

Globe and Mail Update

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Some features of the new Cambridge City Hall:

A 110-metre wall of plants, complete with trickling waterfall, purifies the air and re-circulates clean air throughout the building.

Part of the roof will contain a number plants and shrubs. The building itself has about 3,000 plants spread throughout.

A 10,000-litre cistern collects rainfall, which is used for toilets

The building is a WiFi hot spot and has a computer kiosk with educational resources.

To encourage exercise, the staircases are visible, in the middle of the lobby, and more prominent than the elevators. "People will use them if they see them," Mayor Doug Craig says.

Seventy-five per cent of the building's daytime lighting is natural light.

To help moderate the building's temperature, a weather station on the roof sends signals about temperature, barometer, wind direction and speed.

An automated system tracks indoor temperature and humidity, and carbon dioxide sensors help detect whether a space needs more ventilation (by virtue of there being more people present) or less. *Matthew Trevisan*