

PROFESSOR'S LAKE



Spring-fed and urban

When I was told about this lake smack in the middle of a large suburban housing development, I envisioned... well, I just could not envision it! No wonder. The man-made lake is the first attempt of this kind in eastern Canada. It offers the best water in the region, a twisting water slide, a raft to jump from for the better swimmers and a large sandy beach. It is also surrounded by 750 housing units.

To access **Professor's Lake**, one has to go through a hallway in the recreation centre, which hides the lake from our view. When the beach revealed itself, I took in the panorama of the wide beach covered with pale sand, some 300 visitors (much less than I had expected for a great summer day) and the 65-acre mass of blue water. My kids ran like wild horses to

TIPS (fun for all ages)

- The minimum height to use the slide is now 49 inches but it could change. Call for the last decision on that matter.
- A trail runs around the lake outside of the gated area.
- A snack bar sells hot dogs, snacks, popsicles and slush.
- A family movie would be a nice way to finish the day (the beach closes at 7 pm). There is **SilverCity Brampton** a 10-min. drive from the lake. (Take North Park Dr. west, turn north at Dixie Rd., west on Bovaird Dr., north on Great Lakes Drive and into **Trinity Common** to your left). See www.cinemaslock.com for listings.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS

Chinguacousy Park (5-min.) p. 286

try the fun slide throwing happy children into the lake. My 5-year-old spent the next four hours on the slide while her 9-year-old brother kept jumping off the raft, more than 30 metres from shore (for confident swimmers).

Like many kids, mine could not care less about water attributes vital to me such as quality, temperature, colour or odour. Whatever water will do the job, as long as I allow them to swim in it. But I was really taken by the sensation of swimming in Professor's Lake, and so were the moms I introduced to this attraction. It felt... clean and refreshing!

There are many reasons for it. The former gravel pit is spring-fed. It offers a large shallow area

but reaches 42 feet in its greatest depth. And unlike many lakes in the region, a storm drainage system was designed to bypass the lake so it is protected from water run-off from farms, houses and roads, following heavy rains.

Add lifeguards on the beach, at the raft and at both ends of the slide and you get a very relaxing outing for parents! Add plenty of canoes, kayaks paddle boats for rental at affordable prices to take advantage of the lake, and you get an outing suitable for all ages and genders.



Professor's Lake

• Brampton
(905) 791-7751
www.brampton.ca

**D-2
N-W
of Toronto
50-min.**



Schedule: Open daily late June to Labour Day, 10 am to 7 pm.



Admission: Around \$4/adults, \$3/others. **Rental costs:** Around \$9/30 min. for paddle boat, \$6/1 hr for canoe, \$8/1 hr for kayak.

Directions: From Hwy 401, take Hwy 427 northbound to the end, turn west on Hwy 7, then north on Torbram Road and west on North Park Drive.