

This is only a small sampling of the many things to do in Toronto. Except for the last few items, everything listed is within walking distance or a short subway/streetcar ride from the University.

Nightlife

Toronto is full of pubs, clubs, music, theatre, dance, comedy, To find out what's on, you may want to pick a Now Magazine (www.nowtoronto.com) or Eye Weekly (www.eyeweekly.com), available free from news-boxes on most downtown streets and many other locations.

Attractions

(listed in order of distance from the conference)

Bata Shoe Museum (www.batashoemuseum.ca): Southwest corner of Bloor Street & St. George Street, 0.75km North of Bahen Centre; Hours: 10am-5pm Mon-Wed & Fri-Sat, 10am-8pm Thu, noon-5pm Sun; the culture, technology, and fashion of footwear. If you think a shoe museum is something only Imelda Marcos would love, spend an hour or two here and be surprised.

Art Gallery of Ontario (www.ago.net): 317 Dundas Street West, 0.9km South of Bahen Centre; Hours: 10am-5:30pm Tue & Thu-Sun, 10am-8:30pm Wed, closed Mondays; Canadian and International Art. The paintings of Tom Thomson, the Group of Seven, and other great Canadian and International artists will take you away from Toronto in August.

Royal Ontario Museum (www.rom.on.ca): Southwest corner of Bloor Street & University Avenue, 1km NE of Bahen Centre; Hours: 10am-5:30pm Mon-Thu & Sat-Sun, 10am-9:30pm Fri; Culture and Natural History. The ROM Crystal is perhaps Toronto's most controversial recent building, but whatever you may think of its architecture, this is a must-see if you have any interest in palentology, archaeology, geology, history, art, or culture.

Gardiner Museum of Ceramics (www.gardinermuseum.on.ca): just south of Bloor Street on the east side University Avenue, 1km NE of Bahen Centre; Opens at 10am daily, closes 6pm Mon-Thu, 9pm on Friday, 5pm on Sat & Sun.

Textile Museum of Canada (www.textilemuseum.ca): 55 Centre Avenue, just east of Dundas St. W & University Ave, 1.3km SE of Bahen Centre; Hours: 11-5 daily, until 8pm on Wed; the culture, technology, and art of textiles.

Major League Baseball (toronto.bluejays.mlb.com): After a long day at the conference, you can relax by watching some very, very large hadron collisions at Rogers Centre (west of Union subway station and the CN Tower, 2.5km South of Bahen Centre). The New York Yankees are playing the Jays at 7:07pm on 23, 24, 25 Aug, followed by the Detroit Tigers on 26, 27 Aug at 7:07pm, and at 1:07pm on 28, 29 Aug.

Toronto Islands (www.toronto.ca/parks/island/): Catch the ferry at the foot of Bay Street, 2.7km SSE of Bahen Centre. After a 15 minute ferry ride with Toronto's best view of the city, the Islands are a great place to cool down, hit the beach, rent a canoe, walk among trees and water, or take your kids to Centreville amusement park (www.centreisland.ca, open 10:30am-8pm). On the way there or back, you can check what is happening at Harbourfront (www.harbourfrontcentre.com).

Hockey Hall of Fame (www.hhof.com): 30 Yonge Street, 2.8km SE of Bahen Centre; open 9:30am-6pm Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm Sun. A shrine to Canada's National Winter Sport.

CN Tower (www.hhof.com): just look south – you can't miss it – 3.1km South of Bahen Centre.

Buskerfest (www.torontobuskerfest.com): August 26-29 on Front Street between Jarvis and Scott Street, 3.2km SE of Bahen Centre. Buskers from around the world, including acrobats, clowns, daredevils, fireeaters, magicians, mimes, musicians, and many acts impossible to describe.

Canadian National Exhibition (www.theex.com): You are in luck, Canada's largest fair is running this week, 10am to midnight in Exhibition Place, 4km SW of Bahen Centre. There is something for everyone: two Midways (for different ages), concerts, exhibits, shows, animals, shopping, While visiting "The Ex", you can also catch an IMAX film and even more rides and activity at Ontario Place (www.ontarioplace.com)

A bit farther away

Ontario Science Centre (www.ontariosciencecentre.ca): Southeast corner of Eglinton Ave E and Don Mills Rd, 8km NE of Bahen Centre; hours 10am-7pm. Displays, activities, and exhibitions for scientists of all ages.

Toronto Zoo (www.torontozoo.com): Meadowvale Road, Toronto, north of Highway 401, 32km NE of Bahen Centre; open 9am-7:30pm every day. It is a long trek to get there by car or public transit, but well worth it.