



# COMMUNITY UPDATE

## Macdonald Block Reconstruction Project

### Year in Review

As 2020 draws to a close, we're taking the opportunity to look back on the highlights of our first full year of construction since project mobilization in August 2019.

Amid the global COVID-19 pandemic, the safety and well-being of our workforce and their families, our partners and the community, remain our highest priority.

We are continuing to enhance and evaluate our operational safety measures and standards.

We would like to recognize and commend the strength and resilience of over 300 workers whose commitment to safety has enabled us to complete over 600,000 hours of work to date with zero recordable injuries.

This achievement is evidence of our team's unrelenting commitment to carefully and safely revitalizing the buildings.

We continue to take great care and consideration in executing on work plans that minimize the impact of construction in order to maintain a positive relationship with our neighbours and project stakeholders. This includes initiating proactive communication when there is the potential for disruption to the neighbouring community, complying with bylaws, managing dust and noise, and keeping the site perimeter tidy and clean.

### Highlights

The most notable change seen by the community over the past year is the full scaffolding and tarp system enclosing the Mowat and Ferguson

Towers. This shield enables the workforce to effectively execute the heritage stone restoration of the buildings' exterior.

### Other highlights:

- Demolition and abatement of the building interiors.
- Exterior demolition on the Ferguson building's roof.
- Excavation and waterproofing to refresh the lifespan of the parking garage.
- Storm sewer upgrades.
- Smart monitoring of heritage artwork.
- Safety closure of the Surrey Trail between Macdonald Block and the Whitney Block.
- Limestone paver removal and protection.
- Design development.

### **Ongoing and upcoming project tasks**

Construction activities will continue in lead up to the new year, with the exception of statutory holidays. As we transition to 2021, construction activities include:

- Window replacement on the Mowat and Ferguson towers.
- Continued focus on interior demolition, abatement, restoration and heritage preservation work on the Ferguson and Mowat towers, basement and podium.
- Demolition and abatement in the Hepburn and Hearst towers.
- Re-roofing of the two-storey podium including preparations to support a new green roof.

### **More Information**

If you have questions related to site construction activities, please contact:

[MBRproject@pcl.com](mailto:MBRproject@pcl.com)

Information about the Macdonald Block Reconstruction project is available on [Infrastructure Ontario's website](#).

For questions or comments related to the overall Queen's Park Reconstruction Project, involving the reconstruction of the Macdonald Block and the rehabilitation of the Whitney Block, please contact:

[QPRP@infrastructureontario.ca](mailto:QPRP@infrastructureontario.ca)



*Image: Ferguson Tower envelope restoration scaffolding*

### **About the Project**

The Macdonald Block Complex is the administrative hub of Ontario government operations. It consists of five buildings: four office towers connected by a two-storey podium.

Completed in 1971, the Macdonald Block Complex has never undergone a major renovation. The reconstruction project will update all core building systems, including electrical, water, cooling and heating, which have reached the end of their useful life and must be replaced. Office accommodations will also be enhanced for modern accessibility standards.

Each building in the complex will be taken back to its original building core, remediated and rebuilt using modern technologies, systems and materials while preserving the integrity of its many heritage features.

The newly reconstructed complex will meet current building, health, safety, and accessibility standards and will accommodate significantly more employees through more efficient use of this government-owned office space.

Construction is expected to be substantially complete in the spring of 2024, with staged occupancy beginning soon after that.

