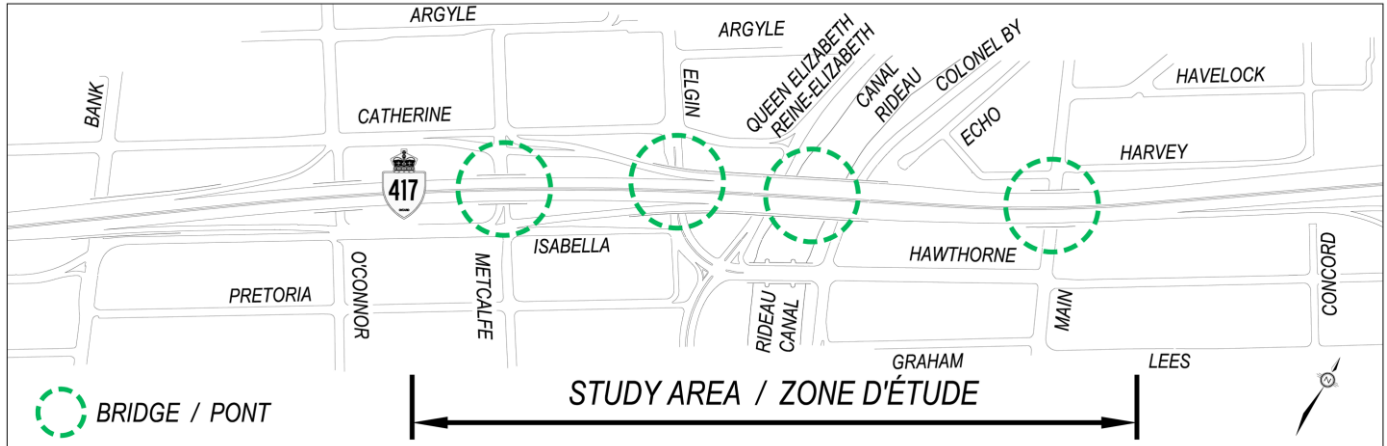


# ONTARIO GOVERNMENT NOTICE

## NOTICE OF STUDY COMMENCEMENT

### Ottawa Queensway Downtown Bridges Environmental Assessment Study Metcalf Street to Main Street Group Work Project 4170-13-00

**THE STUDY** - The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) has retained BT Engineering Inc. (BTE) to undertake a preliminary design and environmental assessment study for the rehabilitation and / or replacement of seven bridges (four locations) on Highway 417 (Ottawa Queensway) from Metcalfe Street to Main Street, including the Rideau Canal Bridge, in the City of Ottawa. This study will determine the appropriate strategy for the rehabilitation or replacement of these bridges. The Queensway Corridor Study Area and the four Local Study Areas are shown on the map below.



The area of study includes three levels of analysis. The “Broader Study Area” includes the geographic area of the City where temporary short term offsite detour routes are being considered for freeway closures. The “Immediate Study Area” will be defined to focus on the Queensway Corridor generally within or adjacent to the MTO right-of-way that will include the bridge alternatives and possible staging areas for candidate bridge construction sites needed for rapid replacement options. Within this Study Area, we will also identify “Local Study Areas” at each of the bridge locations along with potential candidate construction staging sites necessary for the construction of bridge segments for the rapid replacement options. Environmental inventories and secondary source reviews will be carried out within the limits of the “Immediate and Local Study Areas” and at the potential construction staging sites.

The Study will complete the preliminary design and receive EA clearance to proceed to Detail Design resulting in construction projects at each of the 4 sites for a total of 7 bridges. There are two types of bridge projects (replacement or rehabilitation) and two types of bridges (rigid frames and beam structures (Rideau Canal)). They are distinctly different bridge types and projects but the inter-relationship between the projects is that there may be common traffic staging, and the possible replacement of the Rideau Canal Bridge may trigger an elevation increase (if the mid-span of the Rideau Canal Bridge increases) that may require profile changes to the adjacent bridges (possibly triggering advance replacement).

**THE PROCESS** - This study will follow the *Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Transportation Facilities (2000)* planning process for a Group “B” project, with the opportunity for external agency and public consultation throughout the project. Two Public Information Centres (PICs) will be scheduled to: present the project process, design alternatives, analysis and evaluation results and preferred designs to agencies and members of the public; to obtain comments; and to discuss any concerns with regards to the proposed undertaking. Notices providing the date, time, and location of the PICs will be published in the Ottawa Citizen and Le Droit.

Upon completion of this study, a Transportation Environmental Study Report (TESR) will be prepared and made available for a 30-day public review period. A further notice of TESR Submission will be published in the Ottawa Citizen and Le Droit at that time.

**COMMENTS** - We are interested in hearing any comments that you may have regarding this study. You are encouraged to make your concerns and input known to the Project Team at your earliest opportunity. Early communication of concerns in the study allows the greatest opportunity to address them. If you wish to obtain additional information or provide comments, or wish to be added to the project mailing list, please contact the Consultant Project Manager or MTO Senior Project Engineer listed below:

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**WEBSITE – [www.queenswaydowntownbridges.com](http://www.queenswaydowntownbridges.com)** will be created and updated regularly in order to provide the following information: background information; current project status; Frequently Asked Questions and Answers; project schedule; contact information; and serve as an additional means for you to communicate your comments and concerns. You are encouraged to keep up-to-date on the project by regularly visiting the website.

**ACCESSIBILITY** - If you have any accessibility requirements in order to participate in this project please contact one of the Project Team members listed above.

All information will be collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (2009)*. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

Pour des renseignements en français veuillez communiquer avec Daniel Riendeau au: (613) 228-4813 ou [daniel.riendeau@bteng.ca](mailto:daniel.riendeau@bteng.ca)