

Doors Open Aurora 2016: Cultural Precinct Walking Tour



By Jeff Healy
Town of Aurora

The Town of Aurora's Cultural Precinct is an attractive, vibrant, people-focused district strongly connected to the Town Centre and other key community destinations.

The Precinct is a celebrated community hub of year round activity and serves as a focal point for the arts, cultural tourism and creative industries.

The Aurora Cultural Precinct is located within the Old Town area of Aurora and directly adjacent to the Historical Downtown, Wellington Street Village and Wellington Street Promenade. The site is also in close proximity to Sheppard's Bush Conservation Area and the southern edge of the Oak Ridges Moraine.

The Precinct is a three block area bounded by Mosley Street to the north, Larmont Street to the east, Metcalfe/Church Street to the south and Yonge Street to the west. The Precinct features the highest concentration of built heritage and cultural landscape resources in the downtown. The Anglican Church and its related buildings form the core of the district and nearby there are public buildings such as the Mechanics Hall, former Well Street Public School and the Armoury.

Interwoven with these prominent buildings are representative examples of early houses and commercial properties. Town Park remains the most important public open space, a gathering place for everything from dog walking to weekend markets and special events. The Precinct provides a visible record of the Town's past and features attractive streetscapes, mature trees, varied building types and, in the case of Church Street, a compelling view up to the Anglican Church.

During this year's Doors Open Aurora event, Town Curators Shawna White and Michelle Johnson will lead a Walking Tour through the Cultural Precinct which will focus on buildings, culture and nature that make up the built environment of Aurora.

The Cultural Precinct Tour will be exploring various areas of the neighbourhood, including existing Doors Open Aurora 2016 sites and potentially a few other sites within the Precinct.

The Town of Aurora is proud to present the Cultural Precinct Walking Tour as a Doors Open Aurora 2016 site. Make sure to attend the Cultural Precinct Walking Tour, which begins at 1 p.m. at the Doors Open Headquarters in Town Park on Saturday, August 20.

For more information about Doors Open Aurora, to volunteer for the event, and to print a copy of the Doors Open Aurora 2016 Map Guide, please visit www.aurora.ca and click on the Doors Open icon on the front page.