

Student Centre construction dead on track

By DANIEL WOLGELERENTER

Construction of the new Student Centre is "dead on schedule" but the cost has risen to "a minimum of \$15 million," said Student Centre Corporation Chairperson Rob Castle.

The Centre was originally budgeted at \$14.5 million but the additional requirement by the University of a covered colonnade connecting all the new buildings east of the Ross Building has raised the cost. The cost of the colonnade is being charged to the Entry Pavilion, Fine Arts Phase III and Student Centre project budgets.

The Student Centre's share of the cost is \$575,000, said Castle. "Right now, there is an approved budget of \$15 million," he said.

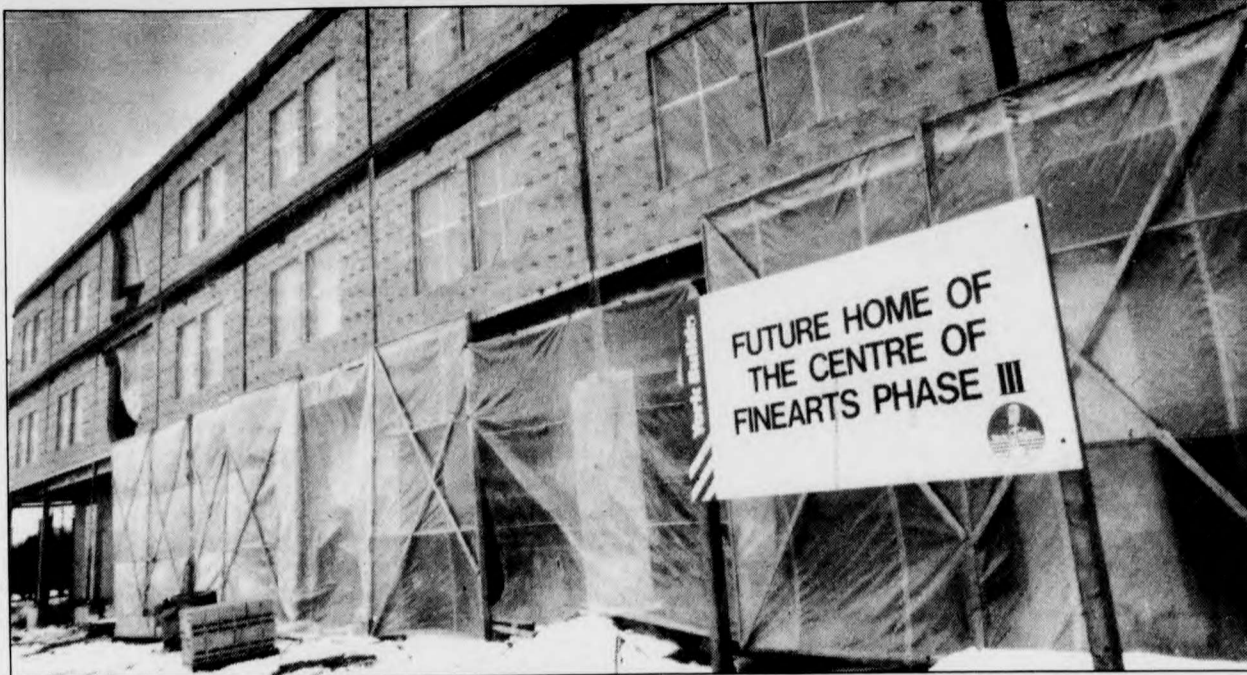
Half of the cost is being paid for by the university while the other half will come from the first year of the SCC's \$9-per-student levy. Castle said the SCC was "lucky" to have received an increase from \$7 to \$9 last year, and says that the extra two dollars in the first year of the levy will cover their half of the cost.

"It's student money, clear and simple," Castle said of the estimated \$280,000 needed from the levy to pay for the colonnade.

Castle also said "there have been some pressures on the budget (of \$14.5 million)" beyond the amount required for the colonnade and added, "new revenues have been found."

"There is not a significant problem," he said, but would not comment further, saying only that there would be new developments later this week.

Excavation on the Student Centre site is scheduled to begin the week of January 23 and public spaces in the centre are still projected to be ready by March 1, 1990 as originally expected. Office space for student groups are scheduled to be open by mid-March, but Castle said that this does not mean that



Fine Arts Phase III is behind schedule and won't be ready for classes until October, but most construction projects on campus are proceeding as planned.

construction is behind schedule, since original schedule estimates were not firm.

Construction Update

The start date is still uncertain but everything else is on schedule for the New Academic Building and the Entry Pavillion, said Mike London, Director of Construction for the Department of Physical Plant and resources. With the drawings ready in the spring, construction is expected to start sometime during the summer.

• Construction has begun on the graduate residence south of the Osgoode which will contain 214 bachelor and 162 one-bedroom units. London said that the cost of the building is now "in the area of \$22 million," which he says is slightly higher than originally estimated. It is also now scheduled to be finished by spring 1990,

instead of the original August 1989 target.

• The 270-bed undergraduate residence is still in the conceptual drawings-stage, but completion is still scheduled for August 1990. The new residence will be affiliated with Calumet College and will be located west of Stong.

• Construction on Fraser Drive has been completed for the winter and is open on its new alignment. Further work will be done in the summer.

• Fine Arts Phase III has fallen behind schedule and classroom space will not be ready by September. London says that office space in the building will be ready by July, but that classrooms wouldn't be completed until October. London blames part of the delay on design changes that became necessary because of the colonnade, which was not planned when Phase III was designed.

• Plans to replace all the space

east of the Ross Building to the main information booth with a University Common are "in a very conceptual stage at the moment" according to London. London said that three proposals are being considered which would require approval from the Building Committee as well as from the Board of Governors.

• Parking lot AA has partially disappeared and will disappear totally when construction begins on the retail Consolidation Building. As well, lot FF adjacent to Fine Arts Phase III will be eliminated to make room for the Common. A new lot will be built south of Vanier where the baseball diamond now stands. London says that funding for the lot will come from the York University Development Corporation, and that he "wants it to be built right away to relieve the parking problem" that will arise with the closing of the other lots.

• YUDC Director of Develop-

ment Ron Hunt says that they're still projecting a spring start" for construction on the retail consolidation building, but that the architectural drawings are still being revised. Hunt said that the leasing programme is underway and that the programme has an effect on plans since tenants may make design demands relating to their enterprises. The development, called Yorklanes, is scheduled for completion in fall 1990.

• London said that this week is the deadline for tenders on a contract to install a freight elevator at Scott Library. The elevator will replace the loading dock in Ross, which will close when construction begins on the Entry Pavilion. The changes are scheduled to be completed by mid-summer when the Scott loading dock will become the loading dock for both the Ross Building and Scott Library.

• The temporary classrooms being erected for the winter summer term are on schedule to be ready at the end of January. They are located on Rideau Road opposite the new Computer Methods Building.

• Construction on Construction Headquarters, next to the Physical Plant Building, is scheduled to be completed by mid-March. Construction of the permanent, brick-faced building began in November.

• Construction west of the Stedman Lecture Halls will continue for another week, according to London. The work will complete the relocation of the campus's north-south water main which previously ran directly under the Student Centre site.

• Debbie Kee has been appointed as Construction Communications and Scheduling Officer, Department of Physical Plant (Construction Division). She will act as liaison between Physical Plant and the York community on construction activity through the York Builds Bulletin.

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