

TORONTO PARKS GUIDE

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SUMMARY

Application name: "Toronto Parks Guide". The application will be developed to make easier for people to choose the park in Toronto depending on the location and what type of facilities they need. It will be the first version of the application which can be improved in the future through adding extra features. The main purpose of developing of this application is to implement skills gained during MAP524 class and to create an application which will be useful for Torontonians and the visitors of the city.

The application will use the data from The City of Toronto official database. The source is located at: http://www1.toronto.ca/City Of Toronto/Information Technology/Open Data/Data Sets/Assets/Files/locations-20110725.xml

The application will parse the information from the file and save each of the locations as an object. Then each object will be added to the array list which will store the list of all locations and make easier for the program to find required object using the helper methods.

WHY THE APP IS A GOOD CHOICE?

I have decided to develop this application taking into consideration the fact that many Torontonians and the guests of the city like to spend time in parks around the city, especially in summer. Because there are so many parks in Toronto, sometimes it is pretty hard to find one which is better for the people. For example, if you are looking for the park with a skate rink it can take some time to find it, but using this application you can find very fast the list of parks depending on your demands. The application is actual for any time of the year. It will retrieve the data not just from the file from the Internet but from the file located on the phone as well that will make it able to find the park even your phone is not connected to the Internet that is very convenient.

BASIC APP FEATURES

The application will parse the information from the file and save each of the location as an object. Then each object will be added to the array list which will store the list of all locations and make easier for the program to find required object.

When the app is started the user will see the list of all Locations using Location name. Pressing on each of the Location name the detailed information about the chosen location will be displayed as a separate layout.

Search. This button will call an activity which asks a user to provide information which the user would like to use in searching such as: address, name, facilities. The activity will look for the objects in the list and display the results that match the asking parameters.

Context menu: will provide two options – Help and About. **Help** – will display instructions how to use the app. **About** – will display info about the app: version, date, an author.

EXPECTED USERS AND MARKET

The application is targeted first of all for young Torontonians. At the same time I expect that the app will be used by young students who are coming to the city and definitely need to know information about recreations in Toronto. Nevertheless, "Toronto Parks Guide" can be used by any category of people.

MOST COMMON USE CASES

LISTVIEW. When the application will be launched it will pop-up the list of the parks' names in Toronto. Then the user click on any of the name and the new page is opened which will provide more details about the park which was chosen from the list. The information includes: park name, location, facilities available in the park, etc.

SEARCH. When the user press the "Search button" on the action menu the new screen will be appeared and a few search attributes will be presented (Name, Facility name). When you leave the name blank empty and put checkbox in a skate rink, the app will display the list of all parks that have skate rinks. If the user write the name of the park which is in a database, the detailed information about the park will be provided on the screen

OVERFLOW MENU. When the user press on the overflow menu – two options will appear: "About" and "Help". If the used pressed "About" the Long Length Toast menu will appear and show the information about the app including the author, version, email address. If the user

chooses "Help" – a new layout will appear where the information how to use the application will be published.

VIEWS

The layout will have traditional for Toronto colors: white and navy.

The logo of the City of Toronto will be used at the starting screen and next to the app name menu.



TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

PART 1 July 30 – August 2

Implementing the methods which will:

- connect the app to the Internet
- retrieve the data from XML file
- store the data in Array of objects or in a database**

** The preferable way to store the data will be chosen depending on the tests

PART 2 August 3 – August 7

- implementation of the search engine
- designing of the layouts

PART 3 August 8 – August 10

- test the app and submitting