

New Toronto Courthouse



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New Display at City Hall

To continue the NTC site commemoration, the fourth artifact exhibit at City Hall, “Recreation, Pastimes, and Play in The Ward,” will open during the week of December 16. This exhibit, which will be in place until next summer, will showcase artifacts such as dominoes, marbles, chess pieces, rubber balls, and tea sets.

“Artifacts relating to games and pastimes are rarer finds in archaeology. As a result, our perceptions of the past can be dominated by work and the day-to-day grind, while the social recreation and fun that brings people together is often overlooked. These artifacts help paint a different picture of daily life in The Ward, one that was not all work and no play.”

—Abbey Flower, *The Ward Uncovered*



Selection of artifacts (including dominoes and marbles) discovered on the NTC site.



Children on the Elizabeth Street playground in 1913.

IO Construction Updates

As mentioned in previous newsletters, EllisDon and IO continue to keep justice participants, neighbours, and the public informed about site activities through regular construction updates. The updates can be found on Infrastructure Ontario's [website](#).

Project Highlights

With the end of 2019 approaching, the opening of the new Toronto courthouse in 2022 suddenly seems very close. Here are some project highlights that will bring the building into focus for you, as construction continues.

Building

- 17-storey high-rise courthouse, a first in Ontario, will amalgamate six Ontario Court of Justice criminal courthouse locations
- 63 courtrooms and 10 conference settlement rooms, including a multiple accused high security courtroom (MAHS), Gladue courts, mental health courts, drug treatment court, youth courts and ceremonial courtroom
- 5 intake courts
- Over 130 counsel and agency interview rooms
- 3 simultaneous interpretation rooms
- A courtroom viewing gallery
- First Indigenous Learning Centre in an Ontario courthouse
- Onsite building food service
- Separate hallways and elevators for judiciary, public, and in-custody prisoners
- Ancillary holding cells and secure lawyer-prisoner consulting rooms associated with courtrooms on every courtroom floor
- Meets the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) Silver standard, including a focus on energy efficiency and high-quality indoor environment
- State-of-the art security equipment, including magnetometers, x-ray machines, cameras, duress alarms and integrated security system for prisoner handling

Technology and Video Appearances

- 5 vulnerable testimony suites
- Electronic docket boards – large lobby docket boards and docket displays integrated into public courtroom signage
- Information desk and information kiosks
- Remote interpretation services – a first in Ontario
- Courtrooms equipped with state-of-the art technology, including:
 - Audio uplift
 - Video equipment to support video conferencing inside and outside the courthouse, including accused from the main courthouse holding cell block to courtrooms
 - Flat panel evidence displays for the judge, counsel, witness, court staff and prisoner box
 - Infrared assistive listening devices
 - Annotation capabilities with the ability to print inside the courtroom




Inventory Visits at Existing Courthouses

An NTC transition team has been established by EllisDon Infrastructure to oversee the transition of courthouse moves. To support move planning, between November 2019 and February 2020, the transition team will visit each OCJ criminal courthouse to inventory and barcode existing furniture and equipment.

The ministry will provide new office furniture for justice participants in the NTC. While the transition team will move court-related files within each office to the new courthouse, justice participants will be responsible for moving all personal items and non-ministry equipment. Neither EllisDon nor the ministry will be moving personal items, which will be the sole responsibility of the owner. Personal items will not be barcoded during the inventory site visits.

Following the inventory site visits, the ministry will provide each organization with their office inventory list to assist with transition planning. In order to keep everyone informed throughout the site visits, justice participants will be provided with a link to a dashboard outlining the areas that have been completed and upcoming areas that will be inventoried. The dashboard is updated daily.

Representatives from each justice participant group have been identified to work with the transition team as the site visits take place. Site visits at 2201 Finch, 1911 Eglinton and 311 Jarvis were successfully completed in November/early December 2019. The schedule for the remaining site visits is below. The ministry and the NTC transition team would like to thank justice participants for their patience and ongoing support of the inventory process.

DATES	COURTHOUSE	COMPLETED
November 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14	2201 Finch Avenue West	
November 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 26	1911 Eglinton Avenue East	
November 27, 28, 29, & December 03	311 Jarvis Street	
December 4, 5, 10, 11, 12	444 Yonge Street (College Park)	
December 17, 18, 19	393 University Avenue (Crowns)	
December 20	401 Bay Street (Crowns)	
January 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 28	60 Queen Street West (Old City Hall)	
January 29, 30	4580 Dufferin Street (Crowns)	
February 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13	1000 Finch Avenue West	

<<< SITE UPDATE >>>

- Construction reached street level in September. The underground excavation, structural and concrete work have been completed. Electrical and mechanical rough-ins continue on the basement levels.
- Structural work continues aboveground and the second-floor slabs are currently underway.

Look-Ahead

- Work on the building's aboveground floors, including concrete slabs / columns, and mechanical and electrical rough-ins, will continue throughout the new year.
- A plywood mock-up of a holding cell was reviewed with the Toronto Police Service in October 2019 to confirm and finalize the design of the cell fronts. Concrete block work in the main holding cell area will begin in the new year.
- Exterior building facade was tested successfully for performance against the weather elements. All component parts are now in production and assembly will commence off-site in December 2019.
- Procurement of furniture, fixtures and equipment has begun with high-density filing systems. The next procurement will be for workstations, which will occur mid-2020.



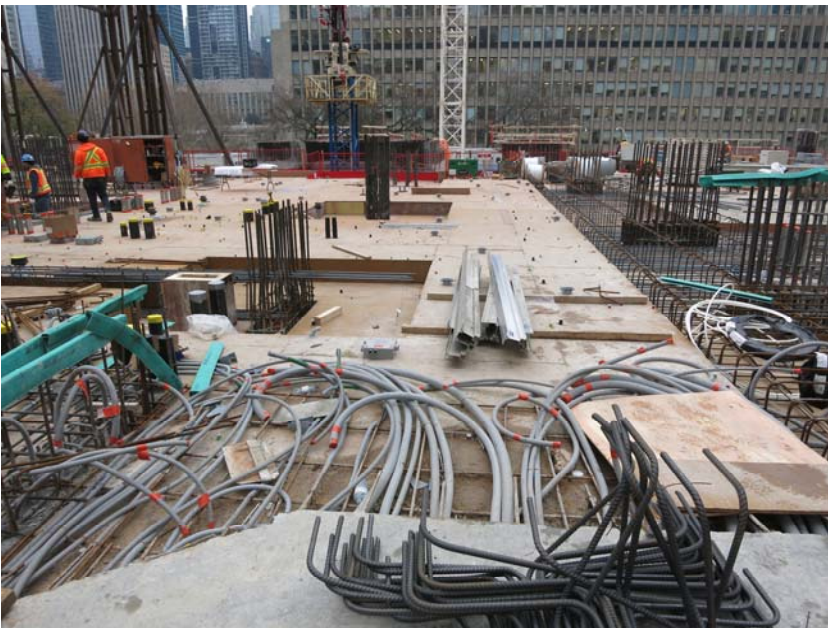
Ground-level, north-facing view of the NTC site. A structural lobby column is visible in the foreground, and gives a sense of the scale of this significant interior public area. (November 2019)



South-west view from the second floor, showing the complex network of construction materials that will be hidden once the building is complete. (November 2019)



North-west view from the second floor, showing the concrete columns that will eventually support the floor above. In the background, the north wall of the courthouse is taking shape. (November 2019)



View from the second floor, looking south toward 361 University Avenue. This image shows the amount of preparatory work required before the floor is constructed. (November 2019)

Ask Us!

Your questions are important to us.

Using the subject header "NTC Project", please send your questions to Cary Mignault:

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