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Ontario Science Centre

The Ontario Science Centre in Toronto is a complex of three interconnected buildings, situated in the geographic heart of Metropolitan Toronto. One of the Centre's three buildings sits on the only knoll in this part of the Don Valley. Another building is 90 feet below on the valley floor. The three concrete structures contain more than

450,000 square feet of floor space. Exhibits in the Science Centre have been designed to be used by the visitor, creating an environment of interaction and involvement. Thus, learning becomes fun. The Centre staff receives plenty of feedback from visitors but this student's comment seemed the most fitting:

I saw the whole world

A feature, by Roy Downs

Someone once had the idea that science and technology could be fun... which it is, if you visit the Ontario Science Centre in Toronto. Here, you can learn to do by doing.

Officially called the Centennial Centre of Science and Technology, the Ontario Science Centre was started in 1967 and opened in 1969 as the Province of Ontario's major centennial project. It's located on Don Mills Road just south of Eglinton Ave.,

just west of the Don Valley Parkway and is easily accessible from the North Halton area via Highway 401.

If you've been there before, this article may refresh your memory and tempt you to go back again... for exhibits are constantly changing and there is always something "new" to see at the Science Centre. If you've never been, put it on your list of one-day trips and go soon, it's a day you'll never forget. During

the Christmas holidays would be a great time to go. The Centre is open seven days a week (Christmas Day is the only exception) from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Covers 20 acres

The Centre is a complex of buildings containing more than 450,000 square feet of floor space. The buildings occupy 20 acres in a park-like setting which takes in 180 acres.

It has been called "the museum of the 21st century" but the Science Centre is not really a museum. Rather than being a repository for storage and display of artifacts, the emphasis is on interpretative exhibits of scientific principles and technological achievements.

Most of the exhibits are designed to be used by the visitor, thus creating an environment of interaction and involvement. That's why it's fun.

There are no taboos about cameras, so take yours along and snap away.

What to do?

Play games that test your

perception, your memory, your agility and your responses. Figure out how technology can trick the eye and fool your inner ear. Simulate a moon landing, try using mechanical hands, ride a gyro platform, see a laser beam in action, figure out pulleys, crack a safe, play tic-tac-toe with a computer, test your brake reaction time in a driving test, listen to yourself on the phone, see yourself on TV, pedal a bike to generate electricity, get electrified at the hydro spark show, play a piano or an organ, use a TV camera, test your vocabulary, see what's being done with Canada's resources.

Information comes easily at the Science Centre. There are more than 550 exhibits and plenty of the Centre's 200 staff members are available to answer questions or put on demonstrations for you.

You'll find several people working right in the exhibit halls, like the model maker, printer and treadle lathe operator. They're very friendly and knowledgeable, so try them if you don't understand.

Food available

Food and refreshments are offered to fit any budget, from various snack bars to a

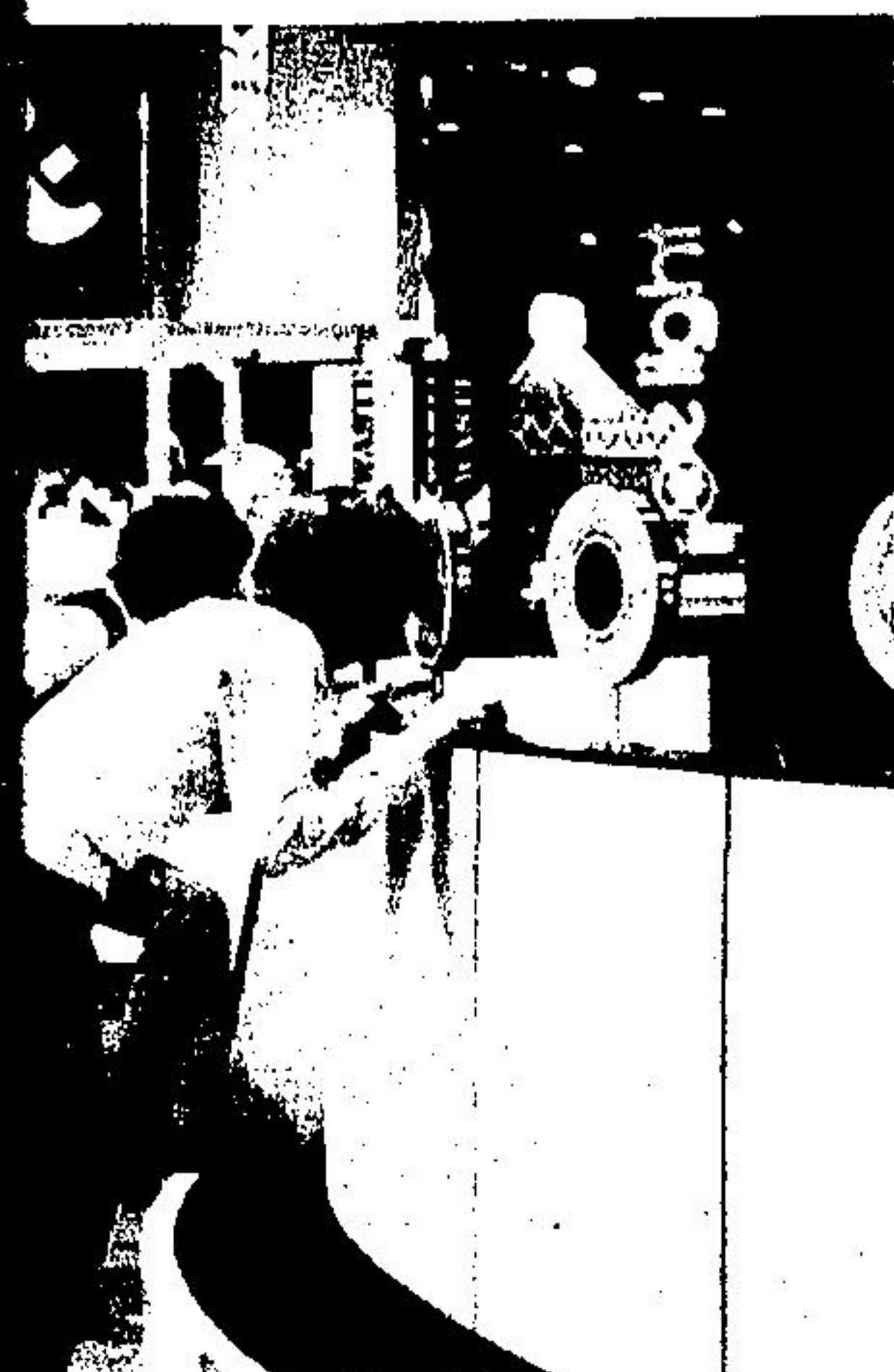
cafeteria and a licensed dining room.

Admission is \$1.50 for adults, 75 cents for students, 25 for children 12 and under — but there's a family rate of \$3.50. Senior citizens can get in for 50 cents. Parking on the site is \$1.

Discover more about the world — and yourself — at the Ontario Science Centre.

ONTARIO Science Centre in Toronto sits on a knoll in the Don Valley. Its three concrete structures contain over 450,000 square feet of floor space.

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SCIENCE Arcade is designed for fun—and learning. Exhibits fascinate visitors of all ages. And everything invites your trial.



FATHER and son try out an organ in one of the Science Centre's individual booths, a soundproof glass room.



SOUND focussing discs allow a whisper at one end to be heard clearly across the room—36 yards away in a similar disc.



THE COMPUTER is programmed to play a game of Tic-Tac-Toe with you. But watch out, it never loses!

BY PEDDLING hard you can see yourself on TV, make lights flash, or start a musical tape.



BLENDING with its environment, the Ontario Science Centre is worth a visit. Take the whole family for a day of fun.