

New Toronto Courthouse

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Request for Proposals (RFP) Update: Better Justice Together

It's an exciting time for the new Toronto courthouse project. The 'RFP Open' phase of an AFP project marks a significant milestone – the proponents are busy preparing their submissions, which will be evaluated later this year to determine which of them will become ProjectCo, the team that ultimately designs, builds, finances and maintains the new courthouse.

While this is a busy time for proponents, the government project team is also hard at work, providing comments that will guide the proponents in their designs. The comments help clarify functional requirements so that final submissions comply with the Project Specific Output Specification (PSOS), the 'recipe book' that is used to build the courthouse.

The level of commitment and enthusiasm that justice participants have for this project has been clearly illustrated during this phase. They have dedicated their time to attend presentations and review sessions in order to provide comments that will help improve the design proposals. It is inspiring to see various justice partners working together so that Ontario's first high-rise courthouse meets the needs of everyone who will be working in it, and best serves the individuals who will require its services. This complex and unique project has required a lot of collaboration between justice participants: they have had to think about their spaces and operations, as well as others', in an entirely new way, having to envision how they will work in a high-rise building. They met this challenge head-on and succeeded in coming up with innovative solutions which demonstrate that, collectively, we are all dedicated to providing **better justice together**.

– Jitka Klimova, Facilities Management Branch

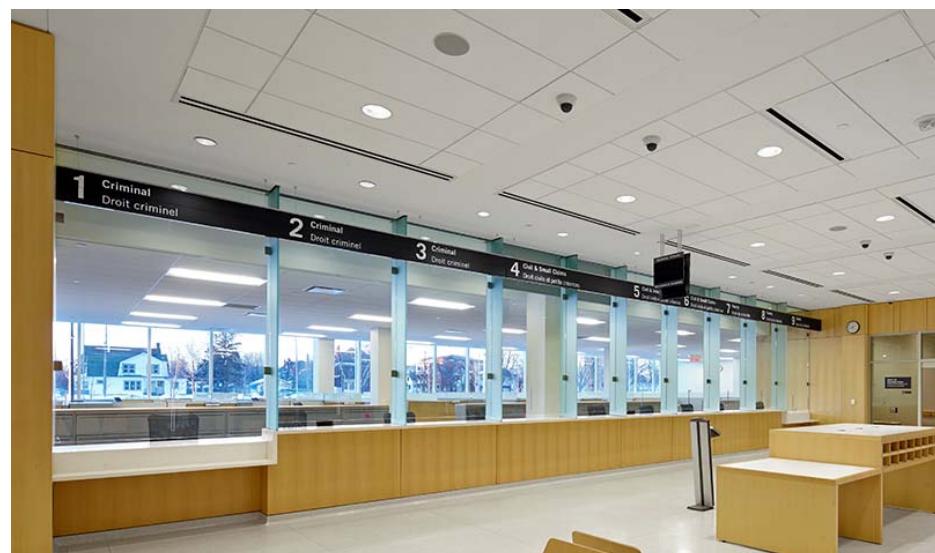


Accessibility: Building Without Barriers

Ensuring that the new Toronto courthouse is accessible is an important part of the planning process, and the two pre-qualified bidders are required to incorporate accessibility design into their RFP submissions.

Potential examples of accessible design elements for the new courthouse include:

- RFP close:
Summer/fall 2017
- RFP evaluation and commencement of negotiations with highest-ranked proponent:
Fall 2017
- Announcement of successful proponent:
Winter 2018
- A civic plaza located at street level, which will provide an accessible route to the main entrance for persons with disabilities
- Barrier-free judicial, staff and public access to courtrooms; barrier-free daises, witness stands, jury boxes, accused boxes, and spectator positions
- Voice uplift and assistive listening devices in all courtrooms
- Automatic door operators
- Barrier-free public counters
- Visual fire alarm indicators for hearing impaired individuals
- Signage with braille, tactile lettering and large font sizes with high contrast lettering for easier reading
- Dedicated, barrier-free and universal washrooms – public and private
- Accessible offices and workstations
- Accessible holding cells



Court services counter at Thunder Bay Courthouse, with barrier-free counter on the left

<<< SITE UPDATE >>>

- Site preparation continues on schedule. IO has been able to successfully manage several construction and process challenges to maintain the targeted completion date in June.
- Detailed design for the Armoury St. water main upgrade is nearing completion, with construction planned to commence fall 2017.
- The City of Toronto has approved the Preliminary Heritage Interpretation Plan and the scope of work for the public realm improvements in the area.
- Ongoing positive and collaborative negotiations with the city on implementation of public realm improvements.



June 2017

Ask Us!

Your questions are important to us.

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

cary.mignault@infrastructureontario.ca