

YORKLANDS

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York's Construction Program Under Way

York University is readying itself to begin construction on three new buildings in the summer of 1988 in the central core of the campus. The Centre for Fine Arts Phase III, the New Academic Building and the Student Centre will all have a shovel in the ground before the end of next summer, according to Peter Struk, Assistant Vice-President (Physical Resources).

Preliminary planning is also under way for several other projects including the University Common, covered parking facilities, student housing, an extension to the physical education and athletics building, and a science building. The specific requirements of each of these projects are being identified and reviewed, and technical, financial and scheduling issues are being addressed.

The scope of this work, and its implications for the York community, are daunting. York will be managing more active building projects than at any one time since the construction of the York campus in the early 1960s. Not only are there the scheduled projects and those in the pre-planning stage, but concurrent redevelopment of York's roads, underground services and landscaping will also be required. All this activity will be taking place in the heart of a busy and crowded academic community.

For the next five years, York can expect a lot of noise and dirt. One of the overriding criteria for the whole of the campus development program, though, is to minimize disruption during the construction phases. Attention will be given to, and community and user feed-

back sought on, the most useful approaches to the inevitable changes in pedestrian, vehicle and public transit routes.

Obvious Impacts on Parking

As the construction projects begin to the east of the Ross Building and later as the University Common is developed, there will be obvious implications for those currently parking in lots AA and FF, and on the roads around the Ross, Fine Arts and Behavioural Sciences buildings. One of the underlying principles of the new Campus Structure Plan developed by the IBI Group, York's planning consultants, is a dramatic change in parking patterns on campus. Of immediate relevance is the IBI recommendation for a four-level parking garage (three above grade) to accommodate 800 cars south of Vanier. Studies are currently under way to ascertain the construction cost of such a facility, the costs of financing, appropriate parking fee structures, etc. The University's Advisory Committee on Parking is being consulted on these issues. Meanwhile, both to accommodate summer 1988 dislocations, and to respond to increasing demand for additional parking, a large temporary surface lot is being built by adding 300 spots to lot HH (running east from the Atkinson College Residence). To serve properly the needs of some existing permit holders in lot AA, though, it seems likely that additional internal temporary spaces will be needed, and an area just to the

north of Steacie Library has been tentatively earmarked for that purpose.

Project Committees Will Guide Building Development

Project committees have been struck for each building project to oversee the definition of the characteristics of each of the buildings. The role of each project committee is to ensure that appropriate values, needs and priorities shape each building on campus, to optimize the facility from the perspective of both the building's primary users and the York community as a whole, and to foresee, identify and resolve specific problems relating to the project. Each project committee includes representation from the administration as well as from the anticipated users of the building.

Student Housing Projects

Student housing remains in short supply on the York campus. Assistant Vice-President (Business Operations) John Becker reports that, as of September 1987, about 900 out-of-town students were on the waiting list for on-campus accommodations. An additional 300 local students are also looking for on-campus residences.

An election campaign announcement by Ontario's Liberal government last September promised universities some financing assistance with

additional student housing construction. In anticipation of a formal detailed announcement by the Ministry of Colleges and Universities, the President recently established a Student Housing Project Committee, chaired by YUDC Vice-President Greg Spearn, to investigate and make recommendations on the construction of two new student housing projects on the York campus. A low-rise project consisting of about 370 units is proposed for a site north of the existing student apartments on Assiniboine Road and a college-type residence for undergraduate students in a low-rise building on the west side of Bethune College. Two User Committees, which include representatives from the various constituencies of the University, are being created to assist the Project Committee in the detailed planning for these structures and will be seeking input and advice from members of the York community.

Suggestion Box

To oversee the implementation of these many projects and their related infrastructure requirements, the President has assigned responsibility to an Executive Construction Coordinating Committee (ECCC), comprising William Farr (Vice-President, Finance and Administration), Peter Struk (Physical Resources), Greg Spearn (YUDC), Billie Mullick (Information and Community Feedback), Bill Fitzgerald (Finance) and Leon Wasser (Secretary). Suggestions, complaints, requests for information, etc., about the Campus

Development Program should be sent to this Committee, c/o Billie Mullick, Office of the Vice-President (Finance & Administration), Room S958A, Ross Building.

In addition, ECCC and the University administration will be provided with feedback and advice by the Plan Implementation Subcommittee of the YUDC Advisory Council, chaired by Glen Frankfurter. The Subcommittee welcomes comments and suggestions from the York community. All correspondence should be forwarded to YUDC, Room D104, WOB.

PROJECT UPDATES

Fine Arts Centre Phase III

This \$9.7-million facility will house the Departments of Film/Video and Theatre of the Faculty of Fine Arts. The building will be located immediately east of the Burton Auditorium and the existing Centre for Fine Arts Phase II. Construction is expected to begin in the summer of 1988 with completion prior to the end of the 1989-90 academic year. The building will have two components: a three-storey office building facing onto the University Common, and a one-storey production/studio area to the south, tied into Burton and Fine Arts Phase II. The building is being designed by Kuwabara, Payne, McKenna, Blumberg in association with Barton Myers, Architect. The Project Committee is chaired by Dean Joyce Zemans of the Faculty of Fine Arts.

New Academic Building

The New Academic Building (NAB) will be located on the new Campus Green to the east of the Ross Building and will provide the York campus with a "new front door." The NAB, budgeted for a total cost of \$17 million, will add 126,000 gross sq. ft. to York's space inventory and like CFA III is expected to be ready for occupation during 1989-90.

The building will provide York with much-needed classroom space and offices, easing the pressure on many existing facilities. The architectural firm of Moriyama and Teshima has been assigned design responsibility for the NAB, under the guidance of a Project Committee chaired by Assistant Vice-President (Physical Resources) Peter Struk.

Student Centre

Plans for the 55,000-sq. ft. Student Centre are steaming ahead. Construction of the Centre is expected to commence in 1988 with the building to become operational before the end of the 1989-90 academic year. The Project Committee for the Student Centre chaired by Provost Tom Meininger is currently developing an exciting program for the building, to meet a multiplicity of needs expressed by York's student body.

Board Approves Campus Planning Document

The last issue of *Yorklands* was February 16, 1987. At that time YUDC reported on the very preliminary planning work that was under way and on a Proposal Call for 20 acres of housing in the Southwest Quadrant of the York campus.

Much has happened since that date.

Planning

The work of the IBI Group, planning consultants to YUDC and the University, culminated in a two-day intensive workshop session held in April 1987 with over 50 representatives of the York community. Small group sessions reviewed various key elements of the emerging planning work, such as road systems, woodlots, green-spaces, rapid transit and directions of growth.

The planners then brought all of the efforts and contributions together into a presentation to the Board of Governors September 14. The Board approved the contents of a document entitled York Campus Structure Plan Outline Draft 2 as the new policy document governing future development of the campus. Copies of this document have been circulated widely for additional comment, and are available through the YUDC offices.

Planning work is continuing towards refinement of a new Masterplan document for the University by late spring. Comments and contributions are welcome.

Computer Methods

This two-phase, 60,000-square foot building is under way. The

company broke ground late December 1987 and is looking to an early completion. Alan Berg, owner of Computer Methods, was instrumental recently in assisting the University to achieve a \$600,000 grant for Enterprise York and its Centre for Entrepreneurship. We look forward to even bigger things when Mr. Berg and his group come to the campus permanently.

Proposal Call

As reported in the *Gazette* September 8, the proposal call was successfully won by Bramalea Limited. The land has since been sold to Bramalea and the normal public approval process for the project is under way.

This transaction, with a minimum guarantee to the University of over \$33 million, has provided funda-

mental financial support to York's long-awaited expansion program.

Advisory Council

The advisory council to the corporation has restructured its subcommittees into the following groups:

1. Planning Group, chaired by political science professor Michael Goldrick.

2. University Plan Implementation Group, chaired by social science professor Glen Frankfurter.

3. Development Activities Group, chaired by Atkinson professor Harry Leith.

A much expanded report from the Advisory Council will be forthcoming in the next issue of *Yorklands*.

Staffing

As a sneak preview, we are pleased to announce the appointment of Ron Hunt as Director of Development, YUDC. Mr. Hunt will join YUDC effective February 1, 1988 and is certainly looking forward to the challenge at hand.

Look for more information on the mysterious Mr. Hunt in an upcoming issue of the *Gazette*.

New Initiatives

The completion of our Draft Campus Structure Plan, and the Bramalea and Computer Methods initiatives has resulted in lots of attention for York. While many preliminary discussions have been held and continue on a regular basis, no new projects are sufficiently advanced at this time to be reported.

Advisory Council to YUDC, List of Members

Senate: (3)

Prof. James McKay
 Prof. Alex Murray
 Prof. Michael Stevenson

Council of Masters: (1)

Prof. Peggy Keall

YUFA: (2)

Prof. Michael Goldrick
 Prof. Gerda Wekerle

Faculty at Large: (3)

Dean Kim Innanen
 Prof. Harry Leith
 Prof. Sally Zerker

CUEW: (2)

Mr. Glen Frankfurter
 TBA

YUSA: (2)

Mr. Andy Ranachan
 TBA

P&M Group: (1)

Ms Sheila Cann

Students: (3)

Mr. Reya Ali
 TBA
 Ms Jill Rabjohn

Alumni: (3)

Mr. Paul Hayden
 Mr. Marshall Leslie
 TBA

Administration: (3)

Pres. H.W. Arthurs
 V.P. W.D. Farr
 V.P. K.G. Davey

Deans: (3)

Dean Alan Hockin
 Dean E.S. Spence
 Dean Tom Traves

Board of Governors: (3)

Ms Marg Evans
 Prof. Michael Creal
 Mr. L.G. Lumbers

North York Department of Economic Development: (1)

Mr. Larry March

North York Council: (2)

Councillor B. Burton
 Councillor Maria Augimeri

Neighbourhood: (2)

Ms Lee D'Anjou
 Ms Pat O'Neil

YUDC: (3)

Dr. Philip A. Lapp
 Mr. Greg Spearn
 Mr. Ron Hunt