

A New Green Space for the Community: DUKE Heights Parkette Now Open

We are pleased to announce the official opening of the DUKE Heights BIA Parkette, located at the northeast corner of Dufferin Street and Finch Avenue West.

This thoughtfully designed 1,650 sqm parkette has transformed a former TTC bus loop into a vibrant, piazza-inspired green space. With the addition of 29 new trees, custom seating, LED lighting, a distinctive boardwalk, and more, the parkette reflects our ongoing commitment to revitalizing public spaces across DUKE Heights.

We extend our sincere gratitude to Dr. Lew Pliamm (Chair, DUKE Heights BIA), Councillor James Pasternak (Ward 6), Councillor Anthony Perruzza (Ward 7), the City of Toronto BIA Office, and the project's stakeholders who joined us at the inauguration on September 25 to mark this important milestone. [...]

[Opening Ceremony Photo Gallery](#)

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Soupalicious DUKE Heights 2025: A Celebration of Community, Cuisine, and Sustainability

Discover DUKE Photo Contest 2025: Celebrating Creativity and Community Spirit

Health and Wellness Reimagined: How CasaVive is Changing the Way We Care for Ourselves

Crime Prevention with CPO TAYLOR

Discover the City's EDGE Incentive Program

Join the City of Toronto's Small Business Forum – Learn, Network, and Grow!

FedDev Ontario Opens Applications for Tariff Relief Initiative: Check your Eligibility

Unlock No-Cost Health & Safety Support for Your Business

Digital Service Squad Offers One-on-One Tech Support for Local



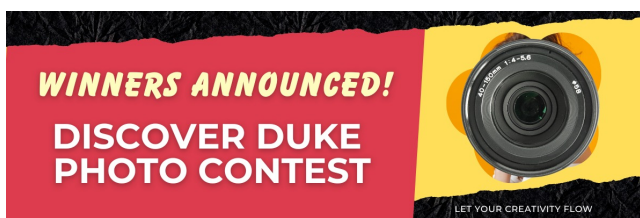
Soupalicious DUKE Heights 2025: A Celebration of Community, Cuisine, and Sustainability

On September 28, 2025, DUKE Heights BIA welcomed residents and families to the Soupalicious DUKE Heights, a Community Harvest Celebration at the Champagne Centre's northwest parking lot—an area that was transformed into a lively festival space for the day. From the warmth and taste of delicious simmering soups to vibrant community engagement, the event delivered a memorable experience for all.

Attendees enjoyed a wide assortment of hearty soups brought by BIA vendors and farmers from outside our BIA, along with bread and fresh corn, with live musical performances, face painting, and arts & crafts providing entertainment for all ages. To kick off the fall spirit, the first 100 families received complimentary pumpkins, adding to the festive mood. [...]



Event Photo Gallery



Discover DUKE Photo Contest 2025: Celebrating Creativity and Community Spirit

The winners of Discover DUKE Photo Contest 2025 were announced on October 3, 2025, following a month-long successful celebration of local photography and community

Businesses

Guide to Lead Generation for Local Businesses

BIA's Exclusive Security Services – At No Cost to Members

Members Get 4 Weeks of Complimentary Digital Billboard Advertising

Enhance Your Digital Presence with BIA-Supported Advertising

Get Your Vacant Property Listed for Free!

Councillor's Corner: James Pasternak

Councillor's Corner: Anthony Perruzza

Photo of the Month

Upcoming Events and Webinars



DUKE Heights BIA, spanning Dufferin to Keele and Steeles to Sheppard, supports businesses with a vision to drive growth, attract investment, and advocate for the local business community.



connection. The contest saw vibrant participation from photographers and visual storytellers eager to showcase the dynamic spirit of the DUKE Heights BIA.

Submissions poured in from across the area, with each photo reflecting a unique angle of perspective and lifestyle in DUKE Heights. From urban landscapes to community moments, the images captured both the familiar and the unexpected. The BIA team carefully reviewed and shortlisted the top 30 entries, which were then opened to the public for voting via our official Facebook page.

The contest drew hundreds of thoughtful and artistic submissions, highlighting the immense creativity within our community. We were truly inspired by the effort and passion behind each image, and we thank every participant for their contribution.

As we congratulate this year's talented winners, we also take a moment to recognize all those who helped make the contest a success—from the photographers behind the lens to the community members who voted and engaged online.

[Take a look at this year's winning photos](#)

Featured Business

**CasaVive :
A Holistic
Health Studio**


CasaVive

Health and Wellness Reimagined: How CasaVive is Changing the Way We Care for Ourselves

In a world overflowing with wellness trends, podcasts, and TikToks, finding a balanced path to better health can feel like trying to tune into a single clear note in a sea of noise. Most people know the basics—exercise, eat well, manage stress—but bringing those pieces together in real life is another story. That's where CasaVive comes in.

CasaVive is a holistic health studio that's reimagining what it means to take care of your body and mind. Founded by Jacqueline, a Personal Trainer and Nutrition Counselor, and Yasmine, a Registered Kinesiologist and Certified Athletic Therapist, CasaVive was born from experience—and frustration. The two met while working in gyms across the GTA, where they saw clients struggle to connect the dots between fitness, nutrition, and overall wellness. [...]

[Read More](#)

City of Toronto News Releases & Other Resources

Latest news releases and updates from the City of Toronto: www.toronto.ca/news



15% Off Any Service or Free First Class, No Obligation

Discount valid with proof of employment in DUKE Heights BIA.

Limited one offer per customer.

www.casavive.net

Ph: (647) 448-1818

Email: yasmine@casavive.net

Address: 1122 Finch Avenue

West, Unit 21-22

For more local offers and specials,

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Protecting Yourself from Distraction Thefts in Your Neighborhood



Crime Prevention with CPO TAYLOR

CPO Deanne Taylor is a crime prevention officer at 31 Division located at 40 Norfinch Drive. Deanne has worked in 31 Division for over 6 years. Deanne started her role as a Crime Prevention Officer in April 2025. What does a crime prevention officer do? They implement strategies to reduce crime in the community by educating the public, analyzing crime data to identify risks, and collaborate with residents and businesses to improve safety. Their duties include conducting presentations on personal safety, how to make your home or business safer through crime prevention through environmental design (safety audits) and working with community partners like City of Toronto. [...]

[Learn more](#)

EDGE INCENTIVE PROGRAM



Discover the City's EDGE Incentive Program

The City of Toronto's Business Retention & Expansion (BR&E) team, part of the Economic Development & Culture division, is here to help established medium to large-sized commercial and industrial businesses in DUKE Heights unlock their full potential.

To Learn more about the EDGE Incentive Program, visit-
<https://www.toronto.ca/business-economy/business-operation-growth/business-incentives/edge-incentive-program/>

Whether it's planning for future growth or tackling today's challenges, the BR&E team offers tailored support to help businesses thrive. [...]

[Learn How to Apply](#)

2025 Small Business Forum Register for Free Tickets



Need hearing aids? Save up to \$1,350 on a pair of premium hearing aids.+
Please visit our website for store locations.

For more local offers and specials,
visit dukeheights.ca/perks/.



Free 1/2 hour Phone Discovery Call

360-degree Speed & Recovery for hockey, soccer players, corporate executives, chronic injuries, concussion management, functional medicine coaching.

For more local offers and specials,
visit dukeheights.ca/perks/.

DentalX

Free Electric Toothbrush

Free Electric Toothbrush for All New Patients following the initial full check up.
Offer Exclusions: Not completing the initial exam

For more local offers and specials,
visit dukeheights.ca/perks/.





Wednesday, October 29 • Meridian Hall

Join the City of Toronto's Small Business Forum – Learn, Network, and Grow!

The City of Toronto invites entrepreneurs to attend the Small Business Forum on October 29, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Meridian Hall. This free, in-person event—Small Business, Big World—is designed to help local small businesses thrive through learning, networking, and accessing valuable resources.

This year's forum will focus on navigating opportunities in an evolving global economy. Attendees can expect main stage sessions with expert panels, fireside chats, and spotlight speakers, along with speed mentorship from international business leaders and experienced entrepreneurs. A trade show will also showcase a variety of small business services and products.

[Learn more and Register](#)



FedDev Ontario Opens Applications for Tariff Relief Initiative: Check your Eligibility

The Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (FedDev Ontario) is now accepting applications for the Regional Tariff Response Initiative (RTRI), part of the Government of Canada's broader \$6.5 billion plan to support businesses facing global trade challenges. Delivered through Canada's regional development agencies, RTRI aims to help companies adapt and stay competitive in a shifting global market.

With \$450 million in funding, RTRI focuses on industries like steel and automotive, offering targeted support to boost productivity, reduce costs, and strengthen supply chains. The initiative also helps businesses explore new markets—providing timely support for sectors impacted by international tariffs.

[Application Link for Businesses](#)



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one year or more. Phone: (647)

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dukeheights.ca/submit-perk-form/ by filling out a
short form!

Unlock No-Cost Health & Safety Support for Your Business

As a WSIB-registered business in agriculture, manufacturing, or services, you're eligible for complimentary health and safety services from Workplace Safety & Prevention Services (WSPS).

Did you know that workplaces with strong safety programs experience fewer incidents, reduced costs, and increased productivity? WSPS is here to help you achieve those results.

Their experts offer personalized, one-on-one support. A WSPS team member can visit your location to conduct a Health and Safety Assessment, helping ensure your business meets legislative requirements. They'll work with you to identify workplace hazards and recommend effective controls—all at no additional cost to your organization.

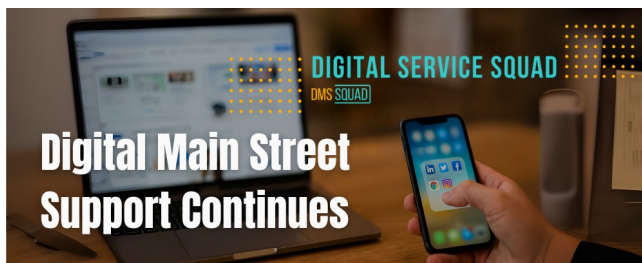


Take advantage of your member benefits today. Scan the QR code or follow the link below to learn more or to schedule a consultation.



WSPS offers complimentary virtual information sessions on a variety of health and safety topics. Scan the QR code to register.

WSPS Member Benefits



Digital Service Squad Offers One-on-One Tech Support for Local Businesses

Digital Main Street, together with the Digital Service Squad (DSS), will continue supporting businesses in the DUKE Heights BIA. This free program helps small businesses strengthen their online presence and adopt digital tools, offering resources and expertise to stay competitive in today's digital marketplace.

The DSS provides direct, tailored support with setting digital priorities, troubleshooting, and implementing solutions. This month, DSS representative Sukhvir Shergill will visit local businesses to assist with 360° photos, website guidance, Google Business Profiles, social media, e-commerce, and POS systems. Businesses are encouraged to book a free meeting in advance to take full advantage of this opportunity.

Book a Meeting with our DSS Representative

Lead Generation Strategies for Small Businesses



Guide to lead generation for local businesses

Key takeaways

- Lead generation turns strangers into interested prospects.
- Local Services Ads provide qualified, pay-per-lead opportunities directly via phone, text, or email.
- Google badges signal that a business has been verified, encouraging leads to convert to customers faster.

What you'll learn about:

- What is lead generation?
- What is local lead generation?
- How to generate leads for a local business
- How do Local Services Ads generate quality customer leads?
- How do I budget for success with local lead generation?
- Unlock growth with local lead generation

[Read More](#)



FREE SECURITY
SERVICES
FOR BIA MEMBERS

BIA's Exclusive Security Services – At No Cost to Members

Businesses within the DUKE Heights BIA are invited to take advantage of exclusive, complimentary security services provided by Best Guard Security under the supervision of the BIA team. To learn more and enroll, members are encouraged to complete the Security Signup Form. <https://dukeheights.ca/security-services/>.

[Security Signup Form](#)



EXCLUSIVE
FREE BILLBOARD AD
FOR MEMBERS



Members Get 4 Weeks of Complimentary Digital Billboard Advertising

Looking to increase your business visibility? Secure a free slot in a shared spot on Pattison's Outdoor Digital Billboard at the Dufferin St and Finch Ave W intersection. You'll share a spot with fellow BIA businesses and Your ad will be displayed multiple times each day for 4 weeks, reaching thousands of commuters. Reserve your space by filling out the Expression of Interest Form below.

[Expression of Interest Form](#)



FREE DIGITAL AD
FOR MEMBERS

Enhance Your Digital Presence with BIA- Supported Advertising

Whether you're new to online advertising or looking to boost your business's online visibility, DUKE Heights BIA has a program tailored for members. Get up to 4 weeks of complimentary online and social media advertising. Use the link below to complete the Expression of Interest Form and reserve your spot.

[Expression of Interest Form](#)



LIST AND SEARCH
VACANT PROPERTIES
IN
DUKE HEIGHTS BIA

Get Your Vacant Property Listed for Free!

Properties available for sale or lease within the DUKE Heights BIA are listed on the BIA website. BIA members looking to showcase their vacant properties at no charge on the listing are encouraged to get in touch with us. Please reach out via email at info@dukeheights.ca.

[Find out More](#)





COUNCILLOR'S CORNER

ANTHONY PERRUZZA
CITY COUNCILLOR
WARD 7 - HUMBER RIVER—BLACK CREEK

Anthony Perruzza

Toronto City Councillor – Ward 7 Humber River-Black Creek

Welcome to spooky season! To all who celebrate, wishing a happy Diwali and a joyous Thanksgiving. Also, a blessed Yom Kippur to those who observe. Mid-fall brings with it cooler days and earlier nights. I hope you are all staying warm and cozy during this post-equinox lull.

A few weeks ago, I had the honour of presenting local gardener extraordinaire, Rudy Riske, with an Outstanding Achievement Award on his 100th birthday. [...]

[Read More](#)



Discover DUKE: Photo of the Month

The photograph above is one of the winning entries in the Discover DUKE 2025 Photo Contest, held in August.

Photographer: Moshe Shegal

Photo Location: DUKE Tower on Finch Avenue West



[Growth and Expansion: How to Best Grow Your Business - Webinar by Toronto Small Business Enterprise Centre](#)

October 17, 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. [Register here](#)



[The Importance of Paid Advertising in a](#)



[Digital Space - Webinar by Digital Main Street](#)

October 21, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. [Register here](#)



[Preparing for 2026 and Beyond: Forecasting Insights in an Uncertain Economy - Webinar by The Conference Board of Canada](#)

October 21, 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. [Register here](#)



[How Rise Can Help Entrepreneurs Understand Credit and Lending - Webinar by Toronto Small Business Enterprise Centre](#)

October 22, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. [Register here](#)



[Digital Trade & E-commerce: Selling Online to International Customers - Webinar by City of Toronto Economic Development & Culture](#)

October 22, 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. [Register here](#)



[Why Financial Ratios Matter: How to Know if You're Turning a Profit - Webinar by Toronto Small Business Enterprise Centre](#)

October 23, 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. [Register here](#)



[Your Numbers...Your Story - Webinar by Toronto Small Business Enterprise Centre](#)

October 24, 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. [Register here](#)



[Optimizing for Search Engines: Understanding SEO Basics - Webinar by Digital Main Street](#)

October 28, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. [Register here](#)



[Balancing Your Balance Sheet - Webinar by Toronto Small Business Enterprise Centre](#)

October 30, 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. [Register here](#)



[Managing Your Business and Your Mental Health - Webinar by Toronto Small Business Enterprise Centre](#)

October 31, 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. [Register here](#)



[Getting Started with Intellectual Property \(IP\): Why is IP Important? - Webinar by Toronto Small Business Enterprise Centre](#)

November 5, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. [Register here](#)



[Marketing Strategies in Diverse Export Markets - Webinar by City of Toronto Economic Development & Culture](#)



November 6, 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. [Register here](#)



[T1 General Small Business Tax Literacy - Webinar by Toronto Small Business Enterprise Centre](#)

November 7, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. [Register here](#)



[Case Studies & Success Stories: Why and How Toronto Businesses Diversified their Trade Strategy - Webinar by City of Toronto Economic Development & Culture](#)

November 13, 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. [Register here](#)



[WSIB: Laws & Regulations for Small Businesses - Webinar by Toronto Small Business Enterprise Centre](#)

November 14, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. [Register here](#)



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Forward



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