



MEDIA ADVISORY

The rehabilitation of the Peace Tower Carillon

Ottawa, Ontario – February 10, 2022

On July 1, 1927, the Carillon was inaugurated at an event that also marked the first live coast-to-coast radio broadcast in Canada. There has been a Dominion Carillonneur of Canada since that day, and in 2008, Dr. Andrea McCrady became the fifth person to occupy this position. Of the 11 carillons in Canada, the Peace Tower Carillon is the most frequently played and the best known.

Over one hundred years have passed since the Parliament Building was rebuilt following the fire of 1916. Time has taken its toll, and the structure now requires considerable rehabilitation and repair. The Parliament Building is now undergoing a complete rehabilitation to protect and preserve its rich heritage, as well as to modernize its systems, infrastructure, and services to support a 21st-century Parliament.

As part of the [rehabilitation of the Parliament Building](#), significant work will be undertaken on the iconic Peace Tower. This means that the Carillon playing room, where Dr. McCrady plays the 53-bell instrument, will be inaccessible for the duration of the project.

The work will include structural upgrades and masonry restoration; it will also involve replacing the clappers on some of the Carillon bells and upgrading the tower manual keyboard to a World Carillon Federation modern standard, with a new manual transmission system in the belfry. The exact timing for the reinstallation of the bells has yet to be decided.

Beginning on Monday, February 14, 2022, the Dominion Carillonneur will play a series of extended noontime recitals to celebrate the Carillon. The closing Carillon recital will take place on February 18, 2022.

Date	Time	Recital
February 14, 2022	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. ET	Valentine's Day
February 15, 2022	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. ET	Flag Day
February 16, 2022	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. ET	Strings attached
February 17, 2022	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. ET	Urban Legends

February 18, 2022

12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. ET

[Closing Recital](#)

These recitals can be heard on site or by tuning in to the [live audio stream](#). As these performances are live, audio streaming is available only when a recital is scheduled.

After the closing recital on February 18, Dr. McCrady will continue to work from her office in East Block, where she will focus on teaching, promoting carillon studies, and researching and adapting contemporary and historical music for the Carillon. Dr. McCrady will also serve as a technical advisor to the conservation team that will be working on the restoration of the Carillon.

Quick facts about the Peace Tower Carillon

- The Carillon was inaugurated on July 1, 1927, as part of an event that also marked the first live coast-to-coast radio broadcast in Canada.
- There has been a Dominion Carillonneur of Canada since 1927, and in 2008, Dr. Andrea McCrady became Canada's fifth Dominion Carillonneur.
- Of the 11 carillons in Canada, the Peace Tower Carillon is the most frequently played and the best known.

Resources

[History of the Carillon](#)

[Dominion carillonneurs of Canada](#)

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