

CMRC 2010 Update 2: July 29, 2010

Dear colleague:

Until your arrival we'll send you information and reminders about the upcoming 7th International Conference on Media, Religion and Culture, as well as some tips and trivia about Toronto. Note that the latest program including abstracts and a subject/author/location/media index is available online at <http://www.journalism.ryerson.ca/cmrc2010/>. I think you'll agree when you look at the abstracts that this promises to be a rich and exciting meeting!

Thanks to those who have volunteered to chair a panel... If you are interested in chairing a panel, please let us know ASAP at: mrc@journalism.ryerson.ca. Not all chairs have yet been assigned.

GETTING HERE AND GETTING AROUND

The least convenient part of your conference experience may be the trip from the airport to downtown Toronto. There is no train or rapid transit service from Pearson International Airport. All your options are listed at the [GTAA website](#). A **taxi** is easiest, and will cost about \$53 one way (before tax or tip). The **Airport Express bus** can be taken to the Bond Street Hotel, which is a short walk from campus and the hotels. This is less expensive than a taxi, but the price will depend on whether you choose a one way or return fare. For details, see: <http://www.torontoairportexpress.com/>. Finally, for those of you who don't have too much luggage, and don't mind navigating the Toronto Transit Commission ([TTC](#)) public bus and subway system, you can take the **192 Airport Rocket bus** from the airport to Kipling subway station, go eastbound to the Yonge and Bloor station, and then go south on the subway to the Dundas station. This station is a short walk from campus. The price can't be beaten: \$3 for a one-way trip.

If you are arriving by train or by bus, please consult this Google [map](#) showing the conference venues. For those arriving by bus to the Downtown bus terminal, it is possible to walk to campus if you do not have too much luggage. If arriving at Union Station, you can take a taxi to your destination or the subway to Dundas station and walk from there.

Once downtown, you will find all the conference accommodations and venues within walking distance, as well as restaurants and shopping. [Ryerson](#) is very close to the Dundas subway station, as well as major bus and streetcar routes. Single ticket fares for the TTC are \$3 (if paying by cash, you will need exact change). Taxis can be flagged down on the street and are priced by the distance travelled, and are metered. Pay what is shown on the meter, and include a tip if you wish.

Parking in downtown Toronto is expensive! But there is underground parking on campus under Pitman Hall. If you are staying in the student accommodation, please check with the reservation staff first.

BOOKS TO PROMOTE AND TO BUY

If you have a book you'd like to showcase at the conference, please contact Guy Thomas at the Ryerson University book store (gythomas@ryerson.ca) who will arrange an in-store display.

Toronto has many excellent bookstores. The largest Canadian chain includes Indigo and Chapters outlets, as well as The World's Biggest Bookstore, which is walking distance from Ryerson's campus. However, there are also wonderful independent stores nearby, including Ben McNally Books, Book City, the Anglican Book Centre, BMV and others. We'll be happy to direct you to book and other media stores.

And now for your Toronto trivia tip:

You will probably visit or at least walk past the [Toronto Eaton Centre](#), which is a large enclosed shopping mall on the southwest corner of Yonge and Dundas Streets, often described as the heart of downtown Toronto. Today it is a shrine to shopping, but there are three religious reasons why you might find this site interesting: 1. It stands on the former site of the Salvation Army headquarters for Canada. 2. Nestled almost inside the mall is the Anglican Church of the Holy Trinity, known for its social outreach and for its [café](#) where on weekdays you can get a good lunch at a good price. 3. Between the Eaton Centre and the Bell Trinity Square building is the Toronto Public Labyrinth, now set with stone, which you can walk.