additional permits, noise exemption, building permit, etc.;
- an introduction to City of Toronto Parks & Recreation permit staff and park supervisors, Park People, and local community/parks groups;
- support under Toronto Arts Foundation’s Arts in the Parks initiative; participation in Arts in the Parks is a requirement of the program.

Community consultation and/or engagement is a requirement of the program.

### **What is Arts in the Parks?**

Arts in the Parks is a free city-wide initiative managed by Toronto Arts Foundation (TAF), in partnership with Toronto Arts Council (TAC), Parks & Recreation (P&R), and community partner Park People. Arts in the Parks offers a wide range of in-kind supports to artists and arts organizations working in parks across

the city, such as support with marketing, community engagement, on-site wayfinding signage, and volunteer coordination. Arts in the Parks is a core resource for Animating Toronto Parks grants recipients. To learn more about Arts in the Parks please visit <https://artsintheparksto.org/>.

## **TAC Accessibility Grant**

**Projects involving Deaf artists and artists with disabilities** may apply for an additional TAC Accessibility grant that will provide up to a maximum of \$5,000 towards accessibility costs for artists incurred during the project. Accessibility costs include but are not limited to: ASL interpretation, audio description, closed captioning, communications assistants, attendant care (including helpers for Elders), support workers and equipment rentals or other supports required to meet artists' accessibility needs.

Starting in 2026, the TAC Accessibility Grant will allow grant recipients to apply for an Accessibility Grant at any time during their project. The Accessibility Grant is available to grant recipients as a separate application.

## **When can the project happen?**

- The Project Start Date must be no earlier than January 1, 2027. This includes planning activities leading up to events in parks.
- For activities in the parks, it is recommended they fall within Arts in the Parks season: June to September 2027. Outside of those months, on-site support from Arts in the Parks and community groups will be limited. For **first time applicants to the program**, it is strongly recommended to have events planned for **no earlier than June 15, 2027**.
- All projects must be completed within two years of the date on the Notification Letter.

## **Who can apply?**

If you are a first-time applicant or have questions about your eligibility or application, please contact Program Manager, Strategic Initiatives, Lena Golubtsova at [lena@torontoartscouncil.org](mailto:lena@torontoartscouncil.org).

- This grants program is open to **professional artists, not-for-profit arts organizations, artist collectives** operating on a not-for-profit basis, and **not-for-profit organizations**. Not-for-profit organizations that are not arts-based may only apply to undertake projects that involve the artistic leadership of professional artists.
- A professional artist is someone who has developed their skills through training and/or practice; is recognized as such by artists working in the same artistic field; actively practices their art; seeks payment for their work; and has a history of public presentation or exhibition.
- TAC recognizes that due to systemic barriers within the broader arts community (e.g. limited mainstream presentation opportunities for artists from equity-seeking communities) some flexibility may be required in interpreting eligibility criteria to take into account equivalent professional experience and contexts. Potential applicants from equity-seeking communities are encouraged to discuss their eligibility with the Program Manager in advance of submitting an application.
- You may not apply as an individual and be part of an organization or collective applying in the same competition.
- You may not apply for the same project in different grants programs.

## **TAC has two distinct funding envelopes:**

1. **Arts Discipline:** project and operating grants in dance, visual arts, theatre, etc.
2. **Strategic Programs:** Animating Historic Sites, Open Door, etc.

Applicants can receive only one grant from each funding envelope per year. The Animating Toronto Parks program falls within the Strategic Funding envelope. You may not apply to a Strategic Program if

you have another Strategic Program grant application pending OR final report pending; or overdue final report in any program.

**Animating Toronto Parks Exception:** If you received an Animating Toronto Parks grant for activities happening in summer 2026, you can still apply in this round for activities in summer 2027. This exception is only for the Animating Toronto Parks program. Funds for recommended grants will not be released until 2027.

***For Individuals:***

- Individuals must be Canadian Citizens or Permanent Residents or have an application pending for Permanent Resident Status or be a Protected Person (approved refugee claimant) and, if requested, must be able to provide documentation to verify this. Grant recipients must have a Social Insurance Number.
- Individuals must have been a resident of the City of Toronto for at least one year prior to the deadline, and live and work in Toronto for at least 8 months a year. A Post Office Box address cannot be used to meet the residency requirement.
- Professional artists pursuing undergraduate or graduate studies may not apply for work related to their academic program of study.

***For Organizations and Collectives:***

- Organizations and collectives must be incorporated non-profit organizations or unincorporated collectives operating on a non-profit basis. A collective is defined as two or more artists working together under a group name, either on a single project (ad hoc) or on an ongoing basis. For collectives of two artists, both must be City of Toronto residents. For collectives of more than two artists, the majority of members must be City of Toronto residents.
- Not-for-profit organizations that are not arts-based are eligible to apply to this grants program. Projects must include the collaborative involvement of professional artists with community members, as well as the payment of professional artist fees.
- Organizations and collectives must be located in the City of Toronto. A Post Office Box address cannot be used to meet this requirement.
- Collectives must be prepared to submit bank account information (in the name of the collective as listed in the application) if the application is successful.

***This program does not fund:***

- Permanent installations, such as permanent sculpture; temporary installations might not be a good fit for the program due to permitting and logistical challenges; please contact the program manager to discuss your installation-based idea for the program;
- Commercial businesses and for-profit organizations;
- Ongoing operating costs, such as permanent staff salaries and general administration of an organization. This program is not intended to support an organization or collective's ongoing activities. Where a portion of permanent staff or administrative resources are dedicated to the project, you may estimate the value of these resources and include a detailed breakdown in the budget as in-kind revenue;
- Costs related to equipment purchase, capital projects (capital assets such as vehicles, computers or cameras to be used beyond the duration of the project), fundraising projects, deficit reduction, publishing and archiving projects, awards and award ceremonies, projects conceived for the creation of a film or for competitive purposes, art therapy, academic research, commercial activities (i.e.: the sale of art);
- Activities taking place outside of the City of Toronto (such as events, rehearsals, research, touring, travel, accommodations);

- Schools that are part of Ontario’s public or private education system;
- Educational and religious institutions, unless there is a clear separation in both programming and budget between their regular activities and their arts activities.
- Organizations receiving operating funding directly from the City of Toronto’s Economic Development and Culture Division are not eligible to apply to this program.

## **How do I apply?**

Register and submit the application on TAC Grants Online (<https://tac.smartsimple.ca>). Applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 pm on the deadline date. TAC does not accept applications by any other means of delivery. You will receive a confirmation email when your application is submitted. Check your spam/junk mail folder if it doesn’t arrive in your in-box.

## **Application Accessibility Support for Deaf persons or persons with disabilities**

Applicants who are Deaf or have a disability and need support to complete their grant applications can apply for funds to cover the costs of assistance from Application Support Service Providers. Up to \$500 is available per eligible applicant in each calendar year. Please contact your Grant Program Manager at least six weeks before the grant program deadline to determine eligibility, request application support funding, and to review the process for payment to be made to your Service Provider. Requests for application support require approval from the Grant Program Manager.

## **Choose your park**

Following is a list of parks that have been pre-approved by City of Toronto Parks & Recreation for this program. You can choose one or more parks in the “Parks Selection” section of the grant application. Build your application around your preferred park(s). List your alternative park preferences. The grant review panel may assign a different park (or parks) for your project, where necessary. Be prepared to be flexible. It is strongly recommended that first-time applicants select one park. For all applicants: if you want to program multiple parks, consider outreach for each of the local communities, obtaining permits for each park, site visits, etc. and include it in your work plan and budget.

***Parks list:*** *list of available parks is subject to change; an alternative park may be assigned for your project.*

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|--|--|
| • Alexmuir Park (Scarborough)          | • Milliken Park (Scarborough)                |
| • Amos Waites Park (Etobicoke)         | • Morningside Park (Scarborough)             |
| • Bell Manor Park (Etobicoke)          | • Neilson Park (Etobicoke)                   |
| • Cedar Brook Park (Scarborough)       | • Neilson Park (Scarborough)                 |
| • Dentonia Park (East York)            | • Parkway Forest Park (North York)           |
| • Earl Bales Park (North York)         | • Prairie Drive Park (Scarborough)           |
| • Flagstaff Park (Etobicoke)           | • Raymore Park (Etobicoke)                   |
| • Fountainhead Park (North York)       | • Rowntree Mills Park (Etobicoke)            |
| • Fred Johnson Park (Scarborough)      | • R.V. Burgess Park (East York)              |
| • Fundy Bay Park (Scarborough)         | • Shawn Blu Rose Park (Scarborough)          |
| • Guild Park and Gardens (Scarborough) | • Summerlea Park (Etobicoke)                 |
| • Lee Lifeson Art Park (North York)    | • Taylor Creek Park (East York)              |
| • Maidavale Park (Scarborough)         | • Thomson Memorial Park (Scarborough)        |
| • Memorial Park (York)                 | • Walter Saunders Memorial Park (North York) |

- Wincott Park (Etobicoke)
- Other

**Parks map:** [here](#). Please see [2026 Parks List & Descriptions](#) at the end of this document.

Starting in 2026, an applicant can pick “Other” on the park list. The park must be located in Toronto, outside of the downtown core. **Assignment of a park outside of the designated park list cannot be guaranteed**, but will be considered if a compelling rationale is included, such as ongoing work in a local park. An applicant must be prepared to adapt programming to an alternative park, if funded.

## **Park permits**

Any activity in a City park (including rehearsals) will require a permit from Parks & Recreation (P&R). Park permits are all subject to approval by P&R, taking into consideration existing permits and limitations on some parks. If you receive an Animating Toronto Parks grant, you will still need to apply to P&R for a special event permit. **The special event permit fee will be waived so you do not need to budget for that**, but there may be other costs associated with your activity in the park, such as noise exemptions or building permits. Be prepared to budget for these expenses. If your special events permit application is not approved by P&R, TAC, TAF and P&R staff will work with you to find an alternative park for your project. Be prepared to be patient and flexible.

## **What do I need to prepare?**

The four main sections of the Animating Toronto Parks grant application are: Project Details, Project Description, Budget, and Support Material.

- **Project Details:** amount requested, project dates, project summary, park selection and why this park(s).
- **Project Description:** project overview, relevant experience, workplan, outreach plan, community experience, relationship with the community, and project contributors form with brief bios.
- **Budget:** budget form and supplementary budget notes.
- **Support Material:** audio/visual examples of your work.

## **Recurring funding**

In 2026 TAC is piloting a recurring funding opportunity for applicants to Animating Toronto Parks. The opportunity will provide a grant for three consecutive years: for project delivery in 2027, 2028 and 2029. Applicants approved for three years of recurring funding will be notified in 2026. The grant amounts will be released annually upon submitting interim reporting.

To be considered for recurring 3-year funding, the applicants must:

- have received the ATP grant at least three times, with at least one approved grant in the past three years.
- be committed to continue working in a park as described in the application (or similar) for the next three years.

Applicants with fewer than three Animating Toronto Parks grants may be considered for this funding if there is a proven track record of consistent presence and programming in the park.

While intended to support recurring activities in the same park or parks, such as annual festivals, returning workshops or programming series or other activities that take place at a park year over year and have established connection with and support of the local community, receiving recurring funding does not guarantee that a preferred site/park will be available for all three years; the recipients will work with hosting partners on an annual basis and will secure a replacement site if required.

The recipients of the recurring funding in the Animating Toronto Parks program will not be eligible to apply for another strategic program until all three recurrences of the project are complete and final report submitted (with the exception of the Animating Toronto Parks program in the last year).

Recipients of recurring funding may be assigned as mentors to a first-time recipient in this program. Details will be made available in early 2027 and will involve a potential time commitment of 3-5 hours a

month.

Recipients of recurring funding are required to participate in one evaluation session, in-person or online, annually for three years.

Applications for recurring funding are submitted as a regular Animating Toronto Parks application, with additional application questions filled out; and will be assessed in the same adjudication process. Meeting eligibility criteria does not guarantee receiving recurring funding; a one-time grant may be awarded, or none.

### **Are there requirements and guidelines for paying artists?**

Grant recipients are required to pay artists' fees for professional artists and encouraged to bring these fees into line with sector standards or, at a minimum, living wage benchmarks:

- Arts sector guidelines: [Carfac \(visual arts\)](#), [Canadian Alliance of Dance Artists](#), [Canadian Actors Equity – Independent Theatre Agreement](#), [Canadian Federation of Musicians](#)
- The Ontario Living Wage as a minimum standard for artists/arts workers' salaries and fees: [Ontario Living Wage by Region](#)

### **How will my application be assessed?**

Grants are awarded on a competitive basis by an independent grant review panel of practicing artists with input from the program partners. Representatives from TAC partner organizations, the City of Toronto Parks & Recreation, Toronto Arts Foundation, and Park People, will participate in the assessment process to provide contextual information to the peer assessors. Peer assessors are selected on the basis of their familiarity with and specialized expertise in a broad spectrum of artistic practices and their direct experience in the Toronto arts community and with outdoor programming. Grant review panels are composed to ensure equitable representation from TAC's Equity Priority Groups as well as geographical communities and artistic disciplines. The grant review panel's recommendations are approved by TAC Directors.

The Grant review panel makes an assessment based on the applicants' past and proposed work within the context of each competition. The grant review panel evaluates all eligible applications in a comparative context and makes funding decisions based on the availability of funds, the program objectives, and the following assessment criteria:

- Artistic merit;
- Extent to which the proposed project will engage and include local communities;
- Quality of experience the proposed activity will provide to community;
- Demonstrated capacity of the applicant to carry out the project as outlined;
- Financial viability of the project, including adequate payment of artist fees.

Additional assessment criteria for recurring funding:

- Quality and continuity of the relationship with the community, the extent to which the continued programming will benefit it, and capacity of the project to bring community together, as attested by the program partners and community support letters. (Applicants do not need to obtain letters of support from the program partners Arts in the Parks and Park People; otherwise, you are strongly encouraged to include community letters of support, testimonials, audience surveys etc.)

Included in the [Equity Framework](#) is an **Equity Priority Policy**, which states that if there are multiple well-assessed applications of equal merit in an adjudication round but insufficient funds in the grants budget to support all deserving candidates, applications proposed by applicants that self-identify as belonging to one or more of Toronto Arts Council's equity priority groups or that primarily involve or serve artists from these groups will be prioritized.

Projects that involve local artists (or are proposed by artists with strong existing ties and partnerships

with the local community) are prioritized in this program.

Project funding is recommended at the discretion of the grant review panel. This is a competitive program. Applicants should be aware that meeting the general eligibility requirements does not guarantee that a grant will be recommended. Decisions of the grant review panel are final.

As the peer assessors and the applications change with each deadline, peer assessor evaluation of relative artistic merit will also vary. Unsuccessful applicants may succeed with another grant review panel and are encouraged to reapply.

### **How and when will I find out the application results?**

TAC will send you an email when the results are available and you will log in to TAC Grants Online to receive results. Notification will be sent approximately four months after the application deadline. Results are not released over the telephone.

### **What if my project changes?**

Grants may be used only for the purposes outlined in the application. Changes to the scale, activities and timeframe of the project must be reported promptly to TAC. In such cases, TAC may require full or partial repayment of the grant. Changes to project dates must be reported to your Program Manager.

### **What do I do when I have completed the project?**

Recipients are required to file a final report on their project. The final report is filled out and submitted online through TAC's granting portal. The due date for the final report will be included in the Final Report form. Future applications to TAC Strategic Projects Programs\* will not be accepted unless reports on previous funding have been received and approved by TAC.

\*Exceptions include Newcomer & Refugee Artist Mentorship and Creative Enquiry Lab programs. Contact a TAC Program Manager if you have questions about these exceptions.

### **What are the requirements & conditions of this funding?**

#### ***Funding requirements:***

- Successful applicants will receive a Letter of Understanding (LOU). The LOU will detail the terms and conditions of the funding and must be signed and uploaded to TAC Grants Online before funding can be released.
- Grant recipients will be required to sign and upload a signed Declaration of Compliance with Anti-Harassment/Discrimination Legislation and City Policy and a City of Toronto Release, Waiver and Indemnity form before funding can be released.

#### ***Funding conditions:***

#### **Funds for recommended grants will not be released until 2027.**

- Grant recipients will work with P&R to book their dates for any activities in the park. All grant recipients will **submit a special event permit application** to P&R. Grant recipients will be required to **submit the signed Permit Notice** (and any other conditional permits or permissions) via your TAC Grants Online account, or upload proof of permit application, **before funding can be released**. Any additional permitting costs should be included in the grant budget. Grant recipients will be required to submit an Emergency Action Plan to P&R.
- Grant recipients will work with Arts in the Parks and community groups to ensure success of their projects. Participation in Arts in the Parks is a requirement of the program.
- Grant recipients will be required to attend an Animating Toronto Parks / Arts in the Parks Program Orientation Session (date TBA).
- Grant amounts are designed to cover portable washroom costs. Where washroom facilities are not available or accessible, **grants recipients will be required to provide bathrooms** for any

public activities. Portable washrooms must be AODA compliant. Washroom costs should be included in the grant budget for parks without washroom facilities.

- All arts programming **must be free and open to the public**. Donations or fees from audience members may not be solicited. Tickets may be reserved for capacity but must be free and accessible to local communities.
- Park space may only be used during the agreed permit dates and times, and solely for the agreed activity.
- The park must be clean and clear of damage following the event.
- Grant recipients must include **visual acknowledgement of TAC and Arts in the Parks** support in all promotional materials, advertising and programs related to the project. The TAC logo is available on our website; specifications for the size and placement of the logo should be commensurate with that of other donors or sponsors that have provided similar financial support. The Arts in the Parks logo will be provided by TAF staff. Arts in the Parks wayfinding signage will be provided by Arts in the Parks staff.
- If your application is approved, you will be required to enter **the bank account information** of the grant recipient that **corresponds to the Applicant Name** on your Notification Letter. You will be required to submit your individual, organizational or collective's Bank information along with your Letter of Understanding and other Notification Letter Conditions and Requirements.
- In addition to the aforementioned general conditions of funding, TAC reserves the right to place other conditions on the release of the grant. Any specific conditions will be contained in the Letter of Understanding.

### **Further questions**

Contact Program Manager, Strategic Initiatives

Lena Golubtsova (she/her)

[lena@torontoartscouncil.org](mailto:lena@torontoartscouncil.org), 416-392-6802 x 219

# 2026 PARKS LIST & DESCRIPTIONS

The following parks descriptions are provided to help you decide which park or parks you would like to apply to program. Please consider visiting the park(s) of choice before applying and researching and/or contacting park friends groups or community organizations associated with the park(s). **Community partnership is essential to a successful Animating Toronto Parks project.**

As the list of available parks is subject to change, an alternative park may be assigned for your project.

## RESOURCES

[Toronto Arts Foundation Arts in the Parks resources](#)

[Park People resource library](#)

[City of Toronto ward profiles](#)

### Local Arts Service Organizations (LASOs)

Local Arts Service Organizations (LASOs) support the City of Toronto's Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy in underserved geographic areas as well as the 2018-2022 Economic Development and Culture Divisional Strategy of inclusion and equity in geographic areas outside the downtown core. They provide inclusive and affordable opportunities for local residents, artists, and arts organizations, with a focus on underserved children, youth, and participants from a broad demographic spectrum. LASOs are a great place to start when designing your outreach plan. They may be open to partnership. There are six LASOs receiving municipal funding:

[Arts Etobicoke](#), [Urban Arts](#), [Lakeshore Arts](#), [North York Arts](#), [East End Arts](#), [Scarborough Arts](#), [Neighbourhood Arts Network](#)

### Please Note

**Washrooms:** Some parks have washrooms, and some do not. Washrooms are not only nice to have, but are a requirement for many reasons, including accessibility. **Portable washrooms rental should be included in the "production/technical fees" section of the grant, if applicable.** It is up to an applicant to obtain up-to-date quotes for budgeting purpose. Where portable washrooms are required, they must be AODA compliant.

**Accessibility:** TAC has endeavored to provide as much descriptive detail as possible in the following parks descriptions for accessibility purposes. City of Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation is in the process of bringing older parks up to AODA compliance, but there is no current information available about park accessibility. We are aware of the limitations of these descriptions and invite feedback. Please contact the Program Manager if more information is required.

## PARTICIPATING PARKS

Click on the park's or district's name to go to the description. Parks map can be viewed [here](#). The map is for reference only, it is not meant to show designated event areas in the parks.

**ETOBICOKE:** [Amos Waites Park](#), [Bell Manor Park](#), [Flagstaff Park](#), [Neilson Park](#), [Raymore Park](#), [Rowntree Mills Park](#), [Summerlea Park](#), [Wincott Park](#)

**YORK:** [Memorial Park](#)

**NORTH YORK:** [Earl Bales Park](#), [Fountainhead Park](#), [Lee Lifeson Art Park](#), [Parkway Forest Park](#), [Walter Saunders Memorial Park](#)

**EAST YORK:** [Dentonia Park](#), [R.V. Burgess Park](#), [Taylor Creek Park](#)

**SCARBOROUGH:** [Alexmuir Park](#), [Cedar Brook Park](#), [Fred Johnson Park](#), [Fundy Bay Park](#), [Guild Park and Gardens](#), [Maidavale Park](#), [Milliken Park](#), [Morningside Park](#), [Neilson Park](#), [Prairie Drive Park](#), [Shawn Blu Rose Park](#), [Thomson Memorial Park](#)

## **ETOBICOKE**

### **Amos Waites Park**

Amos Waites Park is a 1.4-hectare waterfront park featuring Mimico Square, children's playground, a splash pad, and an outdoor pool. With its boardwalks, paths and beaches, Amos Waites Park features a scenic view of the lake. It is a busy park with a lot of foot traffic. Mimico Square is a lively community event space designed for mid-sized performances, markets, and festivals. There is a bandshell with electrical access. Cement area in front of bandshell has no seating or shade, which might be a budget consideration depending on the time and type of event. The park is equally suitable for workshops and performances. The Lakeshore Village BIA programs various events in the park and is an enthusiastic Arts in the Parks partner. Please note: programming will not be possible on the bike path or shoreline. Mimico Square is the designated event area for this park.

**Address:** 2441 Lake Shore Blvd W, near Lake Shore Blvd W & Mimico Ave

**Ward:** 3, Etobicoke–Lakeshore

**Friends/community groups:** Mimico by the Lake BIA, Lakeshore Village BIA, Lakeshore Arts

**Amenities:** small neighbouring parking lot, municipal street parking is available, accessible washrooms

**Accessibility:** washrooms are accessible; the park features a paved path from the sidewalk to the washrooms, playground and bike trail, and there are curb cuts from the street into the park.

### **Bell Manor Park**

This small neighbourhood park features a splash pad and a children's playground and is nicknamed Banana Park. Bell Manor Park features a community garden managed by Stonegate Community Health Centre and mural art, funded by StreetART Toronto, as well as a pebble mosaic created by Red Dress Productions, in collaboration with the community. Stonegate provide much of the community programming in the park, they are an enthusiastic partner for Arts in the Parks.

From Stonegate Community Health Centre:

“Despite being small, this park is suitable for various types of events. Community is very active and involved. Artists proposing to work in this park should plan to reach out to local residents and community organizations to ensure audience participation.”

**Address:** 1 Bayside Lane, near Park Lawn Road & Berry Road

**Ward:** 3, Etobicoke–Lakeshore

**Friends/community group:** Stonegate Community Health Centre

**Amenities:** playground, splashpad; washrooms available at nearby Park Lawn Park; Recreation provides one portable washroom during splash pad season, but more may be required for larger events, depending on the scale of the event/activity and the time of day

**Accessibility:** accessible portable washrooms required; the park is intersected and encircled by a paved path with curb cuts on both the west and east sides from the street, the west entrance of the park is graded a bit steeply; there is street parking available all around the park; the community garden is not accessible by paved path.

### **Flagstaff Park**

This 3.6-hectare park features a large area for recreation activities, three lit tennis courts, a children's playground, walking path, and outdoor pool. It is a quiet park in a low-density residential area. Suitable for smaller, more intimate activities. Events in this location would benefit from lots of local outreach with area residents. Please note: limited sound amplification is allowed. Maximum capacity 100. Residents must be notified of events. This is a busy recreation park, so permit availability may be limited.

**Address:** 42 Mercury Rd, near Martin Grove Rd & Rexdale Blvd

**Ward:** 1, Etobicoke North

**Friends/community group:** Community Nature Champions, Friends of Queensplate Drive

**Amenities:** water fountain, small parking lot, additional street parking available, washrooms available during pool open hours only

**Accessibility:** accessible portable washrooms may be required as pool washroom hours are very limited, paved paths across park are limited, no direct access from TTC, 2 designated accessible spots.

### **Neilson Park**

This 6.6-hectare park near Dundas Street West and Highway 427 features a ball diamond and children's playground. The park follows the Etobicoke Creek ravine north to Bloor Street with a trail that crosses the creek. The south-east corner of the park is home to the Neilson Park Creative Centre, and artists working in the park would benefit from close collaboration or partnership with the Centre. Workshop style events have been successful at this location in the past.

**Address:** 56 Neilson Dr, near Neilson Dr & Jeff Dr

**Ward:** 2, Etobicoke Centre

**Friends/community groups:** Neilson Park Creative Centre, Friends of Centennial Park (Our Place Initiative)

**Amenities:** parking, several amenities located at Neilson Park Creative Centre (rentals/partnerships are subject to negotiation with Neilson Park Creative Centre), washrooms, picnic sites

**Accessibility:** paved path across the park but not to designated area, accessible washrooms in Neilson Park Creative Centre.

### **Raymore Park**

Raymore Park is in the Weston neighbourhood of Etobicoke. It is located along the Humber River Recreational Trail. The park is close to Weston Lions Arena and an outdoor pool. It is a small park located on the banks of the Humber River. Park would be most suited for a performance style of event. As park is not directly accessible by street/path, local outreach in residential area is important.

**Address:** 95 Raymore Dr, near Scarlet Rd and Lawrence Ave West

**Ward:** 2, Etobicoke Centre

**Friends/community groups:** Scarlettwood Warriors for Change

**Amenities:** parking lot

**Accessibility:** accessible portable washrooms required; there is no paved path into the main park area, but the park is located on the Humber River Recreational Trail, which is paved.

### **Rowntree Mills Park**

This 92-hectare park along the banks of the Humber River is a beautiful natural oasis in northwest Toronto between Finch Ave West and Steeles Ave West and between Islington and Kipling Avenues. The local social service agencies have held nature walks, movies and seniors walking programs in this park. Projects that are created in close collaboration with the local community would be most successful. Please note: designated area is picnic areas 1 & 2. Park closes at 6pm. No activities after 6pm will be permitted. Capacity 350.

From Rexdale Walking Group:

"The green space is well maintained by the City Parks staff and contractors. This park is a beautiful walking area and has scenic paths as well as ponds that are a host to lots of different birds and other wildlife. Rexdale Walking group collaborated with STEP Public Art for different workshops, murals, beading, walking tours just to name a few."

**Address:** 155 Rowntree Mill Rd, near Finch Ave West & Steeles Ave West

**Ward:** 7, Humber River-Black Creek

**Friends/community groups:** Rexdale Walking Group, Markbrook Residents Group, Delta Family

Resource Centre, Rexdale Women's Centre, various seniors walking groups.

**Amenities:** recreation trail, water fountain, fieldhouse, parking lot, picnic site, pond, washrooms

**Accessibility:** paved recreation trails, limited paths to picnic sites, accessible washrooms, accessible designated parking, but not very close to designated site.

### **Summerlea Park**

Summerlea Park is in Rexdale near Albion Road and Islington just north of the 401. This large 23-hectare park runs along the Humber River West Branch as it joins the Humber River. It is part of the West Humber Recreational Trail. In addition to the many trails and naturalized river valley, the park features a ball diamond, three multipurpose fields, a cricket pitch, two basketball courts, two tennis courts, a wading pool, and a children's playground. Summerlea is a well-known local fishing spot.

**Address:** 2 Arcot Blvd, Albion Rd and Islington

**Ward:** 1, Etobicoke North

**Friends/community group:** Queens Leveling Up

**Amenities:** parking, washrooms, water fountain

**Accessibility:** accessible portable washrooms required, paved paths.

### **Wincott Park**

Wincott Park is divided in half by Poynter Drive. This park is in the middle of the neighbourhood near Westway Junior School. North of Poynter Drive there is a newly refurbished children's playground and two lit outdoor bocce courts. At the south end of the park there is a swing set, a pair of slides and a climbing structure. There are open green areas along the path that are suitable for most types of events. There are also naturalized areas for wildlife throughout the park. The Humber Creek Trail is a paved path that runs through the park. Near the north end of the park the trail passes by a pond with a small seating area on the south shore. Please note: no amplified sound.

From Somali Women and Children's Support Network:

"In recent years, Wincott Park has been a thriving space for a diverse range of arts and cultural programs, which have captivated and united our community. These art programs have made a lasting impact on community members, nurturing a profound appreciation for the arts. This park is heavily supported by Somali Women and Children's Support Network in terms of outreach and community participation. Partnership or working closely with this group would help events be successful in this community."

**Address:** 86 Northcrest Rd

**Ward:** 2, Etobicoke Centre

**Near:** Islington Ave & Dixon Rd

**Friends/community group:** Somali Women and Children's Support Network

**Amenities:** recreation trail, drinking fountain

**Accessibility:** accessible portable washrooms required, paved paths throughout the park, TTC access, street parking only.

## **YORK**

### **Memorial Park**

A small park on the east bank of the Humber River near Lawrence Avenue West and Weston Road that features a bike trail and a bandshell under a mature tree canopy. Despite central Weston location, significant community outreach should be planned for. Please note: this park is best suited for performances and concerts. Capacity 300. No vehicle access, no parking in the park.

**Address:** 22 Little Ave, near Little Ave & Lawrence Ave W

**Ward:** 5, York–South Weston

**Friends/community group:** Scarlettwood Warriors for Change

**Amenities:** bandshell with electrical access, small parking lot on south side

**Accessibility:** portable washrooms required; parking lot is accessible via sidewalk, but there is a steep hill from the parking lot to the park; two accessible entrances from Little Ave, but no paved pathways into park; uneven grassy surface, no ramp to bandshell stage entrance; easy TTC access.

## **NORTH YORK**

### **Earl Bales Park**

Earl Bales Park is a large 51-hectare park. It is a destination park, the fourth largest park in the city, with a large outdoor amphitheatre (subject to additional permitting fees), an off-leash dog area, playgrounds, sensory garden, splash pad, memorials, paved walking/cycling trails, picnic sites and fire pits. It also has one of the two city's ski hills. It is heavily used in the summer for picnics and in the winter for skiing. The Canadian Society for Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial Site is situated near the entrance to Earl Bales Park at 4169 Bathurst Street. As it is a very large and active park and the amphitheatre is closed off from passersby due to its structure, events in this location would benefit from very clear signage/wayfinding or additional staff/volunteers to help guide audiences. There are forest walking trails in the park that have been used by artists in this program for walking tours, nature walks, etc. Please note: no staking in the park. Avoid programming on Saturdays for local community religious observation.

From Friends of Earl Bales Park:

“This park is supported by Friends of Earl Bales Park, an independent resident-led group that partners with other local grassroots organizations and groups. The group was formed in April 2013 as part of Clean Toronto Together. Since then, we have been hosting annual clean up at Earl Bales Park, screened movie nights, hosted a tree planting event, “Love and Care” Day and multicultural music and dance performances. We have also co-hosted series of virtual climate change workshops and virtual multicultural celebration.”

**Address:** 4169 Bathurst St, near Bathurst St & Sheppard Ave W

**Ward:** 6, York Centre

**Friends/community group:** Friends of Earl Bales Park

**Amenities:** washrooms, multiple parking lots, Earl Bales Community Centre (washroom facilities are available during open hours only), the Earl Bales Senior Centre, and the Earl Bales Ski and Snowboard Centre

**Accessibility:** Community Centre washrooms are accessible, and one is gender neutral, accessible parking is designated.

### **Fountainhead Park**

A 4.4-hectare park at the intersection of Sentinel Road and Finch Avenue West that features three lit tennis courts, two bocce courts, a tennis clubhouse with washrooms and multipurpose sports field. There is a lot of green space suitable for programming. The park is actively used by local community, with close ties to Black Creek Community Farm and Driftwood Community Centre.

**Address:** 445 Sentinel Rd, near Jane and Finch

**Ward:** 7, Humber River-Black Creek

**Friends/community group:** Friends of Fountainhead Park

**Amenities:** parking lot, water fountain, washrooms

**Accessibility:** accessible washrooms, paved path around the park, designated accessible parking, TTC access.

## **Lee Lifeson Art Park**

Lee Lifeson Art Park honours two of Canada's more internationally acclaimed musicians as founding members of the band Rush, Geddy Lee and Alex Lifeson. The heart of this music-themed park is a small outdoor bandshell designed for performances. Park is best suited for performances, or a combination of workshops and performances. Please note: designated area is the bandshell. Max capacity 200. Limited sound amplification: amplified drumming and low-level bass not permitted, acoustic or low-level amplification suggested. Notifying residents of any events with amplified sound ahead of time is recommended.

**Address:** 223 Gladys Allison Place, near Princess and Hillcrest Avenues at Gladys Allison Place

**Ward:** 18, Willowdale

**Friends/community group:** Willowdale Central Ratepayers Association

**Amenities:** outdoor stage and amphitheatre, washrooms

**Accessibility:** accessible washrooms with automatic doors, paved path through park.

## **Parkway Forest Park**

A 5.2-hectare park near Don Mills Road and Sheppard Avenue East that features a baseball diamond, a multipurpose sports field, a basketball court, a ball hockey pad, splash pad, calisthenics workout area, portable bathroom on the South side and two children's playgrounds located at the north and south ends of the park. Large open space next to the playground is suitable for most types of events. The projects designed for families, children, and youth and that are interactive would be particularly suitable for this park.

Parkway Forest Community Centre is located adjacent to the park. The neighbourhood has had a lot of high-rise development in the last few years. The Friends of Parkway Forest is the local community park group that has worked with artists in the Arts in the Parks program for the last few years. They work very closely with the partners in the neighbourhood and in particular with LINC, the local language school. Please note: designated area is the south-west corner of the park, south of the school parking lot. No set up on sports field. Max capacity 500. Not a lot of shade, evening events are recommended, or provision of shade. There are no water fountains or evening lighting available.

From Friends of Parkway Forest Park:

"There are lots of newcomer families with kids. Activities that engage these groups are great especially those where parents and kids can work together. Friends of Parkway Forest Park has held Splash on Earth events in this park for the past three years and parents and families had a blast painting on the asphalt and saying how this is the only time when they play together and learn about the environment."

**Address:** 80 Parkway Forest Dr, near Parkway Forest Dr & Forest Manor Rd

**Ward:** 17, Don Valley North

**Friends/community group:** Friends of Parkway Forest Park

**Amenities:** Parkway Forest Community Centre (washroom facilities during open hours only: open until 9pm)

**Accessibility:** no paved pathways through the park, accessible washrooms in community centre during open hours.

## **Walter Saunders Memorial Park (York Beltline)**

The York Beltline is a 9km linear park and recreation trail. Walter Saunders Park is part of the Beltline and features outdoor basketball and bocce courts, a playground and a splash pad. The Friends of the Beltline have hosted tree plantings and clean-ups in the Beltline. There is a large open space in this park, which would work well for performance style events. Please note: the area has little to no shade. Limited amplified sound. Capacity 200.

**Address:** 440 Hopewell Ave, near Hopewell Ave & Times Rd

**Ward:** 8 Eglinton–Lawrence

**Friends/community group:** Hopewell Community Garden

**Amenities:** bottle filling station

**Accessibility:** accessible portable washrooms required, multiple paved paths, street parking only.

## **EAST YORK**

### **Dentonia Park**

A 6.1-hectare park near Danforth Avenue and Victoria Park Avenue featuring a lit ball diamond, a multipurpose sports field, a cricket pitch, basketball courts, a splash pad and a children's playground. Large and open park, but due to ongoing residents' concerns around noise, smaller scale events with a max of 50 people will be best suited for this park. No sound amplification of any kind is currently permitted at this park.

From Shwasti:

“Dentonia and Prairie Drive are the two parks in the East end that are supported by Shwasti through local outreach. Prairie Drive Park also has a resident-led group that would like to be more involved with events in that park. Dentonia is larger while Prairie Drive Park is more intimate, both are accessible by TTC. Both have hosted successful Arts in the Parks events in the past.”

Please note: this park is appropriate for small, short-term events only. No set up on sports field. Designated area is the picnic area. Max capacity is 50. The events in this park will require increased wayfinding signage as the park gets confused with adjacent golf course.

**Address:** 80 Thyra Ave, near Thyra Ave & Dentonia Park Ave

**Ward:** 19, Beaches–East York

**Friends/community group:** Shwasti

**Amenities:** clubhouse, washrooms, water fountain

**Accessibility:** close to Victoria Park subway, paved paths throughout the park, ramp to clubhouse and washrooms.

### **R.V. Burgess Park**

This 1.5-hectare park near Don Mills Road and Overlea Boulevard features a basketball court, a community garden, a splash pad and a children's playground. It is a busy park with a lot of foot traffic, it is important park for the local community. In the past artists were able to use power from the library for their event. Please note: special event permits are subject to scheduling; any projects must engage with Thorncliffe Park Women's Committee.

From FCSS, Friends of Thorncliffe Park and Thorncliffe Wellness Café:

“R.V. Burgess Park is the cultural and recreational heart of the Thorncliffe Park neighbourhood, full of life, and full of seasonal activities and events for families. It is heavily supported by multiple community groups including Flemingdon Community Support Services, Friends of Thorncliffe Park and Thorncliffe Wellness Cafe. This park would be great for community engaged art activities and workshops. FCSS is very active and involved in the community through community engaged activities that take place throughout the year. They are also a past recipient of Animating Toronto Parks and would be a great resource for building a successful event.”

**Address:** 46 Thorncliffe Park Dr, near Thorncliffe Park Dr & Grandstand PI

**Ward:** 15, Don Valley West

**Friends/community group:** Flemingdon Community Support Services, Friends of Thorncliffe Park & Thorncliffe Wellness Café

**Amenities:** playground, splash pad, community garden, tandoor oven, Thorncliffe Public Library

**Accessibility:** accessible portable washrooms required.

### **Taylor Creek Park**

This is a linear park that begins at Don Mills Road in the west and wanders to Dawes Road in the east. There are vehicle parking lots at either end of the park. It is a large, wooded park, wayfinding signage recommended.

**Address:** 260 Dawes Rd, near Dawes Rd north of Danforth

**Ward:** 19 Beaches-East York

**Friends/community group:** Shwasti, Birchmount Community Action Council

**Amenities:** bike trails, water fountain, firepit, parking lot, picnic site, washrooms

**Accessibility:** accessible portable washrooms required.

## **SCARBOROUGH**

### **Alexmuir Park**

A 2.6-hectare park near Brimley Road and McNicoll Avenue featuring two multipurpose sports fields and a children's playground. This beautiful tree-lined neighbourhood park is situated in a low-density residential area, adjacent to two public schools. Scarborough Rosewood Community Association host annual clean-ups, and various other activities in the neighbourhood, and have been involved with the Arts in the Parks program since its inception.

From Scarborough Rosewood Community Association:

"The park is in center of a close-knit residential area, so local outreach is a must to ensure attendance. Evenings and weekends seem to be the best times for a good turnout. There have been over 200 people come out for music performance and over 300 for community movie nights. The area has a large Chinese (predominantly Mandarin speaking) population. Translated print materials and/or translator on event days would ensure larger audiences (and the Scarborough Rosewood Community Association can help with translating materials and providing some translation during events, if needed)."

Please note: no set up on sports field. No events during sports bookings (limited weekday availability).

**Address:** 205 Alexmuir Blvd, Alexmuir Blvd & Homedale Dr

**Ward:** 23, Scarborough North

**Friends/community groups:** Scarborough Rosewood Community Association

**Amenities:** none, street parking only

**Accessibility:** accessible portable washrooms required; a wide paved pathway through and around the park; there are curb cuts at all three path entrances from the street.

### **Cedar Brook Park**

This 18.6-hectare park features many trails, a picnic area and a children's playground set in the naturalized ravine of West Highland Creek. Cedarbrook Community centre is close by. Please note: events may use general parkland, away from the gazebo/playground area. Permittable picnic shelter. Infrequent maintenance.

**Address:** 91 Eastpark Blvd, near Markham Road and Lawrence Avenue East

**Ward:** 24 Scarborough–Guildwood

**Friends/community group:** Friends of Cedarbrook and Thomson Memorial Parks

**Amenities:** community centre, parking, accessible bathrooms during community centre open hours only

**Accessibility:** the bus stop is located 350 meters from the northern entrance to the park, down the paved sidewalk; paved paths in the park.

## **Fred Johnson Park**

This small park on Kingston Rd just east of Markham Rd has a community garden in the sunny south end, and a shady treed area on the northern half. Please note: this park is best suited to smaller, more intimate events and community-engaged activities that work in collaboration with the Scarborough Village Community Garden. Small scale events only. No amplification or drumming. Dates will need to be coordinated with the Community Garden's activities. Capacity is up to 100 people and focused local outreach and/or collaboration would benefit projects.

From Scarborough Village Community Garden:

"Scarborough Village Community Garden has held annual Harvest Festivals, Scavenger Hunt Days, Gardening workshops and partnered events with Scarborough Arts Guild (e.g., Mosaic Making, Plant Love arts activities). The 16-year-old community garden is a green oasis beside the historic Cornell Campbell House, where garden volunteers grow many vegetables, berries and herbs to share with each other and the local food bank."

**Address:** 3630 Kingston Rd, near Kingston Rd & Markham Rd

**Ward:** 24, Scarborough–Guildwood

**Friends/community groups:** Scarborough Village Community Garden

**Amenities:** Scarborough Village Recreation Centre (washroom facilities during open hours only)

**Accessibility:** accessible portable washrooms required; paved path from Kingston Rd to the gazebo, no path through park, park is flat with some bumpy surfaces and a small incline to the north, no curb cuts on the north side, no bathrooms, lots of shade from mature tree canopy.

## **Fundy Bay Park**

A 2.6-hectare park featuring a ball diamond, a multipurpose sports field and a children's playground. There is also a small but functional skatepark in this park. Fundy Bay Park is in the middle of residential neighbourhood. There are two elementary schools immediately south of it and secondary school to the north. Please note: this park has little shade.

**Address:** 190 Fundy Bay Blvd, near Warden Avenue and Steeles Avenue East

**Ward:** 22, Scarborough-Agincourt

**Friends/community groups:** TBC

**Amenities:** skateboard area, playground

**Accessibility:** accessible portable washrooms required.

## **Guild Park and Gardens**

This scenic and historic park on 36 hectares of parkland on Scarborough Bluffs is rich with cultural and natural heritage features. It has recently received a significant revitalization and is subject to a new management plan to preserve its natural and cultural heritage resources, enhance recreation trails and connectivity and revitalize its cultural landscape structure, including a sculpture garden and amphitheatre. The park is owned by the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) and managed by the City of Toronto, Parks, Forestry and Recreation. Please note: Guild Park and Gardens has limited availability due to ongoing wedding permits throughout the summer. The stage is used regularly and rarely available. Evening events Monday to Thursday would work best for this park. Limited amplified sound and vehicle access for drop-offs and deliveries. Cross-promotion and coordination with Guild Festival Theatre would help bring larger audiences.

**Address:** 201 Guildwood Parkway, near Kingston Rd & Galloway Rd

**Ward:** 24, Scarborough–Guildwood

**Friends/community group:** Friends of Guild Park & Gardens ([guildpark.ca](http://guildpark.ca)), Guildwood Village Community Association, Guild Renaissance Group, Guild Festival Theatre

**Amenities:** Guild Inn Estate, Bickford Bistro, recreation trails, conservatory/greenhouse, 2 large parking

lots, fieldhouse, washrooms

**Accessibility:** accessible parking, accessible portable washrooms near the park entrance.

### **Maidavale Park**

A small 1.5-hectare park features a ball diamond and children's playground. Massey Creek flows along the southern park border. Adjacent to the park is a TCHC building with an active residents' group, the Birchmount Community Action Council. They built a community garden, hosted a TIFF movie, run an after-school program and have taken on many activities to engage their residents. Please note: designated area is the large open area. No amplification. Max capacity 200.

**Address:** 1031 Birchmount Rd, near Birchmount Road & Eglinton Avenue East

**Ward:** 21, Scarborough Centre

**Friends/community group:** Birchmount Community Action Council

**Amenities:** none

**Accessibility:** accessible portable washrooms required; paved path along the south side of the park; accessible street parking.

### **Milliken Park**

Milliken is a 32-hectare park near the northern edge of Scarborough located east of McCowan Road, with its main entrance on the south side of Steeles Avenue East. Milliken Park features a pond, picnic sites and a community recreation centre. Please note: this park is heavily permitted for picnics on weekends. Booking is subject to availability. Weekdays events are recommended.

**Address:** 5555 Steeles Ave East, near McCowan Rd & Steeles Ave East

**Ward:** 23, Scarborough North

**Friends/community group:** The Scarborough Rosewood Community Association

**Amenities:** bike trail, children's garden, water fountain, parking, picnic shelter, playground, pond, splash pad, washrooms, Milliken Park Community Recreation Centre

**Accessibility:** accessible washrooms.

### **Morningside Park**

Morningside Park is a large regional park spanning 241.46 hectares, with significant urban wildlife, wilderness and valley lands. It features hiking and cycling trails that connect to local communities and to the Waterfront trail. It also features a fire pit, a fieldhouse, picnic facilities, a playground, a splash pad, washrooms, water fountain and parking. Park People in partnership with the TRCA host the Annual Salmon Run in the Highland Creek, which attracts over 500 people. Morningside Park is a destination park and many organizations including the East Scarborough Storefront use it for outdoor activities. Please note: this park is heavily permitted for picnics on weekends. Booking is subject to availability.

**Address:** 390 Morningside Ave, near Morningside Ave & Ellesmere Rd

**Ward:** 24, Scarborough–Guildwood

**Friends group:** Are you Afraid of the Dark T.O.

**Amenities:** washrooms, fieldhouse, parking lot, drinking fountain

**Accessibility:** accessible washrooms near the parking lot.

### **Neilson Park**

This 9.6-hectare park on Neilson Road just south of Finch Avenue East in Scarborough's Malvern neighbourhood features three very active baseball diamonds (two with lights for evening games), a gazebo and picnic area, a splash pad, a children's playground, an historic site and a fieldhouse, featuring an unused canteen. Please note: designated programming areas are the canteen and picnic sites (subject to availability). No programming on sports fields. Please design programming for canteen

area during sports games. Picnic sites may be available during other times. No food preparation in canteen and members of the public will be permitted behind the canteen counter. Booking is subject to availability.

**Address:** 1555 Neilson Rd, near Neilson Rd & Crow Trail

**Ward:** 25, Scarborough–Rouge Park

**Friends/community group:** Malvern Family Resource Centre, Empringham Community

**Amenities:** fieldhouse with washrooms and canteen, historic sites, playground, very limited parking, limited street parking

**Accessibility:** accessible washrooms during open hours, paved paths throughout the park, canteen space has limited accessibility.

### **Prairie Drive Park**

This 1.3-hectare park features a playground, wading pool and a tennis court area surrounded by mature trees, sloping hills and open green space. It is home to the Prairie Drive Park Community Gardens, which are located to the north of the roadway that leads into the park. One of the gardens is managed by Access Alliance and the other by the South Asian Women's Rights Organization (SAWRO). Prairie Drive Park is located in a densely populated area with lots of families. Max capacity 500.

Please note: subway line runs along the south edge of the park and is above the ground, please take the noise levels into account when planning. Sound amplification may be required.

From Shwasti:

"We support this park with local outreach, along with Dentonia Park. Prairie Drive Park also has a resident-led group that would like to be more involved with events in that park. Please note that Prairie Drive Park is next to local transit which can create noise. Sound amplification would be needed for a successful event in this park. Ravine Day Celebrations are held in Prairie Drive and Parks officials are very supportive and cooperative. Shwasti can also provide on the day volunteer support for events and love to be present and involved."

**Address:** 70 Prairie Drive, near Pharmacy Ave & Danforth Ave

**Ward:** 20, Scarborough Southwest

**Friends/community groups:** Shwasti, Access Alliance, Prairie Drive Park resident-led group

**Amenities:** close to Victoria Park subway, washroom facilities, water bottle filling station, wading pool, playground, fieldhouse with canteen window, parking lot

**Accessibility:** Victoria Park subway station is fully accessible, the path from the subway into the park is fully barrier-free, there is an incline at the park entrance, there is a newly paved path through the park, washrooms are accessible.

### **Shawn Blu Rose Park**

A small and quiet 2-hectare park near Morningside Avenue and McLevin Avenue that features a baseball diamond, a picnic area, a children's playground, and a splash pad. Formerly known as "Empringham Park", this park was renamed in 2006 to honour Shawn "Blu" Rose, a local youth worker who was beloved by the Malvern community and who passed away untimely in 2005. This was the first City Park in Toronto named after a Black local community member.

**Address:** 30 Empringham Dr, near Morningside Ave & McLevin Ave

**Ward:** 25, Scarborough–Rouge Park

**Friends/community group:** Empringham Community

**Amenities:** none

**Accessibility:** accessible portable washrooms required.

## **Thomson Memorial Park**

This 41.8-hectare park follows the West Highland Creek and has many paths through the large, wooded ravine that lets visitors experience nature in the city. The park also has a lit ball diamond, a lit multipurpose sports field, three lit tennis courts, permitted picnic/social gathering areas, a dog off-leash area, outdoor fitness equipment, a wading pool and a children's playground. Park is quite large so ensuring that event is visible and easy to find will be beneficial. Please note: max capacity is 500. Very busy park. Weekdays only. Limited availability.

**Address:** 1005 Brimley Rd, near Scarborough Museum

**Ward:** 21, Scarborough Centre

**Friends/community group:** Friends of Cedarbrook and Thomson Memorial Parks

**Amenities:** parking, washrooms, fire pit, drinking fountains, recreational trails

**Accessibility:** accessible washroom in the north end of the park.

## **FURTHER INFORMATION**

### **For questions about the grants program:**

Lena Golubtsova, Program Manager, Strategic Initiatives, Toronto Arts Council

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416-392-6802 x219

### **For questions about Arts in the Parks initiative:**

Alexandra Loewen, Manager, Events & Initiatives, Toronto Arts Foundation

[alexandra@torontoarts.org](mailto:alexandra@torontoarts.org)

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### **For questions about the local park friends / community groups:**

[sparkingchange@parkpeople.ca](mailto:sparkingchange@parkpeople.ca)