Imagine There's No Quota

Project Brief Description

The public art project, developed through research, community participation, and a pilot audio-walk installation, will honor those who were killed or injured by the last ruling party's genocidal tactics during the July-August 2024 revolution in Bangladesh, which advocated for education and employment reforms and broader social changes. Unfolding in Toronto’s 'Bangla Town,' streets the project will offer a space for the Bangladeshi-Canadian community to reflect on the uprising in their homeland and envision a future that fosters greater civic engagement. Additionally, the audio-walk installations will transform the streets into interactive spaces, encouraging alternative visions for public spaces.

https://ontariocommunitychangemakers.org/changemaker/mushtari-afroz/

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Project Components

- Ethnographic Research: Currently in progress through discussion with Bangladeshi-Canadian community members.

- Audio-walk creation and installation: Artistic transformation of the ethnographic research disseminated in Public Spaces via QR codes. The audio-walk will be in Bengali language.

- Opening Event: A small gathering of 15-25 people to officially open the audio-walk installations to the public.

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Project Lead- Mushtari Afroz

Originally from Bangladesh, Mushtari Afroz is a Toronto-based dance artist. She is also an artist-researcher-practitioner in public spaces. Her praxis-driven work creates site-specific performances integrating dance, music, and theatre that address socio-spatial issues in cities and foster active citizenship. She holds an MA in Performing Public Space from Fontys Academy of the Arts, Netherlands, and is currently advancing her research at York University's Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies department.

https://www.ojanaprithibi.me/mushtari-afroz/

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Key agenda items

1. Support from council office for the project
2. Letter of project support
3. Invitation to August 2025 event
4. Contacting local community – BIA, Local business, Local associations
5. Event promotion support – newsletter, information to community connections

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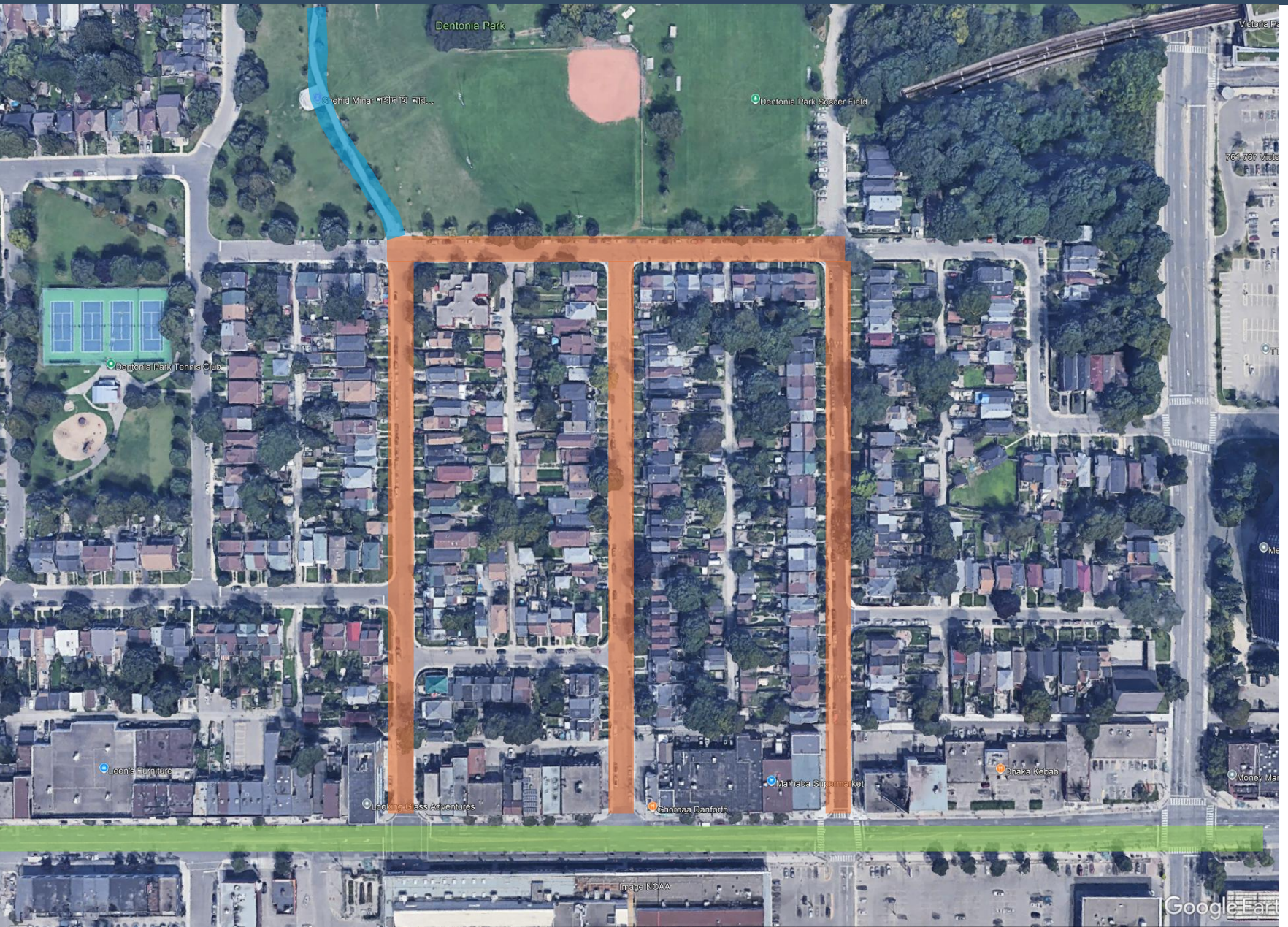
Project Opening Event

- The Opening Event, scheduled for early August will serve as the official public launch of the audio-walk installations.
- A small gathering of 15-25 people consisting of TV, newspaper, and other media partners, along with community members, is expected to attend.
- Unlike a typical outdoor festival, the event will be designed as a simple invitation for the community gathered in front of ‘Shohid Minar’- the international language monument with significant historical and cultural value for the Bangladeshi community - to come and participate in the audio-walks, creating a space for healing for the community.

Potential Project Installation Locations



Potential Routes on Street

- Thyra Avenue (North-south)
- Eldon Avenue (North-south)
- Sibley Avenue (North-south)
- Dantonia Park Avenue (east-West)

Potential Routes to Park

- Dantonia Park (Trail leading to Shohid Minar)

Local Shops/Business

- Event collaboration with local community and business on Danforth Avenue (Victoria Park to Main Street)

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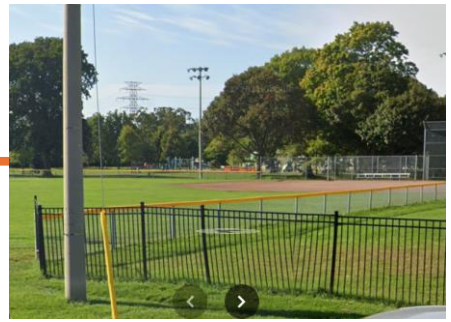
August Event– Potential Activity Dantonia Park

Item #3: Small event poster at Shahid Minar trail entrance

Item #5: Small event poster and ribbons at park chain fence



Example ribbon, it will be red and green match national flag of Bangladesh

Item #4: Small event poster at Shahid Minar trail entrance

Item #1: Cultural events at Shohid Minar

Item #2: Small event poster at Shohid Minar Space

Example poster for Item #2, #3, #4 (but half of this size)

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Partners

Project Funders

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Media Partners

CLIMATE CHANNEL

Creative Partners

YONGE CREATIVE PRODUCTIONS