

**Ministry of the
Attorney General**

Office of the
Deputy Attorney General

McMurtry-Scott Building
720 Bay Street
11th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 2S9

Tel: 416-326-2640

**Ministère du
Procureur général**

Cabinet du
Sous-procureur général

Édifice McMurtry-Scott
720, rue Bay
11^e étage
Toronto ON M7A 2S9

Tél.: 416-326-2640



August 20, 2015

MEMO TO: Lynne Wagner, Assistant Deputy Attorney General, CSD
James Cornish, Assistant Deputy Attorney General, CLD
Louise Stratford, Assistant Deputy Attorney General, VVPD

FROM: Patrick Monahan
Deputy Attorney General

Re: New Toronto Courthouse

I am writing to update you on the status of the new Toronto courthouse.

As you are aware, in spring 2014, the Ontario government announced plans to construct a new courthouse that would bring together many of Toronto's Ontario Court of Justice criminal court locations. At that time, it was thought that Ontario Court of Justice (OCJ) family matters might also be included depending on the size of the building, which would be subject to City of Toronto zoning by-laws. In spring 2015, the ministry advised planning for the new courthouse would proceed on the assumption Superior Court of Justice (SCJ) and OCJ family court services would be included.

To that end, ministry staff and justice participants, including SCJ and OCJ representatives, have been working collaboratively to identify program requirements for both OCJ criminal, and SCJ and OCJ family court operations. A number of consultations and meetings have been held to explore opportunities for innovation and modernization that could streamline processes, improve service delivery and reduce space requirements. Although a tremendous amount of time and resources have been dedicated to achieving the goal of amalgamating OCJ criminal and SCJ and OCJ family in the new courthouse, it has been confirmed by Infrastructure Ontario as well as the functional programming consultants retained for the new courthouse and Ministry of the Attorney General staff that the building will not be large enough to accommodate all requirements and achieve a functional building that will meet operational requirements. Regrettably, I am writing to advise that SCJ and OCJ family will not be included in the new Toronto courthouse; the new building will be constructed for OCJ adult and youth criminal court operations only.

The ministry is committed to working collaboratively with both the SCJ and OCJ on future, viable solutions for Toronto family court facilities.

Please share this information with your staff in Toronto Region. As with all ministry initiatives, please remind staff to direct any enquiries received about this project to our media spokesperson, Brendan Crawley, at 416-326-2210 or Brendan.Crawley@ontario.ca.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick Monahan". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Patrick Monahan