



NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION
COMMISSION DE LA CAPITALE NATIONALE

Capital Illumination Plan Annual Report 2019-2020

MAY 2020

Canada



Introduction

The Capital Illumination Plan Annual Report 2019-2020 fulfills the requirements of Section 8.8 of the Capital Illumination Plan 2017-2027, which mandates the preparation of an annual report to evaluate the success of the plan.

This Annual Report covers the time period from **October 2018**, shortly after the first Annual Report was released, **to March 2020**. For the given time period, the Annual Report:

- Tracks the status of actions identified in the latest Capital Illumination Plan Implementation Strategy (2018); and
- Identifies other lighting-related initiatives that are ongoing or have been completed.

A large part of the Capital Illumination Plan study area is not under NCC jurisdiction. The Annual Report focuses on ongoing or completed initiatives that are either:

- Led by the NCC;
- Led externally, but with NCC involvement;
- Led externally and located on federal lands and/or led by a federal entity, and therefore subject to an NCC Federal Land Use and Design Approval (FLUDA).

While the Capital Illumination Plan continues to be actively used by NCC staff to guide the development and/or review of proposed lighting strategies and projects, it appears that the initial enthusiasm has subsided somewhat. More work is needed to ensure that the goals of the Plan are met, and that internal and external stakeholders continue to use the guidelines set forth in the Plan to develop lighting strategies and complete lighting projects.

The NCC will continue to collaborate with its partners on an ongoing basis, in particular the City of Ottawa and the Ville de Gatineau, to achieve the objectives of the Capital Illumination Plan within areas that are not under NCC jurisdiction.

Assessment

The assessment focuses on three categories of initiatives:

- **Table 1:** Initiatives identified in the 2018 Implementation Strategy as “underway” or with a start date of October 2018 or later (2019).
- **Table 2:** Other ongoing or completed initiatives led by the NCC or with NCC involvement.
- **Table 3:** External ongoing or completed initiatives subject to a FLUDA.

The status of each initiative is identified as follows:

 Completed
  Ongoing
  Not started (only applicable to Table 1)

Table 1: Initiatives Identified in the 2018 Implementation Strategy

Initiative	Type	Status
Develop the Bronson Pulp Mill lighting strategy	S	
Develop the Victims of Communism Memorial lighting strategy	S	
Update the NCC project website to showcase recently completed lighting projects	I	
Develop the Lighting Charter	I	
Develop the Sussex Drive frontage lighting strategy (between Rideau Street and St. Patrick Street)	S	
Discuss the addition of an exterior illumination category to the City of Ottawa Urban Design Awards	I	
Continue outreach with municipalities to integrate illumination review in their approval processes	I	
Develop the Nepean Point Lighting Strategy	S	
Establish a nighttime landscape governance committee	I	
Implement the Victims of Communism Memorial lighting strategy	S	

P: Lighting project

S: Lighting strategy

I: Other initiative

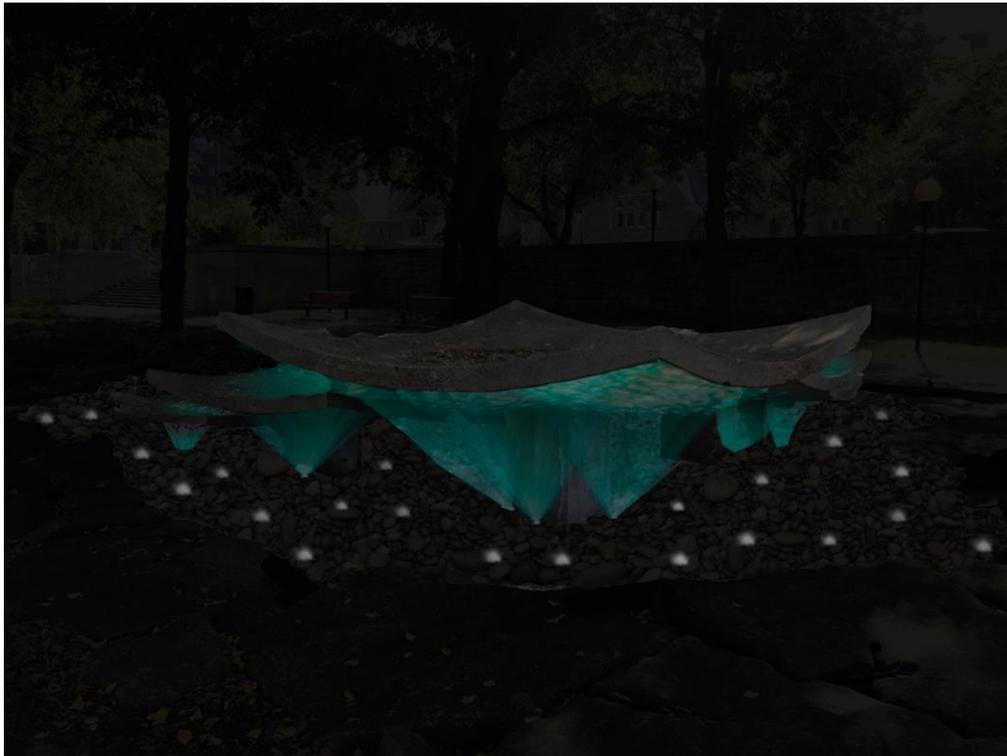
Table 2: Other NCC Initiatives

Initiative	Type	Status
Parliamentary Precinct Exterior Lighting Master Plan	I,P	○
Sir John A. Macdonald Building Exterior Lighting	P	●
Library of Parliament Building Exterior Lighting	P	●
Senate of Canada Building Exterior Lighting	P	●
Postal B Station Building Exterior Lighting	P	●
Garden of Provinces and Territories: Restoration of the Great Lakes Fountain	P	○
Capital Pathway Strategic Plan: Lighting Guidelines	S	○
Proposed New Standard NCC Light Fixture	P	○
Sparks Street Public Realm Plan, including a lighting strategy (lead: City of Ottawa)	S	●

P: Lighting project

S: Lighting strategy

I: Other initiative



Rendering of Great Lakes Fountain Restoration at Night

Source: NCC Capital Planning



Parliament Hill “Jewels in the Night” Lighting Concept
Source: Parliamentary Precinct Exterior Lighting Master Plan



Sparks Street Nighttime Lighting Rendering
Source: Sparks Street Public Realm Plan, for City of Ottawa

Table 3: External Initiatives Subject to a FLUDA

Initiative	Proponent	Type	Status
Canadian Museum of History façade lighting strategy	Canadian Museum of History	S	
Château Laurier addition façade lighting strategy	Private sector proponent	S	
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière recladding project (including lighting strategy)	PSPC	S	
Government Conference Centre façade lighting implementation	PSPC	P	

P: Lighting project S: Lighting strategy I: Other initiative

Analysis

In general, implementation of the Capital Illumination Plan continues to be successful. During the first year of implementation, there was a high level of interest and enthusiasm generated by the release of the Plan. This aided implementation efforts with several projects and initiatives started and completed within the first year. It appears some of this initial interest and enthusiasm has subsided, and a renewed effort is needed in order to continue the successful implementation of the Plan in the months and years to come.

Some more specific steps are identified below:

- Encourage and promote ongoing use of the Capital Illumination Plan as a tool to support the design and development phase for NCC projects.
- Ongoing use of the Capital Illumination Plan as a tool to support the NCC’s review of projects subject to a FLUDA.
- Completion of the projects and initiatives identified in the Implementation Plan subject to budget constraints and available resources.
- Promote the Capital Illumination Plan as a tool for external stakeholders engaging in projects that involve a lighting component.
- Renew interest in the Lighting Charter and get it signed by the City of Ottawa and Ville de Gatineau, and PSPC.

Some key challenges to the implementation of the Capital Illumination Plan are outlined below:

- Balancing environmental requirements under the *Impact Assessment Act* with the desire to illuminate important built form elements such as buildings, commemorations, and public art.
- Ensuring that lighting is a priority in budget-setting for projects and is not compromised in the context of value-engineering exercises.
- Incorporating high standards of lighting design review in municipal development approval processes, in particular those that may impact federal interests (e.g., illuminated signage visible from Confederation Boulevard).