

FEDERATION OF DEFENSE & CORPORATE COUNSEL



FDCC

DEFENSE LAWYERS. DEFENSE LEADERS.



JUL 28 – AUGUST 3, 2024

FAIRMONT ROYAL YORK | TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA



The Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel (FDCC) cordially invites its esteemed members and their distinguished families to the majestic city of Toronto, Ontario, for the illustrious 2024 Annual Meeting.

This grand assembly is scheduled to convene from the twenty-eighth of July to the third of August, marking the Federation's inaugural gathering in Toronto. As Canada's most populous city and one of the most multicultural and cosmopolitan places in the world, there will be endless opportunities for experiences and discovery. Toronto is a beacon for music, theatre, arts, sports, and culture. There will be something for everyone in our FDCC family. We are designing our programs and excursions to let you take advantage of everything that Toronto has to offer (indoors and outdoors). As our Convention theme implies, you will feel like royalty during your stay at The Fairmont Royal York – the Ontario residence of choice by the Late Queen Elizabeth II.

Important Things To Remember

Currency Exchange Rate – USD to CAD

1 Canadian Dollar equals .73 United States Dollar *

100 CAD = 73 USD

*Rate subject to change. Amount quoted as of 6/4/2024

Passport

Please be sure to renew your passport as soon as possible if you are planning to attend the FDCC Annual Meeting in Toronto. [CLICK HERE](#) to streamline your renewal process. We cannot wait to see you there!

Convention Leadership



Convention Chair

Marisa A. Trasatti



President & First Lady

Craig A. Marvinney &
Paula McQueen



Program Chair

Tiffany Alexander

Agenda At-A-Glance

SATURDAY, JULY 27

10:00 am	-	12:00 pm	Officers Meeting
12:00 pm	-	2:00 pm	Executive Committee Meeting
2:00 pm	-	4:00 pm	Admissions Committee Meeting
2:00 pm	-	4:00 pm	Sites Committee
4:00 pm	-	5:30 pm	P&O Meeting/State Reps Meeting
6:00 pm	-	10:00 pm	Board of Directors Dinner

SUNDAY, JULY 28

7:00 am	-	5:00 pm	FDCC Registration Desk Open
7:00 am	-	9:00 am	Committee Buffet Breakfast
8:00 am	-	9:00 am	F&B Meeting
9:00 am	-	10:00 am	Foundation Meeting
9:00 am	-	10:00 am	Diversity Committee
9:00 am	-	10:00 am	MDC
9:00 am	-	10:00 am	State Representatives Meeting
10:00 am	-	3:00 pm	Board of Directors Meeting
4:15 pm	-	5:45 pm	New Member Orientation
4:15 pm	-	5:45 pm	New Member Reception
5:30 pm	-	6:30 pm	Welcome Reception

MONDAY, JULY 29

7:00 am	-	5:00 pm	Registration
7:00 am	-	9:00 am	Buffet Breakfast
8:00 am	-	12:00 pm	Tour of the Rembrandt Charm Factory
7:00 am	-	9:00 am	Grab & Go Breakfast
7:45 am	-	8:45 am	Evolve Workshop
7:45 am	-	8:45 am	Mediation Series
8:45 am	-	11:00 am	Coffee Break Available
9:00 am	-	12:00 pm	Opening Plenary Session
9:00 am	-	5:00 pm	All day ticket Hop On/Hop Off Bus
1:00 pm	-	2:30 pm	Historic Tour of Royal York Hotel
1:00 pm	-	4:00 pm	Canoe on Lake Ontario
1:30 pm	-	3:30 pm	Walking Tour #1: Downtown + City Hall/Osgood Hall
6:30 pm	-	10:30 pm	Offsite Evening Activities for the Youth
6:30 pm	-	10:00 pm	Children's Evening Activities
7:00 pm	-	10:00 pm	President's Reception (18 yrs +)

TUESDAY, JULY 30

7:00 am	-	4:00 pm	Registration
7:00 am	-	9:00 am	Buffet Breakfast
7:00 am	-	9:00 am	Grab & Go Breakfast
7:45 am	-	8:45 am	Arbitration: Trends & Strategies
7:45 am	-	8:45 am	PFAScinating Litigation
8:45 am	-	11:00 am	Coffee Break Available
9:00 am	-	12:00 pm	Plenary Session
10:00 am	-	11:30 am	Spouse Hospitality
1:30 pm	-	3:30 pm	Toronto Harbour & Island Cruise
1:30 pm	-	5:15 pm	Bike Around Toronto
1:30 pm	-	5:15 pm	AGO + Charles Pachter Home Tour
1:30 pm	-	3:00 pm	Dining Etiquette Workshop
7:00 pm	-	10:00 pm	Casa Loma

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31 - FELLOWSHIP DAY

7:00 am	-	2:00 pm	FDCC Help Desk Open
7:00 am	-	5:30 pm	Niagara Falls Day Trip
7:30 am	-	5:30 pm	Niagara on the Lake + Winery
7:30 am	-	5:30 pm	Add on lunch for Niagara on the Lake ONLY
8:00 am	-	4:00 pm	Lake Ontario Fishing Expedition
9:00 am	-	12:00 pm	AI Workshop
9:00 am	-	1:45 pm	Sailing Adventure & Stop at Haunted Lighthouse
9:00 am	-	3:30 pm	Canada's Wonderland Amusement Park
9:00 am	-	4:00 pm	Renting & Racing Super Cars
10:00 am	-	2:00 pm	Upla Trampoline & Tree Climbing
1:30 pm	-	4:00 pm	Diversity Improv Workshop
2:30 pm	-	5:15 pm	FDCC Boccee Ball Tournament
6:00 pm	-	9:00 pm	Dine Arouds
6:00 pm	-	9:00 pm	Diversity Dinner
7:00 pm	-	9:00 pm	Evening with the Zuber's
9:00 pm	-	11:00 pm	Dessert Party

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1

7:00 am	-	4:00 am	Registration
7:00 am	-	9:00 am	Buffet Breakfast
7:00 am	-	9:00 am	Grab & Go Breakfast
7:00 am	-	5:00 am	Nominating Committee
7:45 am	-	8:45 am	Anatomy of Attorney's Fee Award
7:45 am	-	8:45 am	Employment Law Issues
7:45 am	-	8:45 am	Rising Above
7:45 am	-	8:45 am	Litigation in US vs Canada
8:45 am	-	11:00 am	Coffee Available
9:00 am	-	12:00 pm	Plenary Session
10:00 am	-	11:00 am	Book Club
12:00 pm	-	1:00 pm	PWF Luncheon
12:30 pm	-	4:30 pm	Toronto Fusion Food Tour
1:30 pm	-	3:30 pm	Walking Tour #2: Old Town Toronto + Market
1:30 pm	-	3:30 pm	Walking Tour #3: CN Tower + Entertainment District
7:00 pm	-	10:00 pm	Theme Party: Hockey Hall of Fame

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2

7:00 am	-	12:00 pm	Registration
7:00 am	-	9:00 am	Buffet Breakfast
7:00 am	-	9:00 am	Grab & Go Breakfast
7:45 am	-	8:45 am	Discovery Terrorism
7:45 am	-	8:45 am	Legal Malpractice Policy
7:45 am	-	8:45 am	Diversity Fatigue
8:45 am	-	11:00 am	Coffee Available
10:30 am	-	12:00 pm	Annual Business Meeting
10:30 am	-	12:00 pm	Closing Keynote Speaker
12:30 pm	-	4:00 pm	Cooking Class
1:00 pm	-	3:00 pm	Royal Ontario Museum
1:30 pm	-	3:30 pm	Bata Shoe Museum
6:30 pm	-	10:30 pm	Evening Activities for the Youth
7:00 pm	-	10:00 pm	Masquerade Ball (18 yrs +)



Hotel

The venue for this prestigious gathering is none other than The Fairmont Royal York, a landmark of timeless elegance and impeccable service. The “Royal York” is an iconic landmark nestled in the heart of Toronto. It is considered one of Canada’s grand railway hotels – an icon of Canadian history and sophisticated architecture. The Fairmont Royal York offers unparalleled convenience to explore Toronto’s greatest attractions, including: The CN Tower, Ripley’s Aquarium of Canada, Scotiabank Arena, Rogers Centre, and the entertainment districts. If you want to stay put for an evening, however, experience Royal York’s top-of-the-line service and amenities where ambiance is tops!

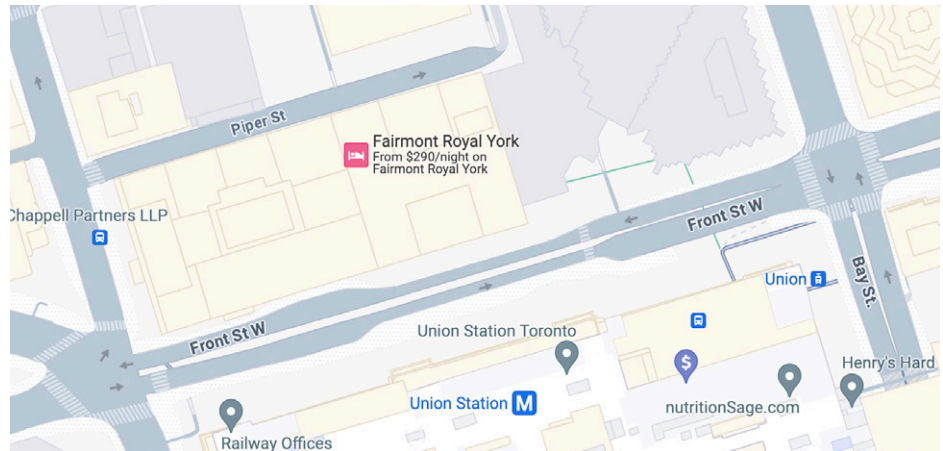
- James Grant – World Class Global Bartender of the Year in 2021 and Award-Winning Mixologist.
- CLOCKWORK Champagne & Cocktails – a swanky, easy-going, lobby lounge serving bubbles, creative cocktails, and small plates.
- REIGN – A timeless wine bar set in the heart of the city’s famed hotel, with small plates and signature tasting boards featuring local meats, artisanal cheeses, and craft accoutrements.
- Honey Harvest – watch Fairmont Royal York’s Apiary Team harvest honey from their very own rooftop beehives.
- High-Rise Herbarium – located 14 stories high (200 feet above ground), lies an outdoor urban oasis, where Fairmont Royal York’s garden grows; an extraordinary indoor pool and hot tub under a glass roof.
- LIBRARY BAR – the famed cocktail den cloaked beyond a secret corner of the illustrious Fairmont Royal York hotel.
- Health Club & Pool – indoor pool with skylight, whirlpool, children’s wading pool, saunas, steam rooms, change rooms, and complimentary towels and locker facilities.
- The Fitness Center – TechnoGym equipment, treadmills, elliptical trainers, recumbent cycle, upright cycle, dual adjustable pulley machine, free weights, stability balls, and adjustable benches.

We welcome you to the realm of grandeur and luxury...

The Fairmont Royal York is your gateway to the quintessential Toronto experience

Hotel Information

Fairmont Royal York
100 Front Street West
Toronto, Ontario M5J 1E3, Canada
(416) 368-2511
www.thefairmontroyalyork.com



The FDCC has negotiated a room rate of \$329.00 CAD per night (which, as of 4/12/2024, is approximately \$239 US), plus 13% Harmonized Sales Tax and 6% Municipal Accommodation Tax. Also, each third/fourth adult sharing a room will be charged an additional \$30 CAD per night. There will be no charge for children up to and including the age 18 years who share with their parents.

After you register, you will receive a link with which you can reserve a room in our room block. You must register for the Annual Meeting before you can book a room within our room block.

Check-in time is 4:00 PM and check-out time is 12:00 noon. In the event you arrive early or need to depart later, the valet will be happy to check your luggage at the hotel bell stand.

Royal York offers valet parking located at the hotel's east entrance for \$59 CAD per night. Nearby parking alternatives are recommended at 79 Wellington Street, 66 Wellington Street, or 30 Bay Street. The hotel also offers electric car charging facilities.

The Royal York's bars and restaurants will close at midnight.

Getting To Toronto

By Plane

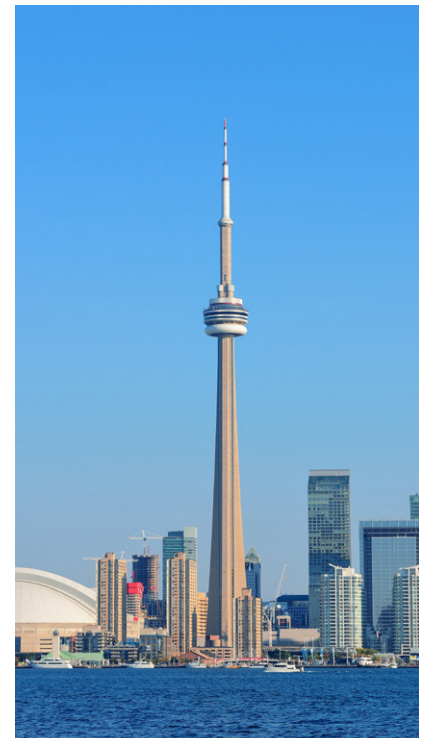
The Fairmont Royal York is easily accessible from both Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport (YTZ) and Toronto Pearson International Airport (YYZ). YTZ is approximately 10 minutes from the Royal York and there is a complimentary shuttle bus that runs between the airport and the hotel every 15 minutes. YYZ is approximately 25 minutes from the Royal York.

Avoid traffic snarls and take the easy way, the "Train to Downtown." The Union Pearson Express (Up Express) connects the YYZ to Union Station which is directly across from Royal York's doorstep. As of 3/14/2024, Up Express tickets cost less than 12.50 CAD and can be bought online or at stationed kiosks. The Up Express departs every 30 minutes.

You may also want to use Ride Share services such as Uber, Lyft, or taxis to get to the hotel from your airport.

By Driving

Most of New England, the Eastern Midwest, and the Mid-Atlantic members may find a less than 8-hour drive preferable to flying. Many will choose the Buffalo/Niagara Falls ports of entry, but some may find Detroit/Windsor easier from more westerly areas, cutting across Ontario north of Lake Erie.



Weather and Dress Code

During the summer, Toronto's daytime temperatures typically reach mid 70s while nighttime temperatures fall to high 60s. July and August are the best months of the year to visit Toronto!

Overall, the Royal York encourages nice casual attire. Good taste and comfortable wear is the general standard for the dress code.

For the program and business meetings, we recommend business casual. Few, if any of the area restaurants have a dress code.

We recommend cocktail attire for the President's Reception. We also recommend Black & White cocktail attire for the Gala.

For the Casa Loma event, we recommend business attire.

Make sure to pack your favorite player's jersey for our theme party at the Hockey Hall of Fame (home to the world's largest hockey collection) – preferably a hockey jersey to show spirit for Canada's most popular sport; but any type of jersey is acceptable!

Charm

Toronto Maple Leaf

The FDCC's First Lady or President has chosen gold charms to commemorate its meetings since 1960. Over the years, we have made it a tradition to select a specially designed charm to remind you of the fond memories of the venue or the meeting's theme. First Lady Paula McQueen selected the Maple Leaf as this year's charm. The Maple Leaf is a symbol of Canada's pride, unity, and royal character. Furthermore, The Canadian Maple Leaf is a central figure in national ceremonies and events, gracing official gatherings with its regal presence. Charms are specifically ordered, so be sure to purchase your charm when you register.



We also scheduled a special excursion to the REMBRANDT factory – the place where the FDCC charms are designed and manufactured!



DOWNLOAD THE FDCC365 APP

During the meeting, the app will open directly to the meeting schedule, and you can use the app to keep track of meetings and excursions, including last minute changes. You can also report your CLE through the app.

You can connect and communicate with members through the app, and you can share pictures, like an FDCC Facebook!

And of course, you can also post your photos on the FDCC Facebook site, the FDCC Toronto Meeting Facebook Group, or both!





Meeting Registration

The early bird conference registration rate is \$1,995 for Defense Counsel members and \$850 for guests. Early bird registration ends on June 15; after June 15: \$2,145 for Defense Counsel members and \$850 for guests. We encourage you to register promptly to guarantee your spot in our room block and your selection of afternoon activities!

Defense Counsel Members is \$1,995.00.

Corporate Counsel & Industry Members is \$695.00.

Guests \$850.00.

Emeritus Members and their guests is \$800.00 each.

Rates for children are tiered based upon age

Children 3 and under are complimentary, Children 4 to 11 are \$260
children 12 – 17 are \$425, and children 18-20 are \$650.

We urge you to **REGISTER ONLINE** promptly to guarantee your selection of afternoon activities. Visit the FDCC website for the online link. You may also use the “hard copy” registration form which may be downloaded from the FDCC website. Registrations that are mailed will be processed in the order that they are received, and selected activities may not be available. We encourage attendees to edit their registrations online with activities as they can see in “real time” whether there is availability. Registrations may also be faxed or scanned and emailed with credit card payment. Attendees are NOT charged the \$100 credit card fee for activities.

Cancellation Policy

For cancellations received before June 28, a full refund, minus a \$100 credit card charge, will be processed. A full refund of all registration fees, less \$250, will be made if the notice of cancellation is received by the Executive Director on or after June 28, 2024, but before July 18, 2024. A refund of all registration fees less \$500 will be made if the notice of cancellation is received by the Executive Director on or after July 18, 2024. Activity charges may be refunded if the Vendor refunds fees or if another member fills and pays for the spot vacated by the cancellation.

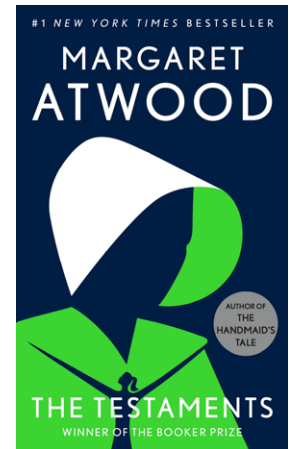
Book Club

Hosted By Chris Sanders

The Testaments by Margaret Atwood

The Testaments was a joint winner of the 2019 Booker Prize. It was also voted 'Best Fiction' novel in the Goodreads Choice Awards 2019, winning by over 50,000 votes. Margaret Atwood's sequel picks up the story more than fifteen years after Offred stepped into the unknown, with the explosive testaments of three female narrators from Gilead. In this brilliant sequel to The Handmaid's Tale, acclaimed Toronto-based author Margaret Atwood answers the questions that have tantalized readers for decades.

Margaret Eleanor Atwood is a Canadian poet, novelist, literary critic, essayist, teacher, environmental activist, and inventor. Various filming of the Handmaid's Tale series took place in Toronto.



Child Care

We are working with local childcare providers to organize childcare for the mornings and supervision for the evening events – which will be epic! We are planning a Kids' Night Out at the Aquarium, a Night at the Museum of Illusions, and a fun tour of the CN Tower. All evening events include dinner and transportation.

Kid's Evening Excursions

"Illusions and Sky High Thrills: A Night at the Museum of Illusions and CN Tower!"

Prepare for a mind-bending adventure as we dive into the world of illusions at the Museum of Illusions before soaring to new heights at the iconic CN Tower! Kids of all ages will be mesmerized by optical illusions, interactive exhibits, and panoramic views of Toronto's skyline. It's a night of wonder and excitement that will leave the kids spellbound!

"Dive into the Depths: A Shark-tastic Night at Ripley's Aquarium!"

Calling all brave adventurers! Join us for a thrilling evening at Ripley's Aquarium as we dive into the depths of the ocean to discover the fascinating world of sharks. From jaw-dropping exhibits to hands-on experiences, kids of all ages will be captivated by these magnificent creatures. Get ready for a night of excitement, education, and unforgettable memories!

Special Accommodations

The FDCC strives to accommodate all of its members. If you require any accommodations, including ADA access, special meals, or anything else, please let the FDCC staff know before the meeting, and we will do everything we can to accommodate you.

FDCC Alcohol Policy

The FDCC's policy provides that alcohol shall be served at FDCC functions only to those attendees who are 21 years of age and older. FDCC members and/or guests who bring individuals to the Convention who are below the age of 21 will be expected to cooperate in the enforcement of this policy and to further assure that such underage individuals understand this policy. This applies to international meetings such as those held in Canada, where the legal drinking is 19 years of age.

Reservation of Rights

The FDCC reserves the right to change the schedule, location, topics, speakers, and/or activities due to unforeseen circumstances.

Name Badges Required

Your FDCC name badge is required for all FDCC events, both on and off site. The name badges are color-coded as follows:

White - FDCC members and family

Blue - FDCC members - first time attendees and family

Green - FDCC members - second time attendees and family

Yellow - Non FDCC member guests and family

Orange - Guests under 21 years old

Reaching New HEIGHTS In Leadership, the Law, and in Life

Program Theme – “Reaching New Heights in Leadership, the Law, and in Life”

Just as the beautiful city of Toronto offers a myriad of diverse and interesting activities and opportunity, so will our program. What are the biggest challenges to the practice? How can we build and maintain a culture in our organizations to thrive and not just survive? What is next for the Courts and the Rule of Law? How can we focus on what matters and work smarter? What do we need to know about cross-border litigation and risk? These and many pressing questions will be answered by our illustrious line-up of leaders from the profession, the bench, and the boardroom. Our program will leave you inspired and poised to lead your organization through whatever may come.

Convention Overview

Monday's President Reception will be held in Royal York's Imperial Room. This may be the most magnificent ballroom in North America. The décor is lavish, featuring intricate chandeliers, ornate furnishings, and rich fabrics in hues of gold, burgundy, and deep blue. The walls are adorned with fine art and exquisite detailing, adding to the ambiance of regal splendor. The night will be filled with great food, drinks, and fellowship.

Tuesday night's not-to miss-event will be a once in a lifetime experience as we get to explore Toronto's majestic Gothic Revival castle – Casa Loma. Regarded as a treasured heritage landmark, it is a prime example of Toronto's commitment to its rich history. This castle is one of the most enchanting attractions and best hospitality venues in the world. Touring Casa Loma will take you back in time to a period of European elegance and splendor. It was designed from 1911 to 1914 by E.J. Lennox, a notable architect who planned several other Toronto attractions. The “Oak Room” is considered the most decorated room in the house and a must-see spectacle. Not to mention, the views from Casa Loma of the Toronto skyline at night are spectacular. So, bring your camera and get ready for an unforgettable experience.

Who is your Dine Around Captain? On Wednesday, team up and decide on which Toronto restaurant you are so eager to try. There are many great options to choose from...check out the restaurant list near the end of the brochure to start brainstorming!

On Thursday, our “Wear Your Favorite Sports Team Jersey” theme party will take place at the Hockey Hall of Fame – home to the world's largest hockey collection. Bring your entire family and wear your favorite player's jersey to show your spirit for Canada's most popular sport! Everyone from the newest to the oldest member of the FDCC is welcome to join this fun evening. You can pretend you are a sports commentator at the ESPN Sports Center Desk or maybe you want to tour the locker room or perhaps take some shots on goal. And maybe, just maybe, you can taste Canada's poutine...French fries of sorts, with only 980 calories per serving.

Lastly, On Friday, we planned a Royal Masquerade “Ball” in Black and White Gala located in The Royal York's Concert Hall. The Concert Hall is a distinguished space known for its grandeur and acoustics. Bring your favorite mask, or don one of those we will provide! Black & white attire is encouraged as we wrap up an amazing week with one last party.

Excursions

We have planned lots of fun and exciting afternoon activities for the entire family to enjoy! Except where noted, all prices are per person, and at least one FDCC host will accompany groups and the activity group.

Group sizes are limited, so you will want to book early. If your preferred activity is booked, you can apply to be a stand-by, in which case you should meet at the time and location for the activity, and we will accommodate you if space becomes available.

On Site Meeting Check-In and Registration Times

The “Help Desk” will be open Sunday, July 28 – Thursday, August 1, from 7:00 am – 5:00 pm and from 7:00 am – 12:00 pm on Friday, August 2. The FDCC Registration Desk, for pick-up of your registration materials (and staffed by FDCC members & guests), will be open as follows:

SUNDAY, JULY 28	7:00 AM - 5:00 PM	FDCC REGISTRATION DESK OPEN
MONDAY, JULY 29	7:00 AM - 5:00 PM	FDCC REGISTRATION DESK OPEN
TUESDAY, JULY 30	7:00 AM - 4:00 PM	FDCC REGISTRATION DESK OPEN
WEDNESDAY, JULY 31	7:00 AM - 2:00 PM	HELP DESK OPEN
THURSDAY, AUGUST 1	7:00 AM - 2:00 PM	FDCC REGISTRATION DESK OPEN
FRIDAY, AUGUST 2	7:00 AM - 12:00 PM	FDCC REGISTRATION DESK OPEN





SATURDAY, JULY 27, 2024

- 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Officers Meeting
- 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting
- 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Admissions Committee Meeting
- 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Sites Committee Meeting
- 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm Projects & Objectives Meeting
- 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm Board of Directors Dinner

SUNDAY, JULY 28, 2024

- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm FDCC Registration Desk is Open
- 7:00 am - 9:00 am Committee Buffet Breakfast
- 8:00 am - 9:00 am Finance & Budget Meeting
- 9:00 am - 10:00 am Foundation Meeting
- 9:00 am - 10:00 am Diversity Committee
- 9:00 am - 10:00 am MDC
- 9:00 am - 10:00 am State Representative Meeting
- 10:00 am - 3:00 pm Board of Directors Meeting
- 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm New Member's Orientation
+ Reception
- 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Welcome Reception

MONDAY, JULY 29, 2024

- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm FDCC Registration Desk is Open
- 7:00 am - 9:00 am Voucher Breakfast
- 7:00 am - 9:00 am Grab & Go Breakfast
- 7:45am - 8:45 am Section Programming

EVOLVE Workshop: A Practical Approach to Utilizing Tech Tools to Get a Firm Handle on Deposition Transcripts and Witness Testimony.

This session will discuss how to utilize tech tools to organize deposition testimony, prepare deposition designations, discuss the benefits of creating an issue folder containing deposition testimony, and how to create deposition video clips utilizing the TranscriptPad application on the iPad Pro. It will also give a practical demonstration of using AI tools to summarize transcript testimony or answer specific questions that may be contained in transcript testimony.

E. Edd Pritchett, Jr., Durbin Larimore & Bialick, P.C.,
Oklahoma City, OK
Jimmy Wilkins, Watkins & Eager PLLC, Jackson, MS

Mediation Series: The Landing and Preventative Maintenance - Closing the Deal

The last of a 4-part series concerning mediation best practices and tips. We continue the theme of discussing the mediation process in terms of using the flight instructor's training guide.

How does one most effectively get the dispute to closure and land the deal? How does one best achieve clarity of understanding in the Settlement Term Sheet to ensure that the parties have a meeting of the minds and full consent?

Marc Harwell, Harwell & Hurst, Chattanooga, TN
H. Mills Gallivan, Gallivan, White & Boyd, Greenville, SC
Jean Lawler, Lawler ADR Services, LLC, El Segundo, CA
John Trimble, Lewis Wagner LLP, Indianapolis, IN

**9:00 am – 10:00 am Annual Meeting
Welcome and Kickoff**

**10:00 am – 11:00 am Welcome Address,
The Honourable Madam Justice
Julie A. Thornburn, Court of
Appeal for Ontario**

**11:00 am – 12:00 pm Keynote Speaker,
Michael Smerconish,
Smerconish.com**

Using the perfect blend of analysis and humor, Michael Smerconish delivers an engaging, thought-provoking, and balanced dialogue on today's political arena. Michael is a contributor and host of the CNN weekly show, Smerconish, and host of the popular Smerconish Podcast, for Independent Minds, where he hosts spirited discussions of government, politics, and current events without predictable left/right bias.



MONDAY EXCURSIONS

8:00 am - 12:00 pm Tour of the Rembrandt Factory
Take a behind-the-scenes tour of the factory where our FDCC meeting charms are designed and made. From gold ingots to the hand-polished finished product, see the process where each of our charms is individually made! No mass production here!
\$85 per person

1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Canoe On Lake Ontario
Embark on a Majestic Canoeing Expedition. Launch your canoe into the royal blue expanse of Lake Ontario, where the gleaming skyline of Toronto stands as a majestic backdrop. Glide along the waterfront and witness the city's iconic structures, including the CN Tower, creating a regal silhouette against the horizon.
\$110 per person

Red Bus City Tours

Sit back and enjoy as the Red Bus gracefully navigates its way through a curated route that encompasses the city's most iconic landmarks. From majestic monuments to cultural hubs, you'll have the chance to witness the regal charm of each destination, with stops for exploration and photo opportunities. The bus tickets will be available to use throughout the entire day –
MONDAY ONLY. \$46 per person

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm Walking Tour #1:

Take a leisurely stroll through the heart of Toronto as you explore two iconic destinations, City Hall and Osgoode Hall. This tour invites you to explore the diverse facets of Toronto's storied past and dynamic present. **\$25 per person**

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Historic Tour of Royal York Hotel

The Royal York opened on June 11, 1929. At the time it was the largest hotel in the British Empire. Experience a guided tour that emphasizes the hotel's rich history. Discover the hotel's role in hosting dignitaries, celebrities, and historic events, immersing yourself in the heritage that has shaped this iconic establishment.
\$25 per person

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm President's Reception (Evening Event)

For our President's Reception, we will take over the Fairmont Royal York's Ballroom. The Ballroom exhibits an Italian influence in its colors, materials, and ceiling oil painting. Restored to its 1929 decor, it is still believed to be the most photographed room in Toronto, with close to 5,000 square feet of inspired visual splendor. There, we will have dinner, drinks, music, and fellowship.

Dress Code: Cocktail Attire

TUESDAY, JULY 30, 2024

7:00 am - 4:00 pm FDCC Registration Desk is Open

7:00 am - 9:00 am Voucher Breakfast

7:00 am - 9:00 am Grab & Go Breakfast

7:45 am - 8:45 am Section Programming

Arbitration: Trends & Strategies for Success

[Section: Construction]

All you need to know about Construction Arbitration right now from a panel of experts, including strategies and red flags in selecting arbitrators, an in depth look at litigation vs. arbitration, strategies for defending multiparty arbitrations or hybrid litigation/arbitration disputes, the impact of the US Supreme Court decision in *Coinbase v. Bielski* plus practical tips for drafting arbitration provisions, handling arbitrations in a cost-effective manner and compelling arbitration.

Denise M. DePekary, Weber Gallagher Simpson Stapleton

Fires & Newby, Bedminster, NJ

Jordan N. Teich, Copeland Stair Valz & Lovell, LLP, Charleston, SC

Jarrod J. White, Frazer Greene, Mobile, AL

John S. Worden, Venable LLP, San Francisco, CA

PFAScinating Litigation Developments: Defining “Forever” and Ubiquitous” in .PFAS Chemical Cases

[Section: Toxic Tort]

No chemical compound has presented the scale of exposure and potential industry-wide liability risk as per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (“PFAS”). There are thousands of PFAS related chemicals that have been in commerce beginning in the 1940s in all major industries. While there is no consensus on whether and how to make individualized determinations on which of these substances present a risk to health and safety, the federal Food

and Drug Administration (“FDA”), Department of Agriculture (“USDA”), Consumer Product Safety Commission (“CPSC”), and Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) are focusing on three issues: bioaccumulation, persistence, and toxicity in evaluating at what level these compounds present a risk to the health of humans and animals. This interactive panel will focus on evolving scientific and medical evidence and strategies for defending this burgeoning litigation.

Jennifer Adams, Deutsch Kerrigan, LLP, New Orleans, LA

Edward Casmere, Norton Rose Fulbright, Chicago, IL

Dave Erickson, Shook Hardy & Bacon, Kansas City, MO

Michael A. Walsh, Clark Hill, Dallas, TX

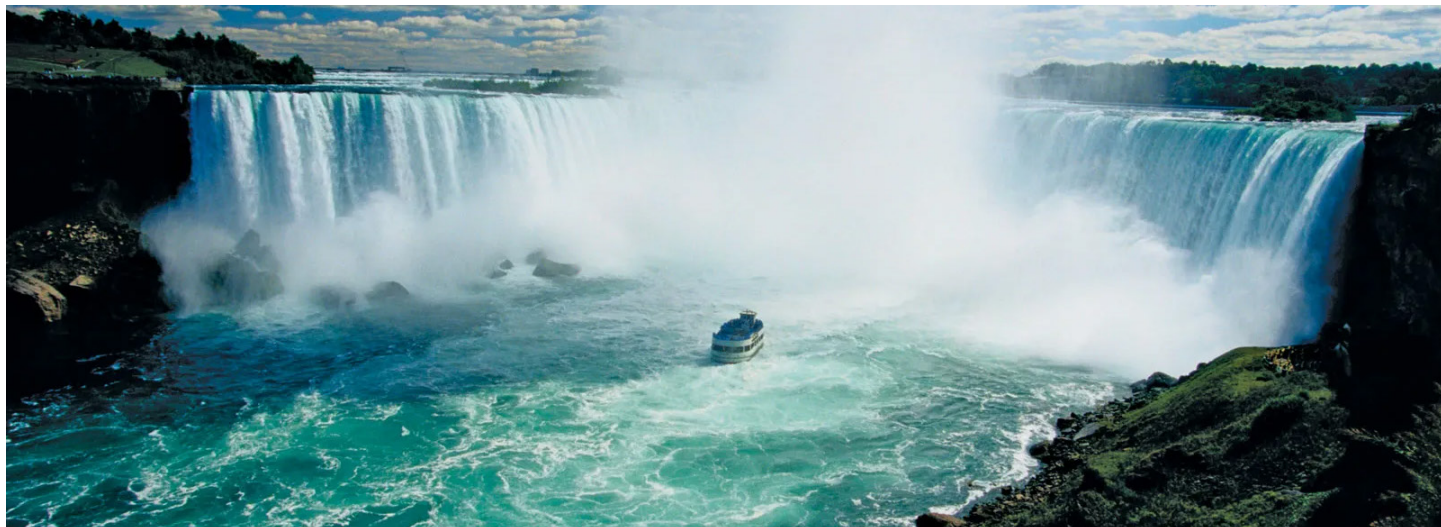
9:00 am - 12:00 pm Plenary Session

"Navigating the New Frontier: AI's Legal Landscape and Ethical Implications"

Join us for a thought-provoking session with Maura R. Grossman, a pioneering figure at the intersection of artificial intelligence and law and member Stephen Embry, as we explore the potential transformative impact of Generative AI and Large Language Models (LLMs) on the legal profession. This engaging interview will shed light on the nuances of AI technology, highlighting both its potential and pitfalls, including biases and ethical considerations that legal practitioners must navigate. We'll delve into real-world applications of AI in legal settings, discuss the challenges and opportunities it presents, and examine strategies for legal professionals to ethically integrate AI into their practice. Whether you're an AI enthusiast or a legal expert, this session will equip you with a deeper understanding of AI's role in shaping the future of law.

Dr. Maura R. Grossman, School of Computer Science University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON, Canada

Stephen Embry, Embry Law LLC, Louisville, KY



“DEI Policies in the Crosshairs: A Discussion of Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard and its Impact on DEI Initiatives in the Private Sector”

This panel will engage in a deep dive into the Harvard decision and the new challenges it presents for private employers, law firms and legal departments pursuing their DEI initiatives. The esteemed speakers will provide practical guidance for firms and legal departments on how to navigate the new guidelines, including: defining specific goals for DEI initiatives, training methods for managers, tips on how to measure the outcome and benefits of a diverse workforce, reviewing and auditing DEI initiatives for efficacy and relevance to the company's goals, and modifying DEI initiatives to seek diversity and inclusion based on broader characteristics that do not involve protected classes.

Mohamed N. Bakry, Marshall Dennehy, Philadelphia, PA
Atoya Harris, Proskauer Rose, New Orleans, LA

“Building a Culture that WORKS For Your Organization”

In this panel, Marisa Trasatti with guests Aaron Burton, CEO of Sciton Inc, and Alycen Moss, Vice Chair of the Global Insurance Department at Cozen O'Connor, will discuss the idea and importance of building a strong corporate culture. The topics of discussion include culture building techniques used at Sciton Inc. and Cozen O'Connor; how to establish a positive corporate culture; and what organizations can do to assess and improve their culture. Attendees will gain a better understanding of this business fundamental to help improve financial success, retention, and succession planning.

Aaron Burton, Chief Executive Officer, Sciton, Inc., Palo Alto, CA
Katie P. Desiderio, The Beekeeper: Pollinating Your Organization for Transformative Growth
Michael G. Frino The Beekeeper: Pollinating Your Organization for Transformative Growth
Alycen Moss, Vice Chair of the Global Insurance Department at Cozen O'Connor, Atlanta, GA
Marisa Trasatti, Sciton Inc., Palo Alto, CA

TUESDAY EXCURSIONS

1:30 pm - 5:15 pm Bike Around Toronto

Bicycle around Toronto on a guided tour and enjoy the city sites while on two wheels. Pedal through iconic neighborhoods, lush green spaces, and cultural hubs! **\$130 per person**

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm Toronto Harbour & Island Cruise

Sail into a sea of joy along the beautiful Harbourfront. This cruise provides visitors with a unique perspective of the city skyline and its picturesque islands. Bring your camera and enjoy a relaxing trip with incredible views. **\$55 per person**

1:30 pm - 5:15 pm AGO + Charles Pachter Home Tour

For our art history buffs, this is a comprehensive tour of the Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO) and local artist Charles Pachter's home collection. The AGO houses an extensive and diverse collection of artworks spanning various periods, styles, and cultures. A hop skip from the AGO is artist Charles Pachter's newly built home and private museum with surprises at every turn.

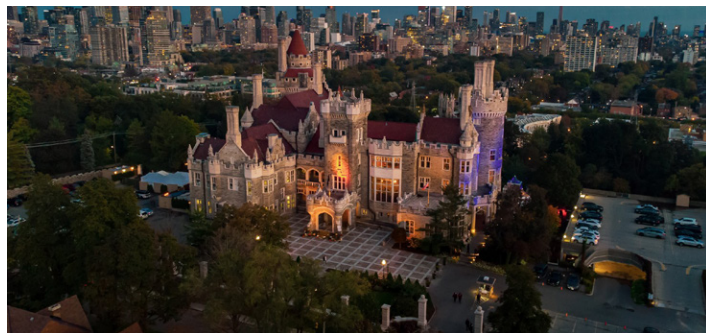
\$100 per person

1:30 pm - 3:00 pm Dining Etiquette Workshop

This “Etiquette Matters Institute of Etiquette” program is intended to benefit kids and young adults (ages 10 and up) with expertise on proper dining etiquette! From mastering the art of introductions to navigating the intricacies of place settings, every aspect of dining etiquette will be covered in detail. The

program is highly interactive and will take place in a private room at The Queen & Beaver Public House so participants can be fully immersed in the learning experience (while still enjoying a delicious meal)! Dress code is business casual. A local tour guide will walk the kids to the restaurant. **\$75 per person.**

10 ATTENDEES MAXIMUM – first 10 to register will secure a spot.



7:00 pm Casa Loma (Evening Event)

Join us for dinner and immerse yourself in the charm of Casa Loma, a Gothic Revival castle turned historic house museum. Explore the Oak Room, the most decorated space, or enjoy the breathtaking views of the Toronto skyline from its Towers! Casa Loma is regarded as a treasured landmark and the perfect setting for special occasions. Children are welcome!!

Dress Code: Business.



FDCC FELLOWSHIP DAY – WEDNESDAY, JULY 31

7:00 am - 2:00 pm FDCC Help Desk Open

**9:00 am - 12:00 pm FDCC Inaugural AI Workshop:
How You Can Use AI – A Step by Step Tutorial on Using
AI at Your Law Firms and Legal Departments**

Our members will teach you how to use the open AI large language models (including Chat GPT 4, Claude 3, Perplexity, Gemini and Co-Pilot) to handle every aspect of your practice, business and litigation matters, including: drafting

correspondence, e-mails, and other communications, Discovery, Develop case themes and theories, Conduct due diligence on experts, Prepare for depositions, Prepare voir dire questions, Opening Statements, direct and cross examinations and Closing Argument. You will also learn how to use these tools to draft contracts, draft policies and procedures and communicate with your C-Suite.

Stephen E. Embry, Embry Law LLC, Louisville, KY
Jimmy Wilkins, Watkins & Eager, PLLC, Jackson, MS

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP DAY EXCURSIONS

8:00 am - 5:30 pm Niagara Falls Day Trip

Enjoy a moderated tour from Toronto to Niagara Falls with a stop at a local chocolate making factory! You will have plenty of time to tour the Canadian side of the Falls, it's amazing gardens and local shops. This is a great tour that can be customized to include the "Maid of the Mist" boat tour, the Niagara SkyWheel, the Skylon Tower and much more! **\$145 per person**

8:00 am - 4:00 pm Lake Ontario Fishing Expedition

This will be a fishing adventure of a lifetime on Lake Ontario for anglers of all skill levels. Your guide will be Captain Peter, a Lake Ontario fishing guide since 1991 who knows its waters like the palm of his hand. You will be fishing for Chinook, Coho, and Atlantic Salmon (as well as Steelhead). Captain Peter and his mate will provide the necessary fishing gear including rods, reels, tackle, and baits. Greek BBQ and refreshments will be provided for lunch. **\$245 per person**

**8:00 am - 5:30 pm Niagara on the Lake –
Wine & Town Tour**

Niagara-on-the-Lake, nestled in Ontario, Canada, is renowned for its picturesque vineyards and award-winning wineries. The region boasts numerous boutique wineries, each with its unique charm and character. Knowledgeable staff members will guide you through tastings, offering insights into flavor profiles, pairing suggestions, and the unique characteristics of each wine. Furthermore, picture-perfect landscapes, rolling hills, and views of Lake Ontario provide a stunning backdrop throughout your tour. **\$145 per person**

**12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Niagara on the Lake –
Lunch Add-On**

All inclusive lunch at the Prince of Wales Hotel
15 person minimum. \$55 per person

2:30 pm - 5:15 pm FDCC Bocce Ball Tournament at Lob Toronto

Bocce ball is a simple and wildly fun game that everyone can play together. The FDCC's first bocce ball match will be held at Lob Toronto – Toronto's unique bocce golf bar. Come out and compete! **\$55 per person**



10:00 am - 2:00 pm Upla Trampoline & Tree Climbing

Experience North America's largest outdoor trampolines – This world of nets includes a massive network of interconnected trampolines; connected slides; ramps; and forest pathways. Enjoy a safe, fun, physical and ecological way to reconnect with nature and with your inner self. **\$75 per person**

9:00 am - 4:00 pm Renting & Racing Super Cars

Drive up to 7 Exotic Cars and Supercars in one day while exploring the beautiful Niagara countryside or Halton's exciting winding roads. Selection options include Ferrari F8 Tributo; McLaren 720S Spider; Lamborghini Huracan Evo; Porsche 911 GT3 RS 991; and more! **\$375 per person**

9:15 am - 1:45 pm Sailing Adventure & Stop at the Haunted Lighthouse

Embark on a sailing adventure through the Toronto Harbour, Islands, and Lake Ontario while enjoying the city's iconic skyline from a different perspective. Admire the towering skyscrapers, including the CN Tower, as they form a dramatic backdrop against the sparkling waters of Lake Ontario. Plus, you will confront Toronto's "Haunted Lighthouse" at Gibraltar Point! Lunch included. **\$220 per person**

9:00 am - 3:30 pm Canada's Wonderland Amusement Park

Canada's Wonderland is one of Canada's premier amusement parks – it's the largest theme park in the country and offers a wide range of attractions, rides, and entertainment for visitors of all ages. The park boasts over 200 attractions, including more than 60 thrilling rides ranging from gentle family rides to adrenaline-pumping roller coasters. Canada's Wonderland offers an unforgettable experience for families (and thrill-seekers). **\$85 per person**

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Dine Around Night

Who is your Dine Around Captain? Make arrangements to dine with your FDCC friends on your own! Check out the list of restaurants near the end of the brochure to help brainstorm your destination. [CLICK HERE](#) for the link to the Dine Around signups, also found on the FDCC Annual Meeting webpage.

9:00 pm - 11:00 pm Dessert Party

After dinner, come enjoy an FDCC tradition and indulge in an amazing assortment of desserts presented by the talented culinary artists of The Royal York.

1:30 pm - 4:00 pm Join the Diversity Committee for an afternoon of laughs and an evening of fellowship

Join us at the hotel for an afternoon of improv, where the troupe from Annex Improv will spend ___ hours with you to teach you the basics of improv, to improve your public speaking and trial presentation skills. **\$100 per person**

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Diversity Dinner

Please join us for dinner at McMillan LLP's 44th floor client centre, with sweeping views of Lake Ontario and the Toronto Islands. Dinner, catered by a local Jamaican business, will highlight foods from the vibrant Caribbean communities that have made Toronto their home – and, with our conference being held just as the Toronto Carnival/Caribana festival is getting started, we will also enjoy Carnival-themed music and décor (including magnificent Carnival costumes on display). Maximum 50 people. **\$125 per person**

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Foundation Fundraiser with the Zubers (Evening Event)

Join David and Lisa Zuber and the Federation Foundation at the Zuber's home for an evening celebrating friendship and fellowship at a Foundation fundraiser. We promise lots of food, drinks, laughs and networking while raising money for the Foundation. The Foundation sponsors guest speakers at the conferences and the Barb Currie Scholarship among other projects. Bus transportation provided to and from the hotel. **Tickets are \$200 per person**

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 2024

7:00 am - 2:00 pm **FDCC Registration Desk Open**

7:00 am - 9:00 am **Voucher Breakfast**

7:00 am - 9:00 am **Grab & Go Breakfast**

7:45 am - 8:45 am **Section Programming**

Anatomy of an Attorney's Fee Award [Section: Life, Health & Disability Insurance and ADR]

The specter of combating attorney fee awards in litigation can be a major factor in valuing cases at the front end, but also in determining the risks and rewards of proceeding through trial, or even determining whether we have secured an economic "win" for our clients in the end result. This panel presentation will offer practical advice on conducting necessary discovery to defend against a fee petition and practice pointers, derived from case law, on factors influencing the size of awards so as to convince courts to reduce hourly rates, slash inflated hours, eliminate duplicative work, and avoid fee multipliers. Finally, the panel will address the latest case authority on the basic issue of which party has prevailed so as to entitle them to an award.

Russell S. Buhite, Ogletree Deakins, Seattle, WA
C. Bailey King, Jr., Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP, Charlotte, NC
Brooks R. Magratten, Pierce Atwood LLC, Providence, RI

Employment Law Issues in An Ever Evolving Legal Landscape – What You Need To Know To Advise And Protect Your Clients [Sections: Employment Practices and Workplace Liability]

An overview of hot topics and recent developments in employment law including noncompete agreements, changes to FLSA exemptions, employee classification issues, NLRB rulings,

EEOC regulations and how to respond to investigations by the Department of Labor, EEOC and other government agencies.

Paul M. Finamore, Pessin Katz Law, P.A., Columbia, MD
Chad Hatmaker, Woolf, McClane, Bright, Allen & Carpenter, PLLC, Knoxville, TN
April Berman, SVP, Deputy General Counsel, Asurion, Nashville, TN

Rising Above – Finding Coverage and Litigating Civil Liability for Criminal Activity. [Sections: Property, Premises, Extra-Contractual and Transportation]

The panel will provide you with a broad overview of coverage and liability issues for carriers and businesses for crimes committed on commercial property related to the growing civil litigation regarding human trafficking, sex crimes and gun violence.

Moderator: Micalann C. Pepe, Jaburg Wilk, Phoenix, AZ
Jennifer Lee, Fee Smith & Sharp LLP, Dallas, TX
Kimberly Mehlman-Orozco, Ph.D, Human Trafficking Expert
Marisa Trasatti, Sciton Inc., Palo Alto, CA

Litigation in the US vs. Canada: What's Different About Litigating in Canada?

[Section: International Law]

A panel of Canadian members will discuss surprising differences between litigation in Canada and the United States: the relative absence of bad faith claims; the impact of Workers' Compensation Coverage; the structure and limitations on injury and fatality damage awards. We will also discuss when Canadian courts will assume jurisdiction over coverage and liability disputes; direct action against insurers in Quebec and the bar in Quebec against legal fees eroding limits.

Max Hufton, Sound Law, Squamish, B.C.
Antoine Motulsky, Therrien Couture Jolicoeur LLP, Quebec City, P.Q., Canada
Marcus Snowden, Snowden Law, Toronto, ON, Canada
Emily Stock, Alexander Holburn Beaudin + Lang LLP, Toronto, ON, Canada
Moderator: Heather Sanderson, K.C., Sanderson Law, Calgary, AB, Canada



9:00 am - 12:00 pm Plenary Session

Jury Selection – LIVE!

Live from Toronto, its Jury Selection! Federation members will be conducting voir dire, with “Judge” Miller presiding. Program attendees will be serving as prospective jurors and, with the help of a digital jury selection program, deciding who to strike. Special guest: Stuart Simon of American Jury Centers. The underlying case involves law enforcement Taser application under questionable circumstances, recently examined by the Fifth Circuit.

Thomas L. Miller, Keating, Bucklin & McCormack, Seattle, WA
Edward B. Ruff III, Pretzel & Stouffer, Chicago, IL
Stuart Simon, American Jury Centers, Boca Raton, FL
Ann E. Trivett, Keating, Bucklin & McCormack, Seattle, WA
Monte’ L. Williams, Steptoe & Johnson PLLC, Morgantown, WV

State of the Bench: US and Canada

We are honored to be joined by esteemed jurists from the United States and Canada to discuss the important topics facing the bench across borders. They will discuss the universal threat to judicial independence and efforts to secure and maintain adequate funding for conflicts reporting requirements and self-monitoring within the Judiciary, along with the need for improved security measures and protection for the Judiciary and their families. Learn about the Judiciary’s International Outreach initiatives and the Judges’ involvement in the International Judges Association and similar organizations that demonstrate democratic principles of Judicial systems through education and mutual awareness of threats to the judge’s ability to make independent decisions according to law.

Honorable Clayton J. Conlan, Superior Court of Justice of Ontario
Honorable Cynthia M. Rufe, United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania
Honourable Michael H. Tulloch, Chief Justice of Ontario and President of the Court of Appeal for Ontario

THURSDAY’S EXCURSIONS

**1:30 pm - 3:30 pm Walking Tour #2 – Old Town
Toronto + St. Lawrence Market**

A tour of Old Town Toronto and St. Lawrence Market offers a captivating journey through the rich history, culture, and culinary delights of one of Toronto’s most historic neighborhoods. Do not forget to sample the peameal bacon sandwich, a Toronto tradition, at the Market. **\$25 per person**

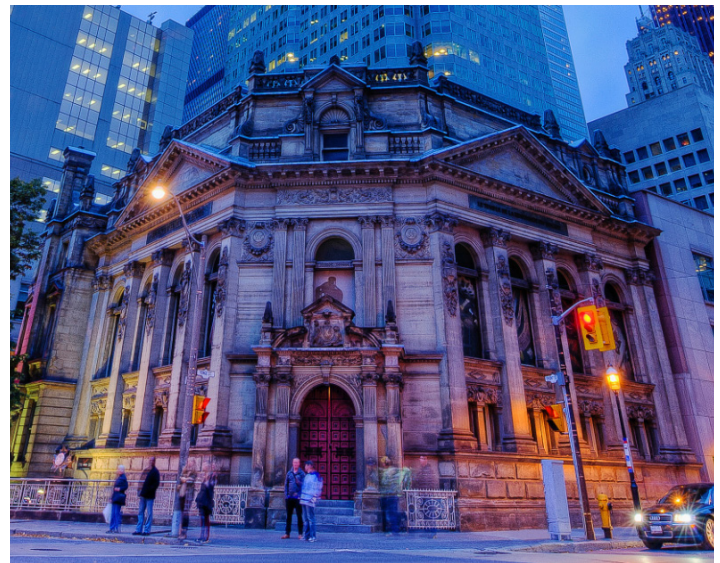
12:30 pm - 4:30 pm Toronto Fusion Food Tours

Enjoy a delectable journey through the diverse culinary landscape of Toronto, Canada. This immersive experience invites participants to explore the city’s rich cultural tapestry through its vibrant food scene. Led by knowledgeable guides, each tour is carefully curated to showcase the fusion of flavors and traditions that make Toronto’s culinary offerings truly unique.

\$95 per person

**1:30 pm - 3:30 pm Walking Tour #3 + CN Tower
(The Entertainment District)**

The CN Tower, rising to a height of 553.3 meters (1,815 feet), stands as an iconic symbol of Toronto’s skyline, towering over the city as one of the most recognizable landmarks in Canada. The Entertainment District is a vibrant and dynamic neighborhood located in the heart of downtown Toronto. Yonge Street (one of the longest streets in the world) is particularly renowned for its lively atmosphere and numerous attractions. **\$65 per person**



7:00 pm - 10:00 pm Hockey Hall of Fame:

Gear up for a memorable Theme Party as we gather at Toronto’s Hockey Hall of Fame – and remember to don your favorite team jersey! A tribute to ice hockey’s history, this museum is a captivating journey through the sport’s legacy. It holds fifteen (15) exhibit areas showcasing players, teams, NHL records, memorabilia, and NHL trophies, including the Stanley Cup, as well as a locker room, sports desk, and “take your best shot” interactive goal area for young and old alike.

Dress Code: Sports Jersey/Shirt



FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 2024

7:00 am - 12:00 pm FDCC Registration Desk Open

7:00 am - 9:00 am Voucher Breakfast

7:00 am - 9:00 am Grab & Go Breakfast

7:45 am - 8:45 am Section Programming

Discovery Terrorism [Section: Product Liability]

There is a growing trend used by plaintiff lawyers to weaponize discovery in product liability litigation by way of overreaching discovery, frequently followed by motions to compel and a motion for sanctions. Our speakers will share some examples of this tactic in practice and provide you with proven methods to identify, combat and neutralize this tactic to protect your clients.

James L. Hollis, Balch & Bingham LLP, Atlanta, GA
Dart Meadows, Balch & Bingham LLP, Atlanta, GA
Darleene D. Peters, Irwin Fritchie Urquhart & Moore, LLC, New Orleans, LA
Rachel Tallon Reynolds, Lewis Brisbois
Bisgaard & Smith, LLP, Seattle, WA

Your Legal Malpractice Policy: Knowing What Is (And is Not) Covered to Lead and Protect Your Firm [Sections: Insurance Coverage, Law Firm Management, Professional Liability, Data Breach, Privacy and Cyber Security]

This program will educate you on the often-unexpected types of coverage available in the common lawyer professional liability (LPL) policy, the types of risks that are not covered but can be provided by other policies (e.g., cyber), and the unique coverage issues that arise and can be avoided. This program is designed

to be of use to the professional liability claims handler, the professional liability defense lawyer, the insurance coverage lawyer and claims handler, and any lawyer or law firm manager/general counsel that needs to address professional liability issues on a professional and personal level.

Kim M. Jackson, Bovis, Kyle, Birch & Medlin, Atlanta, GA
John R. McGhee, Jr., Kay Casto & Chaney PLLC, Charleston, WV
Laura R. Zaroski, Gallagher, Chicago, IL

Diversity Fatigue: Continuing the Conversation

Join a diverse panel of leaders for a follow-up “fireside chat” to discuss the practical and personal impact of the recent U.S. Supreme Court’s affirmative action decision, and the cultural, legislative, and legal challenges to DEIB progress in the United States. Dr. Maya Angelou said “I have learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.” Come behind the curtain to see what is going on from a human perspective from people you know and trust.

April Berman, SVP, Deputy General Counsel, Asurion, Nashville, TN a
Sean C. Griffin, Robinson & Cole LLP, Washington D.C.
Marc Harwell, Harwell & Hurst PLLC, Chattanooga, TN
Frank Ramos, Goldberg Segalla, Miami, FL
Larry D. Smith, Rumburger Kirk, Orlando, FL
Alonzo D. Washington, Flaherty, Sensabaugh & Bonasso, Charleston, WV

9:00 am - 10:30 am Annual Business Meeting

11:00 am - 12:00 pm Closing Keynote: Strength for Today, Hope for Tomorrow

FDCC member Chris Davis is a paraplegic who has been confined to a wheelchair for 40 years. He is a Shareholder/Director of the Oklahoma based Crowe & Dunlevy, where he serves as Chairman of the Litigation and Trial Practice Group of the Tulsa office and Co-Chairman firm wide. Chris will share how he was raised in an ordinary middle-class home in central Illinois, playing sports and all outdoor activities like most small-town kids, until tragedy struck during his final year of high school when a spinal cord tumor developed that rendered him paralyzed from the waist down. Chris will tell his story of recovery and redirection into a career in law where has become a recognized trial attorney recently inducted into the American College of Trial Lawyers, spotlighting certain stories both humorous and some sobering, to conclude with his observations of 5 Attributes of the Resilient Mind. Chris emphasizes his belief that the trait of resilience is something acquired, learned, and not necessarily a trait everyone has by nature. The lessons he learned the hard way will be informative and inspirational on this topic.

FRIDAY'S EXCURSIONS

12:30 pm - 4:00 pm Cooking Class

Work together with other FDCC members in a fun, hands-on environment led by professional Chef instructors at Viva Tastings. You will learn the most important thing about cooking: the tasting and adjusting of a recipe. There is a method and a skill to each stage of cooking – a main idea you will learn in the class.

\$235 per person

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Royal Ontario Museum

The Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) stands as Canada's largest and most prestigious museum, located in downtown Toronto. Founded in 1914, the ROM is renowned for its vast collection of art, cultural artifacts, and natural history specimens, spanning millions of years of human history and the natural world. This excursion offers an enriching and immersive tour experience, inviting visitors to explore vast collections and captivating exhibitions. **\$45 per person**

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm Bata Shoe Museum

Welcome to the Bata Shoe Museum, a unique institution in Toronto dedicated to the fascinating history, culture, and art of footwear. Embark on a captivating journey through time and across continents as you explore the museum's diverse collection of shoes, spanning thousands of years of human history.

\$35 per person

7:00 pm - 1:00pm Gala – Royal Masquerade "Ball" in Black and White

Join us as we wrap an amazing week with one great party. At the Royal Masquerade "Ball" in Black and White Gala, put on your favorite masks (we will provide masks, too!) and black & white attire to join us at the spectacular Concert Hall in The Royal York. Enjoy our final night fellowship with your FDCC family before we all head home.

Dress Code: Black & White cocktail attire.





ON YOUR OWN

In addition to a walk up Yonge Street (The longest street in the world), a visit to the Distillery District for shopping and foodie fun, or a stroll along Toronto's waterfront, you may enjoy:

Golf

Angus Glen Golf Club (<https://angusglen.com/>); TPC Toronto at Osprey Valley (<https://www.ospreyvalley.com/>); Eagles Nest (<https://www.eaglesnestgolf.com/>).

Toronto and its surrounding areas offer a diverse range of golf courses to suit every skill level and preference. Whether you're a beginner looking for a casual round or a seasoned golfer seeking a challenging championship layout, you'll find plenty of options to explore.

Steam Whistle Brew Tour

(<https://steamwhistle.ca/pages/tours>)

Discover the founding story of Canada's largest single-brand independent brewery and learn the history of the John Street Roundhouse, a Canadian national historic site initially built for train maintenance on the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1929 and home to Steam Whistle Brewing since 2001.

Allan Gardens Conservatory (<https://www.toronto.ca/explore-enjoy/parks-gardens-beaches/gardens-and-horticulture/conservatories/allan-gardens-conservatory/>)

Allan Gardens Conservatory holds a significant place in Toronto's history, dating back to the late 19th century. Established in 1858, it is one of the oldest parks in the city and has been a cherished destination for residents and visitors alike.

Bruce Peninsula (<https://parks.canada.ca/pn-np/on/bruce>)

The Bruce Peninsula is a stunning natural gem located in Ontario, Canada, renowned for its rugged beauty, pristine wilderness, and breathtaking landscapes.

Scarborough Bluffs Tour (<https://www.destinationtoronto.com/neighbourhoods/scarborough/scarborough-bluffs/>)

A tour of the Scarborough Bluffs offers a captivating journey through one of Toronto's most scenic and iconic natural landscapes.

Mirvish Theatre Shows (<https://www.mirvish.com/>)

Mirvish Productions is a prominent theatrical company based in Toronto, Canada, known for bringing a diverse array of acclaimed shows to audiences. Check out the show list to see if anything piques your interest. "Tina – The Tina Turner Musical" and "Mean Girls" will be playing during the week of our meeting!

TIFF Bell Lightbox (<https://www.tiff.net/>)

The TIFF Bell Lightbox is a state-of-the-art cultural institution located in the heart of downtown Toronto, Canada. The Lightbox features multiple cinemas equipped with the latest technology, including digital projection and surround sound. These cinemas host screenings of a wide range of films, including international releases, independent cinema, documentaries, classics, and special presentations.

Spa Day

Elmwood Spa (<https://www.elmwoodspa.com/>); **King Edward Hotel** (https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/toronto-king-edward/spa?utm_source=gmblisting&utm_medium=organic); **Shangri La Hotel** (<https://www.shangri-la.com/toronto/shangrila/health-leisure/spa/>)

Whether you're treating yourself to a solo spa day or enjoying a spa retreat with friends or loved ones, a day of pampering in Toronto is sure to leave you feeling renewed, revitalized, and deeply relaxed.

Haunted Walk – For Kids (https://hauntedwalk.com/toronto-tours/?gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQjw2PSvBhDjARIsAKc2cgPje0SgTpeOpM9s-EG-dQ4UvfUq9yz150G7XwPyZNzUajhdBVqlgUUaAijvEALw_wcB)

The Haunted Walk Toronto offers an immersive and spine-chilling experience that delves into the city's eerie past and ghostly legends.

Yorkville Neighborhood (<https://www.destinationtoronto.com/neighbourhoods/midtown/yorkville/>)

Yorkville is a chic and affluent neighborhood located in the heart of Toronto, Canada. Known for its upscale shops, trendy restaurants, and vibrant cultural scene, Yorkville has long been a favorite destination for locals and visitors alike.



High Park (<https://www.toronto.ca/explore-enjoy/parks-gardens-beaches/high-park/>)

High Park is a magnificent urban oasis located in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, offering visitors a rich tapestry of natural beauty, recreational opportunities, and cultural attractions.

Toronto Music Garden (<https://www.toronto.ca/data/parks/prd/facilities/complex/1707/index.html>)

The Toronto Music Garden is a unique and enchanting public garden located along the waterfront of Lake Ontario in Toronto.

Toronto's Festival of Beer: July 26 – July 28, 2024 (<https://www.beerfestival.ca/>)

Toronto's Festival of Beer is an annual event that celebrates the vibrant culture of craft beer, food, and music in the city of

Toronto

Second City Improv (<https://www.secondcity.com/toronto/>)

Second City is a renowned improvisational comedy theater and training center. Second City is best known for its improvisational comedy performances, which feature talented improvisers creating scenes, sketches, and characters on the spot based on audience suggestions and prompts.

CF Toronto Eaton Centre (<https://shops.cadillacfairview.com/property/cf-toronto-eaton-centre>)

The CF Toronto Eaton Centre is one of Canada's premier shopping destinations, located in the heart of downtown Toronto.

Toronto Argonauts CFL Game – July 27, 2024

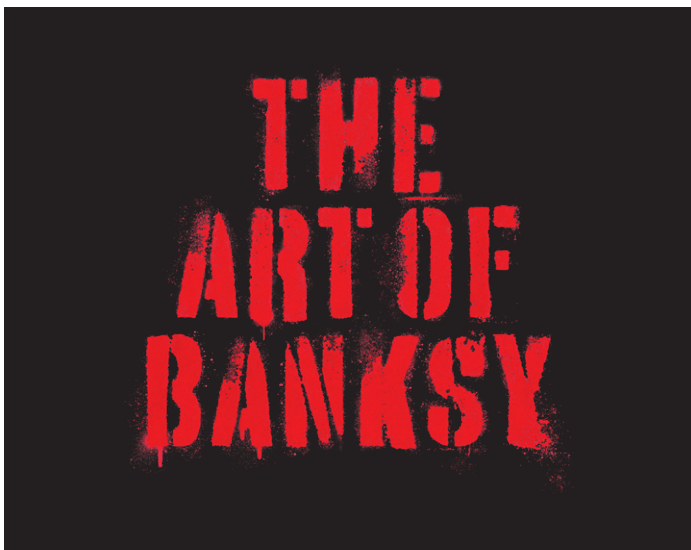
at 7:00 PM @ BMO Field (<https://www.stubhub.com/toronto-argonauts-toronto-tickets-7-27-2024/event/152787506/?quantity=2>)

On July 27 at 7:00 PM, the Toronto Argonauts are facing off against the Winnipeg Blue Bombers at BMO Field (170 Princes' Blvd, Toronto, ON M6K 3C3, Canada).

Toronto Blue Jays Game – July 27 & 28 @ Rogers Centre

(July 27: <https://www.stubhub.com/toronto-blue-jays-toronto-tickets-7-27-2024/event/152171838/?quantity=2>; July 28: <https://www.stubhub.com/toronto-blue-jays-toronto-tickets-7-28-2024/event/152171836/?quantity=2>)

On July 27 at 3:07 PM, the Toronto Blue Jays are playing the Texas Rangers. On July 28 at 1:37 PM, the Toronto Blue Jays are playing the Texas Rangers.



The Art of Banksy (<https://www.banksyexhibit.com/>)

The Art of Banksy features more than 140 original and authenticated Banksy works. These include prints, canvases, screen prints, sculptures, hand-drawn sketches, and limited-edition pieces, as well as video testimonials by a close associate of Banksy who worked on prints of iconic images with the artist.

Greta Arcade Bar (<https://www.gretabar.com/locations/toronto>)

It's all fun and games at your favorite arcade bar. Over fifty arcade games range from large format Pop-A-Shot Basketball and Air Hockey to classics like Donkey Kong and Tetris. GRETA fuels the fun with a choice of fresh, locally-sourced grab-and-go. Ages 21 and up.



Musicals & Concerts – Creed; Green Day; Tina Turner; Def Leppard & Journey; Slash, Creed: Budweiser Stage

Green Day: Rogers Centre (1 Blue Jays Way, Toronto, ON M5V 1J1, Canada); Thursday August 1 at 5:30 PM.

Tina Turner: Ed Mirvish Theatre (244 Victoria St, Toronto, ON M5B 1V8, Canada); July 27 & 28; 27th – 2:00 PM & 8:00 PM showtimes; 28th 2:00 PM showtime.

Def Leppard & Journey: Rogers Centre (1 Blue Jays Way, Toronto, ON M5V 1J1, Canada); Friday August 2 at 6:00 PM.

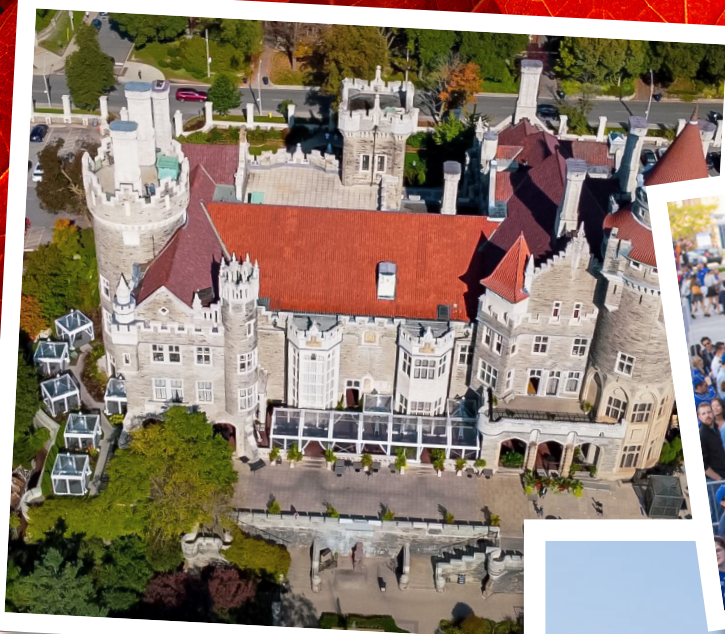
Slash: Budweiser Stage (909 Lake Shore Blvd W, Toronto, ON M6K 3L3, Canada); Sunday July 28 at 6:30 PM.

Arcadia Earth (<https://www.arcadiaearth.ca/>)

Arcadia Earth is a multi-sensory journey that combines creative art installations and exciting technology to inspire visitors to take action towards a more sustainable future. This immersive experience showcases the beauty of our planet and the impact of human actions on the environment. Most suitable for children and young adults.

China Town Toronto (<https://www.destinationtoronto.com/neighbourhoods/westside/chinatown/>)

Established in 1878, Chinatown is one of Toronto's oldest and most dynamic neighborhoods. You'll find bustling produce markets that spill out onto the street, numerous shops and food stalls, neon signs and a plethora of cuisines.



FEDERATION OF DEFENSE & CORPORATE COUNSEL



FDCC

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RESTAURANTS

360 The Restaurant at the CN Tower

(Pricey, Walkable)
290 Bremner Blvd, Toronto,
ON M5V 3L9, Canada

<https://www.cntower.ca/plan-an-event/our-spaces/360-restaurant>

The CN Tower's 350-metre high revolving restaurant offers regional Canadian fare & panoramic views.

Actinolite (Pricey)

971 Ossington Ave, Toronto, ON M6G 3V5, Canada

<https://www.actinoliterestaurant.com/>

Sleek eatery offering fixed-price & chef's menus of thoughtfully sourced New Canadian fare & drinks.

Alo (Pricey)

163 Spadina Ave., Toronto, ON M5V 2L6, Canada

<https://alorestaurant.com/>

French tasting menu served in stylish, serene surrounds atop a Victorian building.

Black + Blue (Pricey, Walkable)

130 King St W, Toronto, ON M5X 2A2, Canada

<https://blackandbluesteakhouse.ca/toronto-home/>

Canada's premier steak dining experience. Black + Blue offers the magic of the classic steak house combined with a modern and energetic twist. They take great pride in being Kobe Beef certified, in addition to offering our guests a selection of the world's rarest cuts.

Buca (Pricey)

604 King St W, Toronto, ON M5V 1M6, Canada

<https://buca.ca/king-street-west/about/>

Buca dishes are inspired by the culinary practices of in-land Italy. Nothing goes to waste, and each detail is poured over.

Byblos (Pricey, Walkable)

11 Duncan St, Toronto, ON M5V 3M2, Canada

<https://byblosdowntown.com/>

Luxe, 2-story restaurant putting a contemporary spin on Eastern Mediterranean cuisine & cocktails.

Cactus Club Café (Walkable)

77 Adelaide St W, Toronto, ON M5X 1C1, Canada

<https://www.cactusclubcafe.com/locations/first-canadian-place/>

Cactus Club Café offers the best in global cuisine using local, fresh ingredients served in a vibrant, contemporary setting.

Canoe (Pricey, Walkable)

66 Wellington St W 54th floor, Toronto, ON M5K 1H6, Canada

<https://www.canoerestaurant.com/>

Canoe crafts inspired dishes reflective of Canada's diversity. Located high atop TD Bank Tower, Canoe affords a breathtaking view of Toronto. Canoe also features its own custom bottle of Single Barrel Rye Whiskey – available for purchase.

The Chase (Pricey, Walkable)

10 Temperance St Fl 5, Toronto, ON M5H 1Y4, Canada

<https://www.thechasetoronto.com/>

Contemporary fine dining in a historic building with wines, cocktails, views & a seasonal terrace.

Cluny Bistro & Boulangerie (Pricey)

35 Tank House Lane, Toronto, ON M5A 3C4, Canada

<https://clunybistro.com/>

Huge modern French bistro with updated classic fare & Gallic feel, from marble bar to tiled floors.

El Catrin Destileria

18 Tank House Lane, Toronto, ON M5A 3C4, Canada

<https://www.elcatrin.ca/>

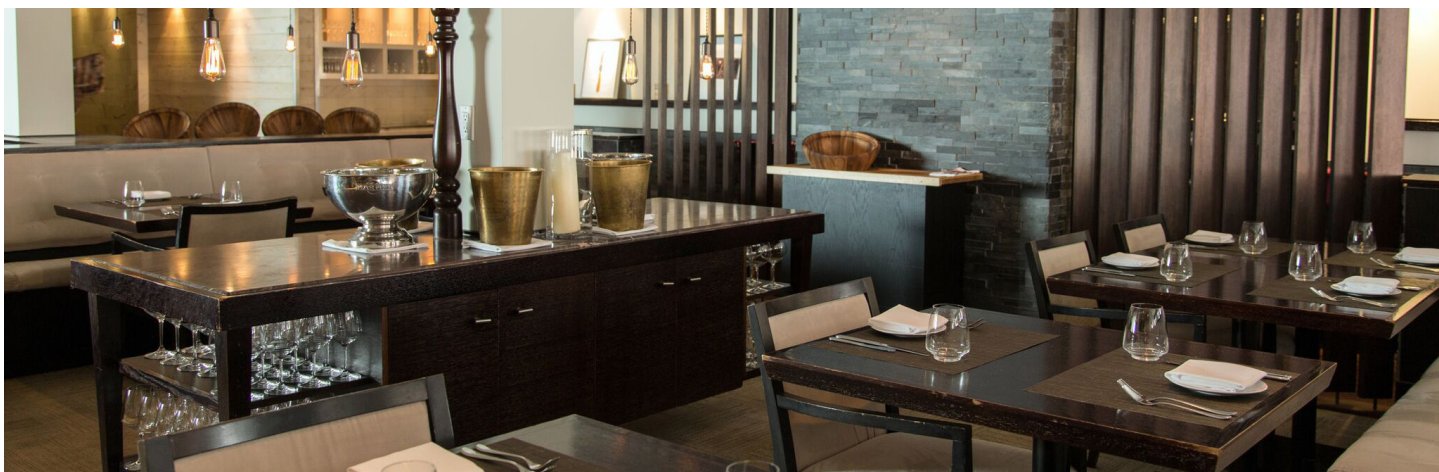
Trendy, stylish restaurant with elevated Mexican small plates, many tequilas & a heated patio.

Fabbrica TD (Walkable)

66 Wellington St W, Toronto, ON M5J 2W4, Canada

<https://mcewangroup.ca/fabbrica-td-centre/>

Fabbrica TD brings Chef McEwan's regional Italian fare to the lively financial district, offering slow food served quickly.



Flame Sushi

204 Queen St W, Toronto, ON M5V 1Z2, Canada

<https://flamesushi.com/>

Flame Sushi is the perfect place to enjoy a delicious Japanese cocktail, beer, or whisky, and what's more, their food will surprise you with its authenticity and creativity.

GEORGE (Pricey)

111C Queen St E, Toronto, ON M5C 1S2, Canada

<https://www.georgeonqueen.com/>

Inventive tasting menus emphasizing local ingredients in a refined space with a secluded courtyard.

Hy's Steakhouse & Cocktail Bar

(Pricey, Walkable)

365 Bay St., Toronto, ON M5H 2V1, Canada

<https://www.hyssteakhouse.com/locations/toronto>

Classic menu featuring aged New York steaks & a lengthy wine list in a room with soaring ceilings.

Jacobs & Co. Steakhouse

(Pricey, Walkable)

12 Brant St, Toronto, ON M5V 2M1, Canada

<https://jacobssteakhouse.com/>

Elegant environs with a piano bar, plus house-aged steaks & Caesar salads prepared tableside.

Jump Restaurant (Pricey, Walkable)

18 Wellington St W, Toronto, ON M5L 1G4, Canada

<https://www.jumprestaurant.com/>

Globally inspired American cuisine served in a polished space with a glass atrium & courtyard patio.

The Keg Steakhouse + Bar (Walkable)

26 The Esplanade, Toronto, ON M5E 1A7, Canada

<https://thekeg.com/en/locations/esplanade>

Classic steak & seafood dishes are the mainstays at this stylish yet casual chain restaurant.

Kibo Sushi House

16 Yonge Street, Toronto, ON M5J 1J5, Canada

<https://kibosushi.com/>

Kibo is a Canadian sushi chain brand offering high-quality, accessible selections of sushi and other Japanese food choices.

Le Select Bistro

432 Wellington St W, Toronto, ON M5V 1E3, Canada

<https://www.leselectbistro.com/>

Classic French food & a wine list of over 1,000 bottles, with vintage posters lining the walls.

The Loose Moose

(Kid Friendly, Walkable)

146 Front St W, Toronto, ON M5J 1G2, Canada

<https://theloosemoose.ca/>

2nd-floor spot with rustic tables, vintage signs & many beers on tap, plus tacos, burgers & snacks.

Maple Leaf Tavern (Walkable)

955 Gerrard St E, Toronto, ON M4M 1Z4, Canada

<https://mapleleaftavern.ca/>

Built in 1910, this wood-dominated space serves chops, steaks & fish, plus elevated comfort food.

MIMI Chinese

265 Davenport Rd, Toronto, ON M5R 1J9, Canada

<https://www.mimichinese.com/>

Located on the outskirts of Toronto's vibrant Yorkville neighbourhood, the MIMI Chinese dishes are inspired by the diverse regions of China.

Noce (Walkable)

875 Queen St W, Toronto, ON M6J 1G5, Canada

<https://nocerestaurant.ca/>

Mainstay for traditional Italian dishes with a lively lounge & a spacious side patio.



Osteria Giulia

134 Avenue Rd, Toronto, ON M5R 2H6, Canada

<https://osteriagiulia.ca/>

2022 & 2023 Michelin 1 Star Osteria Giulia is a tribute to Italian traditions of the past. They have established a rarified menu focusing on Northern Italian cuisine and delicate coastal, Mediterranean flavor.

Pai (Walkable)

18 Duncan St, Toronto, ON M5H 3G8, Canada

<https://paitoronto.com/>

Their goal is simple: Make real Thai food. Nait & Jeff Regular's casual Northern Thai spot serving dishes like salted crab & papaya salad.

Pearl Diver (Walkable)

100 Adelaide St E, Toronto, ON M5C 1K9, Canada

<https://pearldiver.to/>

Seafood spot offering a homey feel & a seasonal menu with craft beers & vegan options.

Pizza Libretto

(Kid Friendly, Walkable)

155 University Ave. Toronto, ON

<https://www.pizzerialibretto.com/>

Neapolitan pizza as it should be – simply crafted and chef inspired.

Prime Seafood Palace

(Pricey, Walkable)

944 Queen St W, Toronto, ON M6J 1G8, Canada

<https://primeseafoodpalace.ca/>

A steakhouse serving beef, seafood, and vegetables, all grown, caught, and raised by people they care about.

Quetzal

419 College St, Toronto, ON M5T 1T1, Canada

<https://www.quetzaltoronto.com/>

Vibrant outpost offering upscale Mexican cuisine & craft cocktails in a sleek, modern dining room.

Rabbit Hole (Walkable)

21 Adelaide St W, Toronto, ON M5H 1L6, Canada

<https://www.therabbitholepub.ca/>

Slick gastropub serving British-inspired dishes like Welsh rarebit & beef tartare, plus a patio.

Richmond Station (Walkable)

1 Richmond St W, Toronto, ON M5H 3W4, Canada

<https://richmondstation.ca/>

Co-owned by a “Top Chef Canada” winner, this bustling spot offers a weekly menu of seasonal cuisine.

Scaramouche (Pricey)

1 Benvenuto Pl, Toronto, ON M4V 2L1, Canada

<https://www.scaramoucherestaurant.com/>

Sophisticated French haute cuisine in an upscale space with skyline views & a more casual bistro.

Storm Crow Manor (Kid Friendly)

580 Church St, Toronto, ON M4Y 2E5, Canada

<https://www.stormcrow.com/>

Vibrant stop with geek-themed bar fare, plus bubbly cocktails, craft brews & science fiction TV.

Stratus (Pricey, Walkable)

TD South Tower, 79 Wellington St W tower 36th floor, Toronto, ON M5K 1J5, Canada

<https://www.stratusrestaurant.com/>

Elegant fine-dining restaurant with city views & a menu of upscale Canadian fare.

Terroni (Kid Friendly, Walkable)

57 Adelaide St. E., Toronto, ON M5C 1K6, Canada

<https://www.terroni.com/>

Authentic Italian food experience in a fun and friendly environment.



Special Thanks To All Our Hosts

John and Ann Trimble
Heather Sanderson
Dessi Day
Mike and Darla Kiernan
Jennifer and Gary Johnsen
Caroline Berdzik
Alan Rutkin
Evelyn Davis
Kim Jackson
Lynne Ingram
David and Lisa Zuber
Valerie Kellner
Keith Uhles
Lee Hall
Kelly Brilleaux
Sean and Wendy-Nia Griffin

Miranda Soto-Thompson
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Micalann Pepe
Joe and Sarah Falasco
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