Toronto, Canada

Canada 9'984'670 Km² * Inhabitants 34'019'000
Urban Region 7'124 Km² * Inhabitants 5'555'912

Toronto Eaton Centre
CN Tower
Tent City 1998-2002
Toronto Waterfront
SmartCentre
Art Gallery of Ontario
Royal Ontario Museum
Toronto International Film Festival
Toronto Public Library
Disaster Sunrise Propane Gas Explosion
Yonge / Dundas Square
Gay Pride Parade
"Queen's Park Riot" June 15, 2000
Centre for LGBTTQ community
Trinity Bellwoods Park
Central areas
Trendy Neighbourhoods
Areas of State-Led Reinvestment
Areas of Urban Regeneration
Areas of Intense Neighbourhood Upgrading
Areas of Privatization
Informal Settlements
Subcentres
Strategic Urban Infrastructure Projects
Flagship Projects
Failed and Grounded (large) Projects
Spaces and Places of Resistance / Alternatives
Other
Event
Legend
scale 1:25,000
Mainstreaming neoliberalism with sticks and carrots

**Toronto, Canada:**

Canada developed as a product of "whites settler colonization". Capitalism and class formation in Canada have been strangely shaped by transformation-externalization-segregation of aboriginal peoples, and by racialized labour-market and immigration policies. Embodied in the Canadian state, these historical legacies live on in number of different ways in Toronto. The metropolis was the most important nodal point in the Canadian political economy since the middle of the 20th century. It can now be understood as a global city with imperial reach (as a global centre for mining finance) and the most important and complex concentration of migrants in the country. It is also the city where "multiculturalism" – an official Canadian state policy since 1971 – overlaps with daily realities of racialization and social inequality in the most contradictory of ways. While varieties of "diversity" and attendant strategies of managing racialized inequality are a central aspect of Toronto's new metropolitan mainstream, they are not as novel as they might be in some other cities.

Another particularity of the new metropolitan mainstream in Canada may lie in its reversal of historical patterns of economic development discourses about cities within the national economy. On the basis of a colonial past, a mildly Keynesian federal state, after WWII, aimed to reduce intra-national uneven social development through territorial equity provisions embedded in the national welfare state. The beginning of the 21st century is characterized by a radical change in Canadian economic development. At least on a discursive level, Canadian economic development now embraces the real-and-imagined battle for global economic investment and competitiveness. As a result, the management the diversity of the city's workforce has become a central building block of supply-side labour market interventions of the entrepreneurial city. The Toronto Region Immigrant Employment Council, a business-driven multi-stakeholder coalition that aims to facilitate the labour market integration of skilled immigrants breaks with earlier, legally mandated employment equity provisions to address group-specific labour market inequalities. Its focus on human capital and supply-side interventions neglects an analysis of the demand side of the labour market, in particular the increasing polarization of the labour market in the neoliberal city.

One of the main lines of division and possible future lines of integration runs between the core city (which is increasingly white and wealthy) and its old and new suburb (which are very socially mixed and often nonwhite). The spaces between these socio-spatial poles begin to matter more and more. Toronto’s in-between city -- Zwischenstadt (Zwischen) -- occupies a certain centrality in urbanization today. Neither classical centre nor trivial suburban, the in-between city is home to many, perhaps most urban dwellers, and the site of many jobs; it is also the location of some of metropolitan region’s most dynamic social and environmental contradictions. Bypassed by the modernizing strategies of the “creative” inner city and the escapist outer suburbs, the in-between city poses challenges to planning but it also offers inevitable opportunities as it is more and more an image of society overall.

**Failed Project:** Olympic Games 1996 and 2008

- **Purpose:** Draw the world’s attention to Toronto and boost local economic development
- **Dimensions:** Large-scale urban development imagined particularly along the de-industrialized waterfront in the east end of the city
- **Projects costs:** $22,176,547 for the 2008 Olympic bid
- **Investors:** Public Private Partnerships

**Flagship Project:** Various culture projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>To stimulate economic development, tourism and serve local artistic and cultural communities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dimensions</td>
<td>downtown core</td>
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<tr>
<td>Projects costs</td>
<td>The city estimates that 990,655 people or 38.2 percent of the workforce are employed in the creative economy. Work in sectors such as diverse/film, theatre, new media, television design, etc. is estimated bringing in several billion dollars worth to the urban region.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investors</td>
<td>various</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architects</td>
<td>various stararchitects like Gehry, Alsop and Libeskind</td>
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**Investors:** the Canadian taxpayers

**Architects:** "Fancemakers Inc."