

the use of games, discussions, research, movies and field trips to help students understand and appreciate other cultures. Heritage language instruction is generally offered outside school hours and, where available within the school system, at no charge. Some of Toronto's ethnocultural community groups also offer heritage language retention and learning programs.

Celebrations and Festivals

Toronto is a mosaic where people are encouraged to retain and take pride in their family's culture and heritage. Not surprisingly, some of the city's most impressive annual events are its cultural celebrations and festivals.

Many Torontonians who came to Canada as immigrants have gained international acclaim in the world of business.

The Caravan International Festival is by far Toronto's biggest. This jubilant cultural celebration has reflected the heritage of Torontonians for more than 20 years. For nine days each year, Caravan's 50 "international cities" — from New Delhi to Auckland, Athens to Montevideo, Seoul to Kiev, and all stops in between — take over local arenas, halls, churches and mosques. More than 20 000 volunteers from cultural, community and service organizations bring this festival to life. In 1989, more than two million visitors took part in the fun.

From its humble beginnings in 1967 as part of the Caribbean community's contribution to Canada's centennial, Caribana has evolved into a great annual celebration of Toronto's Island and Latin American communities.

This two-week festival now draws more than 750 000 participants and visitors from far and wide. The five-hour parade, with local dancers from Trinidad, Jamaica, Brazil and more places than Columbus discovered, regularly attracts more than 350 000 spectators along its route.

Multicultural education programs are part of many Toronto schools' standard curriculum.

Another favourite annual event is the CHIN radio station International Picnic. Now held for more than 20 years, the picnic brings some 250 000 people together for a giant four-day celebration of multiculturalism. Visitors join in games and races and enjoy entertainment by 2 000 local performers and talent from as far afield as Europe, Africa and Asia.

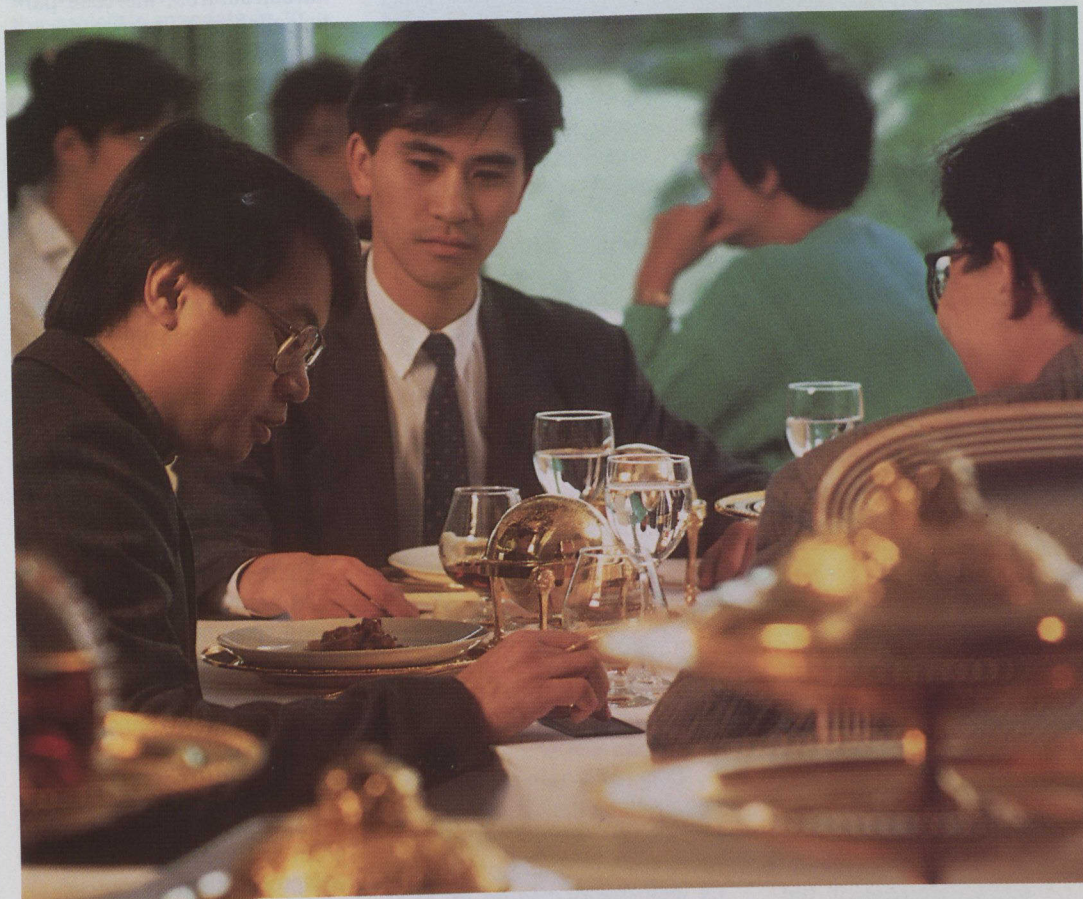
A Taste of Ethnic Culture

Perhaps no other aspect of Toronto life reveals the city's multicultural nature quite so vividly as the current international trend in restaurants.

A walk along Bloor, Kensington, St. Clair or Queen streets will reveal a staggering array of ethnic restaurants. In Toronto, the choice is unlimited when it comes to international cuisine: there are now more than 7 500 restaurants catering to every imaginable ethnic clientele. Hungarian, Japanese, Portuguese, Turkish, Moroccan, Indian and Croatian restaurants — the choice is limited only by the experience and taste of the diner.

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In Toronto, multicultural living is now an accepted and welcome way of life. All Torontonians have friends, neighbours and fellow workers from every continent, and think nothing of it. This is what makes Toronto unique. And this is what would make it an ideal place to host the 1996 Olympic Games. 🍁



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