



University of Toronto Schools Building Update

March 11, 2019

We are pleased to inform our community that the UTS Building Project has been moving ahead, with the early stages of construction already underway. The expected timeline is still 30 months, which would see the project completed in either early July or early August 2021, in time for the school to return to 371 Bloor Street West for September 2021.

“This is an exciting point in the project because all of the construction documents are complete, there is a contractor on board and soon we will see the building start to take shape,” says Diana Saragosa of Diamond Schmitt Architects (DSA).

We are also excited to share the following information about completed, ongoing and imminent work at the construction site:

Completed

- Playground equipment on the Huron-Washington Parkette has been removed to allow construction to begin. In the spring, some equipment will be installed by the city on a vacant lot owned by the University of Toronto at the southwest corner of Washington and Huron.
- Eastern Construction is on site with an office inside 371 Bloor, as well as a trailer in the parking lot.
- Abatement work at 713 Spadina, a property owned by the University and previously inhabited by its kinesiology department. Demolition of this building is required to widen the laneway south of the Spadina wing of the school for the entry of construction vehicles.
- Designated hazardous materials surveys and investigations to better understand our building, and what we can expect to encounter during construction, have been completed. A structural consultant assessed the condition of 371 Bloor and confirmed that it is remarkably solid for a 109 year-old building.
- Diamond Schmitt Architects (DSA) have completed 100% of their construction drawings. These drawings are now ready to guide construction going forward.
- UTS has signed a stipulated sum Letter of Award to Eastern Construction, approved by the University of Toronto. These developments reduce uncertainty for the school.

Ongoing

- In early February, the City of Toronto approved the University's purchase of the laneway behind the school. The laneway purchase should close in March.
- Workers are preparing the site at 713 Spadina for demolition.

Imminent

- We will soon be given permission by the City of Toronto to demolish the south staircase of the Huron wing, and also to begin excavation and shoring activities.
- Abatement of the south staircase will begin in mid-March
- The property at 713 Spadina will be demolished by March 20.
- Excavation and shoring is scheduled to begin in April.
- Interior demolition of the eastern half of 371 Bloor will be completed by the end of July.

Costs and Funding

The University of Toronto has approved our financial capability to complete this project. This is a significant achievement for the school, and a testament to the success of our fundraising efforts, our careful planning, and the support of the broader UTS community, especially in a period of escalating constructing costs.

We are also excited to report that \$53 million has already been raised for the [Building the Future](#) campaign. Thanks to the generous support of our community, we are 88% of the way to our campaign goal of \$60 million, which will cover the costs of construction for the UTS Building Project. We thank everyone who has made a donation to help build the future of UTS!

