



Office: 370 Queens Quay West,  
Unit 113, Toronto, ON, M5V 3J3  
[hello@thebentway.ca](mailto:hello@thebentway.ca)  
416.304.0222  
[thebentway.ca](http://thebentway.ca)

For Immediate Release: May 23, 2019 • Please include in your listings/announcements

**COMMUNAL TABLE at  
THE BENTWAY**  
*Exploring Toronto's Diverse Culinary Traditions*  
**Curated by The Depanneur**  
**June 13 – August 22, 2019**

Something's cooking at The Bentway!

Beginning Thursday, June 13, **The Bentway** will host weekly communal dining opportunities curated by The Depanneur, a Toronto event space and innovative culinary talent showcase. Exploring Toronto's diverse culinary traditions, the **Communal Table** is for friends and neighbours to come together, share a delicious meal, and make new friends!

Featuring a roster of local chefs with exciting culinary creations, each Communal Table experience offers a distinct menu, a friendly welcoming vibe, and live musical performances.

The first Communal Table dinner at The Bentway is with Toronto chef **Jamie Kennedy**, a pioneer of sustainable gastronomy, and features a **Farm-to-Table** menu showcasing local produce from Ontario farmers. June 13.

Ojibway chef **Shawn Adler** of **Pow Wow Café** presents a dinner menu to complement the 7th Annual Indigenous Arts Festival (at Fort York, June 18-23). Chef Adler's cooking combines his Indigenous traditions with flavours from other cultures for delicious, playful, and educational culinary creations. His menu will feature Three Sisters Stew with chives and fiddleheads, wild rice pilaf, and home-made cedar soda. June 20.

The **Newcomer Kitchen**, initially founded at The Depanneur in 2016 to provide a social and economic opportunity for Syrian refugee women, quickly became a hub for the women to meet, create a community, and make home-cooked meals together. The women of **Newcomer Kitchen** will host two dinners at the Communal Table, serving a selection of traditional Syrian home cooking. June 27 and July 25.

Both of the **Paella Nights**, with chef **José Arato** of Pimentón Spanish and Mediterranean Fine Food, will feature a giant paella prepared onsite, along with a selection of tapas, accompanied by a Flamenco performance. July 4 and August 1.

Filipino chef **Erwin Joaquin** of Big E Hawaiian Grinds, will host two **Pinoy Kamayan Dinners** at the Communal Table. A Filipino feast consisting of meat, seafood, garlic rice, and more is served on banana leaves and eaten by hand. July 11 and August 8.

Chef **Tsewang Chodon** of **TC's Tibetan Momo** will prepare traditional Tibetan and Himalayan cuisine, including her own handmade Momos, a south Asian dumpling native to Tibet, made from local ingredients. July 18 and August 15.

The final Communal Table of the season is another **Farm-to-Table** meal, from rebel chef **Greg Couillard** who shook up conservative Toronto dining in the 80s, with a menu full of Caribbean flavours including his famous Jump-Up soup inspired by the first Caribana parade in 1967. August 22.

The Bentway's **Communal Table**—an inclusive, diverse and affordable family-style dinner series—is an opportunity to come together, to imagine and to share, and to celebrate food's capacity to connect people with places, history, and a sense of belonging.

In the spirit of this program and The Bentway's 'Communitas' Season, guests are asked to bring their own dishes and a non-perishable food item for donation to local shelters.

**THE BENTWAY  
COMMUNAL TABLE**

**Every Thursday**

**June 13 – August 22, 2019**

One seating at 6:30-8:30pm

Pre-registration is requested: [thebentway.ca/communal-table](http://thebentway.ca/communal-table)

Help ensure there is no food waste by reserving a spot in advance for \$12

*(Walk-ups welcome if there is availability)*

For more information, please visit [TheBentway.ca](http://TheBentway.ca)

**Social Media:** [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) using @TheBentway and [YouTube](#)  
**#TOBentway**

Access to The Bentway is Always Free  
Enjoy WiFi Courtesy of Beanfield

The Bentway's summer season is supported by the City of Toronto, Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport, Ira Gluskin & Maxine Granovsky Gluskin, Richard M. Ivey and the Ivey Commissioning Fund, Donald K. Johnson, O.C. & Anna McCowan-Johnson, Langford Family Foundation at Toronto Foundation, Northwood Family Office, Diamond Corp, Hal Jackman Foundation, Toronto Friends of the Visual Arts, Exclaim!, The Walrus, SPIN, Pilot Coffee, Scadding Court Community Centre, and Fort York National Historic Site.

**Media Contact:** [FLIP PUBLICITY](#), 416.533.7710 • Carrie Sager, [carrie@flip-publicity.com](mailto:carrie@flip-publicity.com)

**About The Bentway**

[The Bentway](#) is a unique and innovative public space that transforms 1.75km underneath Toronto's Gardiner Expressway into a new gathering place for our city's growing population.

The Bentway knits together seven local neighbourhoods with over 70,000 residents, becoming a gateway to the waterfront, while providing access to important attractions and destinations – from Fort York National Historic Site, Ontario Place and Exhibition Place to Harbourfront Centre and the CN Tower. The Bentway offers year-round activities and events, including gardens, a skate trail, recreational amenities, public markets, public art, special exhibitions, festivals, theatre and musical performances, and more. Since opening to the public in January 2018, The Bentway has welcomed over 150,000 visitors to experience free year-round programming including public art installations, performances, festivals, recreational activities, and much more.

The initial phase of The Bentway stretches from Strachan Avenue in the west to just east of Bathurst Street underneath the Gardiner Expressway, this section of The Bentway is located on the lands of Fort York National Historic Site, recognized by the Government of Canada as a site of national significance. The Bentway is maintained, operated, and programmed by The Bentway Conservancy. The Bentway is a proud member of the [High Line Network](#), an international network of projects that transform underutilized infrastructure into new urban landscapes.

### **About The Depanneur**

[The Depanneur](#) is intimate & interactive food venue aimed at showcasing the incredible diversity of culinary talent we have in Toronto. We invite guest cooks, both amateur and professional, to host hundreds of unique food events from Cooking Classes, Drop-In Dinners and Supper Clubs, to Table Talks, Brunch and Private Events. The Dep is also the birthplace of Newcomer Kitchen, a non-profit social enterprise that creates social and economic opportunities for Syrian refugee women through food-based projects. To date, Newcomer Kitchen has sold over 10,000 meals and paid over \$150,000 into the Syrian community since its inception in 2016.

### **About Fort York National Historic Site**

[Fort York National Historic Site](#) is one of 10 Toronto History Museums operated by the City of Toronto. Since 1793, Fort York has been an important military location and is where Toronto was founded as an urban place. Located in the heart of downtown Toronto, this 43-acre heritage conservation district is home to Canada's largest collection of original War of 1812 buildings. Fort York offers permanent exhibits and immersive multimedia displays at the Visitor Centre, ongoing programming and events, site tours, military displays, historic cooking demonstrations, and the annual Indigenous Arts Festival.

Fort York National Historic Site is also home to the first phase of The Bentway. For more information, visit <http://www.toronto.ca/fortyork>.