



Bishop Strachan School for girls

Carvers: Tom Gallagher, Neil Cox and Kevin Reid

Story: Bishop Strachan School opened in 1867 with a mission to teach girls to be leaders, a radical concept at the time.

BSS has grown over the years from its first group of 31 girls to more than 900 currently attending Junior Kindergarten through Grade 12 at its Lonsdale Road location. Its range of studies has expanded with the times but its mission remains: “Inspire girls to be fearless, educate girls to be leaders”.



Thornton Blackburn’s first City Taxi

Carvers: Tom Gallagher and Alex Clement

Story: Wading through mud and occasionally raw sewage on his way to work in Toronto, Thornton Blackburn saw the need for a taxi service. In 1837 he created a red and yellow horse-drawn cab in which he could drive four passengers, naming it “The City”. Thornton and his wife, Lucie, had fled slavery in Kentucky and escaped recapture in Detroit before settling in Upper Canada where they were protected against repeated extradition attempts.



Toronto Coat of Arms

Carver: Tom Gallagher and Marjorie Paterson

Story: The Coat of Arms was created for Toronto in 1998 just after the amalgamation of the regional municipality of Metropolitan Toronto with East York, Etobicoke, North York, Scarborough, York and the City of Toronto.

The shield features “T” for Toronto, formed by the two towers of City Hall against the sky. The motto “Diversity our Strength” refers to cultural diversity and the seven former municipalities.



Canadian National Exhibition Princes' Gates

Carvers: Rod Deon, Mark Sheridan and Bob Gill

Story: The “Princes’ Gates” got its name when this new entrance to the Canadian National Exhibition was officially opened in 1927 by Edward, Prince of Wales, and his brother Prince George. Built to commemorate the 60th anniversary of Canada’s confederation, the design by architect Alfred Chapman features a central arch and a 91-metre-long structure surmounted by a statue of Winged Victory.



City Hall

Carver: Bob Gill

Story: Rescued from the reject pile, the futuristic design for Toronto City Hall by Finnish architect Viljo Revell was selected out of 500 submissions from 42 countries.

Built in the Modernist style and completed in 1965, the new City Hall with its curved buildings became one of Toronto's most distinctive landmarks. Its elegant and democratic design features glass-walled offices and a public gallery to watch politicians in action.



Honest Ed's

Carver: Alyssa Diamond

Story: Opened in 1948, Ed Mirvish's bargain store proved popular, gaining fame for its marketing stunts such as free turkey giveaways before Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

Until it finally closed on December 31, 2016, Honest Ed's had a cultural impact and was featured in several films and TV shows. The store's iconic sign used 23,000 light bulbs!



CN Tower

Carver: Lloyd Thomas

Story: Standing 553.3 metres high, the CN Tower was the world's tallest free-standing structure for 32 years, until 2007. It serves as a communication and observation tower and is recognized as an architectural and engineering triumph worldwide.

Toronto's skyline today is unimaginable without the CN Tower. There's even a time capsule tucked away on the LookOut Level, scheduled to be opened in 2076.



Ontario Science Centre

Carver: Neil Cox

Story: One of the world's first interactive science museums, the Ontario Science Centre is famous for its iconic hands-on, hair-raising Van de Graaff generator demonstration. With its mission to inspire passion for the human adventure of discovery, the Science Centre has engaged and educated more than 52 million visitors since it opened in 1969.



Victoria Hospital for Sick Children

Carver: Neil Cox

Story: This is carved in sandstone over the entrance to the former Victoria Hospital for Sick Children, Canada's first pediatric hospital which opened in 1892. The building on College Street is now a Canadian Blood Services regional donation centre.



Reconstructed Pot, Dunsmore

Carver: Emma Perlaky

Story: Ceramic vessels like this 500-year-old pot left by the Huron-Wendat occupants of a 15th-century settlement were found at the Dunsmore archeological site near Barrie, Ontario.

It was possible to reconstruct the complete vessel like a three-dimensional puzzle. The incised and stamped designs near the top of such vessels differed among the various nations of the Great Lakes Region.



Raptor Effigy Pipe Bowl

Carver: Anne Shelton

Story: This carving details a 700-year-old ceramic pipe bowl featuring a raptor head. Indigenous peoples smoked pipes during discussions and for ceremonial purposes to seal covenants and treaties.

Sharing a pipe was also a form of dispute resolution. The Huron-Wendat believed that inhaling tobacco smoke unlocked the mind and spirit.



Toronto Street Rail Horse Car

Carvers: Iris Forsey, Andrew Halmagyi and Marjorie Paterson

Story: In 1861, the Toronto Street Railway started operating streetcars pulled by horses, replacing horse-drawn omnibuses as a form of public transport.

At the peak of operation, there were over 1300 horses on the job conveying passengers across 14 streetcar routes. Within 30 years, electric streetcars began replacing the horse-drawn railcars.



Paleo-Indian Projectile Point

Carver: Tom Gallagher

Story: This carving depicts an 11,000-year-old stone point crafted to tip a spear. This style of spear point was only used for about 800 years, dating back to the period just after the continental glacier retreated from southern Ontario.

These points had elongated forms with concave bases and finely flaked surfaces. Indigenous societies of this period were small kin-based bands that hunted caribou, mastodon and small mammals.



Hwy 401 & Don Valley Cloverleaf

Carvers: Forrest Grierson and Neil Cox

Story: Built in 1961 and extended and widened several times, the intersection of the Don Valley Parkway and Highway 401 is one of the busiest on the North American continent. It provides a vital link between Highway 401 and the central parts of the city. With Toronto's population growth, the intersection's capacity of 60,000 vehicles a day is often pushed as high as 100,000, earning it the moniker "Don Valley Parking Lot".



Bear-Human Effigy Pipe Bowl

Carver: Tom Gallagher

Story: This combined bear/human effigy would have faced the smoker on the bowl of a ceramic pipe. The use of both human and animal relates to shamanic transformation and has spiritual significance.

This kind of effigy has been found throughout the Iroquoian-speaking world in the Lake Ontario and Lake Erie basins.



Magic in Wood

Carver: Eleanor Burke

Story: This is the signature of the artists of the Ontario Wood Carvers Association, who created these Maple Leaf Forever tree carvings.



Adena Projectile Point

Carver: Coral Walker

Story: Adena projectile points with typical ‘beaver tail’ stems originated in the Ohio Valley but have been found across the lower Great Lakes. They date back to around 800 to 400 BCE.

Adena points were shared among populations who had complex ceremonial practices that included the construction of burial mounds and the exchange of exotic items made of marine shell and copper.



Nanticoke Triangular Projectile Point

Carver: Rob Woodill

Story: Small, thin, triangular projectile points like this were found in many locations in the greater Toronto area. They date back to 1400 to 1600, when the Neutral and Huron-Wendat people formed semi-permanent agricultural settlements.

These points were made from Onondaga chert (sedimentary silica-based rock), which was also used for making drills and scrapers for hides.



University of Toronto

Carvers: Tom Gallagher, Neil Cox and Kevin Reid

Story: Founded in 1827 as King's College by royal charter and the Church of England, it became the secular University of Toronto in 1850. As other colleges affiliated with it, U of T became Canada's largest university - where insulin and stem cells were discovered and the first pacemaker was invented.

Alumni include ten Nobel Laureates, **three** Governors General, four Prime Ministers and authors Margaret Atwood, Michael Ondaatje and Farley Mowat.