



COMMUNITY UPDATE

Macdonald Block Reconstruction Project

Since the last Community Update, issued June 2021, we are pleased to share that we continue to reach critical milestones for this important heritage restoration project.

Recent Construction Activity

As part of building the Hearst tower's new mechanical electrical penthouse, we completed a major equipment lift in late August.

To ensure the health and safety of the workforce and neighbouring community, this work necessitated the closure of Wellesley Street.

Highlights

- The first crane lift took place at 7 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 21, with the last piece landing at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 22.
- Over 15 flatbed trucks delivered equipment and materials over the course of the weekend.
- To receive the equipment, a 30x15 feet opening was created in the roof,



complete with temporary waterproofing and a removable cover for ease of opening and closing between days.

- The heaviest lift (pictured above) was just under 10,000 lbs., with multiple lifts of up to 5,000 to 8,000 lbs. completed throughout the day.
- The crane was dismantled in two hours, with road clean-up complete by Sunday at 5 p.m.

The operation went smoothly following months of planning by the design-build team who developed the lift plan with the community and workforce's safety top of mind. The on-site crew included 25 mechanical workers, three crane personnel, two supervisors and two paid duty police officers.

Plans are in motion for another crane lift in mid-October. Based on the sequencing and logistics involved, we do not anticipate that this will require a road closure. As such, no impact to the local community is expected.

Progress Update

We continue to transition construction activities on the Ferguson and Mowat towers to the Hearst and Hepburn towers.

This includes the dismantling and the addition of tarped scaffolding to revitalize the complex's limestone exterior, in addition to the installation of new energy efficient windows and podium green roof, further to interior finishes.

Photo: New podium green roof



Minimizing Construction Noise

We remain committed to minimizing the impact of construction on the surrounding community. Based on feedback we are taking diligent efforts to reduce noise and bright lights onsite wherever possible.

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

Safety

The safety and well-being of our workforce and our community remain our highest priority. We continue to maintain enhanced safety measures with stringent procedures in place for screening, personal hygiene, personal protective equipment (PPE), physical distancing and cleaning practices to reduce possibility of COVID-19 transmission.

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](https://www.infrastructureontario.ca).

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.

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.

