metronews.ca Monday, March 25, 2013

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Building's partial collapse falls outside of construction zone

Workers. No injuries were reported, city building inspector was called to the scene



The historic Ogilvy's department-store building suffered a partial collapse Saturday while crews were working to demolish the interior.

The construction site at 126 Rideau St. was fenced off Sunday, and Nicholas Street between Rideau and Besserer streets has been closed until further notice. Rideau Street has been reduced to one eastbound lane between William and Nicholas streets.

Fire crews were called to the building just after 5:30

p.m. on Saturday after receiving reports of a partial collapse at the building.

All workers inside the building had been evacuated safely by the time crews arrived.

According to Ottawa Fire Services, a section of a wall had collapsed within the construction zone, but some bricks had pushed a safety wall out onto the sidewalk. No injuries were reported, and a city building inspector was called to the scene.

The former department store was built in 1907 for businessman Charles Ogilvy.

The facades were granted heritage designation by the City of Ottawa in 2000.

Rideau Centre owners Cadillac Fairview are in the midst of a \$150 million expansion of the mall, of which the Ogilvy's building will be a part. Or at least the facades — the rest, not enjoying heritage protection, is in the process of being demolished.



A security guard sits in a car outside the Ogilvy building. A section of the structure's facade collapsed on Saturday.

Bus-arrival board hits Centretown shop



Local software developers beat the city by a year by putting a digital board displaying bus arrival times at a Centretown coffee shop.

If Ryan Androsoff and Sean Kibbee are successful in expanding their company, Beyond 2.0, and putting more boards in Ottawa businesses, they will also be the first entrepreneurs to build a business based on the city's open-data program.

Their display is in a Treats coffee shop at the corner of Al-

bert and Kent streets.

"It occurred to us if you're sitting in a coffee shop, it would be great if you could look over at the wall and find out when the next bus is coming, especially in an Ottawa winter, so you don't have to wait in the cold," Androsoff said. "Sean and I are both transit users and we both deal with that in our daily commutes."

It's a win-win, said shop owner Adib El-Khoury, who said people come in to check arrivals and buy a coffee while they wait inside.

Nepean resident John Scanlon said the board is one reason he goes to the shop. "I quite like it," he said. "It

"I quite like it," he said. "It lets me know if I have to scarf down my food." The city began making data on everything from bike lanes to flu-clinics available in 2010. OC Transpo GPS data came last

year and hobbyist developers made a number of apps using the information. Kibbee was one of those

developers. He and Androsoff

began talking about the board last fall, but really got down to work in January, Androsoff said. They plan to enter their idea in a city-run Apps 4 Ottawa contest.

Adding the bus-location capability to existing digital displays in places like doctors' offices is another possibility, Androsoff said. Businesses can go to beyond20.ca to register to be considered for future bus arrival boards locations. LAURA MUELLER/

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