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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TO THE MOON AND BEYOND! THE BENTWAY ANNOUNCES FALL 2019 PROGRAMMING
Anchored by Museum of the Moon, events and activities include The Bentway's Community Incubation Program, and collaborative partnerships with Nuit Blanche and the Toronto Biennial of Art

July 25, 2019 - [Toronto, ON] - The Bentway, the innovative public space project underneath Toronto's Gardiner Expressway, today announced its Fall 2019 programming calendar under the theme **Second Nature**. From September to November 2019, The Bentway will bring together artists, community activists, urbanists, scientists and innovators to explore ways urban dwellers can reconnect to the natural world.

From **September 10-15**, The Bentway brings the Moon under the Gardiner with a presentation of *Museum of the Moon* - a seven-metre wide touring sculptural work by UK artist Luke Jerram, which uses lunar imagery to bring the moon's surface to life on earth. The installation allows visitors to experience the moon up-close and personal, reminding us of the moon's influence on our daily lives despite urban barriers like light pollution and high-rise density. Visitors will be able to further reflect on the moon through moon gazing and moonlight meditation, turning The Bentway into an open air planetarium.

The week will culminate with a special event on **September 14**, as a full harvest moon rises over Toronto, with *Moon Merge*. *Pondercast* host Laurie Brown and Juno-nominated electronic composer and musician Joshua Van Tassel will explore how city-dwellers merge with their natural surroundings during a live podcast recording that takes visitors on a virtual journey to the moon and back. The evening includes performances by Toronto-based musicians Choir! Choir! Choir!, Bernice and a special silent disco set by Halifax's Rich Aucoin.

The Bentway's Fall 2019 calendar will also include The Bentway's second annual **Community Incubation Program [September - November 2019]**, through which emerging individuals and organizations create innovative and engaging community programs. The four Community Incubation Program projects for Fall 2019 explore the seasonal theme of Second Nature and include:

- *Courtney Miller and Valérie Frappier, "Undercurrents"* - a trio of art installations and events programmed according to the lunar phases and connecting visitors to the ways that these phases impact our lives. **[Opening September 10, 2019]**
- *IDITA, "Vertical Intersections"* - a green transformation of The Bentway's columns through a series of vertical gardens with accompanying workshops and activities, which explore the ways that high-rise city-dwellers can participate in urban gardening. **[Opening September 10, 2019]**
- *David Suzuki Foundation, "The Butterflyway Parade"* - a musical butterfly-filled parade from Trinity Bellwoods to The Bentway that highlights the connections between urban green spaces in Toronto, as well as the importance of pollinating species. **[September 8, 2019]**
- *Toronto Green Community, "Blue Guerrilla"* - A suite of walks and hands-on workshops celebrating our connection to the waterfront and the city's lost waterways. **[September 26, 2019 October 3, 2019, October 10, 2019]**

This season The Bentway is also undertaking two exciting collaborative projects with **Toronto Biennial of Art** and **Nuit Blanche Toronto**. *Sinaaqpagiaqtuut/The Long-Cut* is a project by **Embassy of Imagination**, produced by **PA System**. It is co-commissioned and co-presented by **The Bentway** and the **Toronto Biennial of Art (TBA)** as part of the latter's inaugural event, running from September 21 – December 1, 2019. *Sinaaqpagiaqtuut/The Long-Cut* is a procession that begins in Kinngait (Cape Dorset, Nunavut) and continues at The Bentway on the Biennial's Opening Day in Toronto. Moving across the waterfront, the procession ends at 259 Lake Shore Boulevard East, a Biennial exhibition site presenting a related installation by Embassy of Imagination + PA System. The procession features works by youth from the Peter Pitseolak High School in Kinngait, in collaboration with the Oasis Skateboard Factory School in Toronto. Members of the public are invited to follow the procession along the way.

The Bentway will be a location hub for **Nuit Blanche Toronto [October 5, 2019]** this year, presenting two works as part of the exhibition **Creation : Destruction**, curated by Layne Hinton and Rui Pimenta (Toronto), the curatorial duo behind Art Spin. The projects use the geography of the site as a way to explore the cycles of creation and destruction in nature and beyond.

“As city-dwellers we’ve moved further and further away from our connection to natural cycles - such as the waxing and waning of the moon - so our aim for the Fall 2019 Season is to make visitors rethink the impact these powerful forces have in our everyday lives through a unique collection of artists and installations,” says Ilana Altman, Co-Executive Director of Programming at The Bentway. “We can’t wait to share this diverse collection of projects and programs, ultimately helping us all shift our perceptions in the way we interact, experience, and think about natural rhythms in the city.”

For more details on the Fall 2019 programming, including the full list of artists and events, visit thebentway.ca.

The Bentway’s Fall 2019 season is supported by Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport, Labatt, and DAVIDsTEA.

The Bentway is supported by the City of Toronto, Maxine Granovsky Gluskin & Ira Gluskin, Richard M. Ivey, Frances & Tim Price, Rosamond Ivey, Mazyar Mortazavi & Bitá Doagoo, Howard Sokolowski & Linda Frum, Donald K. Johnson O.C. & Anna McCowan-Johnson, DiamondCorp, and a growing family of supporters.

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

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

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 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>.

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