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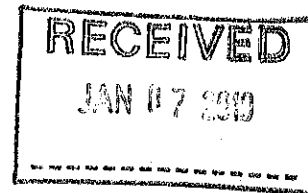
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**JAN 03 2019**

Our Reference #: M-2018-3638

Mr. Brian Gover  
President  
The Advocates' Society  
2700-250 Yonge Street  
Toronto, ON M5B 2L7



Dear Mr. Gover:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Globe and Mail article about the A. Grenville and William Davis Courthouse in Brampton. I appreciate your sharing your concerns.

As Regional Senior Justice Daley made clear in his remarks on November 19, 2018, Brampton courthouse is the busiest in the province, and it is only getting busier. This is why my ministry, in partnership with Infrastructure Ontario, is working on a six-storey addition to the courthouse. The addition will ultimately provide approximately 135,000 square feet of space, more courtrooms, and associated support spaces. The basement and first two floors, including eight courtrooms, are part of the project's first phase, with floors three to six to be fit up in the future as funding becomes available.

Construction began in February 2017, and we expected the project to be complete by fall 2018. However, due to unforeseen circumstances, the project's completion date has been delayed. Infrastructure Ontario has stated that the addition will be substantially complete on July 18, 2019, after which time judicial retiring rooms can be furnished for use. Courtrooms will be brought online in a phased approach afterwards in order to allow for installation of courtroom equipment. I can confirm that no courtroom space will be lost as a result of the construction.

Until the Brampton addition project is complete, the ministry will continue to work to find the necessary space within the Brampton courthouse for new judicial appointments and other program requirements.

You also expressed concern in your letter about the inability to implement Unified Family Court (UFC) at the Brampton courthouse. While I appreciate your support for this court model, I would like to take this opportunity to clarify Ontario's next steps with respect to UFC expansion.

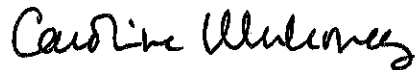
As you may know, the ministry, in partnership with both the Superior Court of Justice and the Ontario Court of Justice, developed a proposal for a phased approach to expansion. The ministry and both Courts agreed that Phase 1 would include expansion of the UFC to eight sites – Picton, Belleville, Pembroke, St. Thomas, Simcoe, Cayuga, Kitchener and Welland – and submitted a proposal to the federal government accordingly.

In its 2018 Budget, the federal government allocated 12 judges to Ontario, to be appointed after April 1, 2019, which will be sufficient to expand to the additional identified eight courts. In the event that the federal government commits to the appointment of additional UFC judges for larger sites, including Brampton, my ministry is committed to working with the Courts and Infrastructure Ontario to find appropriate accommodation for them.

I can assure you that the Brampton addition project remains a priority for this ministry, and I look forward to its completion.

Once again, Mr. Grover, thank you for taking the time to write and share your concerns with me.

Sincerely,



Caroline Mulroney  
Attorney General

- c: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
- The Honourable Heather Forster Smith, Chief Justice, Superior Court of Justice
- The Honourable Peter A. Daley, Regional Senior Justice, Central West Region, Superior Court of Justice