

Sugar Beach

Location: Toronto, Canada **Designer:** Claude Cormier Associates
Photographer: Waterfront Toronto & Claude Cormier Associates **Completion date:** 2010 **Site area:** 8,500 sqm



1. Urban Beach
2. Promenade
3. Plaza Concert Space
4. Chorus Concert Stage
5. Interactive Fountain
6. Candy-Striped Bedrock
7. Temporary Berm over Future Development Parcel
8. North Plaza (Proposed)

Sugar Beach takes its cue from adjacent Redpath Sugar Factory, source of the noteworthy sugar spray frequently carried by westerly breezes onto the site. Sweetness is here manifested through candy-coloured umbrellas across a sandy wedge of beach, and bedrock outcrops patterned after rock candy. Intergrating the future Waterfront Promenade and a plaza for programmed and unprogrammed events, the design for Sugar Beach playfully adopts some of the most enduring elements from Toronto's emerging landscape identity - its beaches, tree and water - embedding them into the urban horizon with a trace mood of the city's industrial past. Canada's Sugar Beach, whose design includes a plaza, urban beach and tree-lined promenade, is like three parks in one. The park's engaging plaza space offers a dynamic space for public events. A large candy-striped granite rock outcropping and three grass mounds create a colourful amphitheatre-style space with unique vantage points for larger events. The spaces between the mounds result in a natural performance space for smaller events. At the beach, white Muskoka-style chairs under playful pink umbrellas line the water's edge giving people a place to while away the afternoon. A dynamic water feature embedded in a granite maple leaf beside the beach makes cooling off fun for adults and children. Between the plaza and the beach, people will stroll through the park along a promenade with granite and tumbled concrete cobblestones in a maple leaf mosaic pattern. Lined with mature maple trees, the promenade offers a shaded route to the water's edge giving the public ample opportunity along the way to sit and enjoy views to the lake, beach or plaza. At the lake, the park's promenade connects seamlessly to East Bayfront's continuous kilometre-long water's edge promenade and boardwalk.

Right: Panoramic view of Sugar Beach

