

City Hall News: Praise For New Building

Projected Dates:

- December 19: Major Construction Ends
- January 11: Moving in Begins
- February 11: First Day of Business
- Spring: Community Grand Opening Ceremony

New City Hall Hosts First Event

While the new City Hall will be ready for business early in 2008, it's already the venue for a meeting with architectural experts who were part of an international conference at the University of Waterloo.

Eighty-five architectural scholars and graduate students from across North America visited the building on October 20th.

Reaction to the new building from these scholars and architectural experts was overwhelmingly positive. More about that below.

But first, news about opening day. It's almost here!



Mayor Doug Craig Addresses Architectural Scholars

Major construction at the new building ends in less than a month. Then, following the New Year's break, the moving process begins.

City employees will pack up and move into the building's brand new offices.

If all goes as planned,

the New Cambridge City Hall will be open for business in early February.

Then it will be time to celebrate the newest face on the Cambridge landscape!



Architects Study Green Wall

Architectural Scholars Praise New City Hall

They came. They looked. And they were impressed. Some of North America's top architectural scholars toured the New City Hall last month. And they liked what they saw.

"I think people are really going to love the way that it works as a building," says Professor Jeffery Poss of the University of Illinois.

"Especially the way it interfaces with the

market and the community and really brings a kind of beautiful, rich spirit to the original granite buildings that are around here."

Civic Square and Green Wall Impressive

The members of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture toured the new building on October 20th.

They particularly liked the way the structure works in conjunction with Cambridge's heritage buildings.

"I think that this beautiful building is a great example of new architecture in a historic context," says Professor Kim Tanzer of the University of Florida, President of the Association.

"One of the things that I like about this building is the relationship between the square and the interior... the atrium, the green wall. I imagine in nice weather it will be possible to open the doors and to have events flow inside and outside."

"This building completes, or creates a courtyard that didn't exist before by its presence," adds Tanzer. "I think it's very strategically placed from an urban planning point of view."

"This is just good, solid urban planning."

Tanzer and her architectural colleagues were also impressed with the new building's "green wall." The concept is so new to the field of architecture that many of the scholars had never seen one in person.

"I think it's a wonderful building," says Poss. "I think it really fits nicely and engages the environment in a really special way."

One of the most impressive aspects of the New Cambridge City Hall is



Architects Tour New City Hall

Building Designed to be a Good Neighbour

that it is *not* intended to stand out.

Rather, the building was designed to blend in with the many historic buildings in the downtown core.

Architects and builders limited the height of the building to four stories to avoid blocking views of

the historic structures.

The roof will be in line with buildings like Old City Hall and the Farmers Market.

Designers worked with horizontal lines to link the new structure with the old.

The result is a

complementary design that doesn't draw the eye away from the heritage buildings, but acts as a "punctuation point" for the historic core.

A dark, stale working environment is not good for productivity. It's tough



Close Up Look At Green Wall

Better for City Staff and Customer Service

to keep your mind on work when your office is too hot in the summer, too cold in winter and the air is difficult to breathe.

But city employees won't have to worry about working conditions any longer.

The New Cambridge City Hall will provide a fresh new environment

for everyone. And that's good for productivity.

Cambridge residents will also notice the new building's more efficient layout and design.

That will make the building easier for residents to get information about their community and to access civic services and

personnel.

Better for residents, better for business.

That's the future in downtown Cambridge!

New City Hall is located at:
50 Dickson Street, Cambridge, ON
N1R 8S1

For more information about the building or to view other newsletters, visit our website: www.cityhall.cambridge.ca

Contact Us:

Email: questions@cambridge.ca

Phone: 519.623.1340



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