

# The Fife and Drum

The Newsletter of The Friends of Fort York and Garrison Common

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## Bentway Skate Trail Opens @ Fort York on January 6

by Kasia Gladki

The wait is almost over. You're invited to the grand opening of The Bentway Skate Trail on Saturday, January 6, at 11am. Located under the Gardiner Expressway in front of the Fort York Visitor Centre, the Trail is the first chance Torontonians will have to enjoy the bounty of events and programs

**You're invited to the grand opening  
of The Bentway Skate Trail on  
Saturday, January 6, at 11am.**

to be offered by The Bentway Conservancy in this stunning new space that was previously near derelict.

Special happenings throughout the weekend include performances from singer, songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist Charmie Deller and composer and performer Carmen Braden with her Black Ice Sound music project; demonstrations of Ice Breaking, a unique hybrid of break dancing and freestyle ice skating by the Toronto Ice Skate Group; art installations; food and drink; music throughout the day from the best of Toronto's DJ scene; pop-up curling; and free admission to Fort York.

Opening weekend will also include the Mayor's Skate Party on

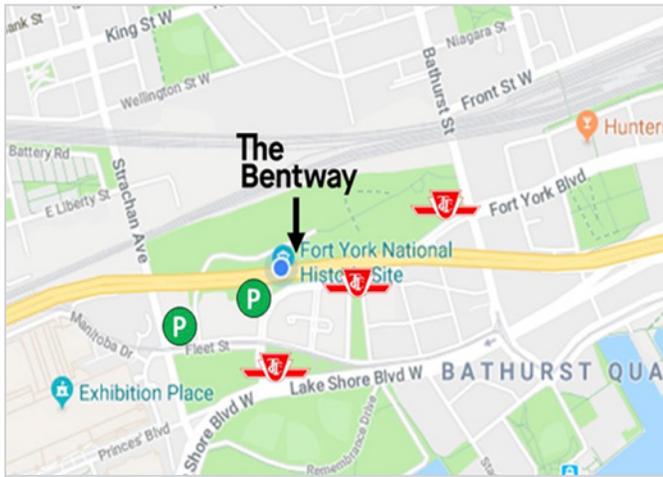
Sunday, January 7, from 1 to 4 pm with Mayor Tory and members of Toronto City Council. Complimentary skate rentals and hot chocolate will be available during this family event.

The Bentway's inaugural winter skating season will run from January 6 to mid-March (weather permitting). Ongoing winter programming will include free Monday night skate rentals; *Beats and Bents* Friday night skate parties with a rotating cast of DJs, skate instruction, and DJ and Ice Breaking Workshops. A skating village, designed by + tongtong studio, will be installed at The Bentway to house the skate rental shop, warming stations, and a variety of seating options. A welcoming Warming Lounge will provide licensed offerings on weekend evenings and a curated food truck program will serve hot food, warm and cold drinks, and decadent desserts.

Throughout Winter Season, The Bentway's first public art exhibition, "Constructions of the Everyday," will be on view. For more than fifty years the Gardiner Expressway has been a defining feature of Toronto's urban landscape. In a radical act of renewal, The Bentway reimagines this static structure and imbues it with renewed relevance for a contemporary city. Embracing the spirit of transformation, the visual artists commissioned for "Constructions of the Everyday" ask visitors to find new value and beauty in the structures of everyday life.



This late October view shows final touches being put on The Bentway Skating Trail. Also in the upper left corner note the addition to the Fort York Visitor Centre that will house the ice making and maintenance equipment, and other services in support of the Trail. Credit: The Daily Hive Toronto, <http://dailyhive.com/toronto/bentway-gardiner-skating-rink-progress-photos-toronto-2017>



Opening hours are Sunday to Thursday 11am to 9pm, Friday and Saturday 11am to 11pm. Skate rentals are available. Stayed tuned for additional seasonal programming. Find information at [TheBentway.ca](http://TheBentway.ca)

*Kasia Gladki is manager of communications, The Bentway Conservancy.*

**PARKING:**

1. Limited parking at Fort York Visitor Centre, 250 Fort York Blvd
2. Paid parking at 100 Garrison Rd (near the corner of Strachan Ave and Fleet St)

**TTC**

1. 511 Bathurst at Fort York Blvd
2. 509 Harbourfront at Fleet St
3. 121 Fort York-Esplanade at Gzowski Blvd (eastbound)

## *Neighbourhood School Named for Alexander Macdonell, the Fighting Bishop*

*by Father Seamus Hogan*

Alexander Macdonell (1762-1840), the first Catholic bishop of Upper Canada, spent most of his long life fighting for his faith and his flock. Born in the Highlands of Scotland on 17 July 1762, Alexander Macdonell would eventually enter the Scots College at Valladolid, Spain, in 1778 to complete his studies for the priesthood. He was ordained in 1787 and returned to his native Highlands as a missionary priest.

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**In 1794 Macdonell had received permission to be their chaplain, becoming the first Catholic chaplain in the British army since the Reformation.**

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After serving in an impoverished Highland mission he led parishioners, who had recently been evicted from their farms by landlords, to the cotton mills of Glasgow in search of employment. War between Britain and France interrupted the cotton industry and Macdonell then sought to assist his people by helping form a Catholic infantry regiment. In 1794 Macdonell had received permission to be their chaplain, becoming the first Catholic chaplain in the British army since the Reformation. The regiment helped to quell rebellions which had broken out in Ireland, but was disbanded in 1802 after the Peace of Amiens.

With his prospects in Scotland once again looking bleak, Macdonell convinced the government to grant land in Glengarry, Upper Canada, to members of the disbanded regiment. After he had successfully negotiated an agreement with the government he sailed for Canada in September of 1804.

Making his way up the St. Lawrence, he finally came to the small cluster of wood buildings huddled close to the shores of Lake Ontario that made up the town of York (later Toronto), the seat of government in Upper Canada. He introduced himself to Lieutenant Governor Peter Hunter and secured the lands promised to him and his fellow Highlanders. Upon his arrival Macdonell found that there were only two other priests ministering in all of Upper Canada. He was appointed vicar general by the Bishop of Quebec, as Upper Canada was then under that bishop's jurisdiction. For the next ten years he would singlehandedly minister to the spiritual needs of all the English-speaking Catholics of Upper Canada.

In 1812 war broke out with America. Macdonell had already convinced Major General Isaac Brock of the strategic importance of raising a Catholic infantry unit in Glengarry, with himself as chaplain. The Glengarry Light Infantry Fencibles were established on 3 December 1811, and were to serve anywhere in North America. At six feet four inches, Macdonell must have made a fine chaplain for the new infantry unit. He took his role seriously, travelling wherever danger reared its head so that he might bring spiritual comfort to his men, especially through administering sacraments to the dying. The Glengarry Light Infantry Regiment took part in no less than fourteen engagements. They were present at the taking of Ogdensburg, Fort Covington, and Oswego, at the attack at Sackett's Harbour and the Battle at York.

On 31 December 1820 Macdonell was consecrated as a bishop, and on 14 February 1826 he was appointed the first Bishop of Upper Canada with his see at Kingston.

As bishop he ministered to the needs of a small population spread throughout a vast province. In particular, he was involved in the building of schools and churches. In 1839 he founded Re-

giopolis College in the town of Kingston for seminary formation.

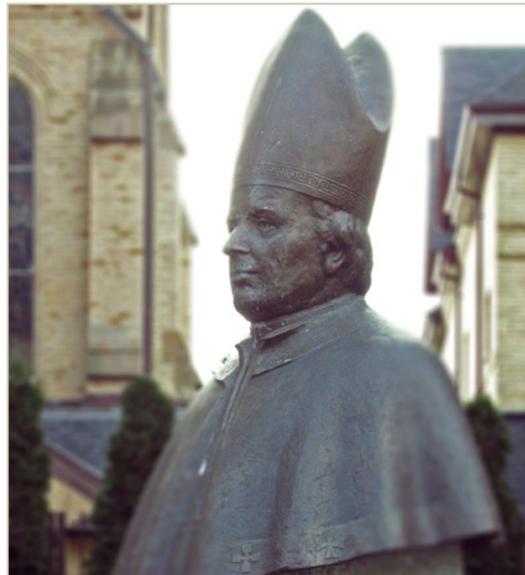
Macdonell often found himself at York for political reasons, since he held a seat on the province's Legislative Council. In the summer of 1832, while dealing with unrest at St. Paul's Church caused by a troublesome priest named William O'Grady, the bishop witnessed the devastation wrought by a cholera epidemic which arrived by ship and took 450 lives. Some of the dead were buried in a special cholera cemetery on Bathurst Street. After it was closed, the land was given over to Macdonell in 1835, and the first St. Mary's Church was built on the same site in 1852. There are still some graves under the present church, which, for obvious reasons, has no basement.

If there was one quality above others that marked Macdonell, it would be his complete loyalty to British institutions and an acute distrust of anything that smacked of republicanism. This brought him into many conflicts with the reform minded men of the province who were seeking from the colonial government greater accountability and representation.

With time the flames of political discontent were fanned into open rebellion. During the Rebellions of 1837-1838 unrest engulfed both of the Canadas. Macdonell responded by rallying the men of Glengarry and the Irish Catholics of Upper Canada to defend the government.

In 1839 Macdonell left for the British Isles in search of funding for Regiopolis College. It would be his final trip home. He caught a chill there and died shortly afterwards in Dumfries, Scotland on 14 January 1840.

His legacy in the Fort York area continues however, as the new Catholic elementary school being built next to Canoe Landing



This portrait bust of Bishop Macdonell, sculpted by Ugo Drava of Niagara-on-the-Lake, has stood since 2015 in front of St. Mary's RC Church on Bathurst Street, Toronto, to remind us that the land was originally named Macdonell Square before it was changed to Portugal Square in 1960. Credit: Bob Kennedy

Park and slated to open in September 2019, will be named Bishop Alexander Macdonell School, after the fighting bishop.

*Father Seamus Hogan is an assistant professor of Church History at St. Augustine's Seminary in Toronto. He served parishes in Toronto and Mississauga before completing a doctorate in Church History at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome.*

## Mary Beacock Fryer (1929–2017)

by Daniel Dishaw

Many of us here at The Friends of Fort York were deeply saddened to learn that Mary Beacock Fryer passed away on 29 October 2017. An accomplished author, historian, and teacher, Mary earned an Honours BA in Geography from the University of Toronto in 1952 and an MA in Historical Geography from the University of Edinburgh in 1954. Upon returning to Canada, she worked as a teaching assistant, a map curator, and a town planner before beginning her career as an author in 1974.

Fryer published more than fifteen titles with the Ontario-focused Dundurn Press, including *Our Young Soldier* (1996), *Battlefields of Canada* (1986), and *John Graves Simcoe, 1752–1806: A Biography* (1998). Well-known as an expert on Upper Canada history, the Simcoe family, and the United Empire Loyalists, Mary often wrote on topics that intersected with the history of Fort York, particularly her comprehensive volumes dealing with the historic battlefields of Canada.

Her books have had a significant impact upon Ontario's historical discourse and she leaves an indelible legacy of work for future generations to build upon. Mary's achievements were recognized with a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, presented in 2012 for her service to Canadian History.

We offer our sincere condolences to Mary's friends and family, her husband, their children, and grandchildren.



# The Electronic Capture of Fort York

by William Michael Carter

Aristotle believed that mimesis was far more than the mere copying of nature or art, but the innate desire of the human condition to record, to represent, and to interact with knowledge. It was the act of recording art, the representation of that art and the public and private interaction with that art in which new knowledge is gained. CyArk and Iron Mountain have now brought this notion of mimesis to realization for the entire Fort York site with their latest achievement in the digital mimicry, and more importantly, the safe storage of that data for future generations of historical explorers.



The Brick Magazine in cutaway shows the detail of what the CyArk process can capture. Credit: CyArk and Michael Carter

## CyArk has engaged digital conservation at sites such as Mount Rushmore National Memorial and Angkor Wat

Founded in 2003 as a non-profit technological organization, CyArk specializes in the digital capture of important heritage and archaeological landscapes across the world. Over the last fourteen years CyArk has engaged digital conservation at sites such as Mount Rushmore National Memorial and Angkor Wat with hundreds of landscapes virtually captured in seven continents. In an innovative and generous partnership with Iron Mountain, a company known more for storing important physical documents and objects, CyArk has been able to not only digitally scan the full Fort York historical site, but now has the means to constantly engage with the material without fear of loss or degradation. In combination, this amounts to preserving a slice of time in which the data can be constantly explored, reimagined, and repurposed for future use.

Using a process called Laser Scanning, CyArk records millions of points per second in virtual 3D space by bouncing light rays off the surface of an object or landscape. This process produces what is called a “point cloud” which, when joined by polygonal lines, creates a solid 3D surface that is a representation of the object or landscape, accurate to a few millimetres. This surface is then overlaid by a high resolution photographic image which provides a photo-real textural quality to the 3D virtual landscape. This 3D object becomes, in a sense, a living artifact, as it not only captures a specific slice in time, but is also able to be altered, explored, and recontextualized, allowing multiple interpretations of the past, present, and future based on current or future research.

These digital assets can now be repurposed to provide a virtual reimagination of this important site within virtual reality, within 3D gaming or online environments. There is even the ability to 3D print small- and large-scale versions of Fort York, bringing the process full circle, from physical to digital and back again. In

doing so, it allows visitors from around the world or those who are unable to physically experience the landscape, to virtually explore the beauty and timelessness of Fort York. It provides

an opportunity to engage with history in a unique, immersive, and experiential way, exploring the multitude of potential historical narratives that have shaped Toronto, Ontario, and Canada.

As spectacular as this notion of the accurate 3D capture of a living landscape is, what is equally impressive is the relationship with Iron Mountain to store these digital assets in their finished and native forms. As an archaeologist, I rely on the scientific recording of every element of an archaeological site. However, it is the interpretation of that data, days, months, or years after, that enriches our understanding of the material record. This is the symbiotic relationship in which data and interpretation must work hand-in-hand in the creation or making of new knowledge. Through CyArk’s capture of the Fort York landscape in a digital format and Iron Mountain’s safe, secure, and loss-less storage of that data, we have a reliable representation of what Fort York was in 2017. By interpreting that data, we can speculate further on what it might have been like 200 years ago; and potentially, 200 years from now, future historians, archaeologists, and patrons will be able to experience Fort York as we do today.

Now, however, this data needs to be explored, utilized, and mobilized so it can enrich visitors and researchers alike. The challenge will be to determine how to use this generous gift and opportunity effectively.

*Dr. William Michael Carter is an assistant professor and archaeologist in the School of Creative Industries at Ryerson University. He is a specialist in Virtual Archaeology.*



Christopher Dang, field director for CyArk, stands with his recording equipment studying his next subject. Credit: CyArk and Michael Carter

# A Changing of the Guard at Fife & Drum

by Stephen Otto

At its regular meeting on 21 September 2017, the Board of Directors of The Friends of Fort York appointed Bob Kennedy managing editor of our newsletter effective 1 January 2018, and elected him to be a director of The Friends of Fort York effective immediately. The board also appointed six distinguished people to an Editorial Advisory Committee to work with Bob and the board to keep the newsletter fresh and relevant going forward. As the newsletter's current managing editor, I have indicated a desire to step down from the job after holding it continuously since November 2003. The December 2017 issue will be my last.

Since last February Bob Kennedy has worked as one of the four editorial associates appointed to help produce the newsletter and its anthology spinoff, giving us a chance to work with him and know that the fit as managing editor would be a good one. Prior to this he saw five years of service in the Parliamentary Press Gallery; was a former senior proofreader for the *National Post*; and long-serving officer in the media relations branch of the Canadian Army, from which he retired in 2014 with the rank of captain. He had some involvement with the fort and The Friends during the War of 1812 commemorations, and lives in the Fort York neighbourhood.

The Editorial Advisory Committee appointed by the directors is intended to give them and Bob a source from which to draw ideas for new articles in *Fife & Drum* and to identify the people who might be their authors; new perspectives for the publication; efforts that might be made to increase circulation, currently running at 2300 subscribers; and other ways of improving the



Bob Kennedy, new managing editor of The Fife & Drum.

newsletter's support for the operation of The Fort York National Historic Site. The following are the inaugural members of the committee, but there's no reason others should not join—particularly members of our planned Neighbourhoods Advisory Committee, for example.

Dr. Carl Benn, author, professor of History at Ryerson University and former chair of the History Department; former chief curator for Toronto museums, including Fort York.

Karen Black, a consultant interested in strategic planning and community engagement with the goal of revitalizing historic sites, former head of Toronto Museums Services in Toronto Culture.

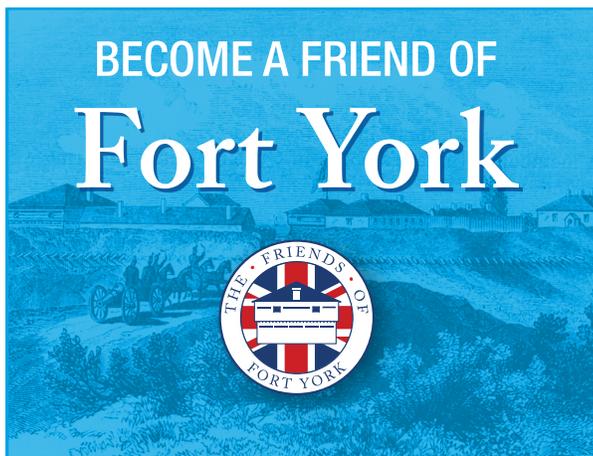
Matt Blackett, publisher of *Spacing* magazine and former director of The Friends of Fort York.

Dr. Gary Miedema, former associate director of Heritage Toronto, heritage planner with Toronto Heritage Services, currently project manager responsible for the city's Canada 150 program; contributor to *Fife & Drum*.

Christopher Moore, author, journalist, contributor to *Fife & Drum*.

David Roberts, author, contributor to *Fife & Drum*, and long-serving editor at the *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, now retired.

It has been my great privilege to serve The Friends as managing editor of its newsletter for a long time, and to see it through its various changes from a black-and-white hardcopy edition dispatched by Canada Post to a few hundred readers, to its present electronic form in full colour sent quarterly to a few thousand subscribers. When asked a year or two ago to provide an estimate for budgeting purposes of the annual cost to publish *Fife & Drum*, I suggested \$200 would be adequate. It is a purely volunteer effort in which I have been aided immeasurably by Patricia Fleming and Ted Smolak, and upwards of a hundred people who have written for the newsletter and provided its illustrations. I thank them all.



**Membership in The Friends** includes a subscription to *The Fife & Drum* newsletter and updates about what's going on at the fort and in its neighbourhood. Your membership strengthens advocacy with donors, developers, politicians, and others having sway over what's happening at Toronto's premier historic site. There are additional perks such as invitations to exclusive activities and exhibitions.

**Please take a minute to click on this link and join us today!**

<http://www.fortyork.ca/join-us>

# What The Friends of Fort York Do: Our Accomplishments for 2017

- held ten board meetings at monthly intervals. Individual directors try to attend as many other programmed events at the fort as their time allows.
- elected Stephen Otto an honorary member of The Friends of Fort York and Garrison Common in recognition of his long and distinguished service to the fort.
- convened meetings of our Precinct Advisory Committee to deal with issues such as Councillor Layton's proposal for a park at 28 Bathurst St. and the Wellington Destructor.
- received regular reports from our Finance Committee on its oversight of our investment portfolio.
- participated in planning for The Bentway by attending meetings and briefings.
- served on the Guard Committee throughout the year advising the twenty young men and women selected for the Guard. They participated in major heritage presentations at Fort York, Old Fort Erie, and Fort George as well as working with military animation staffs at Forts George, Malden, and Erie. Responsibility for the Guard is shared between the City of Toronto and The Friends who provided about half its operating budget this year.
- published four issues of *Fife & Drum*, full of news and articles of interest about the fort. Close to twenty different authors had bylines in the issues of 2017.
- our volunteers in the Resource Centre devoted a day a week to organizing the collections of reference materials for the use of fort staff and visitors. Areas of the collection we developed this year were regimental histories and culinary history cookbooks.
- recruited four members to the Editorial Committee of *Fife & Drum*: Daniel Dishaw, Adrian Gamble, Robert Kennedy, and Carole Stimmell.
- welcomed collaboration with the University of Toronto Map and Data Library to provide image hosting for the Fort York and Garrison Common Maps site developed by Nathan Ng.
- submitted the name of Jean Earle Geeson, an early defender of the fort, to the Toronto District School Board for the new elementary school to be built east of the fort. Geeson, one of three finalists, lost out to community leader Jean B. Lumb.
- accepted with regret the resignation from the board of Jennifer Chan; welcomed new director Robert Kennedy, incoming managing editor of *Fife & Drum*.
- celebrated the naming of director Ceta Ramkhalawansingh as a 2017 Woman of Distinction by YWCA Toronto.
- approved plans for an anthology of articles from *Fife & Drum* to be edited by Adrian Gamble, a member of the Editorial Committee.
- appointed six members of the new *Fife & Drum* Editorial Advisory Committee: Carl Benn, Karen Black, Matt Blackett, Gary Miedema, Christopher Moore, and David Roberts.
- tallied 84,406 visits on our website [www.fortyork.ca](http://www.fortyork.ca), 445,735 hits since its launch May 2012. The site serves as both an educational resource and a marketing tool for Fort York. It is also a source of donations; it enables new subscribers to sign up for our newsletter; and it helps new members join and current ones renew their memberships.
- initiated some eight years ago by The Friends, the Fort York Community Citizenship Committee successfully hosted two citizenship ceremonies at the fort. The 16th special ceremony in September, coinciding with the celebration of On Common Ground, included such highlights as Indigenous performers and a cake marking Canada 150.
- organized a dinner on a cost recovery basis for current and past directors of The Friends.
- encouraged donations to support the rebuilding of the fort's honeybee program vandalized over the winter.
- continued as a community of members and donors to fund essential programs such as the summer students hired for the Guard. We can renew online at any time of the year.

For comparison, our accomplishments for 1994-2016 can be found on our website

<http://www.fortyork.ca/about-us/our-accomplishments.html>



News From

# The Birthplace of Toronto

Contributions from the Staff at the Fort

## Manager's Report

by David O'Hara, Site Manager

**2017** certainly proved to be the busy year we expected, with a wider and more diverse range of programs and events on-site at Fort York than ever. We moved from Queen Charlotte's Birthday Ball in January through to the Frost Fair and our holiday season baking workshops in December—with Vimy 100, the Indigenous Arts Festival, Simcoe Day, On Common Ground, and much more in the months between.

Following our active summer season we were honoured to be able to host the archery competition as part of the Invictus Games <http://www.invictusgames2017.com> and the annual Sick Kids Great Adventure Camp walk <http://web.sickkidsfoundation.com/walkforsickkids>

Our After Dark Lantern Tours in October were very popular, selling out on all but one of the nights. On November 7 we hosted the Vimy Foundation's launch of their exhibit *The Great War in Colour*. The event featured the premier of a short film by the National Film Board, with remarks by actor Paul Gross. Others in attendance included Lieutenant-Governor Elizabeth Dowdeswell. <https://www.nfb.ca/film/return-to-vimy>

Around the same time we opened a temporary mapping exhibit titled *Canada before Confederation*, produced by Dr. Lauren Beck of Mount Allison University. The exhibit, which includes a Toronto-specific component developed by Collections and Curatorial staff, will be on display until the end of April 2018.

Over 1100 persons attended our annual Remembrance Day ceremony, which marked significant anniversaries of Vimy Ridge, Passchendaele, and the Battle of Hill 70 as well as the 75th anniversary of the Dieppe Raid in the Second World War. Those placing wreaths as part of the service included MPP Han Dong, IODE representatives, TDSB and TCDSB trustees, and more. <http://www.metronews.ca/news/toronto/2017/11/12/hundreds-gather-in-toronto-for-remembrance-day-service.html>

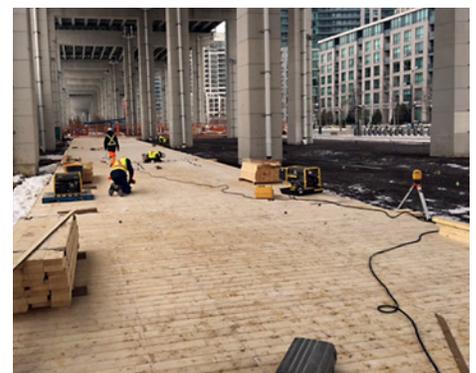
In the fall we undertook work with an organization called CyArk to develop a photorealistic 3D model of Fort York. CyArk's work, which was funded by Iron Mountain, a records management and storage company, included an aerial survey, terrestrial laser scanning, and photogrammetry of the fort's grounds and buildings. The data products will be used to monitor

site conditions, inform archaeological master planning, and support interpretive activities. We would like to thank both CyArk and Iron Mountain for their interest in ensuring Fort York National Historic Site is preserved for generations to come. <http://www.cyark.org/news/iron-mountain-and-cyark-join-forces-to-digitally-preserve-fort-york-for-generations-to-come>

As a staffing update, we're pleased to announce that Kristine Williamson is now our permanent supervisor of special events. Kristine, who had been acting in the position for the last year, is a museum professional with over ten years experience creating diverse and engaging cultural programming. She has a BA in Canadian History, a Master's in Public History, and has worked with a variety of organizations and museums across Toronto, including Mackenzie House, the Design Exchange, Lord Cultural Resources, and the Toronto Society of Architects.

Our staff continue to work closely with The Bentway Conservancy to get ready for a busier than normal winter season here at Fort York. The first section of The Bentway to be developed, The Bentway Skate Trail, will officially open to the public on Saturday, 6 January 2018 with the Mayor's Skate Party on Sunday, January 7.

As the entire first phase of The Bentway forms part of the National Historic Site, we're excited to be partnering with this new creative team to bring more people down to experience both The Bentway and Fort York. For more information, see the article by Kasia Gladki in this same issue or visit [www.thebentway.ca](http://www.thebentway.ca)



*The Fort York Foundation has raised the funds which, combined with a federal government grant, has allowed Fort York National Historic Site to proceed with construction of the long-awaited Wharf (formerly known as the Events Dock) in front of the Visitor Centre. The Wharf is Fort York's new outdoor programming venue. It practically doubles the Visitor Centre's capacity for events in the warmer months and we can expect that it will be jointly programmed by Fort York and The Bentway. Credit: David O'Hara*

# 2018 | Upcoming Events Historic Fort York

Compiled by Richard Haynes

## JANUARY

### The Bentway Winter Season Opening Weekend Free Admission

Sat. and Sun. January 6 and 7

Fort York celebrates the opening of The Bentway's Winter Season with free admission and extended hours all weekend long. Join family activities in the Fort York Visitor Centre, including a special pop-up exhibit on winter fun in Toronto and a Fort York selfie booth.

**Sat. January 6, 10 am to 11 pm**

See Fort York in a 'new' light. Join a special lantern tour to catch a glimpse of garrison life after dark. Our interpretive staff will guide you through a selection of Fort York's War of 1812-era buildings using only 19th century lighting. Tours meet in the Fort York Visitor Centre at 6 pm, 7 pm, 8 pm, and 9 pm. Don't miss out. Spaces are limited.

**Sun. January 7, 10 am to 6 pm**

The Bentway will host the Mayor's Skating Party from 1 to 4 pm and Fort York will be open until 6 pm to celebrate. With tours throughout the day there is plenty of opportunity to explore the history of Toronto's founding urban landscape—before or after you skate.

## FEBRUARY

### Family Day at Fort York. Free Admission

Mon. February 19, 11 am to 6 pm

Explore the history of Toronto and Fort York. Visit the Fort's historic kitchen and sample baking from the hearth. Hot chocolate and a roaring fire will make this visit memorable. Kids can try an 1812 drill class, officers' sword drill, and old-fashioned games, as well as a fun-filled activity book.

### Fort York Visitor Centre

Check out the Visitor Centre for takeaway crafts, a special pop-up exhibit on winter fun in Toronto, and a Fort York selfie booth.

## Hungry for Comfort: Surviving a Canadian Winter

Sat. February 24, 8:30 am to 3:30 pm

Come together with fellow food enthusiasts to explore how different peoples survived and thrived in Canada's bitter winter. This year, the spotlight is on the culinary story of the First Nations, Metis, French, and English, with speakers, demonstrations, workshops, and tastings. On the day's line-up is the annual baking and preserving competition that includes prizes for Canada's best marmalade.

*Pre-registration required. Ticket price includes refreshments and lunch.*

*Early bird tickets \$65 plus tax (until February 9), \$75 plus tax afterwards.*

*To register call 416-392-7484*

## MARCH

### March Break Family Drop-in at Fort York

Mon. to Fri. March 12 to 16, 10 am to 4 pm

Looking for a day of adventure during March Break? Just bring your family down to Fort York National Historic Site. At this authentic War of 1812 fort, children will have fun trying soldiers' drill classes, officers' sword drill, music workshops, and dressing up in costumes. Visitors can sample treats from the 1826 historic kitchen. Learn about the Fort's exciting history through colourful exhibits including the Visitor Centre and Battle of York Experience. Pick up a Kids' Guide to Fort York and have fun finding the clues to complete its games and puzzles throughout their tour.

*No registration required.*

*Regular admission.*

*Coloured engravings from France's first ice-skating manual Le Vrai Patineur (The True Skater) written by Jean Garcin, a book praised in Honoré de Balzac's Illusions Perdues. As well as the aide of eight engraved plates, [three] of which are featured here, the manual details many movements and poses, putting an emphasis on artistry and grace in contrast to the more straightforward technical approach usually practised in England. The book is considered to be one of the earliest works in any language devoted entirely to ice-skating. From Jean Garcin, Le Vrai Patineur, Paris, 1813.*



Visit our website at: [www.fortyork.ca](http://www.fortyork.ca). Learn more about Fort York, subscribe to the [free newsletter](#), become a [member](#), [donate](#) or browse our [historical image gallery](#).



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