Welcome to Toronto
Bienvenue à Toronto

- Food
- Healthcare
- Shopping
- Athletics
- Social, Going out
- Culture, Events, Places
- Transportation
- International Students
Food groceries

• Chinatown
• Kensington Market
• St. Lawrence Market (cheaper)
• Metro (good quality)
• No Frills (cheap, bit farther)
• Food Basic (cheap)
Food around campus

- **Pubs / Shawarma**
- **Food Courts:**
  - McCaul&Dundas
  - OPG
  - Mars
- **Chinatown**
- **Baldwin Street**
- **Hart House - Arbor Room**
Food eating out
King
Bloor
Front
Yorkville
Queen
Yonge (midtown)
Food
all-nighters

Convenience stores
- 7-Eleven on College & Spadina
- Also some late night groceries
- Hasty Market on Elm & University
- Rabba’s east of Bay & Charles

Restaurants
- McDonalds
Healthcare

- Grad students pay health insurance (UHIP)
  - can be refunded if you already have coverage
- Health Centre at Koffler Centre
  - south of Bahen Building
- If you’re a TA you get **dental**
  - Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 3902 (aka CUPE 3902)
- Dental rebate by CUPE:
  - $500 for you
  - $500 spouse, $400 per dependent
Healthcare

• **GSU runs a supplementary health insurance plan**
  - This is included in your GSU membership fee

• **You can get 80% off prescriptions**

• **$125 for eyewear + $75 eye exam (2 years period)**

• **Dental by GSU: 70% reimbursed per visit, max $500 a year**
Shopping

- Chinatown
- Honest Ed’s
- Dollar Store (Bloor, Yonge)
- IKEA (commute)
- Yonge Street
- Eaton’s Centre, Bay (D & Y)
- Wal-mart (Dufferin Mall)
- Computers
  - College and Spadina
Athletic Activities

- Hart House / Athletic Centre
  - Workout
  - Lots of courses: from aikido to yoga and dance
  - Pickup games (basketball, soccer)
  - Swimming
Going Out

Pubs, Bars, Clubs, Cafes

- **Bars/Pubs**
  - Local (e.g. The Madison)
  - Far

- **Clubs**
  - ...in the Clubland

- **Cafes**
  - Yorkville
  - Little Italy
  - Greek town
Culture, Events, Places

- Lots of festivals
  - Taste of Little Italy (College)
  - Corso Italia Toronto Fiesta (St. Clair)
  - Taste of the Danforth (Greek Town)
  - Yonge and Dundas Square
- Toronto Symphony Orchestra (TSO)
- Hart House Theatre
- Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO)
- Royal Ontario Museum (ROM)
Culture, Events, Places

- Harbourfront Centre
- Toronto Islands
- The Beach
  - Lakeshore & Woodbine
- Canada’s Wonderland
- Wild Water Kingdom waterpark
- Ontario Place
- Canadian National Exhibition
- Hockey Hall of Fame
Transportation

Toronto
- Mostly walking
- Biking – Cycling routes → get a bike ASAP!
- TTC (subway, busses, street cars)
  - Metropass for $99 from the SAC office ($121 from TTC)
  - $3 per ride (cheaper in bulk - $2.50)
- Lots of taxi-cabs
- Friends with cars (buy them coffee)

Greater Toronto Area (GTA) Transit
- Go Transit, Mississauga Transit, Brampton Transit
- York Region Transit, Durham Region

Ontario/Canada
- ViaRail
- Bus: Greyhound (cheapest), seat sales.
- Get ISIC card @ GSU or TravelCuts →
International Students

- **International Student Centre (ISC)**
  - Reception, orientation, counseling
  - Social activities: Trips, Tours, Events
  - Sign up for the mailing list!

- **Language skills**
  - English Language and Writing Support (SGS)
  - English Conversation Program (ISC)

- **Get your health insurance card (UHIP) at ISC**

- **Social Insurance Number (SIN)**
  - You need it to get paid, you are working on campus
  - Human Resources Canada Office
International Students

- Bank accounts
- Credit card – option #1
  - Get from the same bank
  - Infamous credit rating paradox
  - Apply → Get rejected → Leave a collateral → Use card, get rating → Apply/Get a new one, cancel collateral
  - Bank of Montreal (BMO) works!
  - TD (as of 2007)
- Credit card – option #2
  - MBNA Canada offers credit cards for international students
Stay Posted

- www.toronto.com
- The Toronto Star, The Globe and Mail, National Post, NOW, eye...
I forgot to mention the winter...😊