

2015 Exhibition of School Planning and Architecture

CENTENNIAL COLLEGE ASHTONBEE CAMPUS RENEWAL STUDENT HUB & LIBRARY

Toronto, Ontario, Canada





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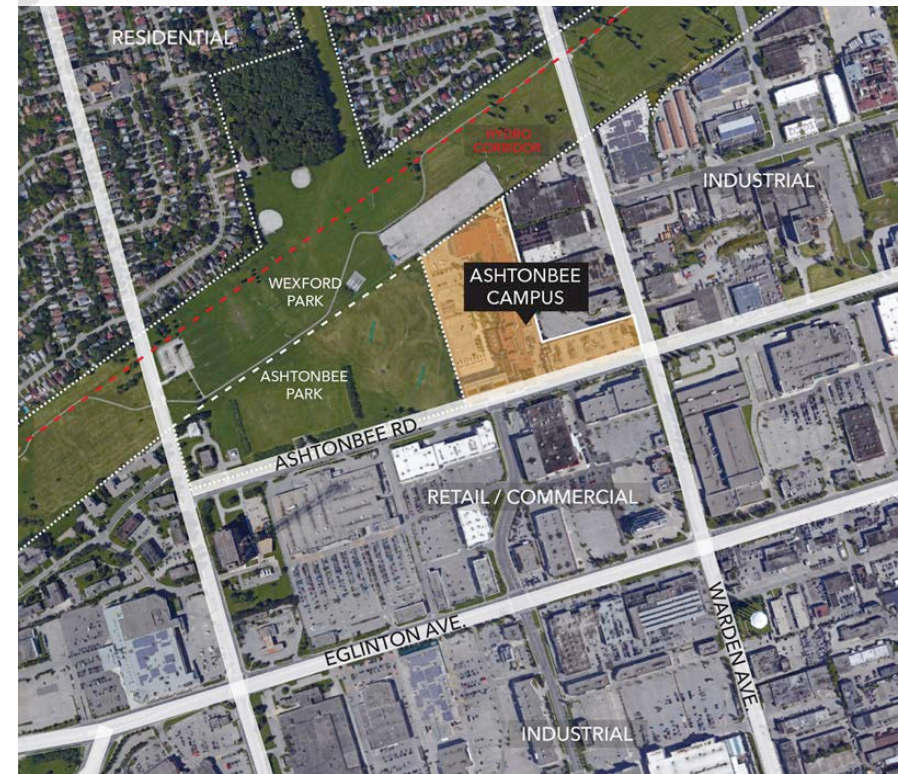
Background

Centennial College is the oldest, publicly funded college in Ontario with four campuses serving the Greater Toronto Area. As one of the most culturally diverse colleges, Centennial offers 120 applied degree, diploma, and certificate programs with 16,000 full-time and 22,000 part-time students.

Centennial has recently undertaken bold strides to accommodate their growing population. Following the direction set in the master plan, an extensive renewal project has been developed at the aging Ashtonbee Campus.

The project mandate required, in the simplest terms, an enhanced identity for this site which has been the last of the 4 major campuses to receive capital improvements. While generating successful business partnerships and a thriving program, the campus suffered from safety concerns, accessibility issues, aging infrastructure and buildings, lack of student support services and social gathering spaces, and offered little insight into the innovative learning environments within.

The project required a crystal clear vision for the automotive training-focused campus, providing new and expanded academic spaces in both formal and informal settings, as well as communicating this newly acquired transparent and open identity to the outside world.

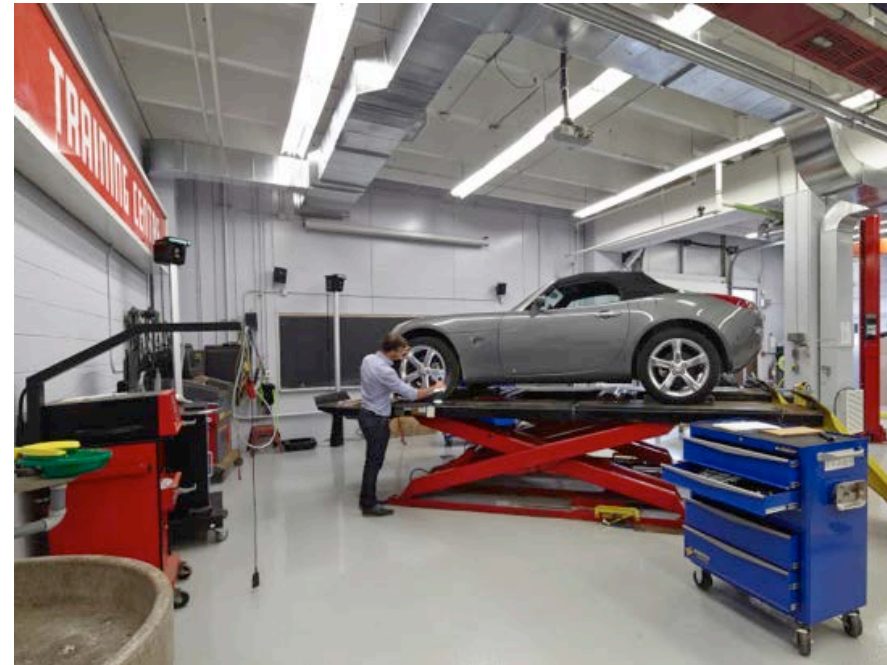


Ashtonbee Transportation Technology Background

Ashtonbee Campus is home to the largest training school for transportation technology in Canada. An automotive service facility was purchased in 1967 from Volkswagen Canada, and a second building – the new 'Ashtonbee Campus Building' was built in 1973. This consolidated enough space to train technicians in every form of land, sea, and air transportation. Today Centennial boasts industry partnerships with most major manufacturers. Due to the high demand of these programs, the addition of non-transportation programming, and the need for larger and upgrade facilities, the Ashtonbee Campus Renewal Project was essential to the progress of the campus.

Campus Renewal Project

Conceived as a Campus Renewal Project, the new development brings new identity and vitality to the original 1970's site. The site is ideally located near a major intersection in the Golden Mile neighbourhood, which will eventually be served by the new Eglinton Crosstown LRT. Improving connectivity to this Student Hub played a major role in the design direction. In addition, the project required the development of a signaled intersection to align with the neighbouring retail complex to the south of the campus, connecting the site back to Eglinton. This intersection became a key planning opportunity in developing a new gateway entrance for the campus.



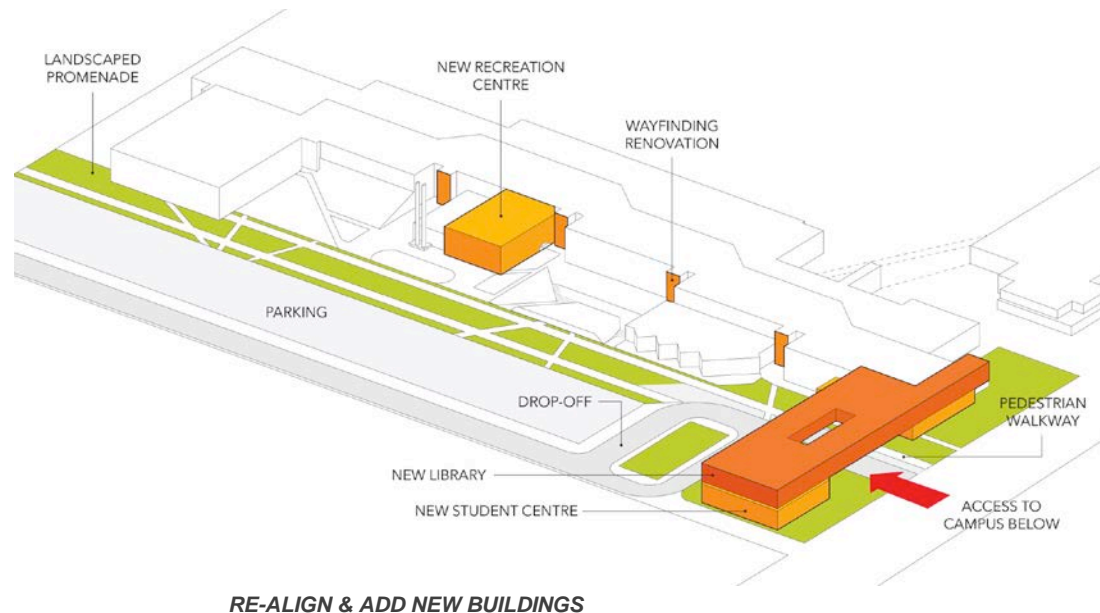
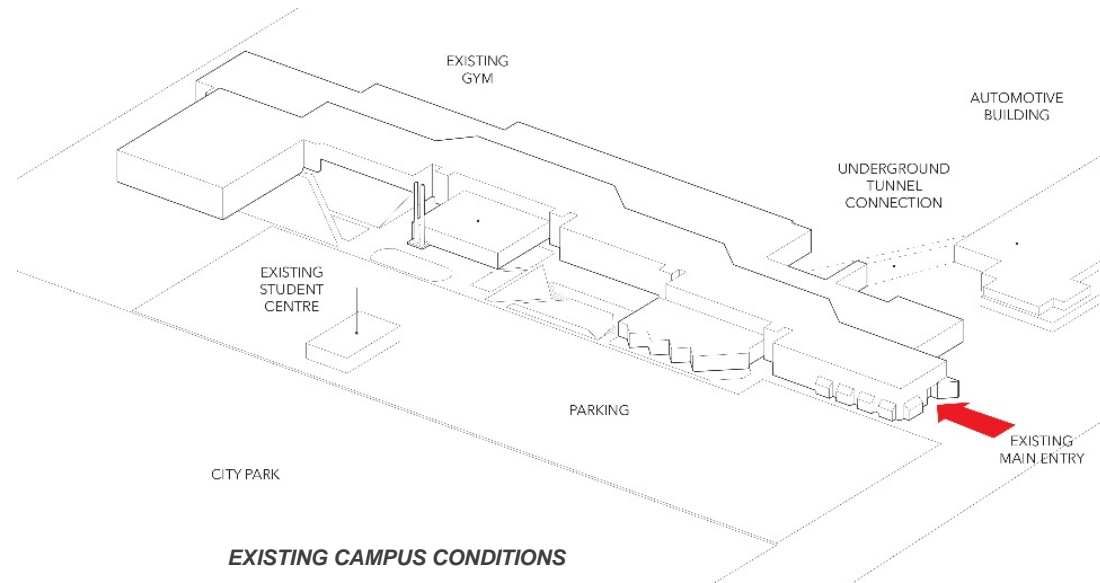
SITE STRATEGIES

Campus Goals

1. Create campus gateway
2. Create outward identity
3. Strengthen College's brand
4. Support services to bring students together
5. Internalized environments with light filled spaces

Campus Planning

The project set out to achieve the goals of the 2011 Campus Master Plan. By choosing to locate the new building at the front of the site and spanning the access roadway with a continuous second level circulation, the project expands the master planning by establishing a strategy to solve future goals and constraints. This move allows for the important functional connection of all current and future buildings on the site while creating a new expressive and open 'face' for the campus.



SITE PLAN

- 1 New Library & Student Hub
- 2 New Recreation & Wellness Centre
- 3 Existing Ashtonbee Building
- 4 Existing Parking
- 5 Existing Automotive Building



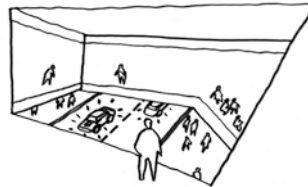
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT

Integrated Planning – The ‘Bridge’

The design for the new building and campus acts as a ‘Bridge’ in both figurative and literal ways. The ‘Bridge’ is employed as a framework to solve pragmatic issues and to articulate the College’s philosophy. The College Strategic Plan identifies its principles in the ‘Book of Commitments’. These principles were used to guide the design and the enhancement of student life. These Bridging concepts formed the framework of the project planning:



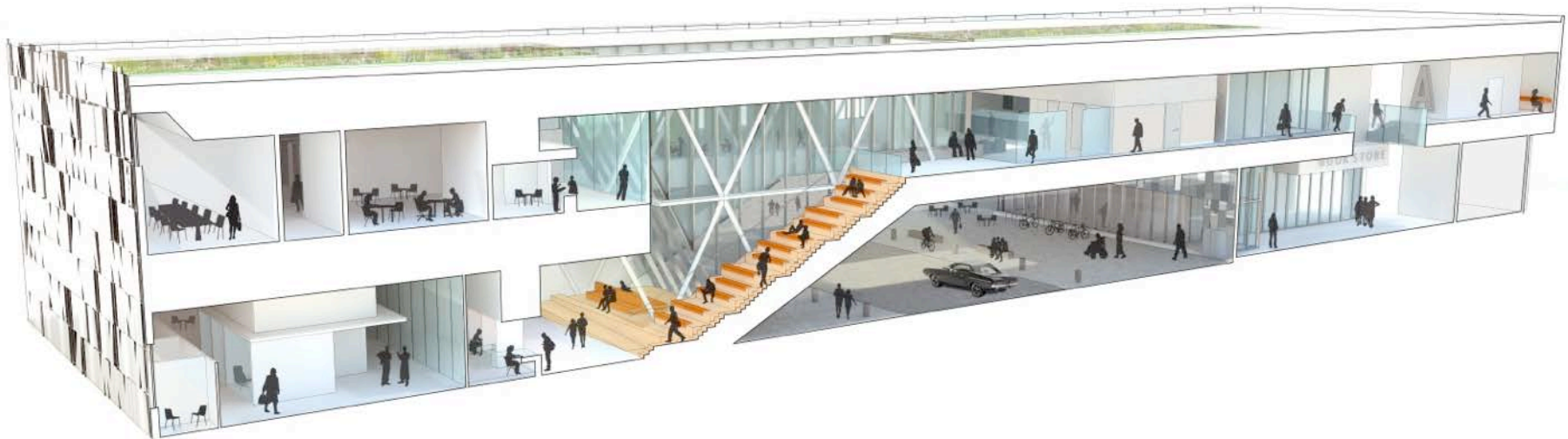
GATEWAY ARRIVAL



VISUAL CONNECTION



CAMPUS PROMENADE



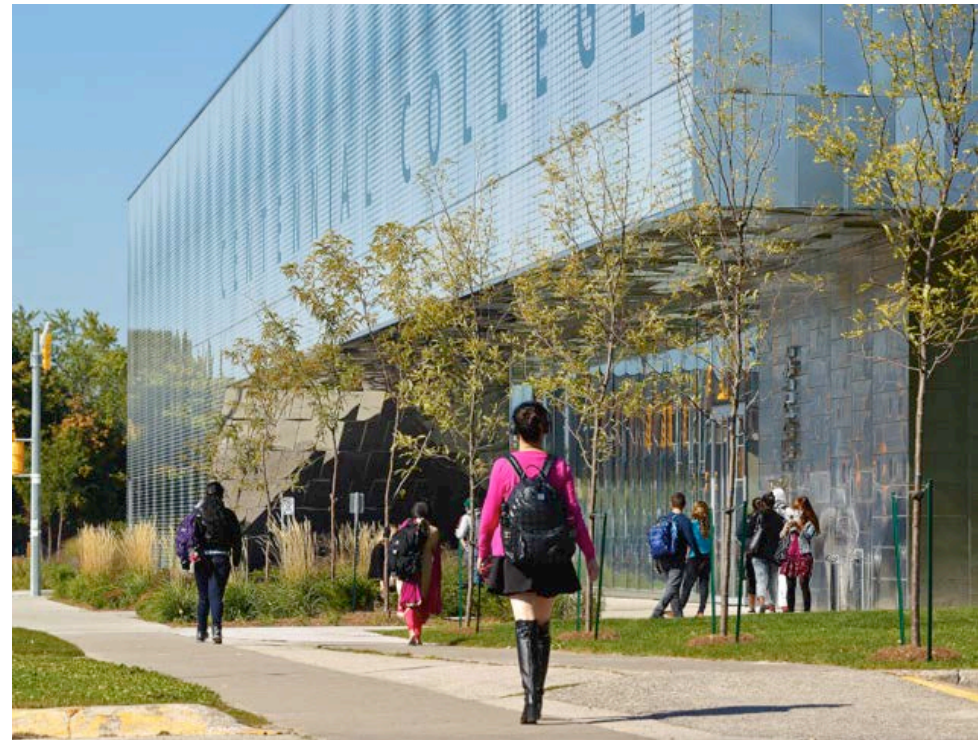
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT

BRIDGE TO EXISTING BUILDINGS

- Connecting the new Library & Student Commons to existing campus building and allows for future connections
- Create a signature entry 'archway' to campus and Automotive building
- Design for full accessibility

BRIDGE TO COMMUNITY

- Landmark identity (dynamic façade)
- Transparent civic spaces to street
- Strengthen brand
- Tell 'a great story' of the College



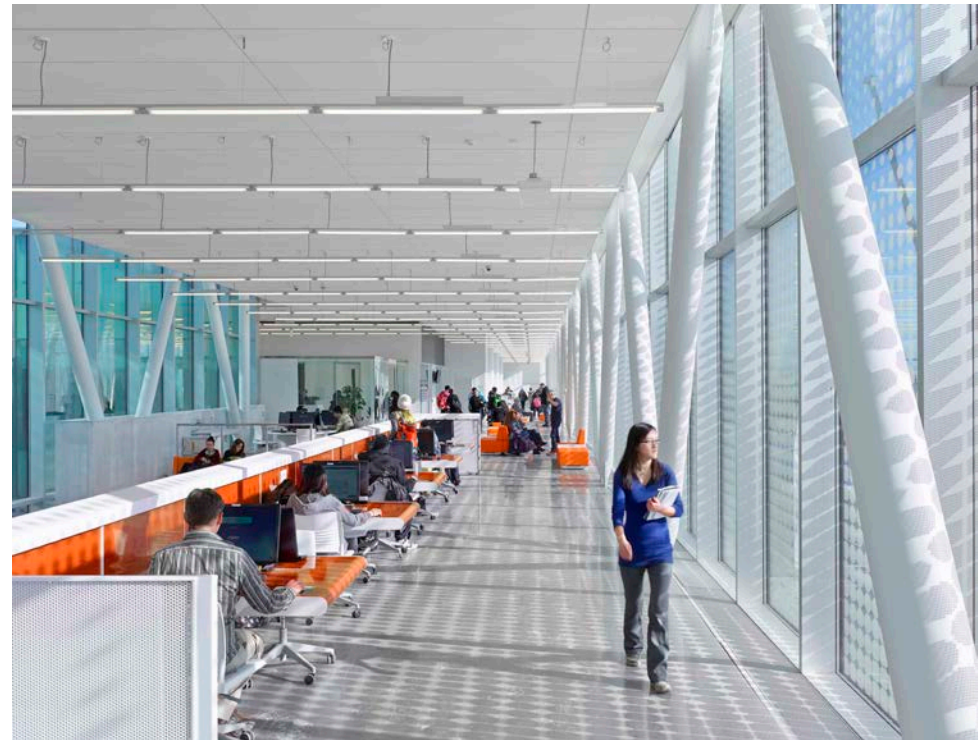
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT

BRIDGE TO BETWEEN CULTURES

- Create unprogrammed creative learning and social gathering spaces
- Design to reflect diversity in all forms
- Connect all students with campus, alumni, and faculty
- Central support services to bring students together

BRIDGE TO NEW MODELS OF PEDAGOGY

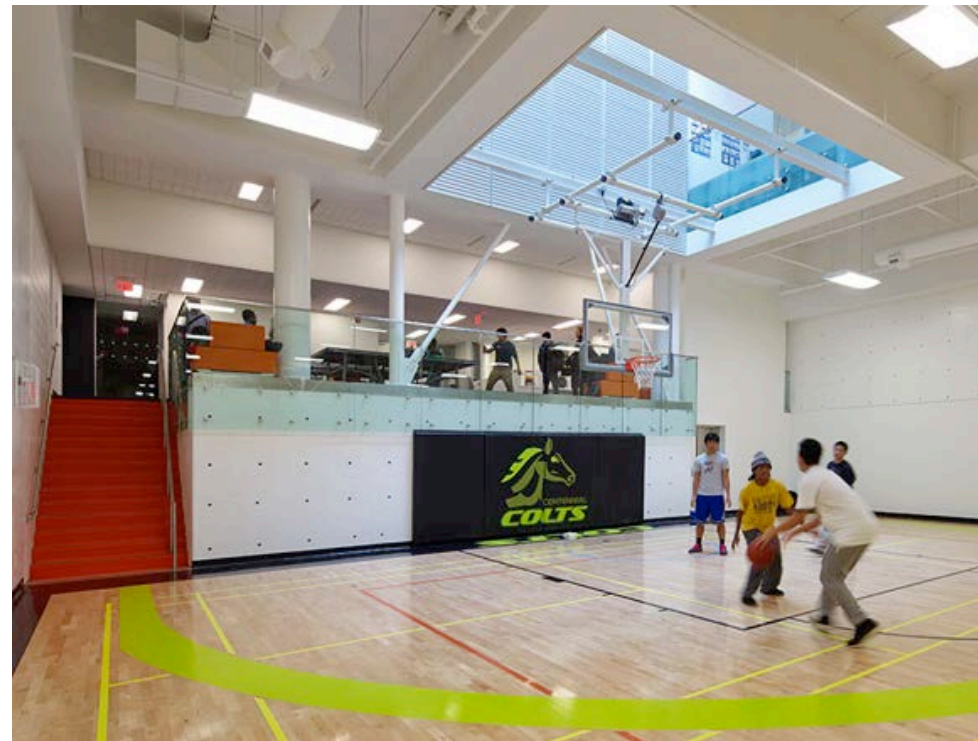
- Built environment to support group learning and tactile learning
- Open learning spaces conducive to group learning
- Informal seating and meeting spaces
- Integrates state-of-the-art technology
- Encourages independent learning



COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT

BRIDGE TO HEALTH AND WELLNESS

- Create unprogrammed creative learning and social gathering spaces
- Design to reflect diversity in all forms
- Connect all students with campus, alumni, and faculty
- Central support services to bring students together



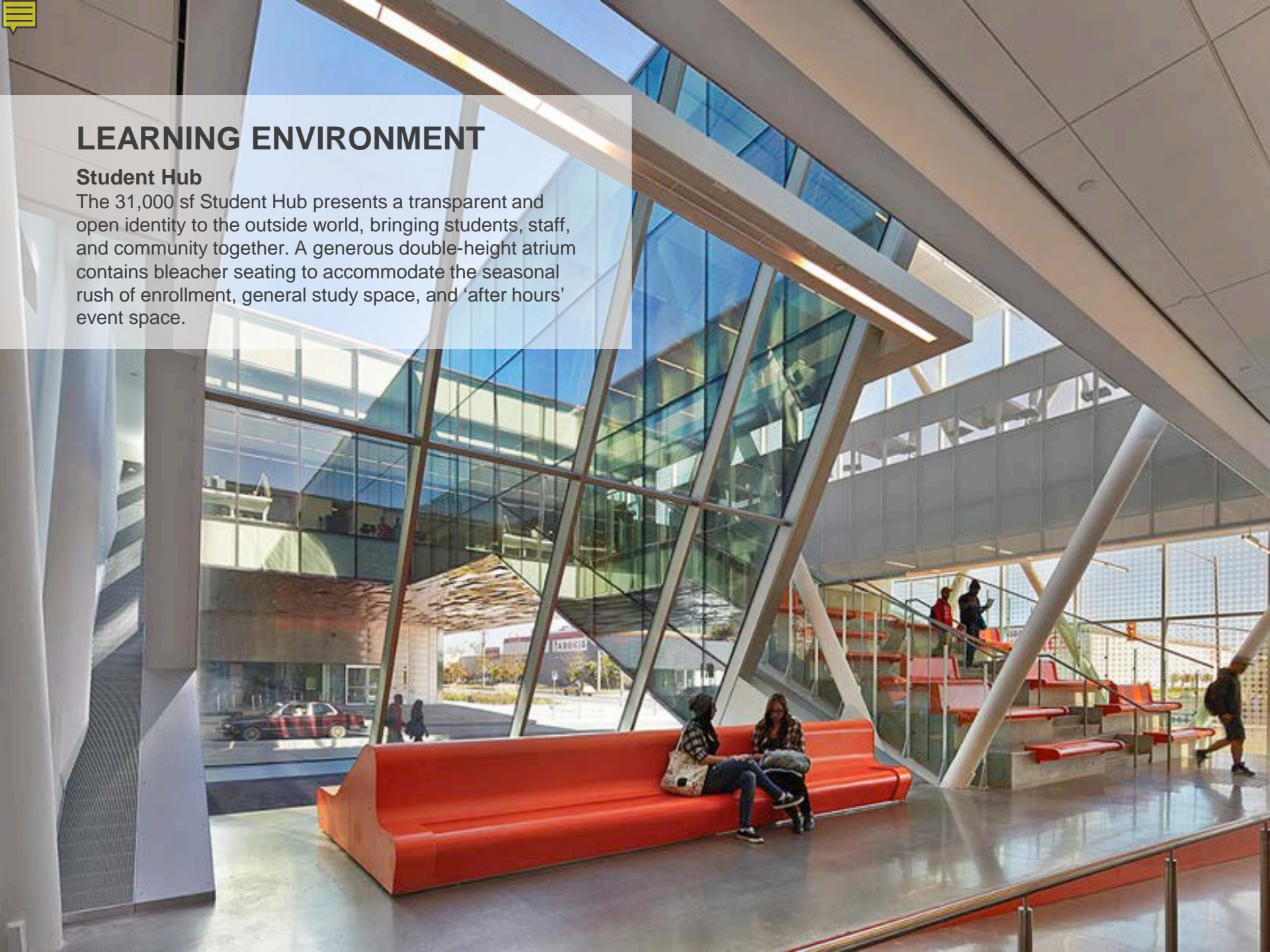
The renewal project also involves a new aerobic, strength and fitness training centre along with the refurbishment of the existing gymnasium and changes rooms will create the new holistic Wellness Centre, addressing the health and wellbeing of the campus population.



LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Student Hub

The 31,000 sf Student Hub presents a transparent and open identity to the outside world, bringing students, staff, and community together. A generous double-height atrium contains bleacher seating to accommodate the seasonal rush of enrollment, general study space, and 'after hours' event space.

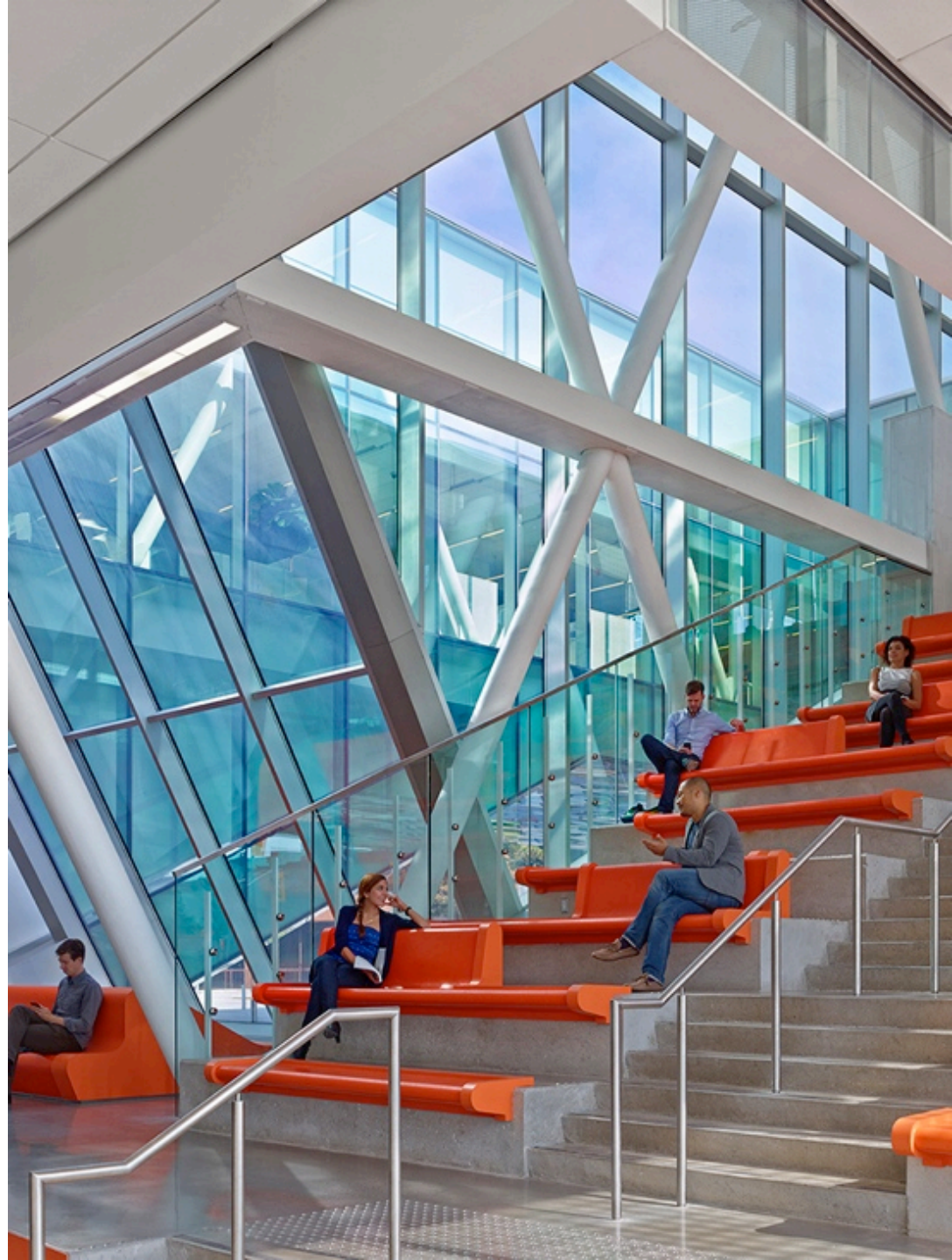


LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

An open and welcoming campus

Strategically positioned as the new main entrance to Centennial College's new Ashtonbee Campus Renewal Project, the new Library and Student Services building welcomes everyone into Centennial's learning-centred community.

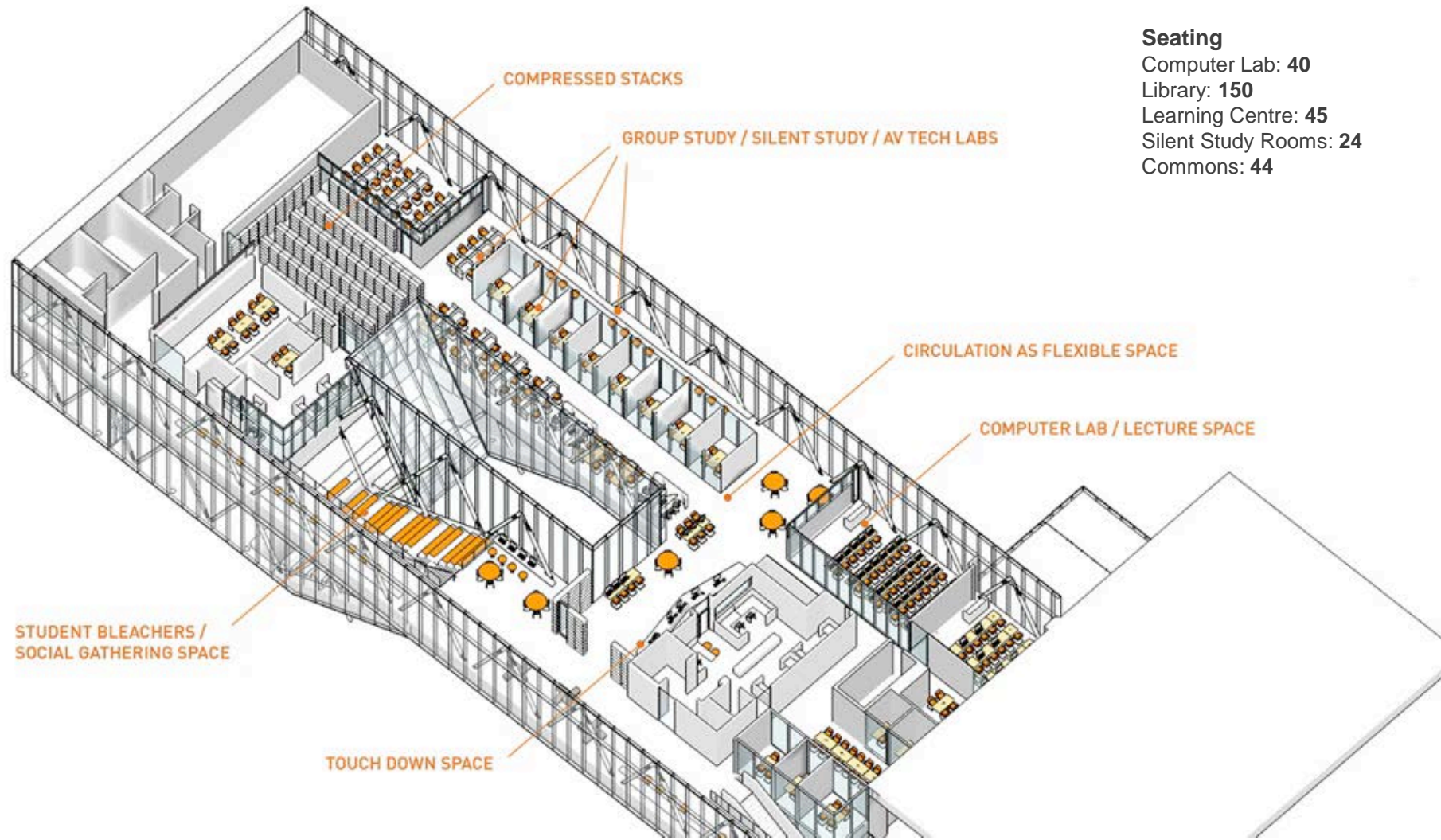
The arrival and circulation spirals around this light filled void from public to private – noisy to quiet. Multiple and varied learning spaces along this journey allow for interaction of students and staff in social, group, peer-to-peer, and tutored environments.



LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Library: Social Heart of the Campus

The new Library and Student Hub is now centrally located and serves as the 'social heart' of the campus. The new Library is almost triple the size of the original, providing much needed study space and resources.



Seating

Computer Lab: 40
Library: 150
Learning Centre: 45
Silent Study Rooms: 24
Commons: 44

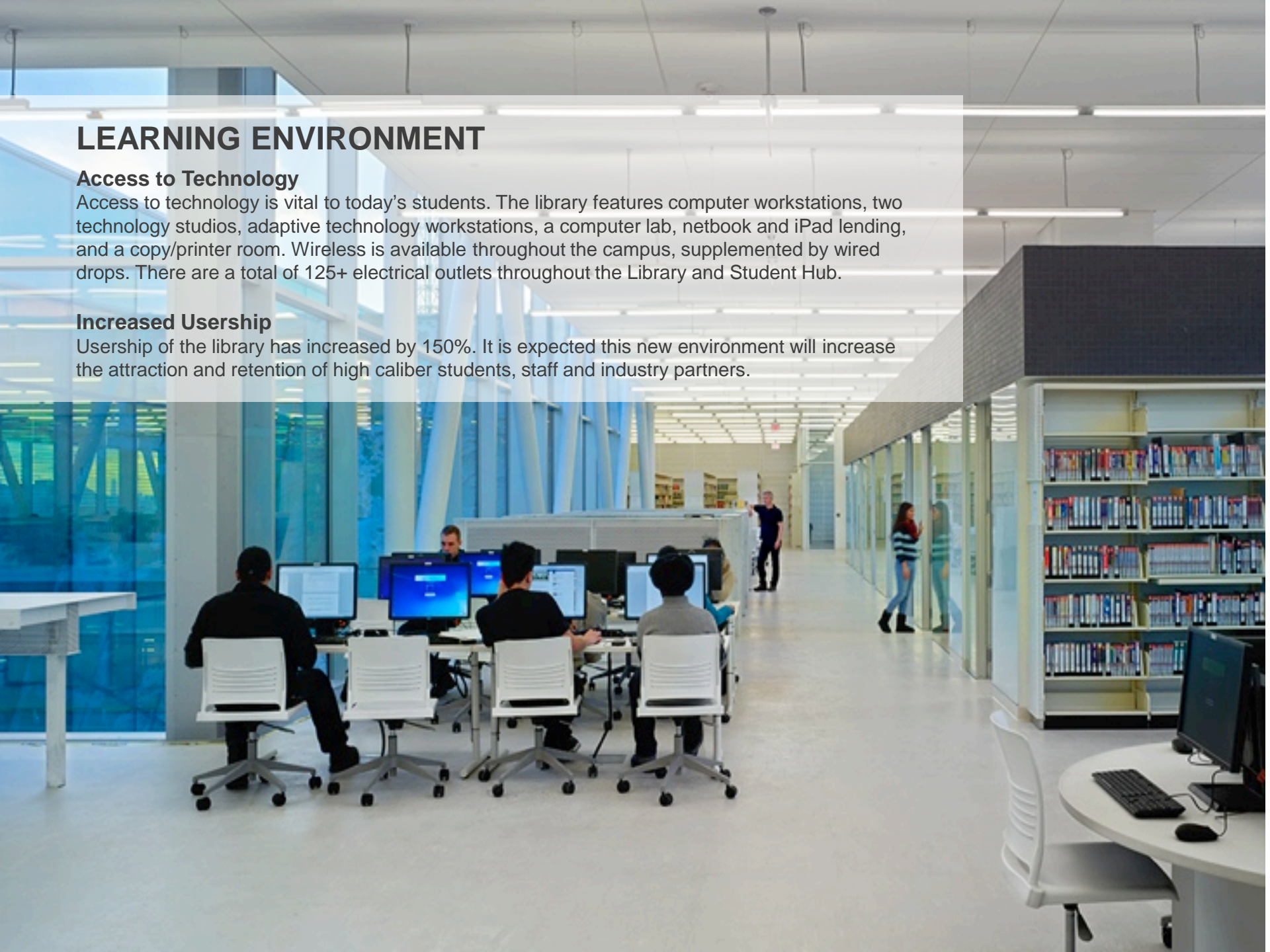
LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Access to Technology

Access to technology is vital to today's students. The library features computer workstations, two technology studios, adaptive technology workstations, a computer lab, netbook and iPad lending, and a copy/printer room. Wireless is available throughout the campus, supplemented by wired drops. There are a total of 125+ electrical outlets throughout the Library and Student Hub.

Increased Usership

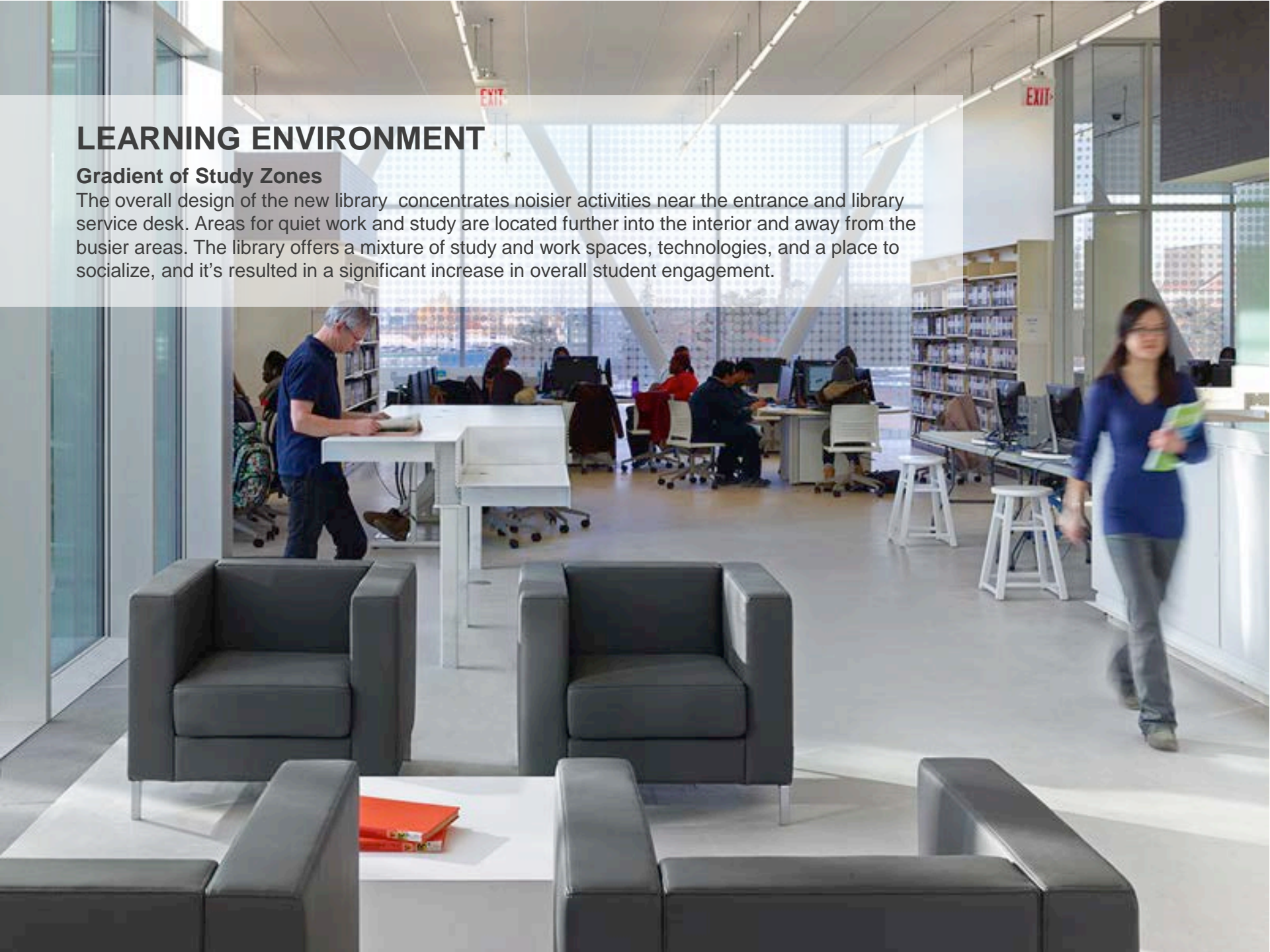
Usership of the library has increased by 150%. It is expected this new environment will increase the attraction and retention of high caliber students, staff and industry partners.



LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Gradient of Study Zones

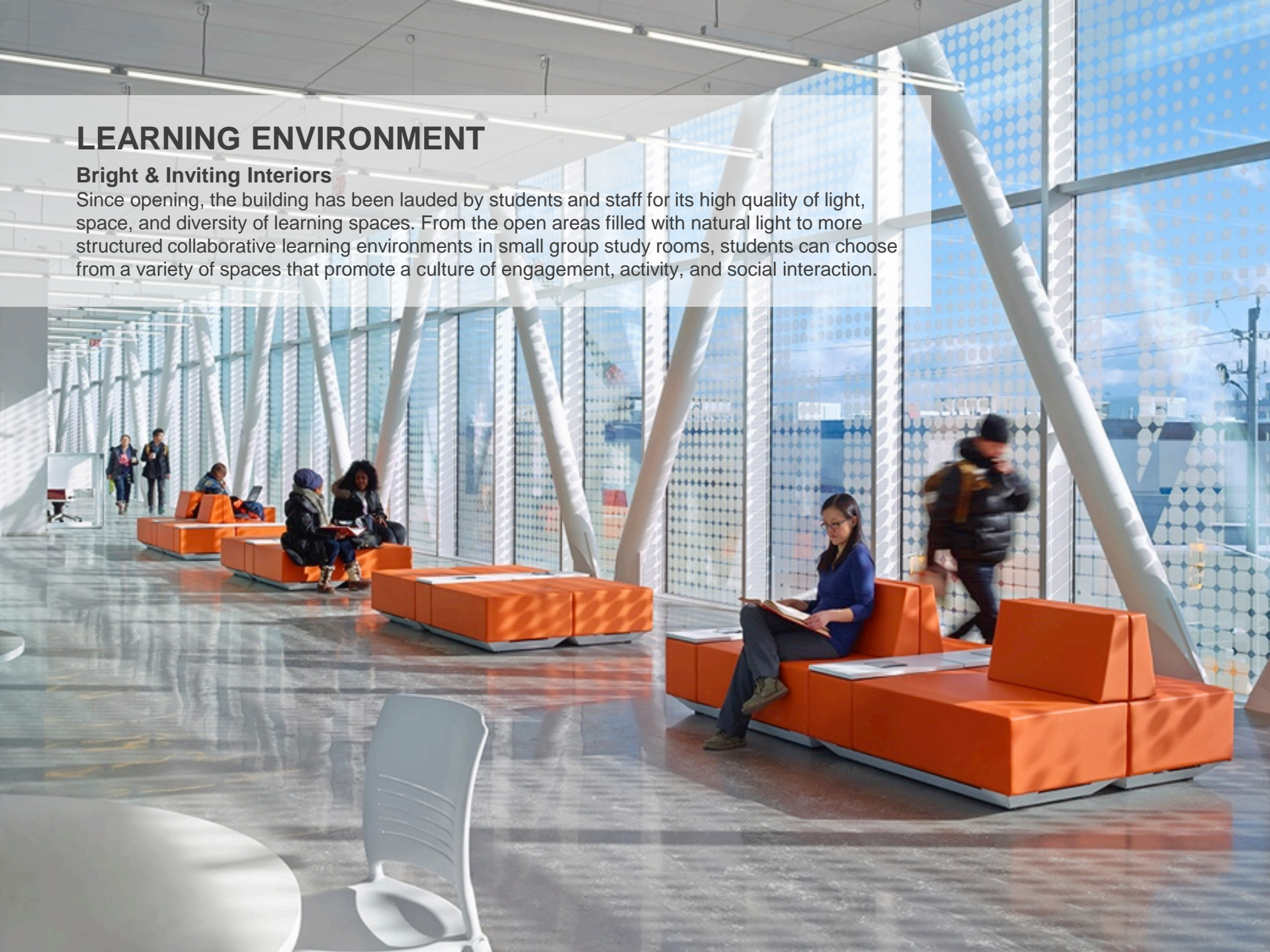
The overall design of the new library concentrates noisier activities near the entrance and library service desk. Areas for quiet work and study are located further into the interior and away from the busier areas. The library offers a mixture of study and work spaces, technologies, and a place to socialize, and it's resulted in a significant increase in overall student engagement.



LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Bright & Inviting Interiors

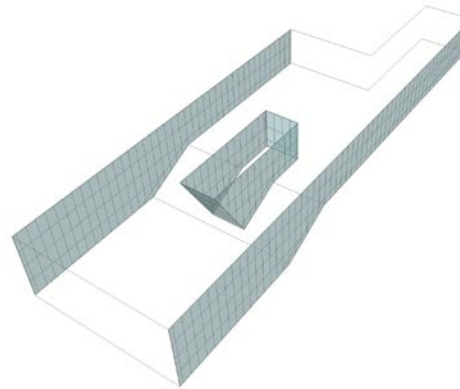
Since opening, the building has been lauded by students and staff for its high quality of light, space, and diversity of learning spaces. From the open areas filled with natural light to more structured collaborative learning environments in small group study rooms, students can choose from a variety of spaces that promote a culture of engagement, activity, and social interaction.



PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

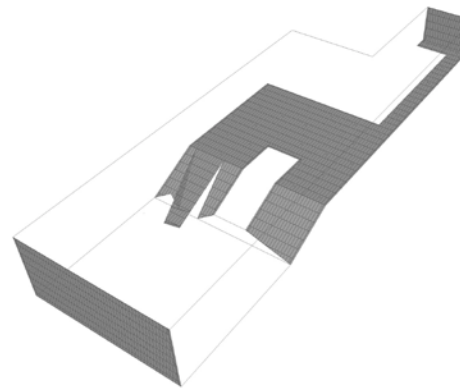
Building Materials

The new building has a reduced palette of two materials – stainless steel panels and ceramic fritted SSG glazing.



Ceramic Fritted Glazing

The ceramic frit on glazed surfaces reduces solar heat build up, creating a unique building pattern offering modulated light and views in and out of the building. The College's name is masked out of the frit, ensuring a bold but subtle brand identification.

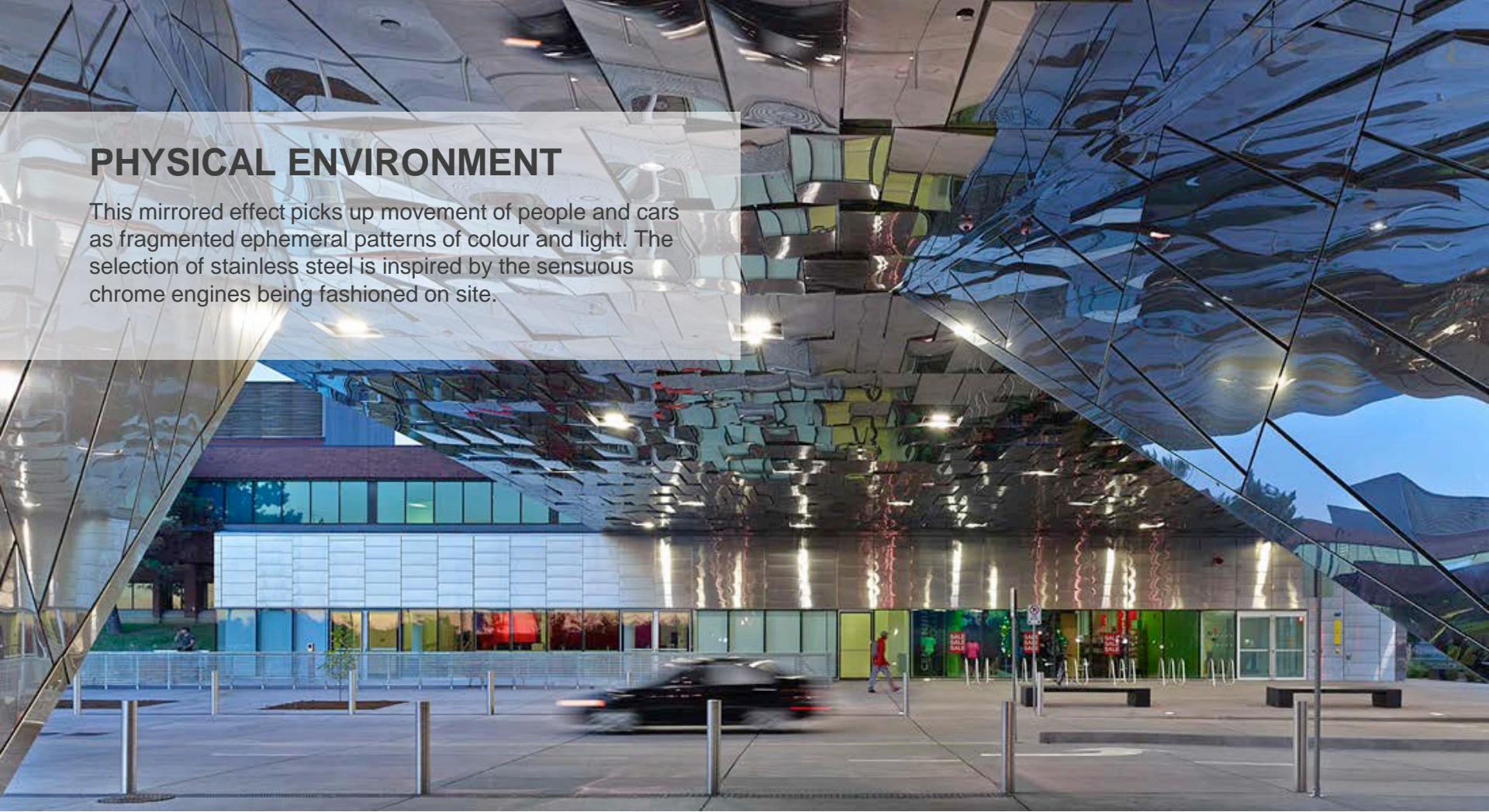


Stainless Steel

The panels have a 2" variation of tapered movement at either side. Including the flat panel, this creates give differing panels that, in combination, creates shifting colours and light reflection. The panels for walls are brushed but for the 'Gateway' building soffit they are polished.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

This mirrored effect picks up movement of people and cars as fragmented ephemeral patterns of colour and light. The selection of stainless steel is inspired by the sensuous chrome engines being fashioned on site.



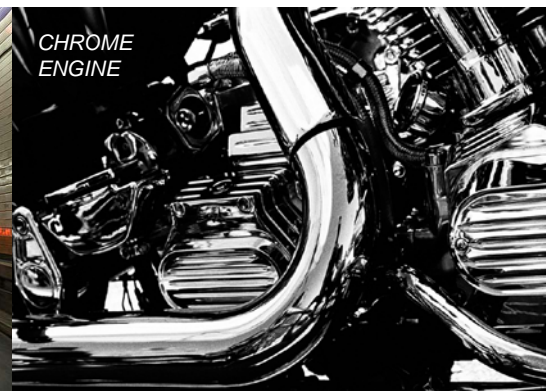
CLOUD GATE



HOLLAND TUNNEL



CHROME
ENGINE



PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Central Courtyard

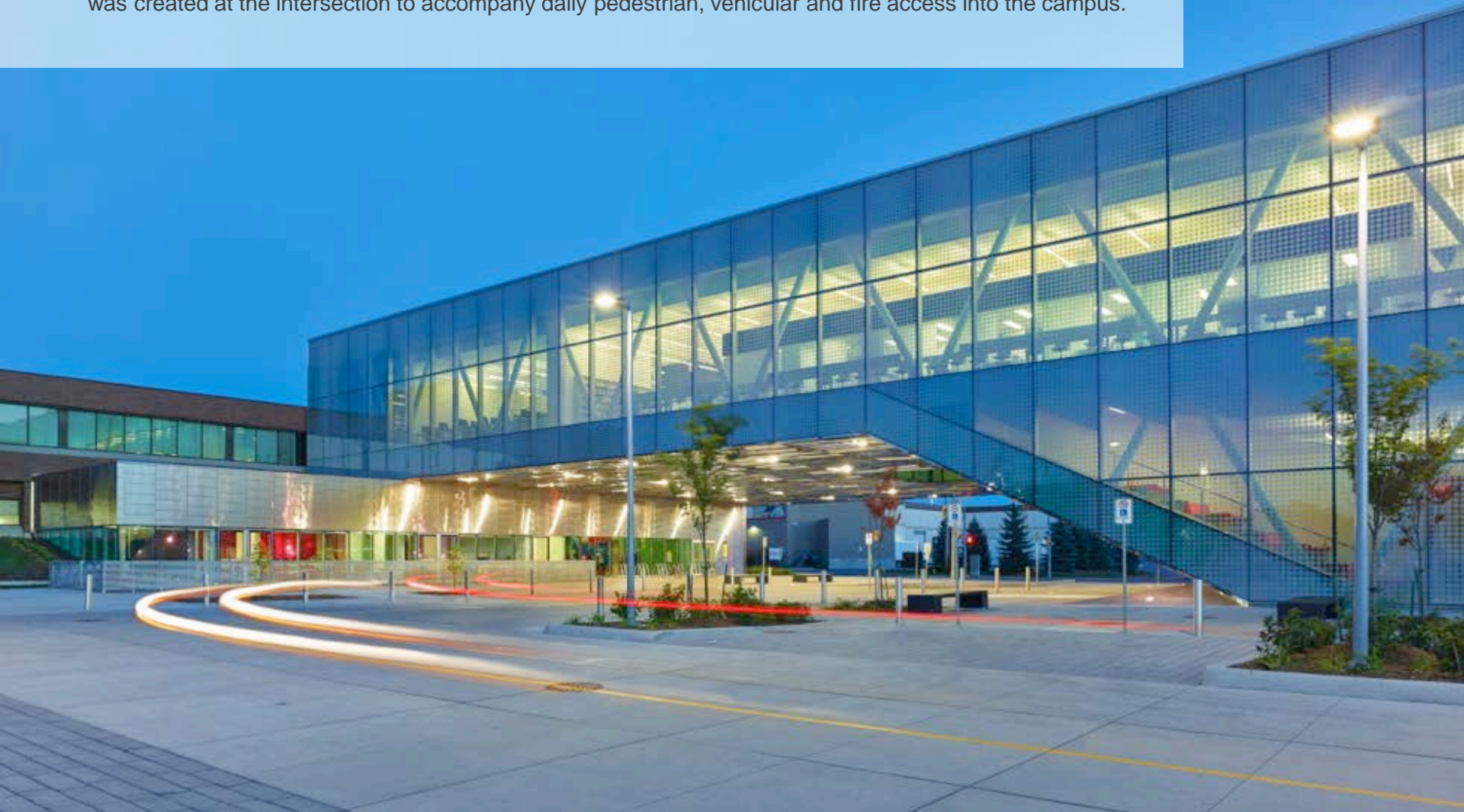
The program is planned around a central suspended courtyard spanning from ground to second floor.



PLANNING PROCESS

Clarity of Access

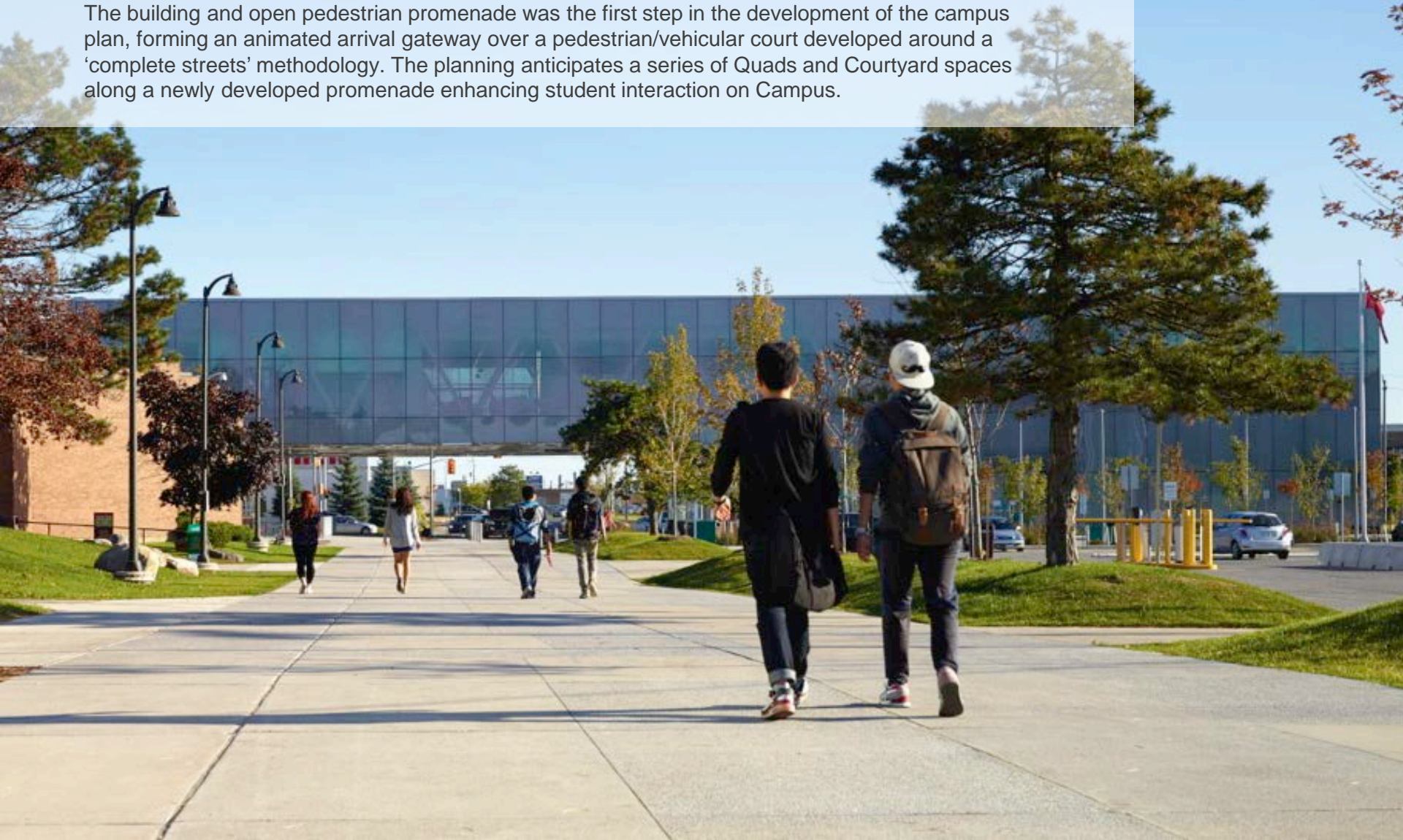
With the arrival of a new, city-installed, signaled intersection, the resolution of pedestrian, cyclist, vehicular and emergency traffic, clarity of access was key to the development. A wide, linear thoroughfare was created at the intersection to accompany daily pedestrian, vehicular and fire access into the campus.



PLANNING PROCESS

Legacy of Open Space & Public Realm

The building and open pedestrian promenade was the first step in the development of the campus plan, forming an animated arrival gateway over a pedestrian/vehicular court developed around a 'complete streets' methodology. The planning anticipates a series of Quads and Courtyard spaces along a newly developed promenade enhancing student interaction on Campus.



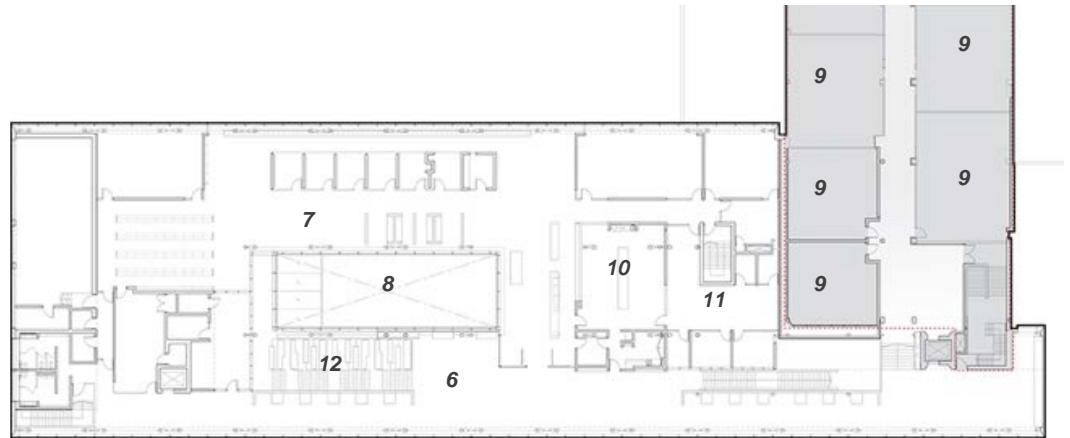
PLANNING PROCESS

Campus Gateway Identity and Sense of Place

An outward expression of identity is a key issue for the college. The project required the development of a signaled intersection to align with the neighboring retail complex allowing for direct access connecting back to Eglinton Avenue. By creating a Main Entry Gateway with a bold identity, the design has fulfilled the College's desire for clear communication and landmark identity to its surrounding neighbourhood.

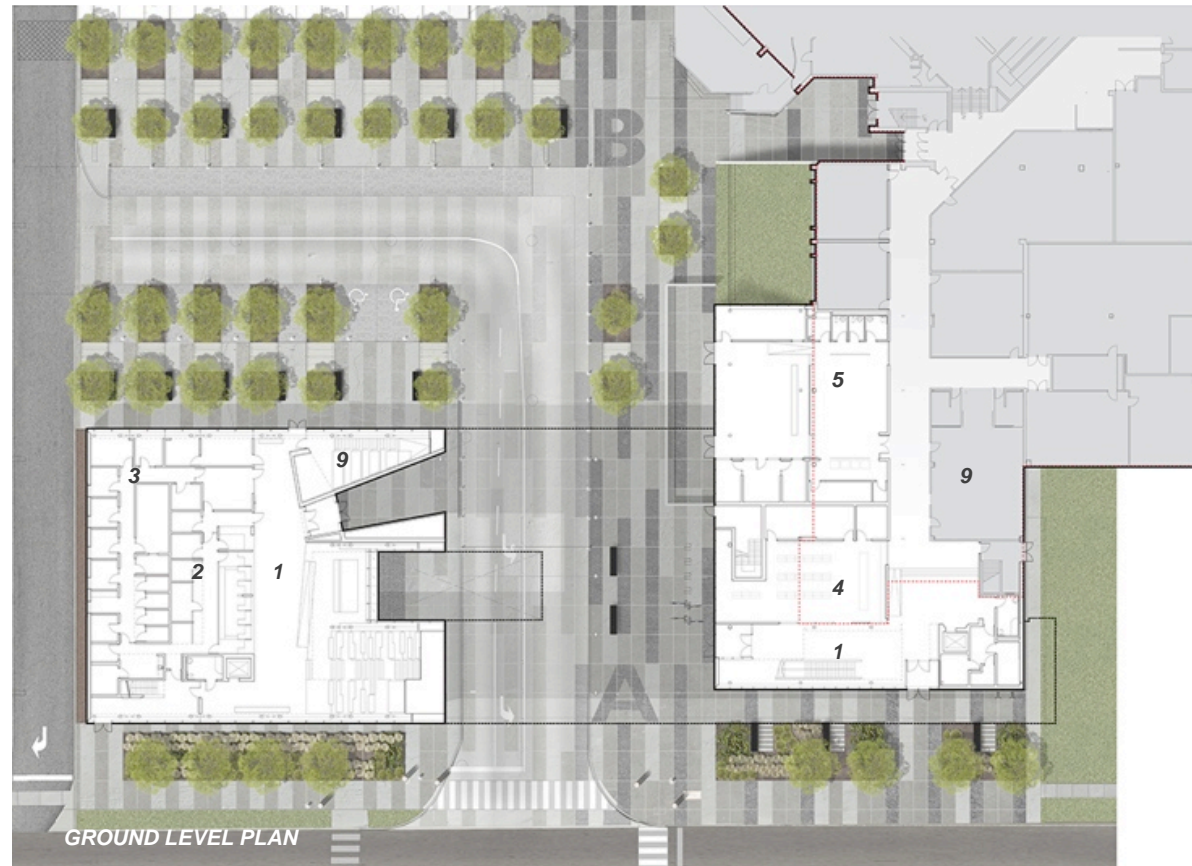


PLANS



SECOND LEVEL PLAN

- 1 Lobby/Reception
- 2 Student Services
- 3 Student Life/Continuing-Education
- 4 Bookstore
- 5 Student Centre
- 6 Commons
- 7 Library
- 8 Open to Below
- 9 Classroom
- 10 Library Administration
- 11 Resource Centre
- 12 Student Bleachers



GROUND LEVEL PLAN

PROJECT DATA

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Submitting Firm : | MacLennan Jaunkalns Miller Architects |
| Project Role | Architect |
| Project Contact | Timothy Belanger |
| Title | Director of Communications |
| Address | 19 Duncan Street, Suite 202 |
| City, State or Province, Country | Toronto, Ontario, Canada |
| Phone | 416-593-6796 |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Construction Firm: | Procured Using Construction Management |
| Project Role | N/A |
| Project Contact | N/A |
| Title | |
| Address | |
| City, State or Province, Country | |
| Phone | |

PROJECT DATA

| | |
|--|--|
| Project Name | Centennial College Ashtonbee Campus |
| City | Toronto, Ontario, Canada |
| State | N/A |
| District Name | Toronto, Ontario, Canada |
| Supt/President | Ann Buller, President & CEO, Centennial College |
| Occupancy Date | August 2014 |
| Grades Housed | Post-Secondary |
| Capacity(Students) | 4011 Students (enrolled full-time at Ashtonbee Campus) |
| Site Size (acres) | N/A |
| Gross Area (sq. ft.) | 87,000 sf |
| Per Occupant(pupil) | N/A |
| gross/net please indicate | |
| Design and Build? | Construction Management Procurement |
| If yes, Total Cost: | N/A |
| Includes: | N/A |
| If no, | |
| Total (Construction Cost): | |
| \$38 Million for complete campus renewal | |