



**MUSEUM OF TORONTO CELEBRATES THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY ALLIANCE THEME FOR 2026: "LEADING THE CHANGE: WOMEN SHAPING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE" BY EXTENDING THE 52 EXHIBITION**

*Honouring 52 iconic women whose influence spans art, culture, politics, sports, technology, business, and civic life, the exhibition is being extended in a landmark week that also features the highly anticipated and sold-out In-Conversation with Margaret Atwood and Adrienne Clarkson*

Toronto, ON (December 15, 2025) – [Museum of Toronto](#) is pleased to announce the extension of its groundbreaking exhibition, "[The 52: Stories of Women Who Transformed Toronto](#)", now running until May 2026. Three years in the making, this multidisciplinary exhibition and live theatrical experience offers an unprecedented exploration of 52 women whose contributions have shaped Toronto's cultural, political, scientific, athletic, and civic landscape. The exhibition aligns with the 2026 theme of the National Women's History Alliance, *Leading the Change: Women Shaping a Sustainable Future*, and illuminates the many extraordinary women across science, arts and culture, politics, sports, technology, business, and civic life.

Coinciding with the extension announcement, TO Live in partnership with Museum of Toronto will present the highly anticipated, and sold-out event, "[In-Conversation with Margaret Atwood and Adrienne Clarkson](#)", taking place on December 17 at 7:00 PM at the St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, Jane Mallett Theatre. The event offers audiences a rare opportunity to hear from two of Canada's most influential cultural leaders during the same week the exhibition extension is revealed

"Extending The 52 allows even more Torontonians to engage with these powerful stories of women who shaped our city," says **Heidi Reitmaier, CEO of Museum of Toronto**. "These stories need to be heard, not only during moments like the National Women's History Alliance's annual theme or International Women's Day, but year-round. The women featured in this exhibition, and the thousands more who have transformed Toronto, deserve sustained attention and recognition. The sold-out conversation with Margaret Atwood and Adrienne Clarkson underscores just how vital and resonant these narratives are."

**Exhibition at Museum of Toronto**

This is no traditional exhibition. To tell these important stories, this project has commissioned 24 exemplary playwrights to write 52 monologues – one for each transformational woman on the list. The award-winning Canadian playwrights include: Aida Jordao, Alex Cameron, Ali Joy Richardson, Anna Chatterton, Cheri Maracle, Coleen MacPherson, Diane Flacks, Erin Shields, Falen Johnson, Jo SiMalaya Alcampo, Jordi Mand, Julia Hune-Brown, Julie Tepperman, Kanika Ambrose, Keira Loughran, Lisa Ryder, Marcia Johnson, Marjorie Chan, Meghan Swaby, Ophira Calof, Sarena Parmar, Sedina Fiati, Shandra Spears and Sharada Eswar. The filmed monologues feature actors from across the country.

The films will be showcased at the exhibition as they tell the stories, both personal and factual, about each of the iconic 52 women. The exhibition highlights the harrowing, exhilarating, heartbreaking and courageous actions and lives of each of the 52 women. Each woman has a filmed monologue dedicated to their stories and entering the exhibition will be like walking onto a stage set that embodies the lives of these women.

The exhibition will also feature personal objects, photographs, letters, and mementos of the women, as well as material culture from our city, displayed throughout the space, drawn from the City of Toronto Archives, Toronto History Museums Fine Art and Artifact Collection and personal collections.

### **Living History: Help Us Expand the Story**

The 52 represents only a fraction of the women who have shaped Toronto. To continue building this living history, the Museum invites the public to submit the names and stories of inspiring women, past or present, whose impact deserves to be recognized. From household names to hidden heroes, every submission helps broaden and deepen the narrative of who transforms our city. Visitors can contribute their nominations onsite and play a vital role in preserving these legacies for future generations.

### **Exhibition Details**

Exhibition is now extended until May 2026

Museum of Toronto is located at 401 Richmond Street West, Eastern Entrance, Toronto Ontario.

Museum of Toronto is always free, with donations encouraged

#### **Museum Hours:**

Wednesday – Saturday: 12pm – 6pm

Sunday – Tuesday: CLOSED

Media Images, found [HERE](#).

Museum of Toronto can be found across social media platforms at [@MuseumofToronto](#) on Instagram, Twitter, Facebook and TikTok.

Museum of Toronto is made possible with the generous support of Diane Blake and Stephen Smith.

Museum of Toronto acknowledges that this list is made of women-identified people and that some feminized people use both/either “her” and “they” pronouns.

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### **About Museum of Toronto**

Founded in 2015, Museum is Toronto’s City Museum. They offer a collection of experiences that tell the histories of Toronto. Their exhibitions and content aim to evoke curiosity and foster deeper connections between its visitors and the city. With a focus on building a living archive of the city, they strive to be a valuable resource for those interested in the cultural heritage of Toronto. Enjoy Museum's programming in their downtown exhibition space, throughout the city, and online.

### **Media Contact**

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