



# EGYPTIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION IN NORTH AMERICA (ESANA)

إتحاد الدارسين المصريين بأمریکا الشمالية

( [WWW.ESANA.ORG](http://WWW.ESANA.ORG) )

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## Unit Location

- ✚ **City:** Toronto
- ✚ **State/Province:** Ontario
- ✚ **Country:** Canada

## University

1. University of Toronto (St. George Campus)

## Current Active Fields

1. Engineering
  - a. Transportation
  - b. Electrical and Computer
  - c. Chemical
2. Pharmacy
3. Botany
4. Chemistry

## Availability of Financial Aid and Grants

- University of Toronto Admission and Awards Student Financial Support provides assurance of financial support,
  - <http://www.adm.utoronto.ca/fa/appllist.htm>
  - Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) (<http://osap.gov.on.ca/>)
- Student Affairs, University of Toronto, <http://www.sa.utoronto.ca/details.php?wcid=58>
- The International Student Centre provides some Information, <http://www.isc.utoronto.ca/comingout/financialaid.html>

## City Information

Toronto, on the north shore of Lake Ontario, is the largest of Canada's vibrant urban centers. It is the hub of the nation's commercial, financial, industrial, and cultural life, and is the capital of the Province of Ontario. People have lived here since shortly after the last ice age, although the urban community only dates to 1793 when British colonial officials founded the 'Town of York' on what then was the Upper Canadian frontier. That backwoods village grew to become the 'City of Toronto' in 1834, and through its subsequent evolution and expansion Toronto has emerged as one of the most liveable and multicultural urban places in the world today. Explore the city's history in-depth in our full length



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"Toronto", a Huron Indian word meaning "place of meeting" or "land of plenty", is the largest city in Canada with a population of over 3 million. It is located on the north shore of Lake Ontario and covers an area of 632 square kilometers. The city is very young by historical standards, and much of it was constructed in the last few decades.

Toronto is a clean, safe, cosmopolitan city with a wonderful network of parks, recreational, and cultural facilities. Toronto is the home of four professional sports teams and the third largest English-speaking theatre district in the world, behind New York and London. One of the world's most ethnically diverse cities, it is home to more than 80 ethnic communities from Africa, Asia, and Europe. Toronto is also the business centre of Canada.

## Weather conditions

The climate of Toronto ranges from near tropical in the summer (up to 32 degrees C, without humidity effect) to occasional lows of -20 degrees C in the winter. Humidity is as high as 80%, which makes the summer weather feels like + 40 in some occasion and lot of rains are expected during the summer. Different kinds and weights of clothing are therefore necessary. Students who do not already possess winter clothing should wait to buy it in Toronto. Light-weight clothing, chiefly cotton, is popular in summer. In spring and fall, when the weather is cooler, sweaters and a light-weight waterproof coat are useful. HOWEVER, the weather is unpredictable in most cases, so please check the weather each and every day before leaving your home. Toronto Weather is one of the most popular website for weather forecasting,  
<http://www.theweathernetwork.com/weather/CAON0696>

## City Attractions

- **Niagara Falls**
  - Niagara Falls is a set of massive waterfalls located on the Niagara River, straddling the international border separating the Canadian province of Ontario and the U.S. state of New York. The falls are located 17 miles (27 km) north-northwest of Buffalo, New York, 75 miles (120 km) south-southeast of Toronto, Ontario, between the twin cities of Niagara Falls, Ontario, and Niagara Falls, New York. More than six million cubic feet (168,000 m<sup>3</sup>) of water fall over the crest line every minute in high flow, and almost 4 million cubic feet (110,000 m<sup>3</sup>) on average. It is the most powerful waterfall in North America.



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- **Rogers Centre (formerly Skydome)**  
Famous for its retractable roof, the Rogers Centre is home to the Toronto Argonauts football team and the Toronto Blue Jays baseball team, 1992 and 1993 World Series Champions.
  - **CN Tower**  
Recently nominated one of the Seven Wonders of the Modern World, the CN Tower features glass floor observation decks, a revolving restaurant, and a Simulator Theatre. It is Toronto's most recognizable landmark and as such, it receives almost two million visitors annually.
  - **Ontario Science Centre**  
The Ontario Science Centre offers interactive and multi-media exhibits with live demonstrations and exhibits on topics that include sports, space, the environment and the information highway. The Science Centre entertains and educates more than 800,000 visitors each year.
  - **The Toronto Zoo**  
Divided into geographic regions, the zoo's 710 acres feature more than 5,000 animals in their natural environments. Its new Africa Savanna exhibit includes a 32-acre walking safari through the wild lands of East Africa.
  - **Harbourfront**  
Like most big cities with a water's edge, Toronto's downtown waterfront has gradually been transformed into a lakeside people place. The heart of this revitalization is the award-winning Harbourfront Centre - the site of art galleries, theatres, craft boutiques restaurants, offices, hotels and marinas fronted by a waterside promenade. Harbourfront Centre attracts approximately 3.5 million visitors every year.
  - **Toronto islands**  
Only a 10-minute ferry ride from the foot of Yonge Street, the Toronto islands offer a panoramic view of the city skyline. Centre Island offers miles of parkland with beaches, barbecues and picnic tables, boat rentals, bicycle paths, a children's farm and even an amusement park.

## City Drawbacks

- Toronto is a very expensive city relative to other surrounding cities in Ontario. The taxes are around 14% (8% Goods and Services Tax (GST) and 6% Provincial Sales Tax (PST). The majority of expenses are devoted to housing and transportation.
- Unpredictable weather conditions with high level of humidity.



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## Size of the Egyptian Community

- Students (**about 50+** (from ISC survey for 2007 year):
  - Graduate: about 40
  - Undergraduate: about 10
- Immigrants: many
- Canadian born-Egyptian Students: a few

## Contact person

Through the ESA-unit website, where the information for the unit's executive committee is updated: <http://egyptian.sa.utoronto.ca>