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## See and Do at YZD

Discover the excitement at YZD with a lineup of experiences in the new year that bring together fun, creativity, and community. From Hangar Skate to exploring immersive attractions ([Bubble Planet](#) & [Dinos Alive](#)), there's something for everyone to enjoy.



## Join Us at Hangar Skate

Enjoy Winter Fun at YZD – Free Outdoor Skating & More!

Come experience all that winter has to offer at YZD with free outdoor skating until February 17! Surrounded by bold art installations, the 4,500-square-foot refrigerated rink is a perfect blend of fun and creativity. Whether you're on a date night, out with family, or learning a new skill, Hangar Skate has something for everyone. Now in its third year, this beloved winter tradition continues to bring affordable and engaging activities to the community.

**Weekend Highlights:**

**Fridays:** DJ Skate Nights

Skate to live DJ sets under dazzling lights, plus enjoy youth-friendly events in the YZD Experience Centre and Community Hall, including Open Mic nights, dance classes, and arts programs by Just BGRAPHIC.

**Saturdays & Sundays:** Free Learn to Skate Lessons

Join H2 OM for free skating lessons from 1 PM - 4 PM, with instructors on hand for skaters of all levels. Plus, explore drop-in arts programming:

- **Saturdays:** ArtStarts
- **Sundays:** 2-Spirited Peoples of the First Nations

Skating is always free, and skate rentals are just \$5.





**Book Now**

## Introducing Wilson District - Have Your Say



The Wilson District is the second phase of the YZD project, which will connect YZD directly to the TTC's adjacent Wilson Subway Station and the city's broader transit network. We're looking for your input to help shape the future of the neighbourhood!

Let us know your favourite places and what makes them stand out to you, tell us what makes a great neighbourhood and what you prioritize in your own backyard. Share your vision here and take the survey.

[Take The Survey](#)



## Reflecting On a Year of Milestones

As we begin 2025, we're looking back on the key milestones that shaped 2024 and brought us closer to realizing the vision for YZD.

- The **Downsview Secondary Plan** received unanimous approval from Toronto City Council, setting the stage for vibrant neighbourhoods, parkland, and economic opportunities.
- The **unveiling of YZD** introduced a name that honours the site's aviation history while embracing its future as a hub that will allow creativity and community to take flight.
- The **Runway Design Competition** launched, inviting visionary teams from around the world to transform the 2-kilometre runway into a pedestrian-first corridor.
- The **opening of the YZD Plaza and Experience Centre** offered a glimpse into the transformation underway and created new spaces for gathering and connection. The announcement of **Rogers Stadium at YZD** with Live Nation brought a cultural anchor to Toronto, with the first acts slated for summer 2025.
- The **Beyond the Tarmac open call** invited artists and event producers to reimagine the site through creativity and innovation.
- Finally, the **Downsview Framework Plan** received a 2024 National Urban Design Award, recognizing its sustainable and community-focused vision.

These achievements reflect the progress we've made together with our partners, stakeholders, and community members. Here's to building on this momentum in the year ahead!

[Community Giving](#)

Being part of the Downsview community means coming together to support and celebrate the people who make this area so special. On December 21, the Northcrest team joined The Rhema Foundation Canada's annual Toy Drive, helping to distribute toys, food hampers, and holiday cheer to more than 1,000 families alongside Toronto Police Services, CHUM Christmas Wish, and Toys for Tots.

It was a heartwarming day – reminding us of the shared spirit that defines this community. We're grateful to give back in meaningful ways and to stand alongside such incredible partners.



## Our Blog



**A Generational Approach  
to Community Building**

Discover how Ian Hanecak is driving meaningful engagement in YZD's transformation by fostering authentic collaboration. Read more in our latest blog.

**[Learn More](#)**

Recent Posts...

- [Generations of Beekeeping Brought Full Circle at YZD](#)
- [10 "Must Do" Experiences at Weekends at YZD](#)
- [Capturing Community: A Journey Through Photography and Storytelling with Northcrest](#)