

Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport Pedestrian Tunnel

- The tunnel will provide the 2.4 million passengers who travel through Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport each year with a more convenient and predictable point of access to the airport. The walk from the mainland pavilion to the island atrium will take approximately six minutes to walk and extends 853 feet.
- The horizontal segment of the tunnel is located 100-feet underground and runs 550 feet end-to-end (does not include vertical and diagonal segments within the mainland pavilion and island atrium).
- An innovative pre-support technique was used to drill seven 1.85m-diameter interlocking drift bores, or mini tunnels, above the main tunnel crown using boring machines. The drifts allowed excavation to continue under the crown while enabling the tunnel to hold its shape. It was the first time in Canada that such a technique was used.
- The tunnel represents an important collaboration with the City of Toronto as new and much-needed municipal water and sewer mains to/from Toronto Island were incorporated into three of the tunnel drifts, saving Toronto taxpayers an estimated \$10 million in duplicate construction costs.
- The tunnel was constructed and financed using a public-private partnership (P3) model that ensured that no taxpayer dollars were used to fund the project. The tunnel was built at a cost of \$82.5 million and is being delivered on budget and within the 24-36 month timeframe announced for this project in 2012.
- From a bank of six elevators inside the pavilion, passengers will descend to access the tunnel and travel along the horizontal passageway using the central stationary pathway or one of four automated sidewalks.
- At the south end of the horizontal expanse of the tunnel, travellers can choose to ascend to the island atrium and airport's check-in area using one of the longest escalator systems in Canada, one of two elevators, or a staircase of 153 steps.
- Approximately 1,100 people per hour can travel through the tunnel.
- The tunnel features 42 large digital screens installed throughout the pavilion, atrium and tunnel. The Billy app has also been developed to work in coordination with the screens to deliver relevant advertising and promotions, or independently to offer concierge-type services and curated content to assist with travel. The Billy app launches in August.
- The ferry will continue to operate, transporting vehicles and travellers who choose to use it across to the airport. The tunnel will provide a second option for accessing the airport and is a key component of the airport's traffic management strategy.
- The tunnel has won several awards for its innovation, including the International Tunnelling & Underground Space Association's 2014 Specialist Tunnelling Project of the Year Award and the Tunneling Association of Canada's 2014 Canadian Project of the Year Award.