



Questions and answers about new national office space for Anglican Church of Canada

Why is the national office of the Anglican Church of Canada (ACC) moving to a new space?

When we moved to our current office at 80 Hayden Street, we had a much larger staff complement and a brick-and-mortar bookstore. Our current smaller staff team needs less space for day-to-day operations, and the shift to online meetings has reduced the need for meeting spaces. With the closing of the bookstore in 2013, that space is also no longer needed.

How will this move save money for ACC?

Reducing under-utilized space, such as the former bookstore and multiple meeting rooms, will reduce our occupancy costs considerably. Sharing common areas such as the archives and the video studio, and some services—such as IT—will make more efficient use of space and financial resources and thus reduce associated costs.

How does this move help ACC meet the [transformational commitment to steward and renew God's creation](#) and protect and sustain the Earth?

This move will help decrease all three denominations' carbon footprint, as combining the three national offices under one roof will reduce space requirements and energy usage.

The new building will feature a high-performance thermal envelope and LED lighting to help conserve energy. Being close to both the Bloor-Danforth line and the Yonge-University line on the subway will help reduce the environmental impact of commuting, particularly for the Presbyterian and United Church staff, while remaining convenient for General Synod staff who use transit.

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 landscaping.

Furniture and IT technology from the United Church's national office will be re-purposed for all three denominations in the new space.



How does this move help ACC meet the [transformational commitment to nurture right relationships](#) among people of faith in local, national and global communities and networks?

Sharing office space with the United and Presbyterian churches will help nurture valuable ecumenical relationships through collaboration and sharing of ideas, particularly in common spaces like the archives and the video studio. We also look forward to increased opportunities for fellowship and even common worship.

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.

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

The shared office space and the United Church's renewed worship space will represent a highly visible Christian presence in the Annex community. Employees and visitors will contribute to the local economy.

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