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DAILY

# COMMERCIAL NEWS

AND CONSTRUCTION RECORD

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**MARS PROJECT** □ Work continues for the Mars Parcel 'C' research and development tower at College and Elizabeth streets in Toronto. Construction manager EllisDon Corp. began the 15-storey tower for owner Mars Discovery District in February 2003 and completion is scheduled for this December. It will include two levels of underground parking and ground floor retail. The project was designed by Adamson Associates. Consultants are: Halsall Engineering Ltd. (structural); Smith & Andersen Consulting Engineers (mechanical/electrical); and JBM Landscape Architects. Subtrades include: York Excavating & Grading Co. Ltd.; Anchor Shoring & Caissons Ltd.; EllisDon Forming; Harris Rebar (rebar supply); Ontario Redimix Ltd. (concrete supply); Modern Niagara Toronto Inc. (mechanical); Ampere Ltd. (electrical); Vipond Inc. (sprinklers); Sota Glazing Inc. (windows); and Otis Canada Inc. (elevators).  
 Photo by WILLIAM CONWAY/PROGRESS PHOTOGRAPHY

## National public-private partnerships conference Three models illustrate how governments can deliver P3s

By PEG HILL  
 DCN CORRESPONDENT

A review of government formats for public-private partnerships at the 12th annual conference on P3s looked at the United Kingdom, British Columbia and Quebec for what is old, new and still on the table.

Partnerships UK (PUK), now almost five years old, serves to accelerate, develop and implement P3s in the U.K., said PUK's chief executive James Stewart.

It works only for the public sector, although it is classified as a private-sector business, which keeps

it independent from government control. It is 49 per cent owned by the Ministry of Finance and 51 per cent publicly owned.

### 200 projects

PUK has a staff of 60 and about 200 projects on the go at any one time. According to its Web site—www.partnership suk.org.uk—these include a health centre, schools, rapid transit system and a street lighting project.

Partnerships BC is "an offspring" of PUK, according to Larry Blain, presi-

dent and CEO of Partnerships BC, although its market is much smaller than the U.K.

It has a staff of 26 and also takes only the government as a client.

Blain said the government is trying to have a "fair, open and transparent process in P3" because it needs an organized, informed market.

For continuous deal flows, the market requires standardization and reasonable procurement costs.

Partnerships BC is creating a centre of expertise. □ EXPERTISE, Page 5

## Mock trial will show employers impact of safety violation charges

By DAN O'REILLY  
 DCN CORRESPONDENT

While the lines will be scripted, there will be some real-life lessons regarding workplace safety for the construction industry at Niagara Region's first 'Mock Trial' on Dec. 7.

Susan Crawford of Crawford, Chondon & Andree LLP will be the Madam Justice deliberating over the trial, which will feature other legal professionals.

Karen Fields of the same firm will be the defense attorney. Alicia Gordon-Fagan of the Ministry of Labour will be the Crown Counsel.

"The Madam Justice will be in full control," says key organizer James Klassen, explaining the whole exercise is designed to replicate

an actual life trial and illustrate the consequences when safety is ignored or overlooked.

A safety representative for St. Catharines-based

StuCor Construction, Kilsassen will be the master of ceremonies and will also play the role of a subcontractor.

□ CONSEQUENCES, Page 5

## Inside

### Spinning wheels

Wind turbines will sprout across Ontario after deals for five private wind energy projects made. See page 5.

### Housing trinity

Montreal, the Catholic church and labour union team up to build nearly 1,000 low income housing units. See page 4.

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