

9 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT...

1000 Days of Construction

July 1, 2021, marked 1000 days since the start of construction on the Gordie Howe International Bridge project. Over that time, there has been significant progress made on each of the four project components - the bridge, Canadian Port of Entry (POE), US POE and Michigan Interchange. Here is an overview of the progress over the first 1000 days of construction.

1

OFFICIAL START

Bridging North America began construction on October 5, 2018.



2

WORKFORCE

Over 3,900 workers have been oriented on the project with more than 46 per cent being from the region. Bridging North America has also engaged more than 145 local businesses.



3

DRILLING DOWN

Before building up, we had to build down. Each tower pylon, or leg, is supported by six shafts that were drilled into the bedrock to a depth of 36 metres/118 feet - the equivalent of a 10-storey building. Each of the shafts are filled with approximately 262,000 litres/69,000 gallons of concrete. 1,600 metres/5,250 feet of post tensioning cables were also required to connect the footings from end-to-end.



4

BUILDING UP

The tower foundation and footing work is complete on the Canadian and US bridge sites and construction continues on the tower legs, which are now approximately 40 metres/120 feet in height. That is the equivalent of an 11-storey building. Once completed the towers will stand at 220 metres/722 feet and will rival the height of the tallest building in Detroit at the GM Renaissance Center.



5

POE PREPARATION

A total of 201,500 wick drains have been installed on the Canadian and US POEs to create a solid base on which to build the facilities and bridge towers.



6

US POE

Earthworks and ground preparation continue at the US POE. To date, over 550,000 metric tonnes/1.2 billion pounds of engineered fill and surcharge material have been placed.



7

CANADIAN POE

Construction has started on the 3,530 square metre/38,000 square foot maintenance building, the first of 12 buildings to be constructed at the Canadian POE. Foundation work is also taking place on the main and secondary inspection buildings.



8

PERIMETER ACCESS ROAD

The construction of the Perimeter Access Road around the Canadian POE was among the first activities to be completed in 2019. The two-lane road is four kilometres/2.4 miles in length and provides public access to private and public properties adjacent to the POE.



9

MICHIGAN INTERCHANGE

Work has been ongoing along a three kilometre/1.8 mile stretch of I-75 between Springwells and Clark Streets to accommodate ramps connecting the US POE to I-75. As well, the demolition of five pedestrian bridges and three road bridges over I-75 is complete. Work over the next two years will focus on the reconstruction of four new road bridges and five pedestrian bridges.



PONT INTERNATIONAL
**GORDIE
HOWE**
INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE