Our new neighbourhood

We have lived in our new condo for almost three months and have a good sense of our unit, the building, and the neighbourhood.

This area is called Scarborough. Though it used to be a separate town, it became a part of the city of Toronto some years ago. It has, nevertheless retained some of its character and uniqueness. This area is home to people of different countries and ethnicities in the Indian subcontinent, so there are lots of people from India, Sri Lanka, Bangla Desh, and Pakistan. People from the West Indies have been coming here for a while. In the last few years, a number of people from the Middle East and countries in Africa have moved in as well. There are shops and restaurants that reflect the rich mixture of the population of this area.

We have two large shopping malls within walking distance from our building, so we have been able to shop for groceries with our shopping cart. I am sure we can give up our car eventually because most amenities are within a ten-minute walk. I took some pictures to give you an idea. These are not pictures of the shopping malls, but rather smaller stores and restaurants.

Here is a small eatery serving Trinidadian fare of roti and doubles.



A Bangla Deshi supermarket with a menacing sign for anyone daring to park with no intention of shopping at the store.

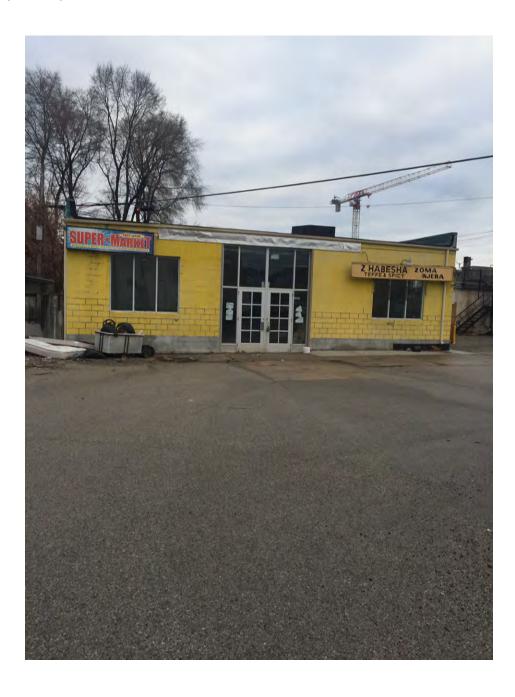




A Ghanaian Barbecue restaurant, The Suya Spot.



An Ethiopian supermarket



An astrologer's sign. Note the Christian and Muslim symbols superimposed on the Om.





And some kinds of restaurants that have been here for a long time. Tandoori and Punjabi fares.

The other neighbourhood feature that is very nice for us is the paths to walk. We live close to a river system, Highland Creek, whose branches have cut through the area. There are very good paths to walk on, some of which go to the shores of Lake Ontario and join the Waterfront Trail. The paths snake through Morningside Park and the Scarborough campus of the university of Toronto.

We will likely walk on these paths this winter as it promises to be a mild one. Once the weather warms up in spring and in summer, there will be no shortage of walks to enjoy.

Here are two more pictures.

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Highland Creek looking upstream to the Morningside Avenue bridge.



Tim on the path running along Lake Ontario shore at Port Union.