

# CELOS INFORMATION BULLETIN NUMBER 7: INVENTORY: THE CSA PLAYGROUND PROJECT at DUFFERIN GROVE PARK

**The Canadian Standards Association (CSA)**, is made up primarily of manufacturers. In 1998 it published a new "Playground Standard". These recommendations are not law, but some city governments treated them as if they were. In 1999, Toronto inspectors did an inventory of all park playgrounds to see what equipment was not "in compliance." City Council allocated \$6.3 million to fix what was wrong.

## A FOLLOW UP OF THE CSA CHANGES MADE AT DUFFERIN GROVE PARK



< 1999 inspection: "three baby swings attached [to senior structure]"  
**Recommended action:** "remove". *Not done.*  
**Comment:** One swing was removed in 2008; put back after public complaints.



^ 1999 inspection: "Senior spiral slide, no barriers and no exit section".  
**Recommended action:** "remove and replace".  
*Removed. Not replaced.*



< 1999 inspection: "large slide has no exit platform and low sides".  
**Recommended action:** "remove and replace".  
*Not done.*  
**Comment:** Now the city is installing slides with even lower sides (e.g. Trinity Bellwoods Park). >



^ 1999 inspection: playground sand "compacted".  
**Recommended action:** "rototill"  
**Comment:** This *was done* once a year since then. But deep sand makes the playground inaccessible, and is not required everywhere by the latest CSA Standard (2007)



< 1999 inspection: "small slide has tree in exit zone".  
**Recommended action:** "remove". *Not done.*  
**Comment:** The distance from baby-slide to tree is 70 inches - too far for collision. No need to remove the tree.



^ 1999 inspection: "open steering wheels"  
**Recommended action:** "replace".  
*Not done.*



< 1999 inspection: "pinch points on bridge"  
**Recommended action:** "redesign bridge"  
**Comment:** The CSA does not ban jiggly bridges. But Parks workers *replaced it* with > straight boards.  
 1999 inspection: "no barriers" >  
**Recommended action:** "install 80 vertical pickets." *Not done.*  
 1999 inspection: "6x6 posts are play surfaces".  
**Recommended action:** "install 19 caps".  
*Not done*





< 1999 inspection: "Daisy spring toy too close to teeter totter"  
 Recommended action: "relocate". *Not done.*  
 Comment: The new 2007 CSA Standard allows this proximity.

1999 inspection: Playhouse has "climbable horizontal pickets" >  
 Recommended action: "change to vertical."  
*Not done.*



^ Comment: The 4-way teeter totter arm broke off in spring 2008. The City's August 2008 inspection report does not mention teeter totter damage.



< 1999 inspection: "4-way climber - entrapment at top of arch"  
 Recommended action: remove and replace with two-way climber.  
*Not done.*

Comment: An adult can easily fit her head through the top of the arch without getting stuck. So it is good that this popular climber was not removed. v



< 1999 inspection: "improper swing spacing".  
 Recommended action: "remove three". *Not done.*  
 Comment: These three swings were removed in 2008 and then put back because of public complaints.



Master CSA Programme Sept 21 2003										
WARD	Park Name - Location		1999 Audit		Status	Completion	1999	2001	2002	
350	18	SOUTH	Dufferin Grove	13,190.50	100%	2000	13,190.50			
362	19	SOUTH	Healy William	6,491.75	100%	2000	6,491.75			
363	19	SOUTH	Northumberland	460.00	100%	2000	460.00			
364	19	SOUTH	Oslar	3,806.25	100%	2000	3,806.25			
365	19	SOUTH	Stanley	304.25	100%	2000	304.25			
366	19	SOUTH	Trinity Bellwood - North	28,500.00	100%	2001	28,500.00			
367	19	SOUTH	Irene	6,008.75	0%			9,300.00		New Structure Required

The 2003 Master CSA Program spreadsheet says Dufferin Grove playground changes were 100% completed in 2000. Cost: \$13,190.50. But of 14 proposed changes only 3 were done.

## WHAT HAPPENED?