

Sakura Trees Bloom In Full Glory In Toronto's High Park



TORONTO: Mayor John Tory, the Consul General of Japan, Takako Ito, Councillor Mary-Margaret McMahon (Ward 32 Beaches-East York), Chair of the City's Parks and Environment Committee, and Councillor Sarah Doucette (Ward 13 Parkdale-High Park) were joined by City officials from Parks, Forestry and Recreation on Tuesday morning to celebrate the beauty of the Sakura trees in High Park and provide information about the trees.

blossoming Sakura trees has become a well-loved tradition in Toronto," said Mayor Tory. "It's important that we continue to care for these living gifts so that they can be enjoyed by generations to come."

Cherry blossom viewing is a rite of spring in many cities, where Sakura festivals are held to celebrate the beauty of the trees. Every year, thousands of Torontonians visit High Park to view the blossoms. Flowers usually last between four and 10 days, depending on weather conditions.

High Park is easily accessible by TTC. Visitors are encouraged to take transit, cycle or walk. In previous years, police have had to close vehicle access to the park because of traffic.

Parking will be extremely limited and there will be delays for motorists as well as occasional closures. Taking care of the Sakura trees so that Torontonians and visitors can continue to enjoy them in years to come is a collective responsibility. It's important that visitors to the park do not climb on the trees or injure

the trees by removing blossoms or branches. "Sakura in Toronto symbolize the invaluable friendship between our two countries," said Consul General Ito.

"This fact is especially significant this year when we are celebrating the 90th anniversary of Japan-Canada diplomatic relations and the 30th anniversary of redress for Japanese-Canadians."

Many of the Sakura trees in High Park are roughly 60 years old. In 1959, the Japanese ambassador to Canada presented 2,000 trees to the people of Toronto on

behalf of the people of Tokyo. The trees were planted in appreciation of Toronto accepting relocated Japanese-Canadians following the Second World War. Many of these trees were planted on the hillside overlooking Grenadier Pond.

A grove of cherry trees donated by Yoriki and Midori Iwasaki was planted in 1984 in High Park. In 2001 and 2006, a total of 50 additional cherry trees were planted as part of the Sakura Project, a symbol of friendship between Japan and Canada. Pic: toronto.ca

Ninth Spring Bird Festival



TORONTO: The City of Toronto is hosting the 9th annual Spring Bird Festival at Colonel Samuel Smith Park on May 26th, 2018, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., as part of the Toronto Bird Celebration Week.

The event provides people with an opportunity to learn more about Toronto's diverse population of birds during their peak spring migration. The fun, family-oriented day offers hourly guided bird tours, live bird and reptile exhibits, fun workshops and crafts, and a variety of educational displays.

The Toronto Bird Celebration Week runs from May 12th-27th with a variety of events that provide excellent oppor-

tunities to learn more about Toronto's bird population, and how to protect and enhance their habitat! Find out more by visiting: <http://torontobirdweek.ca/>

This Festival is in partnership with Concerned Citizens About the Future of the Etobicoke Waterfront, Friends of Samuel Smith Park, Humber Arboretum, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, and Birds and Beans.

Citizens can become participants in bird conservation by 1. Become a Citizen Scientist and help monitor and protect birds through one of Bird Studies Canada's many volunteer programs!

2. Become a Bird Rescue Volunteer for FLAP Canada.

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✓	✓	Recovery Benefit Following Hospital Confinement	\$75 / day	\$150 / day	\$300 / day
✓	✓	Recovery Benefit Following Outpatient Surgery	\$75 per day up to 1,050	\$150 per day up to \$2,100	\$300 per day up to 4,200
✓	N/A	Recovery Benefit Following Fracture	\$75 per day up to \$1,050	\$150 per day up to \$2,100	\$300 per day up to 4,200
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			Family	\$34	\$68
				Monthly	Monthly
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