Event Program

Saturday, November 14, 2026

Sign Language and Deaf Culture
North York Memorial Community Hall
5110 Yonge Street, Toronto

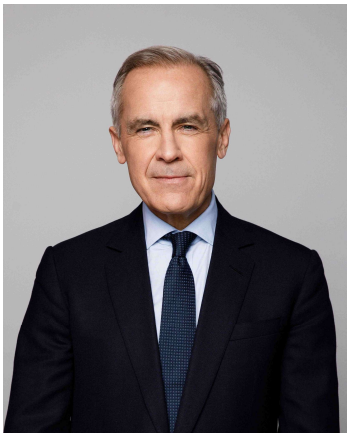




Free Expo | Ticketed Signmark Concert

Expo: 10:00 AM-5:00 PM
Concert doors: 7:30 PM | Show begins: 9:00 PM
Presented by SignFest Toronto

PRIME MINISTER · PREMIER MINISTRE



I would like to convey my warmest greetings to everyone taking part in SignFest Toronto 2026.

This inaugural event celebrates Deaf culture, sign language, accessibility and inclusion. I am certain that everyone in attendance will enjoy the many activities planned for today, and will appreciate the opportunity to learn more about how they can support Deaf and hard of hearing individuals and their families.

I would like to commend the organizers for bringing this event to the community. I would also like to thank the volunteers and artists for their role in making this an unforgettable experience for everyone.

I wish you all an enjoyable festival.

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, P.C., O.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada

Ottawa
2026

Ontario

Premier of Ontario - Premier ministre de l'Ontario



November 14, 2026

A MESSAGE FROM PREMIER DOUG FORD

There's nothing more inspiring than a community coming together to share ideas, celebrate achievements and create new opportunities for the future. I'm delighted to welcome everyone to SignFest Toronto 2026.

Presented by DEAFest Toronto, this event brings together Deaf-owned businesses, exhibitors and community partners in a welcoming space that encourages learning, networking and engagement. It's a wonderful opportunity to showcase talent, strengthen connections and highlight the important contributions of Ontario's Deaf community.

Our government is working to build a more inclusive and accessible Ontario where every person can participate fully in their community. Events like SignFest help advance that vision by raising awareness, removing barriers and creating opportunities for people to connect and succeed.

Thank you to DEAFest Toronto, exhibitors, sponsors and all the volunteers whose dedication has made this event possible.

Wishing you a memorable and rewarding day.

Doug Ford
Premier

CITY OF TORONTO



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

It is my pleasure to extend greetings to everyone attending SignFest Toronto.

SignFest celebrates sign language and Deaf culture, bringing together members of the Deaf community, hearing participants, exhibitors and organizations to connect, share information and raise awareness of accessibility and inclusion.

Thank you to the organizers and staff at SignFest Toronto for bringing this event together and for creating opportunities to recognize the contributions of Deaf individuals and organizations in our city.

On behalf of Toronto City Council, please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable event.

Yours truly,

Olivia Chow
Mayor of Toronto

Welcome to SignFest Toronto



Welcome to the first SignFest Toronto! Together, we celebrate Sign Language and Deaf Culture through our free daytime Expo and Signmark's evening concert.

Whether you are reconnecting with friends, meeting new people or discovering Deaf culture, I hope you feel welcome and included.

We are honoured to welcome Signmark from Finland for his Final Canada Tour, "One Last Time." I invite you to enjoy his performance and discover the talents, businesses and organizations at our Expo.

Thank you to our volunteers, artists, exhibitors, sponsors and partners for making this celebration possible, and to every guest for joining us.

I hope you leave with new connections, wonderful memories and a deeper appreciation of Sign Language and Deaf Culture. Enjoy SignFest Toronto!



Emmanuel G. Sohou

SignFest Founder, Executive Director & Organiser

Your Day at SignFest

10:00 AM-5:00 PM	Daytime Expo Free admission with registration. Meet exhibitors, artists, businesses and organizations, and explore their products and resources.
5:00-6:00 PM	Expo closes and room reset The hall is prepared for the evening concert.
7:30 PM	Concert doors open Keep your concert ticket ready for entry.
9:00 PM	Signmark show begins Final Canada Tour, One Last Time.

Choose your visit

Enjoy the Expo, the concert or both. Register for the free daytime Expo and purchase a separate ticket for the evening concert.

Keep your confirmation ready

Bring your registration or ticket confirmation on your phone or as a printed copy. Our registration team can help you find event rooms, seating and facilities.

Latest event information

www.deafesto.com
deafestoronto@gmail.com
Facebook and Instagram: @deafesttoronto

Meet Signmark

Final Canada Tour | One Last Time



Sign language meets hip-hop

Signmark, also known as Marko Vuoriheimo, is a Deaf rapper from Finland who brings sign language and hip-hop together on stage. Join him in Toronto for his Final Canada Tour, One Last Time.



Saturday, November 14

7:30 PM - Doors open
9:00 PM - Show begins

A concert ticket is required. Expo registration and concert admission are separate.

Tickets and event updates:
www.deafesto.com

Large portrait: SignFest media materials. Second portrait: Speakersforum, speakersforum.fi/signmark.

Explore the Expo

10:00 AM-5:00 PM | Free admission with registration



Outdoor entrance to the North York Centre complex. Photo: torontoblagost.ca/torsunov-2024.html

What you can discover

Discover exhibitors, Deaf-owned businesses, artists and organizations. Browse products, learn about services and programs, and find resources for Deaf and hard-of-hearing people.

Connect through Sign Language

Deaf, hard-of-hearing and hearing visitors are welcome. Meet exhibitors, ask questions and share in a celebration of Sign Language and Deaf Culture.

For vendors

Keep displays inside your assigned booth and leave aisles, doors and exits clear. The Expo closes at 5:00 PM. Teardown and the hall reset take place from 5:00 to 6:00 PM. Please follow the event team’s directions.

Planning your evening

The evening Signmark concert is ticketed separately. Visit www.deafesto.com for concert tickets and event updates.

Find the Venue

North York Memorial Community Hall | 5110 Yonge Street, Toronto



Outdoor entrance beside Mel Lastman Square.



Look for the Memorial Community Hall sign inside.

When you arrive

North York Memorial Community Hall is in the North York Centre complex, near Mel Lastman Square and North York Civic Centre. Follow the SignFest signs to registration. Our team can direct you to event rooms, seating and facilities.

Driving & parking

Nearby paid parking includes Green P Carpark 309 at 5162 Yonge Street and Green P Carpark 404 at 95 Beecroft Road. Other public parking options are available in the North York Centre area.

Confirm parking access and rates, follow posted signs and allow enough time to walk to the hall.

Parking information: parking.greenp.com

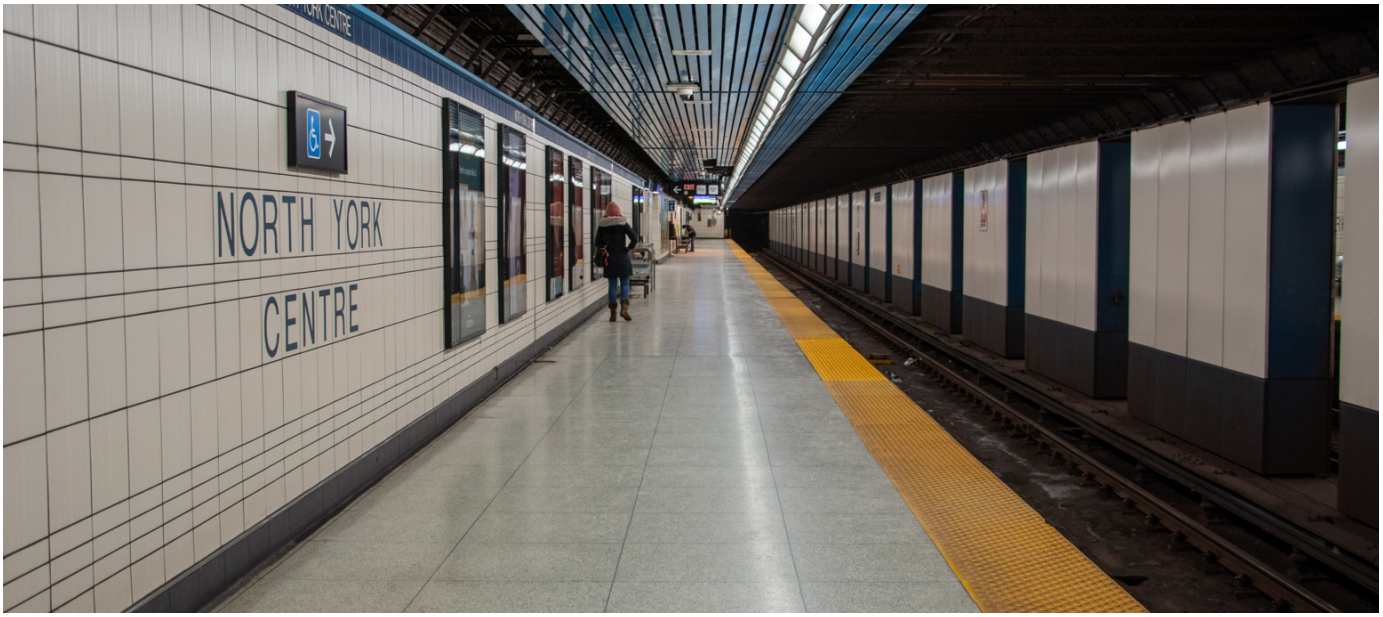
Access & assistance

Email deafestoronto@gmail.com with accessibility questions before the event. On arrival, ask the registration team for assistance.

Entrance photographs: torontoblagost.ca/torsunov-2024.html

TTC & Subway

Travel to North York Centre Station on Line 1



North York Centre Station - look for the station name on the platform wall.

Your route

1. Take Line 1	Travel to North York Centre Station on the Yonge-University line.
2. Follow the signs	Use exits toward North York City Centre or Mel Lastman Square, then follow signs to 5110 Yonge Street.
3. Find SignFest	Look for the Memorial Community Hall sign and SignFest registration.



TTC train at Rosedale Station (illustrative train photo).
Station: Dillan Payne / Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 2.0; cropped. Photo adaptation under the same license: creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0. Train: CCC2012 / Wikimedia Commons, CC0.

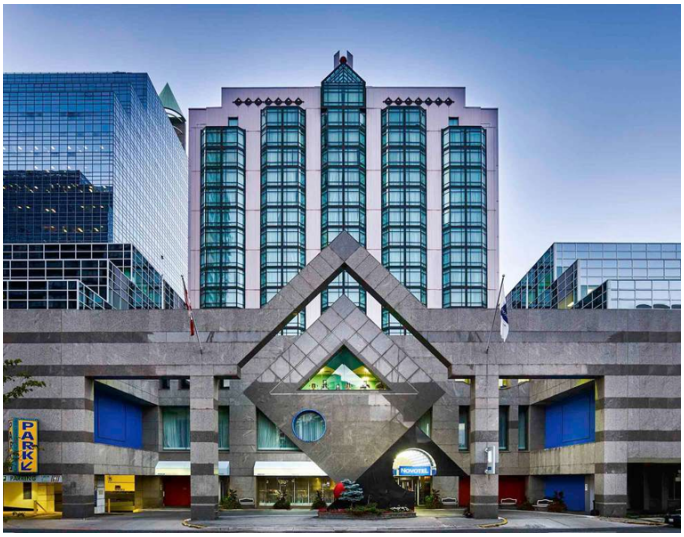
Before travelling

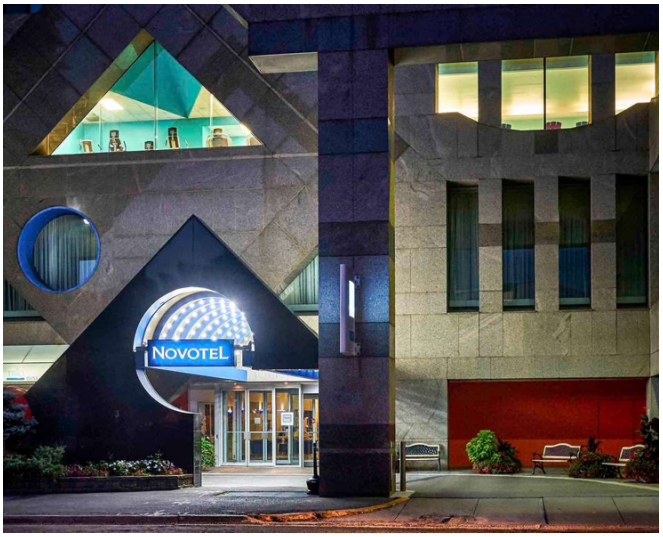
Before leaving home, check TTC service alerts and elevator status. Weekend service may change. Consult the station information page for accessible entrances and elevator routes.

ttc.ca/subway-stations/north-york-centre-station

Stay, Eat & Explore

Accommodation, dining and services near the venue





Novotel Toronto North York - exterior and entrance. Photos: Accor / ahstatic.com.

Novotel Toronto North York

3 Park Home Avenue, Toronto
Novotel offers direct indoor access to North York Centre Station and paid underground parking. Before booking, confirm availability, rates and accessibility arrangements with the hotel. Contact SignFest Toronto for attendee-rate information.

Hotel: all.accor.com/hotel/0910/index.en.shtml
Compare: booking.com/hotel/ca/toronto-north-york.html

Food court & quick meals

North York City Centre at 5150 Yonge Street has a food court near North York Centre Station. Empress Walk at 5095 Yonge Street also has cafés and restaurants. Check Saturday opening hours directly with each business.

Sit-down restaurant

Trio Restaurant is located inside Novotel Toronto North York. You will also find restaurants along Yonge Street near the venue. Meals are purchased separately from event admission.

Stay connected

Visit www.deafesto.com for registration, concert tickets and the latest event information.
Email: deafestoronto@gmail.com
Facebook and Instagram: @deafesttoronto

Access & Visitor Information

Help us make your visit comfortable and welcoming

Ask the event team

Ask our registration team for directions to the Expo, concert area, seating or facilities. For accessibility information or a specific accommodation request, email deafestoronto@gmail.com.

Visual information and communication

Follow SignFest signs and visual information from the event team. Sign-language access is planned for program activities. Contact us before the event for details about interpretation and communication support.

Arriving by TTC

North York Centre Station is on Line 1. Check TTC service and elevator status before travelling, especially for weekend changes. Use the station information page to check accessible entrances and elevator routes.

ttc.ca/subway-stations/north-york-centre-station

Food, belongings and safety

Nearby food courts, cafés and restaurants are listed in this program. Outside food may be restricted in the event hall; follow posted instructions. Keep your belongings with you, supervise children and leave exits clear.

Keep in touch

www.deafesto.com
deafestoronto@gmail.com
@deafesttoronto

Thank You

Sponsors, Supporters & Partners

We thank our sponsors, supporters and partners for helping make SignFest Toronto 2026 a celebration of Sign Language and Deaf Culture.

Thank You for Joining Us

SignFest Toronto 2026
Sign Language and Deaf Culture



www.deafesto.com
deafestoronto@gmail.com
Facebook and Instagram: @deafesttoronto