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For Immediate Release: December 6, 2018 • Please include in your listings/announcements

SKATE THE 8 IN THE SIX

The Bentway's Figure-Eight Skate Trail Opens December 21, 2018

Opening Day Skate with Free Skate Rentals

Free Skate Thursdays

Après Skate Saturdays with Kahlúa

Polar Bear Skate on December 30

The Wait to Skate The Bentway is almost over!

Toronto's coolest ice, The Bentway Skate Trail, will be open for the winter season beginning Friday, December 21 at 12 noon. Expect icy conditions under the Gardiner!

Opening Day will offer free skate rentals all day, from noon to 10pm.

Free Skate Thursdays feature free skate rentals from 5-9pm every Thursday, courtesy of Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport, and free drop-in skating lessons courtesy of The West Toronto Skating Club (Kids 6-7pm, Adults 7-8pm).

Après Skate Saturdays, presented by Kahlúa, invites skaters 19+ to cozy up with Kahlúa and enjoy complimentary samples with coffee or hot chocolate (5-9pm).

On Sunday, December 30 at 2pm, The Bentway presents the first-ever **Polar Bear Skate**. A twist on the traditional polar bear dip, skaters will strip to their intimates and Skate the 8 in their knickers! Pre-register at thebentway.ca and receive a free hot chocolate and a chance to win a special Bentway prize pack.

The winter village full of snuggly blankets, warming lounges, and fire pits is the perfect place to enjoy a curated food and beverage menu every weekend, including warm treats, Kahlúa-spiked beverages, Inniskillin wines, and more. On Friday and Sunday nights, between December 21 and January 6, the Inniskillin Wines Ice Lounge will be sampling Ice Wine and Mulled Wine Cocktails.

The Bentway's fall art exhibition, "If, But, What If" has been extended for the winter season and includes *Iconic Site #5* from Sans façon, *Green Hills Discovery* by Alex McLeod, Wally Dion's *8-Bit Wampum*, and much more.

Last winter, more than 50,000 visitors laced up for The Bentway's Figure-Eight Skate Trail. With an extended season this year, hit The Bentway Skate Trail before the heat does!

THE BENTWAY SKATE TRAIL

Hours of Operation

Holiday Hours

December 21, 2018 – January 6, 2019

Operating, Skate Rental, Food & Drink

Sunday-Thursday: 12 Noon-9pm

Friday & Saturday: 12 Noon-10pm

Winter Season

January 7, 2019 – February 18, 2019

Operating & Skate Rental

Food & Drink

Monday-Thursday: 5pm-9pm

Friday: 5pm-10pm

Friday: 5pm-10pm

Saturday: 12 Noon-10pm

Saturday: 12 Noon-10pm

Sunday: 12 Noon-9pm

Sunday: 12 Noon-9pm

Access to The Bentway is Free and Accessible

Enjoy free Wifi Courtesy of Beanfield

For more information, please visit TheBentway.ca

Social Media: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) using @TheBentway and [YouTube](#)
#TOBentway #Skatethe8

The Bentway Winter Season is supported by the City of Toronto, Government of Ontario, Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport, Kahlúa, Inniskillin, the Ontario Tire Stewardship, Fisherman's Friend.

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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. The initial phase of The Bentway is open to the public. Stretching 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 project was made possible through the collaboration of a range of city-builders and experts, including the [City of Toronto](#), [Waterfront Toronto](#), Judy and Wilmot Matthews, [Ken Greenberg Consultants](#), [PUBLIC WORK](#), [Fort York National Historic Site](#), and

[Artscape](#). 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>.