

Virtual Public Open House

Museum of Anthropology - Great Hall Renewal (DP#19025)

Overview

The Museum of Anthropology (MOA) is an iconic and beloved place of world arts and cultures that is renowned for its unique exhibitions of world art and culture, with a special emphasis on the First Nations peoples and other cultural communities of British Columbia. As well as being a major tourist destination, MOA plays a vital role as a teaching and research museum.

This Fall, MOA will begin preparations for a rebuild of its Great Hall to upgrade the resiliency of the museum and protect its irreplaceable collection in the event of a major earthquake. When the project is complete the Great Hall will look like it does now with some improvements, including new window glazing, lighting and carpeting.

MOA is also currently under construction for other building upgrades, such as updates to its skylights, lighting, roofing, window coverings and sprinkler system. Together, these improvements will better showcase and protect the collection. MOA's landscape will also be fully remediated once construction is complete.



▲ (above) MOA site with building highlighted (below) MOA building with Great Hall highlighted

i DEVELOPMENT PERMIT FEEDBACK

This is an opportunity to learn about the plans underway and ask questions about the Development Permit Application for the rebuilding of the Museum of Anthropology's Great Hall. You can find information below about the purpose and rationale for the project along with the planning process, project scope and timeline.

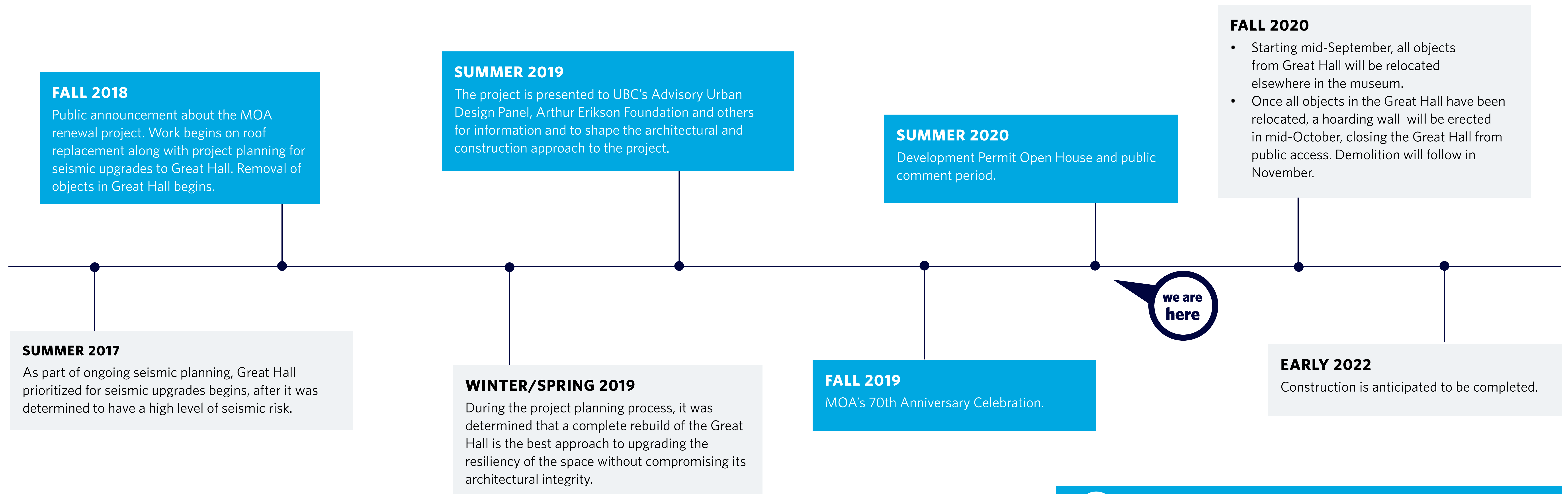
You can provide comments by filling out a [Feedback Form](#) online; these will be reviewed as part of the project planning process.

i KEY INFORMATION

While the Great Hall will be closed during construction, the rest of the museum will remain open with many displays and exhibitions for visitors to enjoy.

Timeline

For the last few years, planning has been underway to undertake extensive seismic upgrades to MOA's Great Hall as part of UBC's seismic resilience plan.



Key milestones

Present to public, stakeholders and indigenous communities

i ENGAGEMENT PRINCIPLES

Campus + Community Planning's consultation processes are guided by Engagement Principles, which ensure clarity and transparency in how we define, design, implement, and conclude public engagement in our community planning processes. The principles were created through consultation with a wide range of partners including campus stakeholders, student government, and Musqueam.



Additional Information and Considerations

The project is currently in the design phase and the Great Hall will be closing in September for construction. Construction is anticipated to be completed in early 2022.

- During the planning process over the past year, technical studies revealed that it would not be feasible to achieve improved seismic performance of the Great Hall's existing structure. To retrofit the existing structure would mean greatly compromising its architectural integrity, and so it was determined that a complete rebuild of the Great Hall is the best approach to upgrade its seismic resiliency while retaining Arthur Erickson's intent and vision.
- MOA has important heritage value for UBC and a rebuild of the Great Hall involves a sensitive approach, one that follows conservation principles that address both the heritage values and character-defining elements of the site and the building. Feedback from the Arthur Erickson Foundation has shaped the architectural and construction approach to the project. Likewise, the Musqueam Indian Band has participated in the planning process.
- In addition to the rebuild of the Great Hall, MOA will also receive some other building improvements, such as updates to its skylights, lighting, roofing, window coverings and sprinkler system—some of this work has already been underway for the past year.
- While the Great Hall will be closed during the construction, the rest of the Museum will remain open. Visitors will still be able to enjoy the other exhibition spaces that the museum has to offer including much of the outdoor exhibits, including the Haida Houses and outdoor poles, which will also remain accessible to the public.
- In preparation for the seismic upgrades, all of the massive wooden carvings that reside in the Great Hall will be lowered and relocated elsewhere in the museum ahead of the construction. MOA is liaising with Indigenous communities and families whose cultural objects are being moved from the Great Hall. They will continue to provide input into protocols around moving and re-installing these works into the Great Hall post-construction. The safety and protection of these irreplaceable Indigenous objects is of the highest priority to MOA's team, who will ensure they are well cared for before and during construction.

DESIGN PROPOSAL

Additional information can be found on our [website](#) about the proposed plans for the rebuilding of the Great Hall, including details about key elements of the plans.



▲ View of MOA Great Hall and surrounding landscape