



COMMUNITY UPDATE

Macdonald Block Reconstruction Project

Upcoming street closure

Please be aware that Wellesley St. West will be closed from Queen's Park Crescent East to Bay St. to permit construction works on the Ferguson tower from **9 p.m. on Friday, March 26, 2021 through to 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, March 28, 2021.**

This will result in lane closures, including bike lanes and sidewalks. Paid duty Toronto Police officers will be controlling the traffic flow to allow only local vehicular traffic along Wellesley St. West. Officers will also control pedestrian flow, allowing the local residents to use the north sidewalk.



The street closure is required to enable the safe operation of a mobile crane on the roadway in order to hoist materials onto the Ferguson Tower roof.

Similar closures took place in early 2020 to complete demolition of the building's original cooling towers on the penthouse roof.

The delivery of steel elements will enable workers to prepare the structure required to house the building's new cooling towers and air handling units. Further planned road closures will be required at a future date. The construction activity is being staged in this manner as Wellesley Street is not permitted to be shut down during the week and the work cannot be completed during one weekend.

Since the planned activities do not involve demolition, it is anticipated that the associated noise will be less

significant than some may have experienced in the past.

We thank you for your patience and we will keep you updated on future activities that could impact the community.

Recent Project Highlights

- Exterior limestone work beneath the scaffolding is progressing well.
- Demolition and abatement work within the Ferguson and Mowat buildings is ongoing and set to commence in the Hearst and Hepburn buildings.
- Transformation: The creation of new infrastructure to support the mechanical and electrical backbone of the Macdonald Block Complex marks a significant milestone in the reconstruction project, where core building systems that have reached

the end of their useful lifecycle are being replaced, including: electrical, water, cooling and heating systems.

- In addition, the first pours of new concrete in the underground parking area mark the transition from demolition to reconstruction.

Safety

The safety and well-being of our essential employees, workforce and our communities remain our highest priority. We continue to enhance and evaluate our operational safety measures and standards amid the global COVID-19 pandemic.

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 750,000 hours of work to date with zero recordable injuries.

More Information

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



Image: Current view of the Ferguson Tower rooftop penthouse

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.

