NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION  
COMMISSION DE LA CAPITALE NATIONALE

<b>No.</b>	2021-P146
<b>To</b>	Board of Directors
<b>Date</b>	2021-04-22

**For** DECISION**Subject/Title**Ottawa Public Library (OPL) – Library and Archives Canada (LAC) Joint Facility —  
555 Albert Street — 100% Developed Design**Purpose of the Submission**To obtain approval of the Board of Directors for the 100% Developed Design of the OPL-  
LAC — Joint Facility**Recommendations**

- THAT the Federal Land Use and Design Approval (FLUDA) for the 100% Developed Design of the OPL-LAC Joint Facility be granted, pursuant to Section 12 of the *National Capital Act*;
- THAT the preparation and signature of the FLUDA document for the 100% Developed Design of the OPL-LAC Joint Facility be delegated to the Vice President, Capital Planning Branch.

**Submitted by:**Kalen Anderson, Vice President, Capital Planning Branch  
Name

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kalen Anderson", written over a horizontal line.

Signature

## 1. Authority

*National Capital Act*, section 12.

## 2. Project Description

The proposal is for a new Joint Facility that will accommodate the Ottawa Public Library (OPL) and Library and Archives Canada (LAC) in the LeBreton Flats area.

The two partners, over the years, have offered Canadians more than just books and artifacts on shelves. Guardians of knowledge and culture, these organizations cultivate people's joy of reading, learning, discovering, and creating. To shape their new Joint Facility in Ottawa, they have invited residents and communities to take part in a public co-design process that began in 2013. As a result, the architecture is inspired by a robust and meaningful civic engagement with residents, Indigenous communities, and Canadians from coast to coast, leveraging their input to create an iconic destination and knowledge hub that is set to open in 2025.

- OPL-LAC Collaboration:
  - The new Joint Facility will offer OPL's and LAC's public programs and services.
  - The collaboration between the OPL and LAC is based on shared values of intellectual freedom and access to information and will result in the creation of an iconic and meaningful destination in the National Capital Region (NCR).
  - The benefits of this collaboration are as follows:
    - a) Creation of a civic and national landmark;
    - b) Richer experience for all visitors to a Joint Facility;
    - c) Unique opportunities for shared programming, including exterior programming and events;
    - d) Enhanced access for OPL customers to national collections and resources; and
    - e) Increased visibility and exposure for LAC public services due to the high volume of visitors to the OPL-LAC Joint Facility.
- Project Objectives:
  - Enable the exploration and celebration of the present, the past, and the future life of the community;
  - Ensure lifelong learning, discovery, interaction, and inclusion;
  - Be a magnet for community dialogue and interaction;
  - Respond to an inter-generational opportunity to create a dynamic cultural destination in the City of Ottawa;
  - Be a focal point in the City of Ottawa's urban development, and a catalyst for adjacent urban activity; and
  - Enable the development of an iconic landmark and a defining 21<sup>st</sup> century image of the City.

- Joint Facility:
  - The master program developed for the Joint Facility is innovative in amalgamating a federal and local institution into a single entity.
  - The Joint Facility is being delivered through a Design-Bid-Build procurement method.
  - The Joint Facility will be an estimated 20,000 m<sup>2</sup> (216,000 ft<sup>2</sup>) with 61% or 12,080 m<sup>2</sup> (133,000 ft<sup>2</sup>) of the space allocated to OPL, and 39% or 7,710 m<sup>2</sup> (83,000 ft<sup>2</sup>) to LAC.
  - The program calls for design excellence and place-making, to create a landmark building and community space, merging the local and the national.
  - The Joint Facility will seek a minimum Gold certification level under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED™) v4 for Building Design and Construction (a new Construction rating system) and will be Net-zero Carbon.
  - The building program is composed of OPL-dedicated spaces, LAC-dedicated spaces, OPL & LAC shared spaces and public spaces. The shared spaces will enhance the complementary but unique nature of OPL and LAC services.
  - An underground public Parking Garage – preferably on one level to accommodate up to 200 parking spaces and 120 bicycle storage units with an integrated stair and elevator access to facility.
- Joint Facility Site:
  - The site at 555 Albert Street is owned by the City of Ottawa. It is 3.56 acres in area and is bounded by the Confederation Line, Albert Street, and Commissioner Street in the LeBreton Flats area.
  - The City plans to improve pedestrian access to the site with road and intersection modifications along the Albert/Slater corridor to facilitate movement and support integration with the Central Business District and residential neighborhoods to the east and south.
  - The site is located approximately 290 m (950 ft) away from the Pimisi OLRT station.
  - The site is near the future redevelopment of LeBreton Flats, residential and institutional facilities, as well as open green space (the Garden of the Provinces and Territories) and the historic aqueduct, including the heritage Fleet Street Pumping Station.
  - The site offers short- and long-range views from multiple approaches.
  - Views to the north will overlook the ravine, parkland, the aqueduct system and the heritage pumping station with unobstructed views of the Ottawa River.
  - This site is located at the western view terminus of Albert Street, providing an opportunity for a landmark architectural design at the end of the street corridor.
  - The facility will be visible from the Sir John A. Macdonald Parkway and in the direct line of sight from the Ontario end of Portage Bridge.
  - The site is rectangular in shape, situated on elevated ground from the Aqueduct canal, overlooking the heritage Fleet Street Pumping Station building.

- NCC Guiding Principles for the OPL-LAC Joint Facility:
  - This document was developed by the NCC to guide the proponent throughout the design phases of the OPL-LAC project and to communicate the NCC's parameters for the review and approval of all the land use and design components (i.e. planning, architecture and landscape).
  - The Principles are framed by the NCC's long-range and sector plans, policies and design guidelines as applicable to the project.
  - The Principles are divided in seven (7) categories:
    - a) Planning and Framework Compliance;
    - b) Design Excellence;
    - c) Heritage Conservation;
    - d) User/Visitor Experience and Universal Accessibility;
    - e) Environmental Sustainability;
    - f) Public art and Interpretation;
    - g) Consultation.

These categories were identified as priority elements to be addressed and benchmarked by the proponent throughout the design development of the new OPL-LAC Joint Facility.

### 3. NCC Staff Analysis / Risks and Mitigations Measures

- NCC approval authority under the *National Capital Act* is triggered by the federal component of the project – Library and Archives Canada as a federal institution.
- The future plan for the LAC headquarters located at 395 Wellington and its public presence and role in animating Confederation Boulevard are not yet known.
- The subject lands are municipally owned and are not part of the National Interest Land Mass (NILM) considered essential to the functioning and experience of Canada's Capital.
- The subject lands are inside the Capital Core Area Sector.
- The site proposed is compatible with the policies of the NCC's Plan for Canada's Capital (2017-2067) by maintaining a significant physical presence for the federal government in the Core Area.
- The proposal represents a significant and large-scale federal/municipal investment in the Core Area.
- The proposal requires pedestrian accessibility and connectivity with the OLRT Pimisi station and urban integration of the nearby service infrastructure, including the OLRT traction power substation, the OLRT tracks along the northern property line (partially in an open trench, partially hidden below grade).
- The site offers great potential for creating an architectural landmark building within a contemporary development of the LeBreton Flats area.
- The NCC's Guiding Principles are supported and agreed upon by all partners and stakeholders and have facilitated a successful process and a design that meets NCC and the City of Ottawa approval requirements.
- The public and Indigenous engagement process led by the proponent has been successful and meaningful. Input received from these consultations have positively

influenced the proposal. The engagement process was commended by Indigenous groups at the public unveiling of the design on January 23, 2020.

- The concept design was approved by the NCC Board of Directors in April 2020.

### **Addressing JDRP comments:**

- The developed design received positive support and comments from the NCC/City of Ottawa Joint Design Review Panel (JDRP) on August 5, 2020.
- The developed design addresses and incorporates key recommendations from City of Ottawa and NCC staff and the Joint Design Review Panel (JDRP) including:
  - The real power of the building's architecture lies in the expression of strong, horizontal, and uninterrupted datum lines. Great care has been taken in the latest design updates to ensure the continuity of the horizontal strata: for example, the sizes of the courses of stone have been varied vertically to increase the effect of horizontal stratification, and the depth and colouration of the horizontal aluminum fins and sunshades have been adjusted to also emphasize the horizontal character of these elements. The horizontal striations maintain a continuous alignment, and the tabs of stone coming down from thick horizontals have been adjusted to ensure a harmonious composition.
  - Additional clarity of the simplicity of the roofline has been a focus of the development of the design. The prefinished metal fascia and flashing that is the edge of the eave line soffit at the roofline of the building and the fascia flashing at the edge of the canopy soffit on the first floor will be a bronze colour to be a compliment to the natural wood finish of the eave cladding.
  - The landscape's gathering circle was strengthened as a public space by adjusting its size and configuration. The circle now opens out the lawn to accommodate larger gatherings sizes. In this configuration it is more connected to the other areas of the public realm / plaza.
  - Universal accessibility is improved through the coordination of continuous paving design and colour patterns though all surfaces to ensure clarity of movement for people with visual impairment.
  - Coordination with the Albert-Street design team has developed a design for conceptual guidance to create homogenous materiality, texture and colour in the pedestrian zone between the building and the streetscape.
- See Appendix C for details of JDRP comments.

### **Linked projects:**

#### **Albert – Slater Streets Realignment Project**

- The City of Ottawa's Albert – Slater Streets Realignment Project (Albert-Slater Project), located between Bronson Avenue and Empress Street, will realign Slater Street to connect with Albert Street as a two-way street in front of the Ottawa Public Library – Library and Archives Canada Joint Facility site (OPL-LAC).
- The project will improve the entrance and streetscape of the joint facility.
- This project is subject to a separate NCC approval being submitted concurrently in April 2021.

## LeBreton Flats Master Concept Plan and Library Parcel

- The library facility is an anchor for the Albert District mixed-use neighborhood in the future LeBreton Development.
- Key pathways planned in the MCP will link the Joint facility to the two OLRT stations, the future Urban Playground and mixed-use development ensuring neighborhood connectivity.
- The NCC is seeking final approval for the MCP in April 2021. The RFP for the Library Parcel will be launched in Fall 2021.

## 4. Strategic Links

- NCC Mandate to “set the long-term urban planning direction for federal lands and, guide and control the use and development of federal lands in Canada’s Capital Region.”
- NCC 2020-2021 to 2024-2025 Corporate Plan:
  - Corporate priority 2: “Facilitate the redevelopment of LeBreton Flats and revitalize the islands and shorelines to become destinations of national significance.”
  - Corporate priority 4: “Develop and communicate land use plans and provide timely and effective coordination of federal land use and design in the National Capital Region.”
- NCC Plan for Canada’s Capital (2017 to 2067) to:
  - “... *promote collaborative approaches with municipal governments to encourage a continuous evolution and improvement of design quality through the sharing of information and development of standards or guidelines.*”
  - “... *promote inspiring quality projects: this means projects that are context-sensitive, responsive to users, coherent and flexible, aesthetically engaging, durable and appropriate for the intended uses, universally accessible, and energy-efficient.*”
- NCC 2005 Core Area Sector Plan:
  - “*Support, and work directly with, the City of Ottawa in its phased implementation of the recommendations of the Downtown Ottawa Urban Design Strategy, including joint planning, review of pilot projects and coordination of design review processes.*”
- NCC 2018 Sustainable Development Strategy
- Federal Sustainability Development Strategy 2016-2019

## 5. Consultations and Communications

- Public engagement was a major component in the design of the Joint Facility.
- OPL-LAC developed a design process for their engagement and consultation plan, which includes workshops, pop-ups, social media feeds, lecture series and milestone events.

- The public engagement process consisted of two major in-person workshops as well as an online digital tool: Inspire555. Participants provided input and feedback with regards to site selection, form, materiality, spatial relationships, among other elements. The engagement comprised a blend of qualitative and quantitative exercises.
- OPL-LAC has successfully engaged First Nations groups in Indigenous consultations throughout the design development of the Joint Facility.
- OPL-LAC has launched a call for indigenous artist through Indigenous engagement sessions with local Algonquin Anishinaabe communities, Ottawa and Gatineau's urban Indigenous community, and input was sought from other First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nation people in a national online survey. The result was an Indigenous Art Program to include opportunities to celebrate Indigenous art, culture and heritage. In particular for:
  - Art installation on the exterior pillars
  - Interior art installation at the Pimisi entrance
  - Inuit art
  - The Indigenous multi-purpose room / second floor children's story room option
  - The exterior glass frit and/or interior film design
  - The exterior sculpture installation in the northeast garden area and/or second floor terrace

## 6. Next Steps

- Start of Construction – Spring 2021
- Joint Facility Grand Opening – Early 2025

## 7. List of Appendices

Appendix A – Land Ownership Map

Appendix B – Project Report

Appendix C – Excerpts of the minutes of JDRP, August 5, 2020

## 8. Authors of the Submission

Kalen Anderson, Vice President, Capital Planning Branch (CP)

Isabel Barrios, Director, Federal Approvals, Heritage & Archeological Programs, CP

Jason Hutchison, Chief, Federal Design Approvals, CP

Martin Barakengera, Chief, Federal Land Use and Transactions Approvals, CP

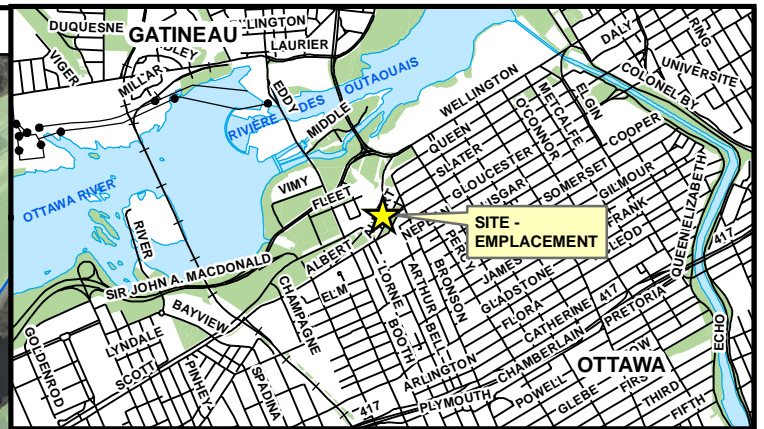
Kate-Issima Francin, Senior Land Use Planner, Federal Approvals, CP



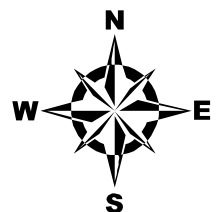
SCHEDULE "A" / ANNEXE <<A>>

### Legend / Légende

- |  |  |
|--|--|
|  | SITE OF PROPOSAL<br>SITE DE LA PROPOSITION   |
|  | NCC LAND   |
|  | CLARIDGE HOMES<br>(LEBRETON FLATS) INC.  |
|  | OLRT CORRIDOR<br>CORRIDOR DU TLRO  |
|  | PROPOSED SITE OF THE<br>NATIONAL HOLOCAUST MUSEUM<br>SITE PROPOSÉ POUR LE MONUMENT<br>NATIONAL DE L'HOLOCAUSTE |
|  | PARKS<br>PARCS   |
|  | CORE AREA SECTOR BOUNDARY<br>FRONTIÈRE DU SECTEUR DU<br>CŒUR DE LA CAPITALE                                    |
|  | NCC RECREATIONAL PATHWAYS<br>SENTIERS RÉCRÉATIF DE LA CCN  |
|  | CONFEDERATION BOULEVARD<br>BOULEVARD DE LA CONFÉDÉRATION   |



Canada



**Subject - Objet** PROPOSED OTTAWA PUBLIC LIBRARY SITE, Ottawa, ON  
SITE PROPOSÉ POUR LA BIBLIOTHÈQUE MUNICIPALE D'OTTAWA, Ottawa, ON

*Submitted by - Soumis par  
Kalen Anderson, Vice President, vice-présidente*

Branch - Direction	CP / AC
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*Date* 2017-02-14

Scale - Échelle  
1:5,000

Parcel - Parcelle



# Ottawa Public Library / Library & Archives Canada Joint Facility

NCC Report  
March 11, 2021

**diamond  
schmitt**

**KWC  
KWC  
KWC**

Ottawa Public  
Library  Bibliothèque  
publique d'Ottawa



Library and Archives  
Canada

Bibliothèque et Archives  
Canada

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# Design Description:

Responses to issues raised at the NCC/JDRP  
meeting of August 5, 2021

# Context

## **Neighbourhood vision:**

The OPL-LAC Joint Facility has been designed with consideration of the immediate context, as well as the broader neighborhood integration of downtown with LeBreton Flats. Located at the transition between the existing downtown district and the emerging LeBreton Flats precinct, the site is surrounded by significant landscape features: the exposed escarpment edge on the north/east and east, and the watercourse of the Fleet Street Aquaduct on the west.

The building has been scaled to create a stepped transition from the midrise scale of 5-6 storeys at Albert Street and Commissioners Street, to 12-13 storeys moving west on Albert Street, to 25 storeys further west at Albert and Booth Streets. The plaza at the west end of site will offer a break in the facades on Albert Street between Booth and Commissioners Street and provide pedestrian and cycling access to the Multi-Use Pathways (MUPs) system that traverses the edge of the watercourse and Aquaduct waterway.

View angles to the building emerge from the adjacent neighbourhoods including from Albert Street on the east, from Albert Street and Booth Street on the west, from the LRT corridor as viewed from Pimisi Station, and from the north on Commissioners Street.

# Landscape and Site Layout

**Gathering Circle:** A range of gathering spaces have been created within the landscape plaza at the west end of the site. In addition to the large Amphitheatre to accommodate outdoor performances and gatherings, and a Lawn area to support informal activities, a Gathering Circle has been created with input from Indigenous Consultation to support outdoor programs. The landscape space of the Gathering Circle has been adjusted to be larger. It now opens out to the lawn to accommodate larger gatherings sizes. In this configuration it is more connected to the other areas of the public realm / plaza. The Gathering Circle is an opportunity to provide a space that is more intimate and garden-like as per comments received during the public and Indigenous engagement sessions held in 2019-2020.

**Coniferous Trees:** To ensure that the Gathering Circle is not shadowed in winter, but is protected from sun and wind in the summer, the planning of the landscape design has been adjusted such that conifer planting has been reduced to be only 2 of the 8 trees in this zone, and only at the south-eastern edge. Other areas will be planted with deciduous trees to ensure exposure by the winter sun.

**Seating at Albert Street:** Although the Albert Street design is not currently in the scope of the project, coordination with the Albert/Slater design team has developed a design for conceptual guidance. The benches in this concept are shown for coordination purposes and will need to function as seating, tree protection, and traffic barriers to the building and plaza.

**Landscape Handrails:** Similarly, although the Albert Street design is not currently in the scope of the project, coordination with the concept design has progressed and handrails have been included at all of the stairs in the landscape design.

**Sidewalk Paving:** Coordination for a continuous paving treatment to the curb is underway with the Albert-Slater project team and is intended to create a homogeneous materiality, texture and colour in the pedestrian zone between the building and the streetscape.

# Accessibility

## **Texture changes:**

The paving design and colour pattern will be continuous through all surfaces to ensure clarity of movement for people with visual impairment and in wheelchairs. Tactile Warning Surface Indicators (TWSIs) will stand out and be easily detected. This approach will be coordinated as part of Albert-Slater redesign scope.

# Connectivity

## **Valley pathway:**

Currently pathways are provided by the MUPs system located on north landscape zone along the Aquaduct waterway edge, and on the Albert Street sidewalk located on south. The City will continue the study and planning for a pedestrian connection leading down from Sparks Street to the north on Commissioners Street and south on Albert Street. The existing escarpment face is a dramatic feature and should be maintained as a picturesque element.

## **Pimisi Station connection:**

Currently the MUPs trail system is located on the north side and ensures access to the building landscape zone from the north-west at Pimisi Station and the north-east from the Fleet Street pumping station. The Albert Street sidewalk located on the south side is located to ensure pedestrian connectivity in this zone.

The City and NCC are in the planning stage for new buildings on Albert Street at Booth Street. The design of these buildings will facilitate pedestrian connection from Pimisi Station to the OPL-LAC Joint Facility.



# Exterior

## **Horizontal datum:**

It has been noted that the real power of this building's architecture lies in the expression of strong, horizontal, and uninterrupted datum lines. The horizontal striations maintain a continuous alignment, and the tabs of stone coming down from thick horizontals have been adjusted to ensure a harmonious composition.

The expression of the building is organized into three layers: the river represented by the curving roofscape, the forest as represented by the wood cladding at the ground floor level; these two elements are anchored by the stone middle section of the building which represents the escarpment landscape that is carved by the Ottawa River. The strata of the escarpment layers are expressed by the strong horizontal datum lines in the stone cladding. Great care has been taken in the latest design updates to ensure the continuity of the horizontal strata: for example, the sizes of the courses of stone have been varied vertically to increase the effect of horizontal stratification, and the depth and colouration of the horizontal aluminum fins and sunshades have been adjusted to also emphasize the horizontal character of these elements.

## **Night view of lantern effect:**

The night view of the east elevation and its lantern expression is a significant feature of the architecture. The building design has evolved as an open and transparent layer at the top floors to access the long views to the city and landscape of the Gatineau hills in the north/west. This element has also provided the opportunity for the glowing lantern effect of the architecture in the evening hours, that will become part of the signature identity of the project.

However, care will be taken to ensure that the overall character of the beacon is a 'soft glow' in order to respect the residential occupation of the adjacent neighbourhoods and frit screening has been added to the glass as a bird safety measure.

This approach is distinct from the illumination strategy of the federal buildings in the parliamentary precinct, where the overall effect is much brighter in keeping with the primary role of these buildings in the federal precinct.

# Exterior

## **Roofline simplification:**

The evolution of the design has led to the simplification of the roof line and the addition of transparency at the upper level and street level. The edging on the upper roof has the opportunity to create a thematic relationship with the wood to ensure it reads as a plane and not an outline.

This clarity of the simplicity of the roofline has been a focus of the development of the design in the latest drawings and details. The prefinished metal fascia and flashing that is the edge of the eave line soffit at the roofline of the building will be a bronze colour to be a compliment to the natural wood finish of the eave cladding. Similarly, the fascia flashing at the edge of the canopy soffit will be a bronze colour to integrate with the natural wood finish of the wood slats at the underside of the canopy that wraps the building at the first floor.

## **Transparent ground level:**

The design approach of ensuring a porous and transparent window composition at grade has continued in the recent development of the design. In particular, windows are emphasized adjacent to the main building entrances at Albert Street East on the south/east corner, Albert Street west on the south/west, and the Pimisi Station facing entrance at the north/west corner. Additionally, windows have been added to the staff entry at the ground level on the north/east façade, and additional glazing has been added to the pedestrian entrance that flanks the vehicular entrance at the north corner of the P1 level. Glazing has also been added to the loading dock area to overlook the north elevation in order to provide added security as well as natural light.

# Exterior

## **Mullion spacing:**

The mullion spacing on the upper lantern glazing has been carefully considered to reinforce the 'open and curvilinear' character that contrasts with the 'solid and linear' character of the stone middle-section of the building. To increase this character and contrasting effect the latest design updates include capless mullions on the vertical mullions of the upper glazed lantern. This design strategy will increase the contrast the with the bronze and grey-coloured mullions of the windows in the stone clad middle strata of the building.

Additionally, the glass windows within the stone middle section of the building have utilized a grey tint to integrate the glass within the surrounding stone. In contrast, the glazing at the upper lantern utilizes low-iron glass to create an increased degree of clarity for these portions of the glass. In this manner, the glazing of the middle stone zone of the building establishes a distinct identity from the glazing at the upper lantern zone.

## **Drainage at roof level:**

Roof drainage has been integrated into the roof design to ensure that all rainfall is collected and drained within the roof area of the building and is not able to overflow from the edges of the roof.

Architectural Expression:

# Interior

## **Wide corridors:**

Entrances are located at all four corners of the exterior of the building, and are intended to create an open and accessible approach to the building, and ensure that the facility is open to all members of the community. Wide corridors have been developed at the four main entry points to provide access passageways from the entry vestibules to the central Town Hall atrium at the centre of the ground floor area. The passageways are designed to ensure clear orientation and direction into the atrium gathering space as well as provide access to other shared public spaces at the ground level including the large Multipurpose Room, the Black Box theatre and the Exhibition Galleries.

# Entrances

## **Character of public entrances:**

A range of architectural devices have been deployed to signal and communicate the location of the public entrances to the building. A pair of vertical columns interrupts the horizontal strata of the building's stone middle section, and large expanses of glazing are located adjacent to the entrances to provide visual access to the interior and the benefits of passive overlooks. Additionally, a band of vertical glazing reaches all the way upwards to the roofline at the south/west and north/east entrances, and stepped cantilever overhangs are located at the south/east and north/west entrances. Exterior up-lighting is deployed for the soffit of the canopy along Albert Street to ensure the clarity and orientation of the entry, particularly in evening hours.

Architectural Expression:

# Material Palette

## **Simplification of materials:**

Three primary materials have been used on the exterior of the building to represent the fundamental landscape elements of the Ottawa region. Curved timber at the roofline (to symbolize the river), horizontal stone in the middle floors (to symbolize the escarpment), and vertical strip wood cladding at the ground level (to symbolize the forest). In each case the materials have been designed to communicate their symbolism with an economy of expression, and to ensure that the overall vocabulary is served by the individual parts.

## **Amphitheatre and plaza:**

The amphitheater and plaza design on the west side of the building has been designed to connect the building landscape with the larger landscape of the Ottawa river MUP system, to provide an outdoor amenity for the library and archive programs of the building, and to integrate with the building aesthetic.

## **Concrete expressed as structure:**

The functional purpose of the bollards on Albert Street is to protect the sidewalk and pedestrian zone from accidental impacts originating in the streetscape. The Albert Street design is a separate project to the OPL-LAC Joint Facility, but the streetscape and building design teams have been in close contact throughout the course of the design stages to ensure a coordinated design.

Opportunities to create a separate colour, materiality, and identity for these elements will be developed to ensure that the function of the bollards is distinct from the building columns and that the architecture and landscape architecture have both integrated and independent identities.

# Views

## **Views from the immediate context:**

The views from the north including aspects from Pooley's Bridge, the kayak watercourse, Commissioners Street, and Pimisi Station at Booth Street have been carefully studied for architectural opportunities, and to ensure that these 'iconic views' towards the building have been maximized. In particular, the axial view from Portage Bridge and Wellington Street has been studied to ensure the building's identity has considered this focus.

Additionally, the shape of the roof-top skylights has been modified to lower and soften the edges and create vaulted forms within the breadth of the skylights to integrate with the sinuous forms of the overall roof shapes. The roofline of the Civic Reception room has also been reshaped to integrate with the overall curved roof, by vaulting the upper eave line of the room to act as a 'minor key' reinforcement to the major character of the roof architecture.

## **View from Albert Street:**

The westerly direction of traffic on Albert Street and the position of the OPL-LAC Joint Facility on the escarpment edge as Albert Street transitions from the downtown zone to the emerging LaBreton Flats district provides the opportunity for the building to function as a gateway.

The glazing at the upper storey of the building will serve as a beacon during the day and evening for the building face that is presented to Albert Street and the neighbourhood of the downtown to the east.

Several adjustments have been made to the design to take advantage of this prospect for the building, including a shallow vaulting (curving) of the roofline of the east façade, and a shallow vaulting of the mechanical penthouse elements to repeat the vaulted shape of the eave roofline.

The refined roof silhouette will participate with the glowing light of the upper floor glazing to reinforce the 'beacon' character of the architecture that addresses the downtown area and Albert Street east.



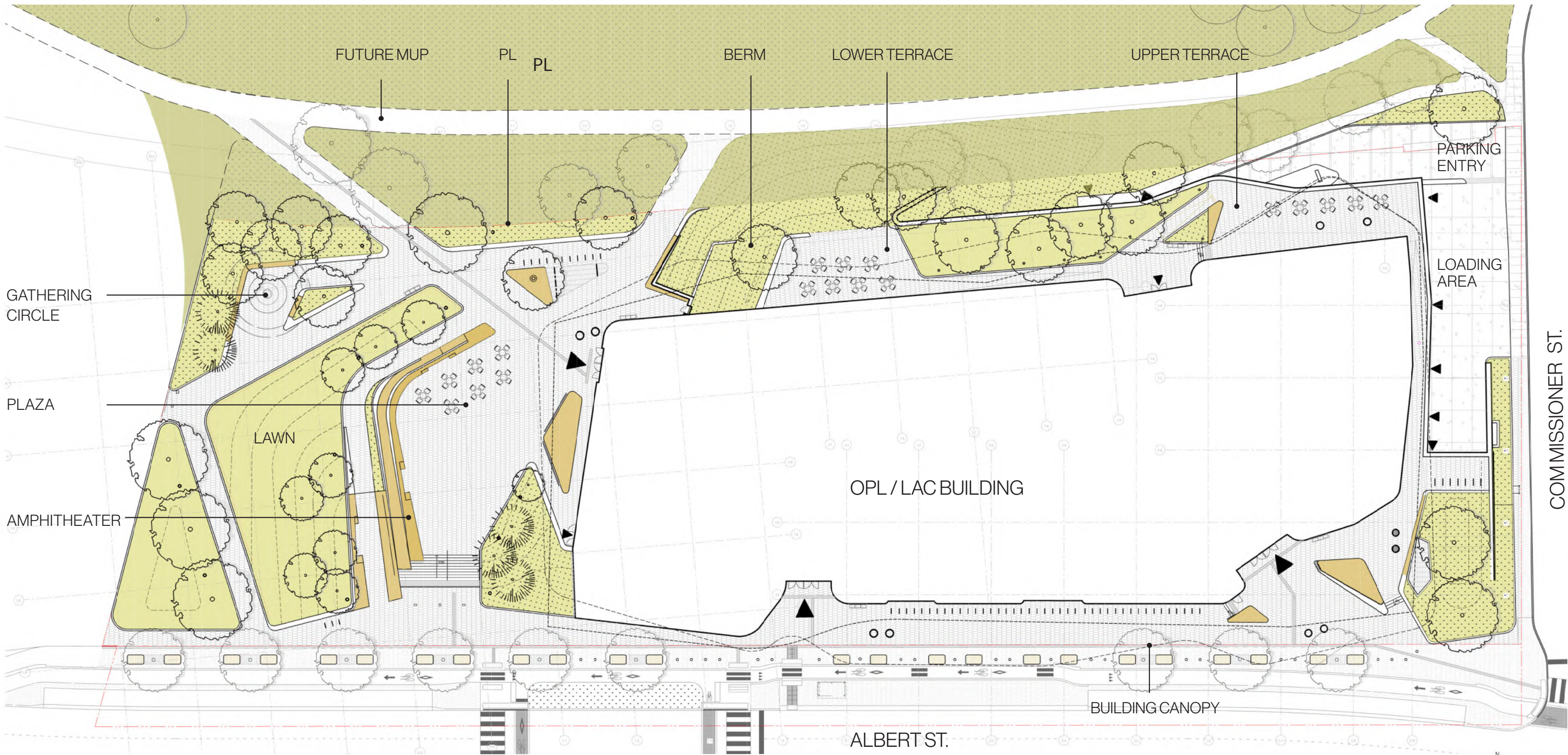
# Views

## **Albert Street view terminus:**

A series of refinements to the design have been introduced to mark the view terminus of Albert Street: the roofline eave on the east façade has been curved to create a broad vault that spans from the south to the north facade; the mechanical penthouse enclosure located above the eave line has also been curved/vaulted to reinforce the shape of the roof silhouette; exterior illumination of the upper storey glazing will reinforce the beacon character that presents to the east; two pairs of columns frame/mark the location of the entrance on this north/east corner of the building, and the street trees on Albert and Commissioners Road are interrupted at the corner to ensure a clear visibility of the entrance; the geometry of the underside of the canopy has been simplified to stress the horizontal line above the entrance; glazing has been added to the envelope of the retail area that overlooks the entrance zone; and a seating area with associated landscape planting has been shaped to create an open space at the building entrance.

# Site Plan and Floor Plans

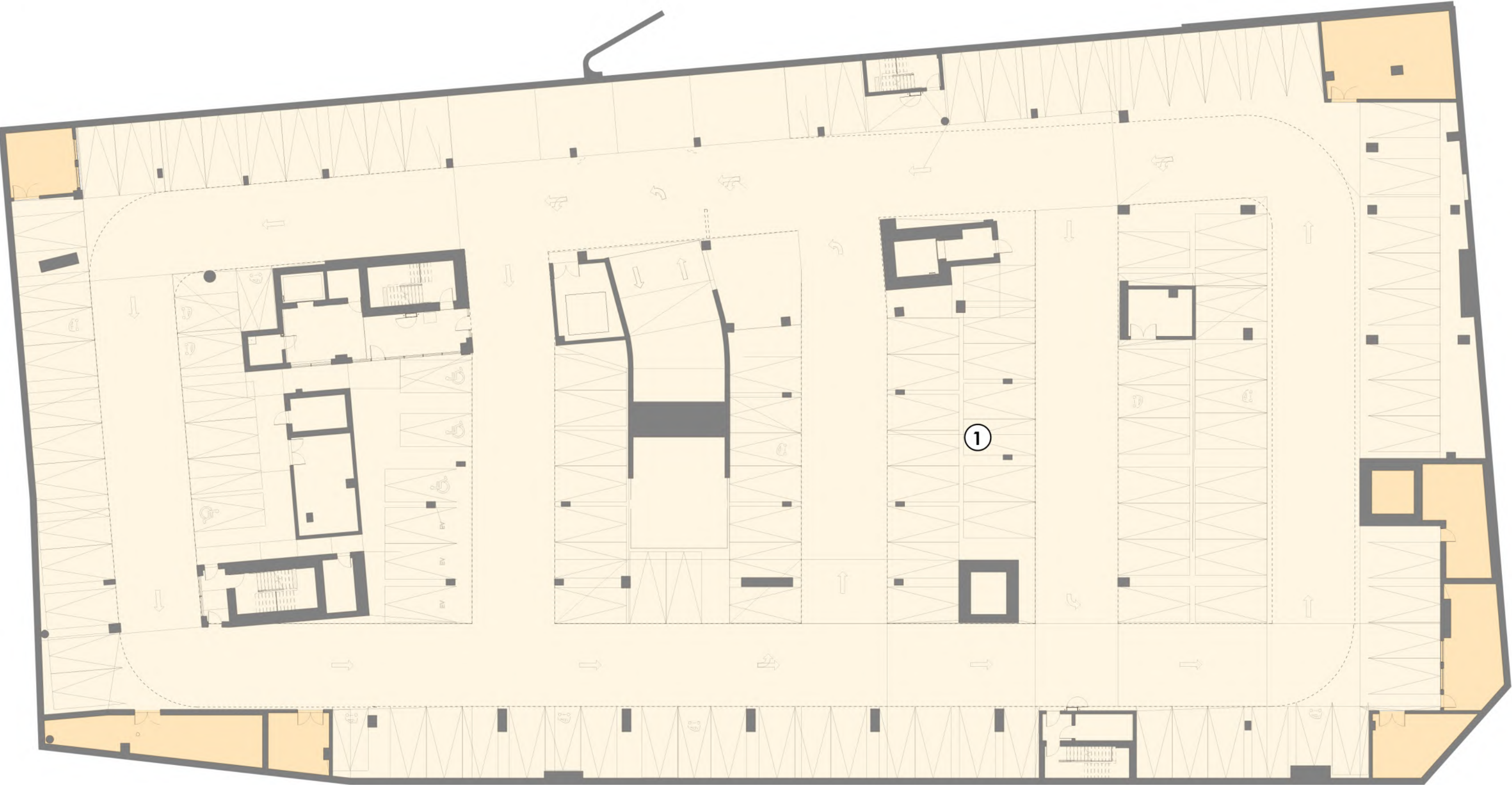






Shared Spaces

1 General Public Vehicle Area





Ottawa Public Library

1 Automated Material Sorting Room

Library and Archives Canada

2 Circulation Room

Shared Spaces

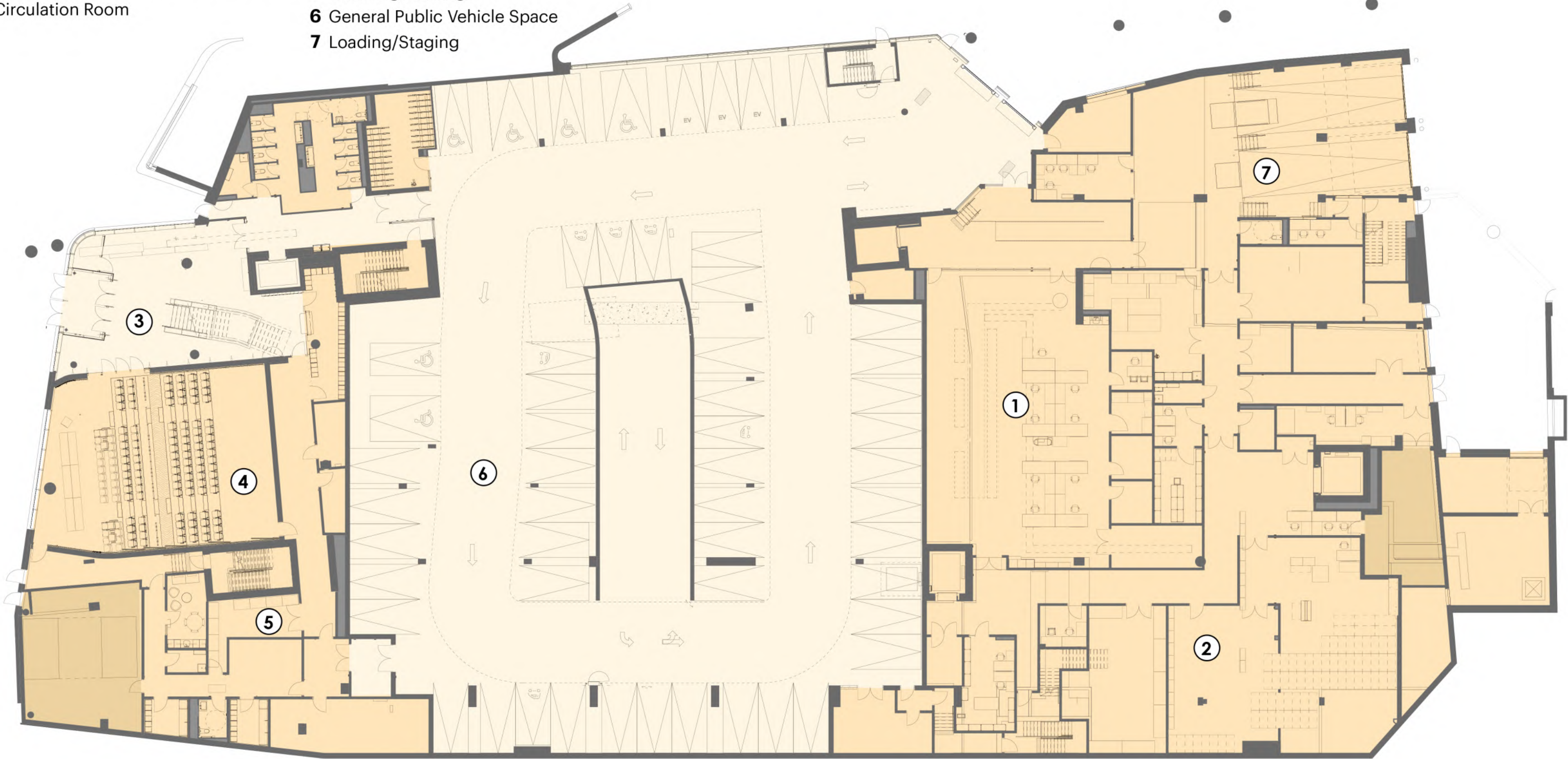
3 Pimisi Entrance

4 Multi-purpose Gathering Space

5 Backstage Storage

6 General Public Vehicle Space

7 Loading/Staging





Ottawa Public Library

1 Library Express

Library and Archives Canada

- 2 Entrance
- 3 Multi Purpose
- 4 Treasurer Gallery
- 5 Preservation Lab

Shared Spaces

- 6 Multi Purpose Gathering space
- 7 Blackbox
- 8 Meeting Room
- 9 Town Square
- 10 Coffee Shop
- 11 Exhibition Space
- 12 Staff Services
- 13 Friends Shop



Level 1 Floor Plan

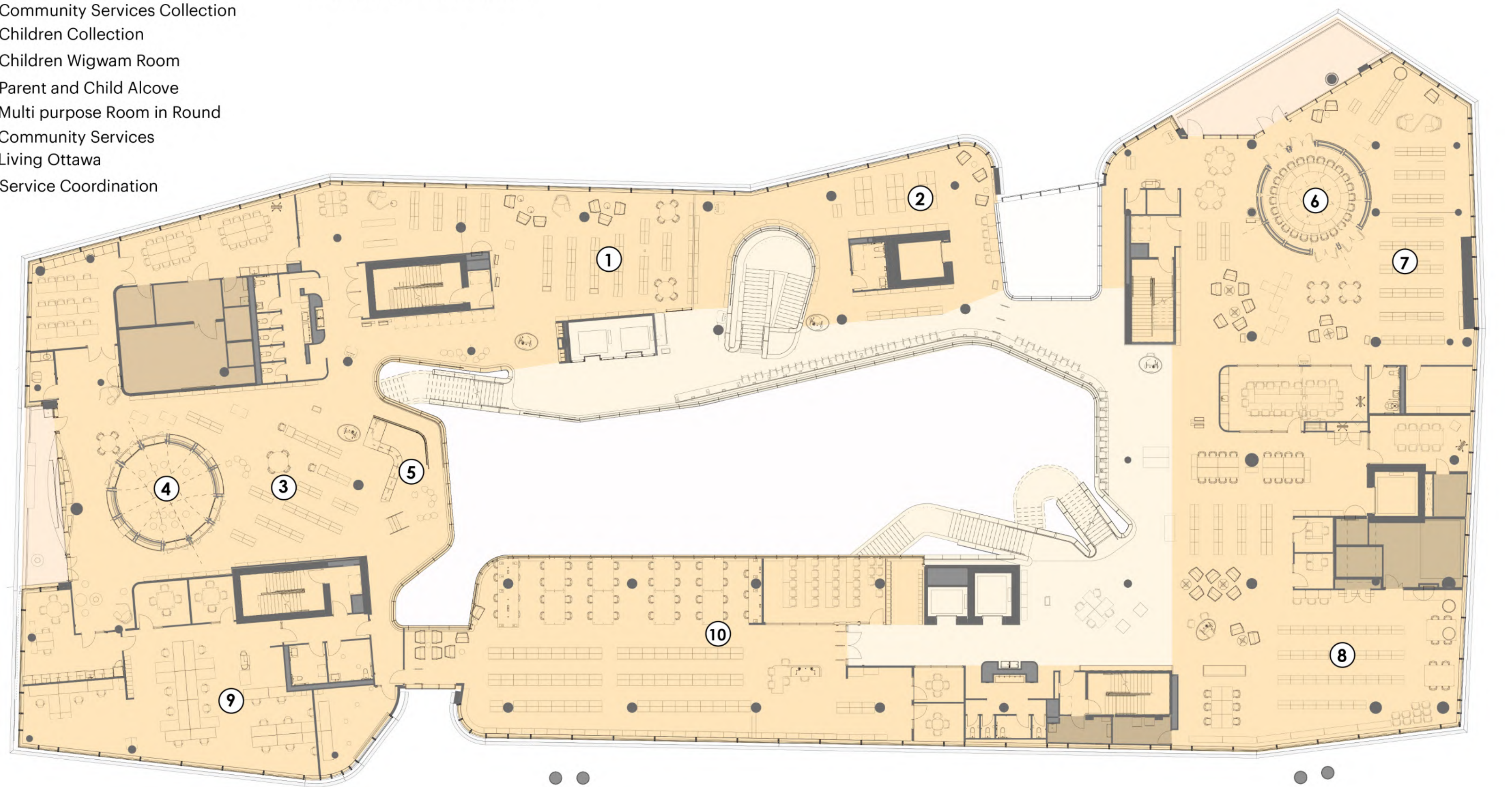


Ottawa Public Library

- 1 Children Area
- 2 Community Services Collection
- 3 Children Collection
- 4 Children Wigwam Room
- 5 Parent and Child Alcove
- 6 Multi purpose Room in Round
- 7 Community Services
- 8 Living Ottawa
- 9 Service Coordination

Library and Archives Canada

- 10 Genealogy Research Room



Level 2 Floor Plan



Ottawa Public Library

- 1 Teens Collection
- 2 Quiet Study
- 3 Clean Assembly Space
- 4 Design Studio
- 5 Library Admin

Library and Archives Canada

- 6 Special Media Reading Room
- 7 Special Media Secure Area
- 8 Lowy Collection
- 9 Restricted Documents reading Room
- 10 Workstations
- 11 Reference Services Open Area



Level 3 Floor Plan



- 1** Adult Non-Fiction Collection

**2** Arrival and Orientation

**3** Open Office Area
- 4** Textural Documents Reading Room

**5** Secure Circulation

**6** Client Material Locker

**7** Digitization Lab
- 8** Microforum Reading Room

**9** Entrance and Waiting Area

**10** Reference Services



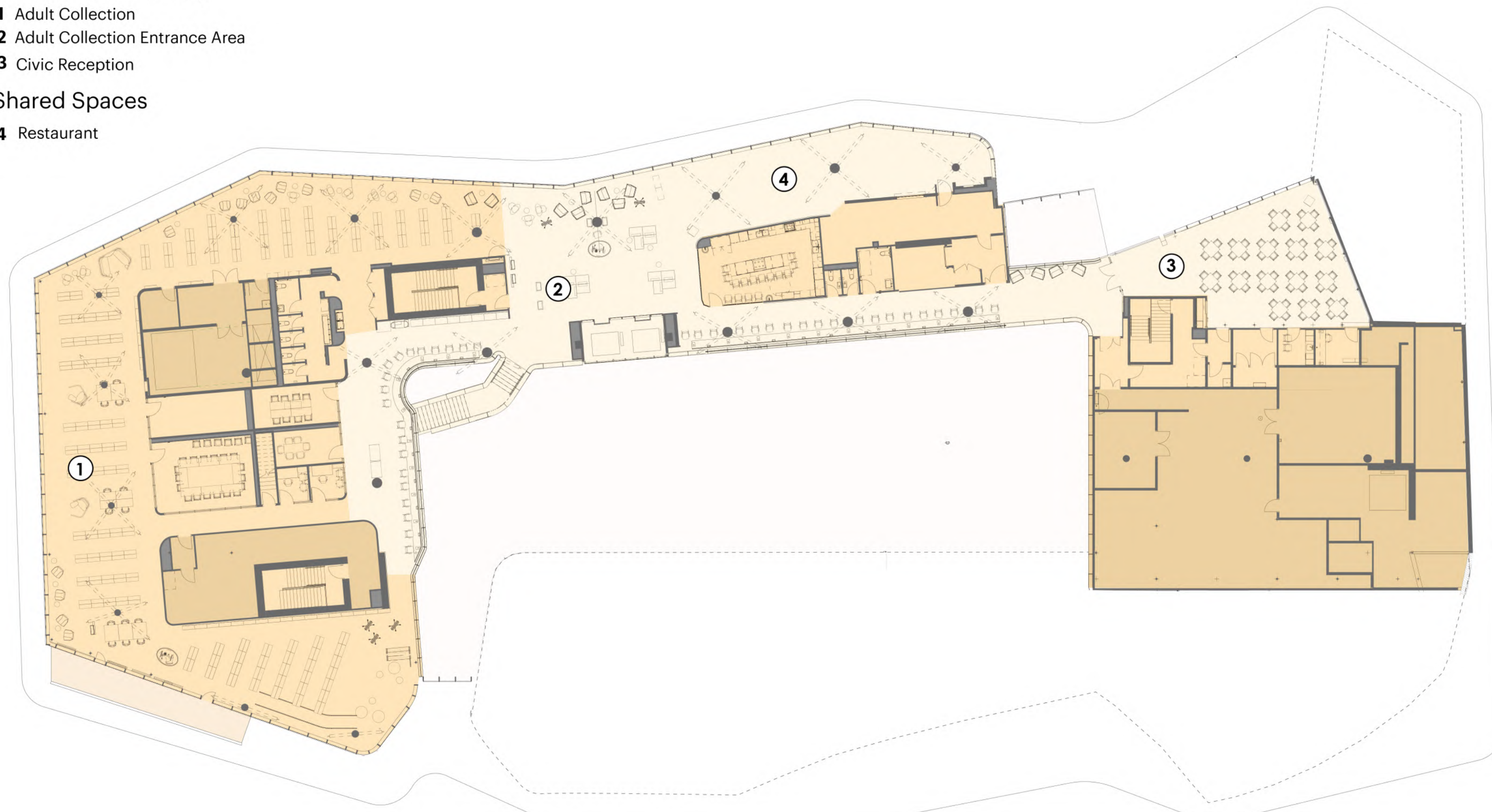


Ottawa Public Library

- 1 Adult Collection
- 2 Adult Collection Entrance Area
- 3 Civic Reception

Shared Spaces

- 4 Restaurant



Level 5 Floor Plan

# Renderings









South View from Albert Street





West View from Plaza





East View from Albert Street





South Aerial View with Future Development





West Aerial View with Future Development







East Entrance on Albert Street





West Entrance on Plaza





# LEED Scorecard

LEED v4 for BD+C: New Construction and Major Renovation  
Project Scorecard

Project Name: OPL-LAC JF | Ottawa Central Library  
Date: March 9, 2021

A minimum of 64 points are recommended for a LEED v4 BD+C Gold strategy (buffer of at least 4 points above the minimum point threshold).

Y	?	N
1		

Credit

Integrative Process

1

16	0	0	Location and Transportation		16
			Credit	LEED for Neighborhood Development Location	16
1			Credit	Sensitive Land Protection	1
2			Credit	High Priority Site	2
5			Credit	Surrounding Density and Diverse Uses	5
5			Credit	Access to Quality Transit	5
1			Credit	Bicycle Facilities ( <i>LEED v4.1 BD+C methodology</i> )	1
1			Credit	Reduced Parking Footprint ( <i>LEED v4.1 BD+C methodology</i> )	1
1			Credit	Green Vehicles ( <i>LEED v4.1 BD+C methodology</i> )	1

5	0	5	Sustainable Sites		10
Y			Prereq	Construction Activity Pollution Prevention ( <i>LEED v4.1 BD+C methodology</i> )	Required
1			Credit	Site Assessment	1
		2	Credit	Protect or Restore Habitat ( <i>LEED v4.1 BD+C methodology</i> )	2
1			Credit	Open Space	1
		3	Credit	Rainwater Management ( <i>LEED v4.1 BD+C methodology</i> )	3
2			Credit	Heat Island Reduction	2
1			Credit	Light Pollution Reduction	1

4	0	7	Water Efficiency (8 points required per RFP)		11
Y			Prereq	Outdoor Water Use Reduction	Required
Y			Prereq	Indoor Water Use Reduction	Required
Y			Prereq	Building-Level Water Metering	Required
1		1	Credit	Outdoor Water Use Reduction	2
2		4	Credit	Indoor Water Use Reduction	6
		2	Credit	Cooling Tower Water Use	2
1			Credit	Water Metering	1

12	6	15	Energy and Atmosphere (18 points required per RFP)		33
Y			Prereq	Fundamental Commissioning and Verification	Required
Y			Prereq	Minimum Energy Performance	Required
Y			Prereq	Building-Level Energy Metering	Required
Y			Prereq	Fundamental Refrigerant Management	Required
3		3	Credit	Enhanced Commissioning	6
8	4	6	Credit	Optimize Energy Performance	18
1			Credit	Advanced Energy Metering	1
		2	Credit	Demand Response	2
	1	2	Credit	Renewable Energy Production	3
	1		Credit	Enhanced Refrigerant Management	1
		2	Credit	Green Power and Carbon Offsets	2



Highlighted cells indicate revisions to the project's LEED strategy since the last scorecard was issued (dated Jan 18, 2021).

6	1	6	Materials and Resources		13
Y			Prereq	Storage and Collection of Recyclables	Required
Y			Prereq	Construction and Demolition Waste Management Planning ( <i>LEED v4.1 BD+C methodology</i> )	Required
1	1	3	Credit	Building Life-Cycle Impact Reduction ( <i>LEED v4.1 BD+C methodology</i> )	5
1		1	Credit	Building Product Disclosure and Optimization - Environmental Product Declarations ( <i>LEED v4.1 BD+C methodology</i> )	2
1		1	Credit	Building Product Disclosure and Optimization - Sourcing of Raw Materials ( <i>LEED v4.1 BD+C methodology</i> )	2
1		1	Credit	Building Product Disclosure and Optimization - Material Ingredients ( <i>LEED v4.1 BD+C methodology</i> )	2
2			Credit	Construction and Demolition Waste Management ( <i>LEED v4.1 BD+C methodology</i> )	2

9	2	5	Indoor Environmental Quality		16
Y			Prereq	Minimum Indoor Air Quality Performance	Required
Y			Prereq	Environmental Tobacco Smoke Control	Required
2			Credit	Enhanced Indoor Air Quality Strategies	2
3			Credit	Low-Emitting Materials ( <i>LEED v4.1 BD+C methodology</i> )	3
1			Credit	Construction Indoor Air Quality Management Plan	1
2			Credit	Indoor Air Quality Assessment ( <i>LEED v4.1 BD+C methodology</i> )	2
		1	Credit	Thermal Comfort	1
1		1	Credit	Interior Lighting ( <i>LEED v4.1 BD+C methodology</i> )	2
	1	2	Credit	Daylight ( <i>LEED v4.1 BD+C methodology</i> )	3
	1		Credit	Quality Views	1
		1	Credit	Acoustic Performance	1

6	0	0	Innovation		6
1			Credit	Innovation in Design: EP - Access to Quality Transit	1
1			Credit	Innovation in Design: EP - Construction and Demolition Waste Management	1
1			Credit	Innovation in Design: Pilot - Designing with Nature, Biophilic Design for the Indoor Environment	1
1			Credit	Innovation in Design: Pilot - Performance-Based IAQ Design and Assessment	1
1			Credit	Innovation in Design: IN - Green Building Education	1
1			Credit	LEED Accredited Professional	1

3	0	1	Regional Priority		4
1			Credit	Regional Priority: Access to Quality Transit	1
		1	Credit	Regional Priority: Building Life-Cycle Impact Reduction	1
1			Credit	Regional Priority: Heat Island Reduction	1
1			Credit	Regional Priority: Reduced Parking Footprint	1

62	9	39	TOTALS	Possible Points:	110
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Certified: 40 to 49 points, Silver: 50 to 59 points, Gold: 60 to 79 points, Platinum: 80 to 110

# Net Zero Carbon Initiatives





Rooftop PV Panels

Roof R Value

Improved Glazing Performance - Triple Glazing

Reduced Infiltration

Landscape Planting Terrace

Building Integrated PV

PV Integrated Glazing

Exterior Fins Extended for Solar Shade Control

Walls and Soffits R Value

Wood Soffit in lieu of Metal Panel Soffit

Extended Foundation Insulation

Parking Garage Enclosure - P1

Green Fleet Charging

Landscape Elements - Site





Glulam Roof Structure in lieu of steel framing

Daylighting - Increased Daylight at Atrium

Enhanced Energy Efficient Lighting

Advanced Commissioning

Air Scrubbing

Green Wall

Improved Indoor Air Quality Monitoring

Improved Filtration

LAC Temperature and Humidity Set Points

Enhanced Metering

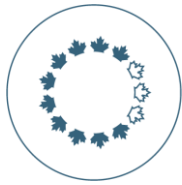
Concrete Specifications - Library Loading Rationalization

Concrete Specifications - Portland-Limestone Cement

Concrete Specifications - Blast furnace slag

Town Square In Floor Heating





**NCC  
CCN**

**Joint Design Review Panel**  
OTTAWA PUBLIC LIBRARY—  
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA  
JOINT FACILITY

**Comité mixte de révision de la conception**

INSTALLATION COMMUNE  
BIBLIOTHÈQUE PUBLIQUE  
D'OTTAWA—BIBLIOTHÈQUE ET  
ARCHIVES CANADA



Excerpt of the Minutes

Extrait du procès-verbal

Meeting of August 5, 2020

Séance du 5 août 2020

Consultants to the project, Gary McCluskie, Matthew Tsui, and Jennifer Nagai, presented the developed design for the Ottawa Public Library and Library and Archives Canada joint facility.

Members appreciated that the proponent considered their comments and responded to them.

**Context**

- It is important to see the building's massing in accordance with the planned vision to understand how this project is integrated into the neighbourhood, especially in regards with elevations and views from Albert Street.

**Landscape and Site Layout**

- The planting ideas and seasonality are well thought-out.

**Gathering Circle**

- Other strategies should be explored to strengthen the gathering circle as a public space, as it feels pushed off to the side.
- The conifers should not be planted on the southwestern side, as the circle will be completely shadowed in winter. Further thought should be given to the use of the space during the winter and the impact of shadows during the summer.

Les experts-conseils du projet, Gary McCluskie, Matthew Tsui, et Jennifer Nagai, présentent la conception détaillée de l'installation commune de la Bibliothèque publique d'Ottawa et de Bibliothèque et Archives Canada.

Les membres apprécient le fait que le requérant aient pris leurs commentaires en compte et y aient réagi.

**Contexte**

- Il est important de voir la volumétrie du bâtiment en fonction de la vision prévue afin de comprendre en quoi ce projet s'intègre dans le quartier, en particulier vis-à-vis des façades

**Aménagement paysager et configuration du site**

- Les idées de plantations et la saisonnalité sont bien pensées.

**Cercle de rassemblement**

- On devrait étudier d'autres stratégies pour renforcer le cercle de rassemblement en tant qu'espace public, parce qu'il semble relégué sur le côté.
- Les conifères ne devraient pas être plantés du côté sud-ouest, car le cercle va être complètement ombragé en hiver. On devrait réfléchir davantage à l'utilisation de l'espace pendant l'hiver et aux effets de l'ombre durant l'été.



## **Users' Experience**

- The sculpted seating should be extended to the Albert Street frontage, as it seems too static in its current location.
- Handrails should not be added after the fact to the stairs along Albert Street but rather being part of the design from the onset if they are required.
- It is crucial to negotiate with the City of Ottawa to ensure the sidewalk's paving is homogenous (material, texture and colour) between the building's façade and the road.

## **Accessibility**

- The studies and design modifications striving for accessibility, especially with the grading on the site, are appreciated.
- It is essential to consider how the texture change of the pavement materials will affect people with visual impairment and in wheelchairs.

## **Connectivity**

- To be more attractive as a valley space, the pathway should come down from Commissioner Street rather than going up slope to Albert Street.
- A connection to the Pimisi Station entering from the Fleet Street pumping station and the white water course is encouraged.

## **Architectural Expression**

### **Exterior**

- The real power of this building's architecture lies in the expression of strong, horizontal, and uninterrupted datum lines. The horizontal striations that end abruptly should be kept continuous (slide 17). The tabs of stone coming down from thick horizontals should be more successfully rendered (slide 38)

## **Expérience des usagers**

- On devrait prolonger la zone assise sculptée jusqu'à la façade de la rue Albert, car cela semble trop statique dans son emplacement actuel.
- On ne devrait pas ajouter les mains courantes aux escaliers le long de la rue Albert après coup mais plutôt les intégrer à la conception dès le début si on en a besoin.
- Il est crucial de négocier avec la Ville d'Ottawa pour s'assurer que le revêtement du trottoir soit homogène (matériaux, textures et couleurs) entre la façade du bâtiment et la chaussée

## **Accessibilité**

- Les études et les modifications de la conception pour améliorer l'accessibilité, en particulier avec le nivellement du site sont appréciées.
- Il est essentiel de tenir compte de la façon dont le changement de texture va affecter les personnes ayant des limitations de vision et qui se servent de chaises roulantes.

## **Connectivité**

- Pour que le sentier soit plus attrayant en tant qu'espace de vallée, il devrait descendre de la rue des Commissionnaires plutôt que de monter la pente vers la rue Albert.
- On encourage la création d'un lien à la station Pimisi venant de la station de pompage de la rue Fleet et du parcours en eau vive.

## **Expression architecturale**

### **Extérieur**

- La vraie puissance de l'architecture de ce bâtiment est liée à l'expression de lignes de référence solides, horizontales, et ininterrompues. On devrait rendre continues les stries horizontales qui s'interrompent brusquement (diapo 17). On devrait mieux représenter les

- The night view of the east elevation and its lantern expression should be studied further and additional rendering prepared.
- The simplification of the roof line and the addition of transparency are commendable. The edging on upper roof should match the wood so it reads as a plane and not an outline.
- The addition of windows make the building more porous at grade, which is appreciated.
- Mullion spacing in the glazing and the upper lantern portion should be done with more intentionality and rigor with respect to the relationship with the stone.
- Drainage should be incorporated in the design.

### **Interior**

- The wider corridors more equally weight the four main entrance points that come into the atrium and bolster this as the gathering space.

### **Entrances**

- From a distance, the columns that interrupt the horizontality of the building signal a public entrance. Light from above or other vertical features could strengthen this concept and indicate something special is happening at that location.

### **Material Palette**

- Simplification should continue with fewer materials and textures and the creation of a single vocabulary.
- The attitude towards the amphitheatre and plaza to the west are appreciated.
- The fact that the concrete is being expressed as structure, and the wood as

languettes de pierre qui descendent de lignes horizontales épaisses (diapo 38).

- La vue de nuit de la façade est et son expression de puits de lumière devrait être étudiée plus à fond et illustrée davantage.
- La simplification de la ligne du toit et l'ajout de transparence sont louables. La bordure du toit supérieur devrait s'harmoniser avec le bois pour qu'elle soit perçue comme une surface et non un contour.
- L'ajout de fenêtres rend le rez-de-chaussée du bâtiment plus poreux, ce qui est appréciable.
- On devrait exécuter l'espacement des meneaux de la partie fenestrée et la partie supérieure du puits de lumière de façon plus délibérée et rigoureuse en ce qui a trait à la relation avec la pierre.
- On devrait incorporer le drainage à la conception.

### **Intérieur**

- Les couloirs plus larges équilibrent mieux les quatre entrées principales qui mènent à l'atrium et le dynamisent en tant qu'espace de rassemblement.

### **Entrées**

- De loin, les colonnes qui interrompent l'horizontalité du bâtiment signalent une entrée publique. Un éclairage à partir du haut ou d'autres éléments verticaux viendraient renforcer ce concept et indiquer que quelque chose de spécial se passe à cet endroit.

### **Matériaux**

- On devrait continuer la simplification en ayant moins de matériaux et de textures différents et avec la création d'un seul vocabulaire.
- L'attitude vis-à-vis de l'amphithéâtre et de la place à l'ouest est appréciée.
- Le fait que le béton soit exprimé en tant que structure, et le bois en tant que

liner is commendable. The wood kept in spaces where people can interact with it at close range and used as soffits and to express complex curves is successful.

- A different material should be considered for the bollards on Albert Street, or they should be thinner, as they may appear the same as the building's concrete columns, which will detract from the architecture.

### Views

- Views from the immediate context have been considered. However, the building will be prominent from Gatineau and in the direct axis of Portage Bridge. More views from the broader context should be explored: skylights could be lowered, and their colour toned down to not take away from the roof's sinuous forms.
- The view from Albert Street looking towards the west is extremely important and should be further explored and serve as a beacon during the day and at night. More glass, refined roof silhouette could be part of the solution.
- Members felt strongly that this view terminus needed additional work, that would include the integration of vertical elements to mark the view terminus as well as revisions to the roof shape and silhouette to specifically respond to this view terminus.

revêtement est louable. Le bois, avec lequel le public peut interagir de près dans certains espaces, et utilisé comme sous-faces et pour exprimer des courbes complexes, est une réussite.

- On devrait envisager d'utiliser un matériau différent pour les bornes de sécurité de la rue Albert, ou elles devraient être plus fines, car elles pourraient ressembler aux colonnes de béton du bâtiment, ce qui risque de détourner l'attention de l'architecture.

### Vues

- Les vues de l'environnement immédiat ont été prises en compte. Cependant, le bâtiment sera visible de Gatineau et sera dans l'axe direct du pont du Portage. On devrait étudier davantage de vues de l'environnement plus éloigné : les puits de lumière pourraient être abaissés, et leur couleur atténuée afin de ne pas atténuer les formes sinueuses du toit.
- La vue à partir de la rue Albert vers l'ouest est extrêmement importante et devrait être exploitée davantage, et servir de balise pendant la journée et la nuit. Plus de verre et un raffinement de la silhouette du toit pourraient faire partie de la solution.
- Les membres sont fermement convaincus que la vue en fin de scène nécessite davantage de travail, qui comprendrait l'intégration d'éléments verticaux pour marquer la fin de la vue ainsi que des modifications à la forme du toit et à la silhouette pour s'harmoniser en particulier avec cette vue.

Committee Secretary

Secrétaire des comités

*Caroline Bied*

CAROLINE BIED