

Welcome to T.O.!

by TOMMIE SUE MONTGOMERY | Newcastle, Ontario | tsmada@sympatico.ca

T.O.—as Toronto, Ontario is known in these parts—offers friendly people, great restaurants, many cultural activities, cutting-edge architecture, and excellent public transportation, all accessible to the Congress hotels.

It's a city to walk in—above and below ground. Safe streets? In a 2009 national survey, Toronto's crime rate ranked 29th among Canadian cities—and far below every other major North American city. Toronto invites you to escape the confines of the Hilton and Sheraton and go exploring. See <http://www.toronto.ca/about_toronto>.

Toronto sits on the northwest side of Lake Ontario so South is toward the lake; West is toward the airport and Michigan; East leads to Montreal and North will take you in the direction of inukshuks—well beyond the boreal forests. October brings fall weather: average high is 14°C / 57°F; average low, 4°C / 39°F. Expect rain 10 out of 31 days. Bring clothes you can layer.

Getting Around

Bad weather? Take the escalators in each hotel—or others in which you may be lodged—down to the PATH, a 27 km underground network of shops, eateries, and entertainment that connects buildings and open spaces between Union Station at the south end with the Eaton Centre and Atrium, two malls, on the north. In between you will find concourses to Roy Thompson Hall, home of the Toronto Symphony; the Air Canada Centre, a major sports and entertainment venue; the CN Tower—west of Union Station—with its spectacular views, especially at night, of the city and Lake Ontario; The Bay (Hudson Bay Company, founded in 1670, is the oldest company in North America), and Nathan Phillips Square, across from the Sheraton. You will

find a PATH map among the goodies you receive when you arrive. Or check it out at <http://www.toronto.ca/path/pdf/path_brochure.pdf>.

Looking for breakfast before your first panel? The PATH concourse between the Sheraton and The Bay offers several places for breakfast and lunch that open at 6:30 or 7:00: Druxy's, Sweet Rosie's, Café Supreme, YogenFruz, Bagels & Bites, Quesada Mexican Grill. For lunch you can also find sushi, souvlaki, Chinese and Japanese eateries. The Bay's Express Café, just inside the PATH entrance, opens at 7 a.m. and offers light fare until 7 p.m.

Public transportation includes bus, subway, streetcars, and light rail if you are headed out of the city. Find the map for all these services at <<http://crazedmonkey.com/toronto-transit-map>>. If you decide to do a bit of sightseeing, be sure to ask for a transfer on any mode of public transportation; this enables you to pay one fare and go from streetcar to subway to bus, or vice versa. If you plan to jump on and off several times, a day pass is your best bet.

Culture

There are three art museums within walking distance of the Congress venues. The Royal Ontario Museum (ROM), at University Avenue and Bloor Street West, offers permanent exhibitions from world culture and natural history. When LASA gathers, a special exhibit, The Warrior Emperor and China's Terracotta Army, will be running. To learn more go to <<http://www.rom.on.ca>>.

The only significant Latin American collection in Toronto can be found at the Gardiner Museum located on University Avenue across from the ROM. It houses a

significant collection of Pre-Columbian ceramics that is well worth an hour's visit. <<http://www.gardinermuseum.on.ca>>.

If you walk the 12 blocks to the ROM or the Gardiner, you will pass the University of Toronto on your left and Queen's Park, the seat of the Ontario Provincial Legislature on your right. Or you can jump on the subway at Osgoode, University Avenue and Queen Street, and go north three stops to Museum. Bloor Street West and East is lined with upscale stores, bistros, and more down-scale eateries. Yonge Street—the longest street in Canada running from Lake Ontario to Thunder Bay on the north coast of Lake Superior, 2000 km. away—divides east and west.

The Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO) and the ROM have undergone significant face lifts in recent years. Daniel Liebskind designed an angular crystal façade for the ROM that you either love or hate—but you won't forget! Canadian-born Frank Gehry (he of Bilbao Art Museum fame) took on the AGO renovation and turned a non-descript modern building into a shell befitting of its contents. The AGO houses significant art collections from Europe and Canada, including a terrific Henry Moore sculpture room and newly displayed paintings from Canada's most famous early 20th century artists, the Group of Seven. <<http://www.ago.net>>.

A Great Multicultural City

Toronto's population of 2.48 million (over 5 million in the Greater Toronto Area-GTA) is home to more than 90 ethnic groups who speak over 140 languages and dialects; over 30 percent speak a language other than English or French at home. Forty-seven percent of Toronto's people identify themselves as members of a visible minority.

Latin Americans comprise 2.6 percent of this number. This wonderful mix means that you will find identifiable ethnic neighbourhoods and restaurants to match. The best way to enjoy all of them is to walk around, take in the sights, sounds, and aromas, then choose a restaurant whose menu appeals.

With the largest Chinese population of any North American city, Toronto has several “Chinatowns,” the original and closest of which lies on and around Spadina Avenue, nine blocks west of University Avenue and the Congress hotels.

Little Italy lies west of Chinatown. Take the University or Yonge subway to Queen’s Park or College, respectively. Hop on a westbound streetcar and hop off at Bathurst, the next major north-south street after Spadina. This area starts jumping after 8:00 and it’s not all Italian. For Latin music and dancing (as well as a campy drag show every weekend) check out El Convento Rico at 750 College Street.

There are several “Little Indias,” the closest of which is accessible by the Gerrard street car, and includes Pakistani, Bangladeshi and Afghan restaurants and stores. Take the Yonge subway to College Street, jump on street car No. 506 and head east for about 15 minutes. You will know you’ve arrived when you begin seeing stores with colourful saris in the windows.

Want Greek? Greek Town on “The Danforth” is one of the most vibrant ethnic areas in the city with restaurants to match. Take the Yonge-University subway to the Bloor-Danforth line, head east, and get off at Chester, Pape or Donlands subway stations. <<http://www.greektowntoronto.com>>.

Looking for Canadian food? The up-scale Tundra, in the Hilton, and Canoe, in the TD

Toronto’s population of 2.48 million (over 5 million in the Greater Toronto Area-GTA) is home to more than 90 ethnic groups who speak over 140 languages and dialects; over 30 percent speak a language other than English or French at home.

Tower (on the PATH-south) offer Arctic Char, PEI mussels, bison tenderloin, Ontario lamb, lake duck, Quebec foie gras, and roast hind of Yukon caribou. Bb33 Bistro, at 33 Gerrard West, just off Yonge, has Nova Scotia salmon, PEI mussels, Alberta beef burgers, and Quebec goat cheese and cranberry crusted salmon.

Latin American Restaurants and Clubs

The most well known of the Latino venues is the Lula Lounge, <http://www.lulalounge.ca/>, live music and visiting bands. Located at 1585 Dundas Street West, take the Dundas Street streetcar to Sheridan and walking west a half block. On the way you will pass the Brazil Bakery and Pastry. Lula’s offers a rich variety of Latin music from Salsa to Samba.

Looking for Mexican? Check out Burrito Boyz at 120 Peter St., one block east of Spadina between King and Queen; Rancho Relaxo at 300 College Street, one block west of Spadina; Milagro Restaurant and Cantina at 5 Mercer Street, 2 blocks east of Spadina and a half-block south of King; just off of John St; and Jalapeño’s Mexican Cuisine at 725 King Street West, one block west of Bathurst.

Many other Latin American restaurants are accessible by public transit. El Fogon is a Peruvian restaurant at 543 St. Clair West, 2 blocks west of Bathurst. Take the University subway to St. Clair West and walk west 5 blocks. Ba-Ba-Luu’s is an upscale restaurant (paella for 2 is \$50) and salsa club at 136 Yorkville Ave., 2 blocks north of Bloor West. Cha-Cha-Cha at 11 Duncan St. in the theatre district, 2 blocks west of University between King and Pearl, features “new Miami cuisine.” Café Havana, 236 Adelaide St. West, is an easy walk, just one block south of the Hilton and 2 blocks west of University.

Other Locales

The harbour front, Queen’s Quay (pronounced “key”) offers a welcome change from the downtown canyons; walk into Union Station and look for the streetcar signs. Wind through a passageway to reach the tracks. Get off at any stop on Queen’s Quay and walk south to the boardwalk along Toronto Harbour. You will find a variety of eateries in the area.

Toronto’s most vibrant Gay area runs south from Bloor along Church Street (east of Yonge) and is home to the annual Gay Pride celebration, as well as restaurants, bars, and shops. One of the most famous bars is

CALLING ALL MEMBERS

Elections 2010

Nominating Committee Slate

MONTGOMERY *continued...*

Woody's on Church, established in 1989, and featured in the U.S. version of "Queer as Folk." Another trendy pub is The Hair of the Dog at 425 Church.

Front Street (which 200 years ago was the lake front) between Union Station and Jarvis has a large number and variety of restaurants. One of the best is Le Papillon French Restaurant at 69 Front St., whose dinner and dessert crepes are outstanding.

The Distillery District is southeast of downtown, where converted distilleries now house restaurants, shops and the Soulpepper Theatre. It is most easily accessed by taxi.

For Canadian fast food nothing beats Tim Horton's. You will find several in the PATH and every couple blocks downtown. Timmy's has excellent coffee, a variety of teas (you have to ask or you'll get black tea), great donuts (forget Dunkin' or Krispy), bagels, soups, chilli, and cold sandwiches made to order. No hamburgers or French fries here. If you want to be mistaken for a Canadian, ask for a "double-double." That's a medium coffee with 2 sugars and 2 creams—and the term is in the Canadian dictionary!

Finally, a word about our money: the Canadian dollar is commonly referred to as the "Loonie." Not because we're crazy. It's because the gold-coloured dollar coin has a loon on the flip side. Queen Elizabeth II graces all our coins. Which makes our \$2.00 coin...what else? A "Toonie"! Welcome to Canada! ■

The LASA Nominating Committee presents the following slate of candidates for vice president and members of the Executive Council (EC). The winning candidate for vice president will serve in that capacity from November 1, 2010 to April 30, 2012 and as president from May 1, 2012 to October 31, 2013. The three winning candidates for EC membership and the winning candidate for Treasurer will serve a three-year term from November 1, 2010 to October 31, 2013.

Nominees for Vice President

Jeremy Adelman
Princeton University

Evelyn Huber
University of North Carolina

Nominees for Treasurer

Cristina Eguizabal
Florida International University

Steven Volk
Oberlin College

Nominees for Executive Council

Manuel Alcántara
Universidad de Salamanca

Carlos Alonso
Columbia University

Rosalva Aída Hernández Castillo
Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social

Gioconda Herrera
FLACSO / Ecuador

Jeffrey Lesser
Emory University

Maxine Molyneux
University of London

The Candidates

Jeremy Adelman was educated at the University of Toronto, the London School of Economics, and Oxford University, where he received his DPhil in 1989. He has taught at the University of Essex (UK) and the Instituto Torcuato di Tella (Argentina); currently he is the Walter Samuel Carpenter III Professor of Spanish Civilization and the Director of the Council for International Teaching and Research at Princeton University. His research seeks to place Latin American history into broad comparative and connected global contexts, from the study of colonialism to challenges of contemporary globalization. Beginning with *Frontier Development: Land, Labour, and Capital on the Wheatlands of Argentina and Canada, 1890-1914* (Oxford University Press, 1994), *Republic of Capital: Buenos Aires and the Legal Transformation of the Atlantic World* (Stanford University Press, 1999) and most recently *Sovereignty and Revolution in the Iberian Atlantic* (Princeton University Press, 2006), his books draw upon analytical insights of social scientists while remaining attentive to the nuances and contingencies of historical narratives. While committed to archival research for books and essays destined for specialized scholars, he has also sought to write for broader audiences, including the much-assailed entry-level student; *Worlds Together, Worlds Apart: A History of Humankind from its Origins to the Present* (WW Norton, 2008) is a co-authored textbook that (among other things) seeks to place Latin American developments in a global setting and make them accessible for the uninitiated college student. Jeremy Adelman's recent awards include a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation scholarship and a Frederick Burkhardt Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies. He is currently working on an intellectual biography of Albert O. Hirschman.