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## Branching Out: High Park Nature Centre brings back unique nature mentorship program

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**[Toronto, Ontario]** – This new year, the High Park Nature Centre is bringing back Branching Out, the unique nature interpretation mentorship program for people who speak English and another language.

In exchange for 16 hours of skill development, Branching Out participants will design and deliver a nature walk for the public in the language linked to their culture. This past year, Branching Out has allowed the High Park Nature Centre to conduct guided nature walks in several languages, including French, German, Gujarati, Hindi, Russian, Spanish, Tamil and Turkish. Thanks to a generous grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the program is currently free for all applicants.

For many former participants, Branching Out has served as an opportunity for them to connect with nature, their cultural languages, and people from around the world.

“The mentorship sessions leading up to the walk were the most meaningful experiences of my life here in Canada,” said one participant of the Branching Out program.

“Branching Out is a remarkable concept that I am incredibly grateful to part of,” said Jenny Davis, Event and Volunteer Coordinator at the High Park Nature Centre, and facilitator of the program. “The encouraging feedback from the participants is testament to the program’s impact on rekindling and reconnecting people’s relationships with nature.”

Embracing the spirit of Toronto’s multicultural demographics, the High Park Nature Centre is also running a [fundraiser](#) through the end of 2021 in order to expand this program and reach out to communities that lack accessibility to the Nature Centre’s programs due to linguistic and cultural barriers.

“This program is one of the many ways the Nature Centre helps make nature accessible to everyone,” said Sara Street, Executive Director of the High Park Nature Centre. “Lack of proficiency in one language should not be an obstacle for people who wish to experience the bounties of nature in High Park. Branching Out allows us to build a more inclusive nature experience for all Torontonians.”

The High Park Nature Centre invites all those who are interested in creating a meaningful nature experience for their community to apply for the Branching Out program. The deadline to submit applications is 11:59PM, January 1, 2022. The mentorship program will run from 10AM-4PM every Sunday from January 9-30, 2022.

To learn more about Branching Out and to apply today, please visit the High Park Nature Centre’s [website](#). To donate to the program please visit the link to our [fundraiser](#).

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The [High Park Nature Centre](#) is a charitable organization that was established in 1999. Our mission is to promote awareness and respect for nature through year-round, hands-on outdoor nature education and park stewardship. Nature Centre programs inspire a sense of wonder, knowledge, and respect for High Park’s natural systems; restore human connections to local plants and animals; and engage visitors in ecological restoration activities to ensure a sustainable future for High Park for generations to come.