



VISIT  
OAKVILLE

# STORY BANK IDEAS

SPRING 2026

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Here in Oakville, we have so many stories to share that reflect the diversity, passion, and heritage of those who do and have called this place home, past, present, and future. We're proud of our charming community, its vibrant neighbourhoods, restorative green spaces, passionate and friendly locals, bustling arts and culture scene, and world-class recreation opportunities. If you're looking for storytelling inspiration, the ideas below are a good place to start. Of course, we invite you to visit us in person to experience first-hand all we have to offer and follow your storytelling inspiration wherever it leads you. Have questions? Get in touch!



## Rich History, Heritage, Arts, and Culture

Did you know that Oakville served as a major gateway to Canada for those fleeing slavery using the Underground Railway?



## The Inspiring People that make Oakville, Oakville.

Oakville has produced top athletic talent from Olympic gold medalists to grand prix winning race car drivers, to professional coaches/officials.



## A City of Festivals and Events

One of the largest events in Oakville each year, we host our annual Taste of Oakville festival every year.



# Rich History, Heritage, Arts, and Culture



## Did You Know?

Did you know that Oakville served as a major gateway to Canada for those fleeing slavery using the Underground Railway? Many first entered Canada through Oakville, usually by boat or on foot, and the legacy of their contributions to our community endure. Learn more about Oakville's black history [here](#) or try a [self-guided](#) black history tour of Oakville!

## Additional Information

### History

Oakville is located on the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, whose ancestors arrived in this area towards the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century and left a mark on this place that endures today. Learn more about the rich culture and heritage of the Mississaugas, known as “people of the water” for their strong connection to and understanding of the area’s lakes, rivers, and water sources. Explore interpretive Treaty signage throughout Oakville that explains this land and follow the posted QR codes to learn more about the [Debwewin Project](#), a partnership between the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the Oakville Community Foundation to further a shared understanding of Oakville’s Indigenous past and support local Truth & Reconciliation.

### Upcoming Events & Exhibits

The Oakville Performing Arts Centre has an amazing lineup of shows this spring to enjoy, including: The Oakville Symphony’s performance of [Brilliant](#) on April 11/12, [Rock of Ages](#) running April 15-19, [Just for Laughs](#) on April 23, Oakville Symphony’s [Electric](#) running May 2-3 and more.

Running until May 24, 2026, check out Oakville Galleries’ newest exhibit, “[Les Fleurs du Mal](#)” at both Centennial Square and Gairloch Gardens. The exhibition brings together works that explore flowers, gardens and the acts of mourning and remembrance.

This year, Oakville Galleries hosted 900 children from local schools and diverse community groups who played a part in creating the paintings that express their visions of tolerance for the sails in the exhibit The Ship of Tolerance. This outdoor installation runs from May 22-September 30. More info [here](#).

Experience the magic of cinema at the [Oakville Film Festival](#), running from June 17-27. This year’s festival features over 100 films, including shorts, documentaries, and feature-length narratives, along with exciting gala events.

Enjoy live music? [Bronte Lake Notes](#) is back starting June 18! Join in every Thursday evening under the sails at Bronte Heritage Park for a free, family-friendly outdoor concert series. Enjoy incredible live music in a beautiful lakeside setting – the perfect way to soak up summer vibes in Oakville’s scenic Bronte Village.



# The Inspiring People that make Oakville, Oakville.



## Did You Know?

Oakville has produced top athletic talent from Olympic gold medalists (like Brianne Jenner and Larry Cain) to grand prix winning race car drivers (like James Hinchcliffe), to professional coaches/officials. We are frequently honoured to host top-tier athletic events like the 2024 [Centennial Cup](#), there is always something going on sports-wise in Oakville to discover. Learn more about our top-tier recreation and sports facilities and events [here](#).

## Additional Information

### Local Business

Our local business owners are passionate and engaged with their community. Come on by to learn more about their love for Oakville and enjoy the creative energy of their businesses. From [restaurants](#) serving up everything from dim sum to charcuterie, cute and quirky [boutiques and shops](#), and thrilling attractions for [entertainment and leisure](#), our enthusiastic business owners have you covered for more than a few days of merriment.

### Culinary Delights

Oakville's culinary scene is truly outstanding, with restaurant [7 Enoteca](#) receiving a nod from MICHELIN with a [Bib Gourmand](#) designation.

### Recent Award Winners

[Playcious Oakville](#) won our recent Talk of the Town Award for Best Kids Experience. Check them out [here](#).



# A Town of Festivals and Events



## Did You Know?

We have a ton of exciting things to do in Oakville this spring. Check out our full event calendar [here](#).

## Additional Information

### Upcoming Events

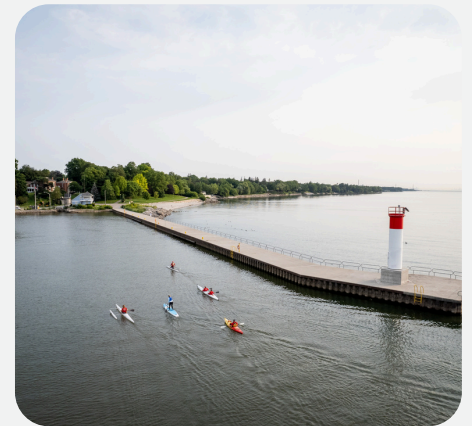
- There's always so much to do at Bronte Creek Provincial Park, including [Spring Time on the Farm](#), [Knot Just a Knit in Public](#) and the campground opens May 8 for overnight stays!
- Get ready for four days of fun as the [Oakville Family Ribfest](#) makes its much-anticipated return from June 26-28. This year's event is better than ever, featuring award-winning ribbers, live music and an indoor marketplace!



Bronte Creek Provincial Park



Gairloch Gardens



Oakville Lighthouse

Click each photo to open a high-res version.  
For additional photos available for download click [here](#).

