

FRIENDS OF CITY PARKS

Vital support for communities to animate and improve our parks.



PHOTO: TORONTO REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

When communities get involved, parks get better.

Park People supports more than 100 park groups across our city, such as Friends of Withrow Park. These groups are crucial to organize volunteers to green and care for their local parks, advocate for park improvements, and host events such as tree plantings, nature walks, and festivals.

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[Park People] has hit upon a working method of do-it-yourself community activism: engaged volunteers seeking permission to do things on their own. [which] could serve as a model for the future of advocacy in Toronto.

GLOBE AND MAIL

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ACTIVITIES

Park People provides key supports to these groups through:

- An annual, city-wide Park Summit that brings together the entire parks community to learn about, share and celebrate parks
- Handbooks and resource guides for groups organizing volunteer-run activities, such as adopt-a-park-tree programs, campfires, outdoor movies, and natural ice rinks
- Training workshops, direct mentoring, and advice to groups planning events, applying for permits, and seeking funding
- A community-driven online events calendar that connects residents to local park events
- Important news and updates shared through our monthly newsletter and social media
- Connecting groups to city-wide festivals such as Jane's Walks and Clean Toronto Together

IMPACTS

Park people works to engage all Torontonians in their local park through:

- Increased participation in and awareness of parks and natural stewardship
- More active, animated parks
- Park programs/infrastructure informed by, and actively serving, the needs of communities

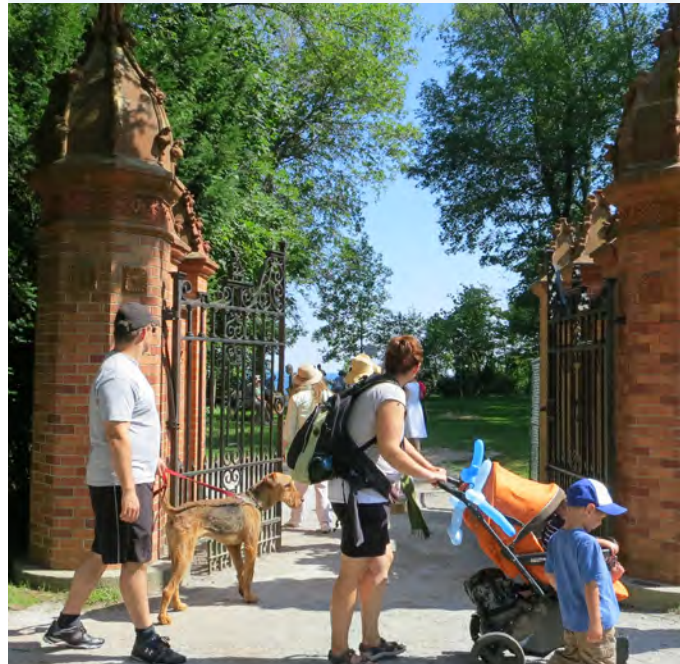


PHOTO: ANDREW WILLIAMSON

“ Power to the (park) People
Park People has blossomed into a network of 80 park groups across the city. It's mandate is to inspire new innovations in the use of public space and to make great parks accessible to all Torontonians. From installing outdoor brick tandoori and pizza ovens to hosting farmers markets and a litany of cultural festivals, more and more neighbourhood parks are becoming dynamic vibrant hubs.

TORONTO'S ENVIRO REPORT CARD –
David Suzuki and Jode Roberts



park
people

PARKPEOPLE.CA