

# Nortown Paving Unsung Heroes of Toronto's Commuters



instead have jobs that can be demanding and often dangerous on scorching summer days like these.

Nortown Paving ([www.nortownpaving.com](http://www.nortownpaving.com)) specializes in parking lot construction for the Toronto District School Board and other commercial clients. They have been in business since 1978, working with all facets of asphalt paving, concrete work, and interlocking brick.

Thorncliffe Elementary School is one of Sam's favorite jobs. It was built in 1961 and is governed by the Toronto District School Board ([www.tdsb.on.ca](http://www.tdsb.on.ca)). Nortown Paving helped design the parking lot, exercise/play courtyard for

will contain 30 parking spots, each nine feet wide. "Handicap spaces are four ft wider according to most specs, and there are usually one handicap spot per 11 regular spots. We also build handicap ramps there as well."

We call these obstacles, barriers to accessibility and Nortown is paving the way for individuals to live with more independence.

With the help of Parcel Property management Inc., Royal LePage and the Ontario Government, Nortown Paving is working to break such barriers down. **RC**



Working with asphalt on a hot summer day has to be one of the most physically grueling and arduous jobs.

**"It's just more economical than concrete in terms of materials and labour,"**

Companies like Nortown Paving are often a taken-for-granted segment of our work force - the ones who don't earn a living inside comfortable offices and climate-controlled buildings. Dedicated professionals like Nortown President Sam Volante

Kindergarten students, as well as several enclosed courtyards with gardens for hands-on environmental studies.

Nortown's crews are managed by Rocco Savoia and Sam's son Marc Volante. They are a big fan of Case Construction ([www.casece.com](http://www.casece.com)), Strongo Equipment ([www.strongo.com](http://www.strongo.com)), and Sceehan Equipment ([www.sheeanequip.com](http://www.sheeanequip.com)).

Parking lots are a feature of every city and suburban area. Shopping malls, sports stadiums, churches and similar venues often feature parking lots of immense area.

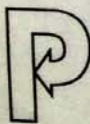
Usually parking lots are paved with asphalt, which is the substrate of choice for contractors like Nortown Paving. "It's just more economical than concrete in terms of materials and labour," comments President Sam Volante.

Asphalt parking lots are essential, enabling us to go to work, shop and school. We don't think twice about it. But that's not always the case for people with disabilities.

Another noteworthy Nortown Paving project is underway at 590 Ellesmere Rd. Sam's partner Rocco is the project manager for the 12,000 sq ft. parking lot, which



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