

Construction work on partially collapsed Welland condo to resume

Details of the ministry's investigation into the incident have yet to be released, though it issued 21 orders/requirements to Evertrust since the partial collapse



By [Dave Johnson](#) Reporter Welland Tribune

Wednesday, December 20, 2023

1 min to read

Article was updated Jan 8, 2024



The City of Welland has issued a permit for remedial work at the Upper Vista Welland condominium complex at 350 Prince Charles Dr., which earlier this year sustained two partial collapses.

Dave Johnson/Torstar

Construction on the \$55-million, 226-unit luxury Upper Vista Welland condo development that sustained two collapses earlier this year will resume with expected occupancy in spring 2025.

In a release, Joyce Morocco, a contracted spokesperson for owner Evertrust Development, said the City of Welland issued a permit for remedial work last week on the south tower of the two-tower complex at 350 Prince Charles Dr.

Ground was broken at the site, next door to the Seaway Pointe condominium complex, in September 2021, with then-predicted occupancy by May 2023.

However, on Saturday, Feb. 18, at 7:40 p.m., several concrete slabs in the south tower facing the Welland Recreational Canal fell in what was described as a “pancake-style” collapse.



An east-side view of Upper Vista Welland's south tower. Dave Johnson/Torstar

Footage of the collapse was captured by a home security camera on the east side of the waterway.

City staff, including chief building official Jack Tosta, were on scene the next morning, securing and assessing the site, along with an Ontario Ministry of Labour investigator and structural engineer.

The city ordered Evertrust to “remedy an unsafe building” under the Ontario Building Code.

The collapse involved four floor slabs supported on the east exterior and interior load-bearing walls.

Two ministry orders were issued against the developer at the time, the details of which were not disclosed to protect the integrity of its investigation.

Eight days later, more concrete slabs fell. This time, debris reached the canal path beside the building, closed after the first collapse.

Like the first incident, it, too, was captured by a home security camera from the opposite side of the canal.

But this time, the violent collapse was captured during daylight hours — 10:04 a.m. — as additional components endured structural failure on the south side, the same area as the initial incident.

At the time, the ministry had control of the site and prohibited anyone from accessing the building as it worked to determine whether it was safe to allow access for further evaluation of the structural engineering components.