

Ontario Place

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located on the west island, in the marina area and on the east island area close to the pavilion. A fourth group of restaurants will be placed in the most westerly of the five pavilion pods. Lounge facilities will also be on hand. Live entertainment will be featured at a number of dining locations.

Final landscape architecture is underway on the Ontario Place site. Several acres have already been sodded and the first of over 1600 trees are in position. By opening day, the site will have more than 17 acres of grass plus almost

30,000 trees, shrubs, plants and other groundcover. Work is also commencing on the 3.4 miles of primary and secondary pathways and outdoor seating facilities to accommodate up to 6,000 people. Grading and contouring of Ontario Place beaches, to total almost half a mile in length, is nearing completion.

Ontario Place officially opens May 22, 1971. It will be open to the public seven days a week from opening day through Thanksgiving weekend.

Bicycle Riders

Young bicycle riders, who cannot reach their pedals comfortably when seated, run a risk of collision five times as great as youngsters who "fit" their bikes.

According to a report released today by the Ontario Department of Transport, an in-depth study of the bicycle collision problem has shown that children riding bicycles which are too big for them are a major cause of collisions.

Other major findings from the study were that young cyclists operate by their own rules of the road, often in contradiction to the traffic laws; and that most bicycle collisions

occur during rush-hour traffic periods.

The report was based on a study of 275 motor vehicle collisions involving bicyclists in the Metropolitan Toronto area and a questionnaire survey of more than 1,000 young male bicycle owners. The study was conducted by the Safety and Environmental Studies Section of the Transport Department.

Transport Minister Irwin Haskett said it was the first in-depth study of its kind in Canada and "perhaps in North America."

Mr. Haskett said that the report points to the need for a more extensive traffic education program in elementary schools. He said

that the DOT's Crusader Cycle Club program is available to all schools that want to use it, but unfortunately, according to this study, less than one percent of children receive formal training in riding a bicycle.

"The schools themselves and parents must accept more responsibility for encouraging children to take proper training as bicyclists and road users" Mr. Haskett said.

The Minister said also that the mis-match of children to over-sized bikes is a most important finding and that "a great deal of the responsibility for ensuring that the bicycle properly fits the size of the child

again rests with parents."

"The practise of providing larger-sized bicycles for young children so that they can grow into them is contrary to the child's interest since he needs the best suited bicycle when he is acquiring his early experience in traffic."

The study showed that minimum risk occurred among riders who could reach the ground from the seated position.

In the first nine months of this year, 32 cyclists were killed in Ontario and 1,681 were injured, compared with 30 killed and 1,571 injured during the corresponding nine months of 1969.

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Most Provincial Parks Welcome Winter Visitors

Most people associate parks with the summer season when recreation consists of such activities as camping, picnicking, swimming, fishing, or boating. But, of late, more and more hardy souls are camping in the snow, and even more have been discovering the beauty of these parks in winter and facilities offered through hiking, skiing, skating and tobogganing.

Provincial parks are now officially closed for the season but three of them are wide-open for winter use, and offer such things as snowmobile trails, skiing, skating and tobogganing. Eighty-five of the 100 provincial parks operated by the department of lands and forests permit snowmobiles to operate in selected areas within the park.

The three parks, Arrowhead near Huntsville, Sibbald Point on Lake Simcoe and Pinery on Lake Huron, will include snowploughed roads and campsites, heated washrooms with hot water, central fuel wood and garbage disposal areas, and drinking water. Individual water or electrical connections will not be available for camping units at present.

Regular park fees for vehicle entry or camping will apply in the three winter parks. Here are some of the activities available:

ARROWHEAD - Snowmobiling in delightful wooded, rolling country on roads and specially marked trails. Snowshoeing and hiking in a portion of the park reserved for this use. Cross-country skiing in the heart of a major ski area. Ice fishing for brook trout on Mayflower and Arrowhead Lakes after January 1st, 1971. Outdoor skating rink.

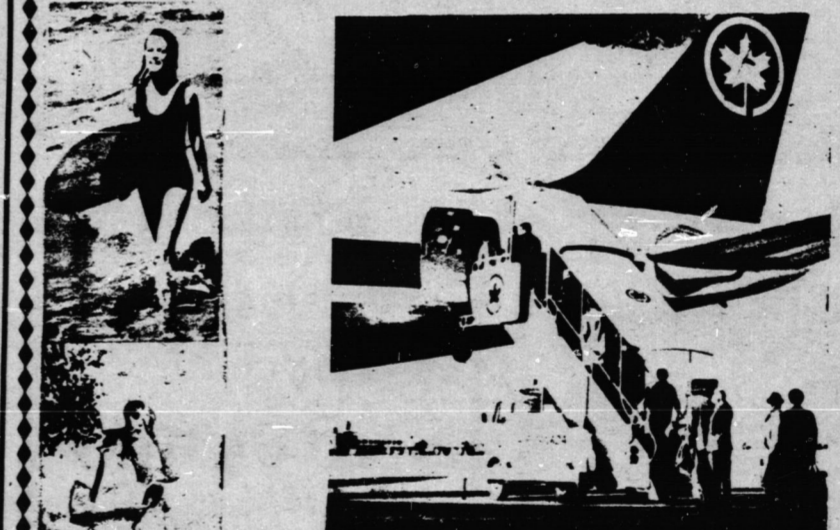
SIBBALD POINT - Snowmobiling on roads and specially marked trails. Outdoor skating rink with shelter. Ski and snowshoe trails of three miles. Ice fishing - parking areas, heated washroom and garbage disposal area is located near launch ramps for access to Lake Simcoe.

PINERY - Snowmobiling on 25 miles of marked trails throughout the park. Skating rink in operation at all times. Tobogganing area in operation at all times. Skiing facilities include poma lift, chalet and concession, beginners slope and snow-making

equipment. The ski-tow fee is \$1 per day per person and operates on weekends only during the following hours: Friday, 1 pm to 10 pm; Saturday, 10 am to 10 pm; Sunday, 10 am to 9 pm. Special arrangements can be made for operation of tow on week-days for groups of 25 or more.

As in the summer season, winter park users are expected to abide by rules laid down in the interests of safety and conservation. In 15 of the parks the snowmobiler will be required to confine travel to specifically marked trails. These restrictions are necessary to protect wildlife, waterfowl habitats, developed nature trails, extensive tree and shrub plantings and designated primitive, natural and historic zones within parks. Snowmobilers will be prohibited in 13 provincial parks, and will be permitted to travel on existing unploughed roads in those remaining. Seven hundred miles of roadways are available for this use in parks across the province.

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