

SPORTS *in the* CITY

keeping community connected



TORONTO
DROP-IN
NETWORK

BACKGROUND

What is the World Cup and when is it happening?

It is an International soccer tournament hosted in Toronto from June 11th- July 19th at the BMO Field located at 170 Princes' Blvd.

What are the risks and why?

There will be increased private security and police presence during this time, especially on game match days, in the area of the BMO Field, the Fan Festival grounds at Fort York, on the streets in neighbourhoods surrounding this area, on public transit vehicles, and at transit stations (like Union Station).

We want people to be safe and connected to community, and encourage folks to avoid potential interactions with police and/or security. We want to keep people from forced removals from public space, verbal abuse and dehumanization, physical assaults by security and police. We don't want increased targeting of visibly poor and homeless people in the name of FIFA - related city "cleanups".

We've heard from underhoused and homeless community members that people are being harassed, displaced, and removed from public spaces.

This is discrimination and socially unjust.

[Watch the news coverage here:](#)

Unhoused people harassed at Union Station by security and police, advocates say

Toronto Underhoused and Homeless Union says displacement comes ahead of World Cup

CBC News - Posted: May 27, 2026 12:15 PM EDT | Last Updated: May 27

[Listen to this article](#)
Estimated 4 minutes



Unhoused people harassed at Union Station by security and police, advocates say
CBC News Toronto

Members of the Toronto Underhoused and Homeless Union rallied in a downtown park to protest alleged violence against marginalized people in Union Station by special constables, private security agents and Toronto police ahead of the FIFA World Cup. CBC's Michelle Song has more on accountability from the city.

BACKGROUND

The Toronto Underhoused and Homeless Union (TUHU) made comprehensive demands to support the safety, well-being, and community care of vulnerable folks who are being directly impacted by displacement, violence, and harm.

1. Immediate 24/7 respite spaces made available during World Cup preparations and during the ongoing World Cup events.

Respite should be safe, engaging, and resourced spaces, providing opportunities to receive compassionate support, learn, have fun, be creative, and rest.

2. Cancel security contracts, and replace them with peer-support, harm reduction workers, and outreach teams who most fully embody a trauma-informed approach. Aggressive enforcement and private, security-operated 'support' is not working. Allocate all budget funding away from security contracts and special enforcement, and towards seasoned and compassionate outreach groups. SCS peer and harm reduction workers who have recently experienced job loss due to closures are excellent candidates for immediate outreach employment during FIFA (or at any time).

3. Indefinitely postpone shelter closures and SCS closures.

Without a place to go, more and more people are going to be in places like Union Station. These ongoing closures are doing consistent harm to people and must be halted.

READ TUHU's full report: *Safety for Whom?*

Find it on their website: <https://www.rpcmtoronto.ca/tuhunion>



SOCCER

MATCH DAYS & TIMES

Friday June 12

3:00PM

Wednesday June 17

7:00PM

Saturday June 20

4:00PM

Tuesday June 23

7:00PM

Friday June 26

3:00PM

Thursday July 2

7:00PM

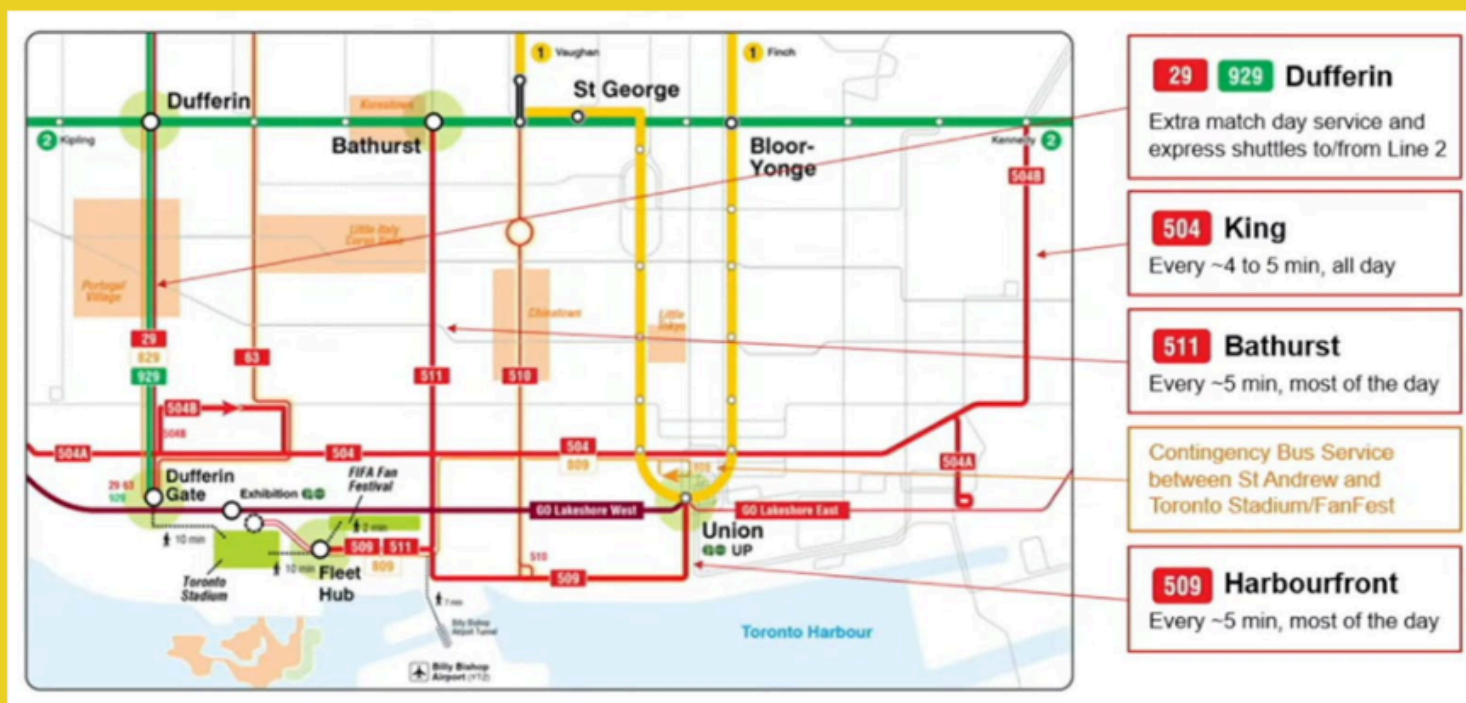
KEEPING PEOPLE CONNECTED

FIFA-IMPACTED ZONE: PARKDALE TO UNION STATION

There will be increased risk of large crowds of pedestrians, as well as increased private security and police, in several neighbourhoods - Harborfront/City Place, Parkdale, Fort York/Liberty Village, Queen West

TTC Stations that will have increased security: Union Station, Bathurst Station, Dufferin Station

Streetcars with increased security: Dufferin 29/92, King 504, Bathurst 511, Harbourfront 509.



STAY CONNECTED

Visit a Drop-In to access food, water, harm reduction supplies, indoor space and other services.



Special respites may also be made available for extreme heat days.

FIFA-IMPACTED ZONE DROP-INS INCLUDE:

Parkdale Activity Recreation Centre (PARC): 1499 Queen Street West
Mon-Thurs 9:00am - 6:00pm, Fri 12:30pm - 4:30pm, Sat/Sun: 11:00am - 3:00pm

Breakaway: 21 Strickland Avenue
Mon-Fri 9:00am - 5:00pm (Community Dinner 5:00pm - 7:00pm Thursdays)

The Dale Ministries: Mon Lunch 1:00pm - 2:00pm at 245 Dunn Ave, Tues Breakfast 10:00am - 11:00am at 201 Cowan (They also do outreach)

Evangel Hall Mission (EHM): 552 Adelaide Street West
Mon-Fri 9:00am - 12:30pm

West Neighbourhood House: The Meeting Place: 588 Queen Street West
Tues 11:00am - 3:45pm, Wed-Sat 10:00am - 3:45pm



EVERYONE

has the right to access
public spaces
without being harassed

The TDIN Advocacy Committee has been working on putting together a resource for the drop-in community about what our rights and responsibilities are when interacting with the police.

The resource was prepared by the Legal Clinic at Lincoln Alexander School of Law, Toronto Metropolitan University, as was last updated May 29, 2026.

This guide contains legal information, not legal advice. Every situation is different. If you or someone you serve needs legal advice, contact a lawyer or legal clinic.

Bill 6: The Safer Municipalities Act

A Guide for Community Service Providers

Prepared by the Legal Clinic at Lincoln Alexander School of Law,
Toronto Metropolitan University
Last updated May 29, 2026

About This Guide

Bill 6, the [Safer Municipalities Act, 2024](#) is an Ontario law that expands police powers to address the public consumption of illegal substances. While it affects anyone who spends time in public, it has the biggest effect on people who are unhoused or do not have stable housing. This guide explains what the law permits, what your rights are, and what courts have said about the limits of what police can do.

This guide contains legal information, not legal advice. Every situation is different. If you or someone you serve needs legal advice, contact a lawyer or legal clinic.

Scope: This guide covers Ontario provincial law (Bill 6) and, where noted, Toronto-specific municipal rules. Sections that apply only to Toronto are clearly marked.

It is important to remember that there is often a difference between the law on paper and policing in practice. Police conduct in reality can differ from the rules they are supposed to follow.

What Does Bill 6 Allow Police Officers to Do?

Under Bill 6, a police officer who has reasonable grounds to believe (meaning a real, fact-based belief, not just a guess or a hunch) that a person is using an illegal drug in a public place may:

- Direct the person to stop consuming the substance
- Direct the person to leave the public place
- Seize substances that are in plain view
- Require identifying information (name, date of birth, address) only after the person has failed to comply with a direction
- Arrest the person without a warrant if reasonable grounds exist

[Visit the TDIN website](#)
[to access the full](#)
[resource:](#)
www.tdin.ca/resources



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The influx of transit users and tourists in the City will also mean an increase in security and police presence. The passing of Bill 6 and the forced closures of many of our Supervised Consumption Sites (SCSs) by the Provincial government has meant increased surveillance, harassment, and violence against vulnerable people experiencing homelessness and people who use drugs (PWUD) being in public spaces.

TTCRiders have an extensive resource available (including wallet-sized print cards) about Knowing your Rights on Public Transit.

Know Your Transit Rights!



- Bus and streetcar drivers cannot refuse you service for not paying for fare.
- If your 2-hour transfer ends while you are on a TTC vehicle, you have the right to complete your trip. If you transfer to another vehicle, you will need to pay another fare.



Visit the TTCRiders website to learn more: www.ttcriders.ca/rights



QUICK REFERENCE

Quick Reference if police approach you:

1. Stay calm. Be polite. De-escalation is often the best tool to avoid problematic interactions. Comply with requests to move off private property as you are able. Request a few minutes if you need it to gather your things.
2. If police approach you, you can ask: *“Am I free to go?”*
3. If given a direction to stop or leave, comply if you can.
4. If you cannot or do not comply, you may be required to give your name, date of birth, and address.
5. You do not have to answer any other questions.
6. You can say at any time: *“I want to speak to a lawyer.”*
7. If searched without consent, say: *“I do not consent to being searched”*, but do not physically resist.
8. Note the officer’s name and badge number. Ask for a receipt.

Note: If someone is overdosing and you call 911, no one at the scene can be charged under Bill 6 based on what police find when they arrive.

For legal help, contact your local community legal clinic:
(www.legalaid.on.ca/legal-clinics/) or call Legal Aid Ontario at 1-800-668-8258

Were you harassed by security or police?

Contact the Toronto Underhoused and Homeless Union (TUHU) to share your story and connect with community. Torontohomelessorganize@gmail.com / 437-238-3424

TUHU meets in-person every 1st Tuesday of the month
at 6pm at 40 Oak Street.



We've heard from underhoused and homeless community members that people are being harassed, displaced, and removed from public spaces. This is discrimination and socially unjust.

In an effort to keep folks connected and informed, we've collaborated with the Toronto Underhoused and Homeless Union (TUHU) to create a community care flyer that can be distributed at drop-ins and in community.



A copy of the flyer can be downloaded from the TDIN website: www.tdin.ca/resources and will be available on social media.

Soccer in the City: Community Care Flyer June 2026

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MAP OF MOST IMPACTED AREAS:

