FAQs: 300 Bloor St. W

When will the move happen?

The move to 300 Bloor Street W is expected to happen in the second half of 2026. We recognize that unforeseen circumstances may cause the date to change. The PCC will have access to our current space at 50 Wynford until we are ready to move.

How much savings will there really be? Transparency?

The costs of moving to 300 Bloor Street (capital costs and moving expenses) are real and substantial. However, the location at 300 Bloor St. W. is locked in long-term at sub-market cost. Other factors, such as shared resources, should also result in savings over the long term.

Several options were considered while deciding to move the national office of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. The current space at 50 Wynford Drive is not a long-term option, either in terms of responsible stewardship regarding our environmental footprint, the faithful stewardship of space or costs regarding ongoing repairs and maintenance of the building, which will only increase with the age of the building. While we will be paying rent in the new space, we expect that the revenue realized from the eventual sale of our current space will more than offset the cost of rent.

Further, there will now be a long-term home and public presence for the archives of all three denominations. The George C. Pidgeon House, a historic home once occupied by the church minister after which it's named, will be returned to its 1888 footprint and house part of the archives.

Now that you're sharing space, does that mean that the three denominations are joining together?

No. We have very different administrative structures, and organic union is not on the table.

How are you living "with respect in creation" with this project?

The main carbon savings come from moving three offices under one roof—the combined reduction in energy and space means a lower carbon footprint. We remain committed to being responsible stewards of our resources.

We will recycle some materials from the buildout. For example, all exterior stonework removed during the demolition, including 25,000 bricks and ornate arches, was catalogued and numbered, placed on skids and moved to storage. Any stonework not required for reconstruction will be considered for incorporation into the landscaping of the condo site.

The United Church has offered the use of their high-end office furniture for the three denominations, which will be sufficient for most of the office furniture needs. Current IT technology can also be repurposed in the new space.

Accessibility and Inclusivity

The location is ideal because it is highly visible and central, in a vibrant part of the city and accessible by public transport to major transportation hubs. The location is expected to be a recruiting plus for prospective employees. While the PCC will not have dedicated parking stalls, pay parking is available for those who need it. We hope that the accessibility to public transit will encourage those working from the new location to use those services wherever possible.

The building is wheelchair accessible, equipped with elevators and gender-neutral washrooms.

What will be the impact on the neighbourhood or local community?

Although affordable housing will not be part of the new development, the developer is contributing \$2.3 million over a 15-year period toward capital improvements for new or existing Toronto Community Housing units and/or affordable housing.

There will be more people and more students visiting and using the building, especially the archives; this can boost the local economy. Also, potential partnerships for outreach programs could be forged simply through proximity.

Why is the PCC part of a project to build new national offices in Toronto during a rental crisis? Luxury condos, especially in Toronto, are not affordable for many people. Why doesn't this project include any affordable housing?

Although affordable housing will not be part of the new development, the developer, Collecdev, is <u>contributing \$2.3 million</u> over a 15-year period towards capital improvements for new or existing Toronto Community Housing units and/or affordable housing.

The City of Toronto has secured \$2,344,000* from the developer towards capital improvements for new or existing Toronto Community Housing and/or affordable housing in consultation with the ward councillor, Mike Layton.*

As part of the City's approval process, a Section 37 Agreement is negotiated between a developer and the City, with the agreement of the local councillor, to secure a variety of community benefits (such as open space, for example) in return for additional height and density for a new project. This is a very common practice in all city wards and one which has resulted in many improvements in neighbourhoods across the city.

*Counc. Layton is interested in using a portion of these funds for a city-initiated affordable housing development at 935 Spadina Rd (currently the Green P parking lot).

*This amount is calculated using a formula and a percentage of the land value and additional density secured on the site.