



Summary Report— April 2019

In-person and Online Engagement for “Building Blocks,” Phase 1 of Inspire555, the engagement process in support of the design of the Library and Archives Canada and Ottawa Public Library Joint Facility

This report captures the input generated from two in-person workshops held February 28 and March 2, 2019, as well as online exercises that ran from March 11 to 24. All comments have been reviewed, analyzed and summarized to inform the Project Design Team.



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1.0 Overview

1.1 PROJECT OVERVIEW

In 2018, the City of Ottawa, Ottawa Public Library (OPL) and Library and Archives Canada (LAC) received approval to build a new joint facility to serve as a national institution, a city-wide resource, and a community gathering space.

The joint facility will become a landmark destination that brings together the creative services of a public library and the public services of a national library and archives for a richer customer experience. The collaboration in programming will make this a truly unique offering in Canada. It will be an innovative, iconic, and significant civic institution playing three roles: a local branch, a citywide service, a nationally renowned archival research centre, and a destination for residents of and visitors to the Nation's Capital.

The facility will be located at 555 Albert Street in Ottawa, steps away from the new Pimisi light rail (LRT) station and the current building of LAC, nestled between a unique escarpment and aqueduct, with some of the city's most amazing views of the Ottawa River.

After a rigorous selection process that included bids from more than 30 national and international design teams, the partners retained Diamond Schmitt Architects and Ottawa's KWC Architects to design the facility.

Expected to open in late 2024, it will be built to a minimum of LEED Gold certification and be accessible by roadway, light-rail and multi-use pathways for cyclists and pedestrians. The 216,000 square foot facility will feature shared spaces, along with spaces dedicated to OPL and LAC.

Public input is an essential part of the process, to ensure that the facility meets the unique needs and aspirations of residents, clients / customers, and visitors. The design team will work with partners and the public to deliver iconic architecture with flexible spaces for innovative programming and events, designed to encourage culture, knowledge and inspiration.

1.2 ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW – INSPIRE555

Inspire555 is part of an ongoing engagement process that began in 2013 to support the planning and design of the new facility. It is an invitation to all Canadians to join the conversation and provide inspiration to the architectural team designing this national landmark.



From 2013 to 2016, more than 3,000 people provided input into the spaces and uses for a new central library including the selection criteria for the joint facility's location, as well as its functional programming.

Inspire555 is intended to inform and support the architectural design of the facility. The engagement program has been labeled the "Inspire555 Series," in a nod to its address, 555 Albert Street in Ottawa.

The objective is to ensure that the public and stakeholders are consulted in a meaningful way, and that a broad spectrum of input is collected to inform the vision for this new iconic modern library and archives facility. Public input will help ensure design excellence that meets or exceeds community and national expectations.

Inspire555 comprises four phases:

- **Phase 1 - Building Blocks: Winter 2019 (current phase)**
- Phase 2 - Spaces and Relationships: Spring 2019
- Phase 3 – Public Art and Landscaping: Summer 2019
- Phase 4 - Iconic Features: Fall 2019

A parallel but distinct stream of engagement is taking place with Indigenous Peoples. The two streams will connect at a knowledge sharing event in the fall. The facility's final design will be revealed in Winter 2020.

This Summary Report provides an overview of the engagement activities initiated as part "Building Blocks," the first phase in the Inspire555 Series, where participants were asked to provide input into how the facility can best take advantage of its location and surrounding features and views. The report provides a summary analysis of two in-person design workshops that were held on February 28 and March 2, 2019, as well as online exercises that ran from March 11 to 24, 2019.

All input from the in-person and online consultations has been reviewed, analyzed and summarized to inform the Project Design Team as they move to the next phase in the design process.



2.0 Approach

2.1 APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

Library and Archives Canada and Ottawa Public Library have committed to public engagement throughout the life of this project. Engagement activities are underpinned by principles of openness and transparency and offer meaningful opportunities for everyone interested to provide input that can truly inform and influence the final outcomes for the joint facility.

The objectives of Phase 1 – Building Blocks of the Inspire555 engagement process is as follows:

1. To properly FRAME the project;
2. To INFORM the public;
3. To CONSULT and request INPUT on the topic of access to the site, key surrounding features, and ideas for how the facility can best take advantage of its location.

Participants were asked to provide feedback on preliminary concepts and to share hands-on ideas for how the new joint facility could take shape on the site, with a view to informing the schematic design phase.

Engagement Activities

Engagement activities included in-person workshops and online exercises:

Design Workshop Format

Members of the public were invited to register for one of two design workshops on how to make best use of the site for the new joint facility. A total of 211 participants attended the sessions, which were held on:

- Thursday, February 28, 6 to 9 pm, in the Pellan Room of Library and Archives Canada (395 Wellington Street)
- Saturday, March 2, 9 am to 12 pm, in Hall A of the Nepean Sportsplex (1701 Woodroffe Avenue).

The workshops began with introductory remarks by the leadership of the City of Ottawa, OPL and LAC. Remarks about the importance of the site to Indigenous Peoples were made by a Knowledge Carrier from the Algonquin community of Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg.

This was followed by a technical presentation by lead architect Don Schmitt of Diamond Schmitt Architects on the opportunities related to the site and its surroundings. Participants then



engaged in facilitated table discussions to explore hands-on how the new joint facility could take shape on the site. This first exercise looked at how users of the facility would access the site.

Mr. Schmitt gave a second technical presentation, which focused on three potential design concepts. Participants then engaged in a second facilitated discussion at their tables to provide feedback on preliminary concepts, share ideas and input on the external form and design of the facility.

Throughout the exercises, experts from the project design team roamed the room to listen and partake in the table discussions, and to answer questions.

Information boards were on display and time was allotted to allow participants to engage in discussions with the design experts.

Online Exercise Format

From March 11 to 24, all Canadians were invited to participate in online exercises hosted on the **www.inspire555.ca** website. The exercises were intended to mirror those that were held at the in-person workshops. The intent was to provide a convenient opportunity for members of the public, both locally and nationally, to participate and provide input.

Visitors to the website could obtain information on the project and the facility's location and were encouraged to watch a video of the technical presentation that was delivered at the workshop, outlining the best viewpoints, the site's interesting features and landmarks, and the various ways of arriving at the site.

Visitors to the website were then requested to register (managed by the City of Ottawa) to participate in two online exercises on how best to take advantage of the site and its surroundings, in relation to the building's requirements.

Engagement Exercises

The Building Blocks phase of engagement consisted of two main exercises:

Exercise 1, entitled "Site Opportunities," explored the best way to access the site, to take advantage of the views, and to maximize the facility's potential in relation to its location. In a first step, participants were asked to indicate how they would typically arrive at the site and from which direction they would access the facility. It also explored which aspects of the site that participants considered the most important and which should receive special consideration by the architects.



At the workshops, participants could place coloured stickers on a large aerial map with 3D models of surrounding buildings that were provided at each table. Online participants could drag and place coloured pins on a map.

Five coloured options represented a different type of transportation, and participants could select more than one to indicate their most typical method of getting around:

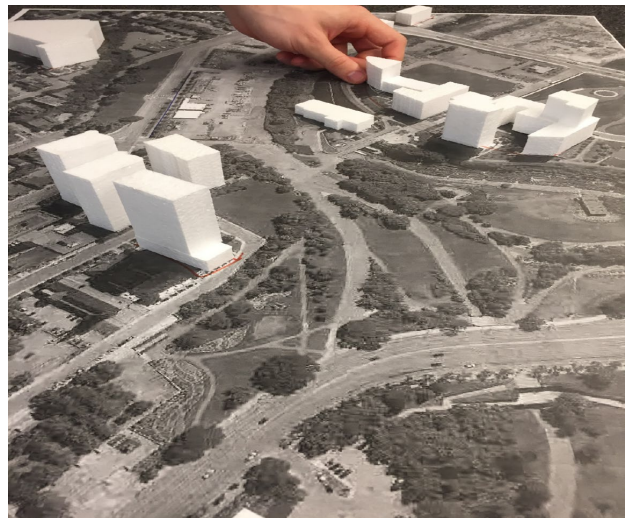
- Blue: Light Rail
- Orange: Walking
- Red: Biking
- Yellow: Automobile (car, motorcycle, truck, etc.)
- White: Bus/Para Transpo

The pins and stickers represented an arrival point. For example, if a participant intended to arrive at the facility by light rail, they would place a blue pin or sticker at Pimisi station. If they planned on walking, they would place an orange pin or sticker within the boundaries of the site to show from which direction they would arrive.

Participants were then asked to indicate areas of interest on the map. This could include great viewpoints or interesting surrounding features. Options of features included the escarpment; the aqueduct; the nearby white-water course; the Fleet Street Pumping Station; the Ottawa River; the War Museum; and the Parliamentary Precinct.

The discussion around the best views encompassed those to and from the site. Options for views to the site included:

- From the white-water course
- From Pimisi LRT station
- From Albert Street looking west
- From Albert Street looking east
- From Wellington Street looking south

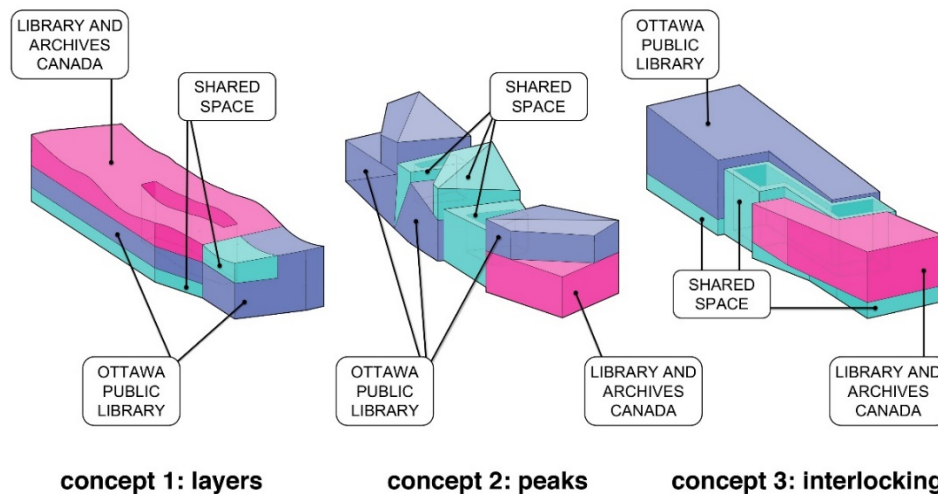


Options for views from the site included:

- Looking north towards Parkland, Ottawa River and Victoria Island
- Looking east towards Ottawa Centretown
- Looking south towards the escarpment, Little Italy and Chinatown neighbourhoods
- Looking west towards LeBreton Flats, Ottawa River



Exercise 2, “Early Concepts,” sought input into three potential concepts for how and where the building might sit on the site given its square footage, what goes inside, and how all pieces relate to each other. The three Concepts were labeled “Layers,” “Peaks,” and “Interlocking.”



Participants were given the opportunity to view preliminary concepts, share ideas regarding how to make the most of the views and the partnership, and inform the physical orientation of the building. For the workshops, styrofoam models of the three concept options were provided at each table. Participants could place them directly onto their aerial maps to better appreciate the size and scale of each and how they related to the site and the surrounding area. Visuals of the concepts were provided in the online exercise.

Participants were then asked to select three of following five statements they believed most applied for each of the three concepts:

- The building connects well to surrounding streets and pathways.
- The building interacts with the surrounding landscapes.
- There are opportunities for outdoor programming and green space on the site.
- The concept takes best advantage of views from the building.
- The concept provides opportunity for connections between the 3 elements of the project.

Participants at both the workshops and in the online exercises could also submit general comments about the project.



2.2 PROMOTION

The Inspire555 program was officially launched on February 5, 2019. A series of marketing and promotional activities were implemented over February and March to raise awareness for Phase 1 of the program and the associated engagement activities.

Promotional efforts locally and nationally helped not only to raise broad awareness of the opportunities to participate, but it also served to establish a shared understanding of the project, the continuum of engagement activities, and the design process for the new joint facility.

Specific communications activities included:

- Web content on the ottawacentrallibrary.ca website under a refreshed Inspire555.ca web page to provide context for the engagement process, and drive to workshop registration and online engagement;
- A media advisory, public service announcement and news release to announce the start of the engagement process;
- A public service announcement to announce the start of online engagement;
- Organic social media campaigns on LAC, City and OPL channels (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter) to promote the Inspire555 series, workshop registration and online engagement;
- Sponsored social media posts on City of Ottawa channels to promote online engagement;
- Digital displays in LAC, OPL and City facilities; and
- Emails to stakeholders and employees, as well as a blast email to OPL cardholders to promote the workshops and online engagement.

The engagement workshops and online engagement generated positive media coverage, including:

- CTV TV: **Hundreds turn out to have say on what Ottawa's new public library will look like**
- CBC TV: **Library lovers pitch ideas for 'long overdue' new central branch**
- Ottawa Citizen: **Lead architect says he's 'thrilled' for chance to build landmark library**
- 1310 News and Ottawa Matters: **Online survey now open for new Ottawa Public Library**



3.0 What We Heard

3.0 ANALYSIS

As part of its reporting mandate, PACE reviewed and analyzed all input received during Phase 1 - Building Blocks, of the Inspire555 engagement process. For the most part, comments received from the in-person and online activities were very similar in nature. The analysis below presents the main themes and trends that were distilled from the public input, and captures key insights provided by participants to inform and inspire the architects as they work through the schematic design phase of the facility.

The engagement comprised a blend of qualitative and quantitative exercises. The quantitative results represent the views of participants and are not necessarily representative of a randomly selective sample of the population.

With regards to the analysis below, the use of the expressions should be interpreted as follows:

- “most participants” represents a very strong support or an impression of near unanimity for an idea
- “many” indicates predominance or support by a large number of respondents,
- “several” indicates a frequent but not predominant theme
- “some” represents a notable but minority view
- “a few” represents an even smaller minority

N.B. Even though a comment may have only been made once, it is sometimes reported in the analysis if found to be insightful, innovative or highly poignant.

Key Observations - Generally

The following list captures the most frequently made comments throughout both the workshops and the online exercises:

- Most participants indicated that they would arrive at the site by walking or using light rail transit (LRT). Many participants commented that a covered walkway was necessary between Pimisi station and the new facility.
- There is a strong desire for greenspace and outdoor activities.
- There is also a strong desire for an accessible and useable rooftop. Common suggestions were for a green rooftop that offers good views, and which could be used for activities and programming such as events, a café, etc.
- Many consider the site’s features and views as a whole and that the building should take advantage of it all. There was an underlying notion that the site’s connection to Albert Street was the main interface with the city’s urban fabric, and that the connection to the North was the interface with nature.



- The ‘open sky’ was frequently referenced as a key feature, and that the facility should offer 360-degree views. This ties into another common sentiment that the building could be taller to better take advantage of views.
- There were several comments that all three concepts could do a better job of connecting the two partners, that the two partners were too siloed.
- For all concepts, there was support for a design that encouraged visitors to wander, explore and discover the building.
- There was general support for having several entrances, notably at each corner and another midway on the southern boundary of the site, facing Albert Street.
- There was a desire that the best top floor views should be reserved for the public, either at shared spaces or for OPL designated spaces.

Key Observations - Specifically

This section looks at the input and feedback provided for each of the questions asked during Phase 1 of the engagement program.

How will you access the site?

Participants could select any of the applicable modes of transportation that applied to them, from the following list of options:

- Light rail transit
- Automobile
- Walking
- Biking
- Bus or Para Transpo

Key Themes

- Participants indicated that they would use multiple means of transportation to arrive at the site, depending on the season and the weather.
- The most popular method of getting to the site was on foot, followed by light rail transit (LRT). Next was by bicycle, automobile and lastly, by bus or Para Transpo.
- Most participants indicated they would arrive at the eastern and western boundaries of the site. More specifically, at each of the four corners of the site. A number of participants also indicated they would arrive at the centre point of the site’s southern boundary, facing Albert Street.
- Given that participants indicated they would arrive from all directions, there was support for multiple entrances, at each corner of the site (although the least important corner for access was the North Eastern corner).



- Accessibility and safety were an underlying concern regardless of the mode of transportation, and particularly so for participants with mobility challenges. This concern was raised in the context of users of LRT getting off at Pimisi, and cyclists and pedestrians using the multi-use pathway or needing to cross Albert Street.
- There were a few comments that good wayfinding to the facility would be important, no matter the means of transportation.

Key Themes by Mode of Transportation (in order of usage)

- **Walking:** For those that would walk to the site, most indicated that they would arrive at the eastern boundary of the site, and more precisely at the south eastern corner. The key considerations for pedestrians were safety (particularly along Bronson and crossing Albert) and the need to make the path as pleasant and “walkable” as possible (such as segregated from bikes, well lit, covered and shaded). There was also a desire that the pathways around the site connect to the pathways cutting northward through Bronson Park to Wellington Street.
- **Light Rail:** For users of light rail, the vast majority indicated they would arrive from Pimisi station, although a few also indicated the nearby Lyon station. A key concern was that the walkway between Pimisi station and the facility needed to be covered and protected from inclement weather. A smaller number of participants suggested that there should be an underground tunnel or a concourse (“an indoor sidewalk”) with retail and food and beverage services.
- **Biking:** Similarly to pedestrians, those participants that indicated they would bike to the site indicated that they would arrive at the eastern boundary of the site, and mostly at the south eastern corner. The priority recommendation was that there needed to be ample bike parking infrastructure, with some suggesting these be located close to the entrances and protected from bad weather. Several participants also suggested that bike paths needed to be connected to the broader network, and in particular to the Ottawa River pathway and the Laurier segregated bike lane.
- **Automobile:** Not surprisingly, parking was the top priority for those that intend to drive to the facility. Several indicated that driving was the only practical choice for them because of distance, dependents such as children, the inconvenience of transit and weather concerns. Many indicated they would arrive at Albert Street from the Sir John

Inset: Online Exercise

How will you access the site?	% (of 729 pins)
Walking	29%
LRT	25.5%
Biking	22%
Automobile	15%
Bus/Para Transpo	8%

For this exercise, a total of 729 pins were placed on the map. Almost one third (29%) of participants indicated they were more likely to walk to the facility. This was closely followed by a quarter of participants (25.5%) who indicated they would use light rail, while roughly one fifth indicated they would bike. The modes of transportation that would be least used by participants in the online exercise was the automobile (15%) and the bus or Para Transpo (8%).



A. MacDonald Parkway, or from the Highway 417 and Bronson Avenue. Some participants stated that they wanted a convenient pick-up/drop-off zone.

- **Bus/Para Transpo:** For those arriving by bus or Para Transpo, the majority indicated they foresaw accessing the site from both southern corners facing Albert Street, with the majority arriving at the south eastern corner. They generally stated that other means of transportation were not convenient for them (including LRT). Many indicated that they wanted bus stops to be near the main entrances.

Comments of Interest:

- One participant suggested the walkway from Pimisi could be built over the LRT track and converted into a linear park, similar to the High Line in NYC.
- A few also suggested that pathways to the facility be connected to those that lead North through Bronson Park and to the War Museum, Holocaust monument and the current Library and Archives Canada building on Wellington Street. This would create a walking spur to the Confederation Boulevard and become a destination point for visitors and dignitaries in Ottawa.

What are the best features surrounding the site?

Participants could select up to three features that they found most interesting, from the following list of options:

- Escarpment
- Aqueduct
- White-water Course
- Fleet Street Pumping Station
- Ottawa River
- War Museum
- Parliamentary Precinct
- Other

Comments – Key Themes for Best Features Surrounding the Site:

- Of all the choices presented, the feature that stood out as being most interesting was the Ottawa River. The aqueduct, white water course and the adjacent Bronson Park were also frequently cited. Notably, a majority of the key features identified by participants could be captured in a northern radius that started at LeBreton Flats (including the River, Chaudière Falls, and the War Museum) and ended at the current library and Archives Canada (including Victoria Island, Bronson Park and the Fleet Street Pumping Station).
- Water was a prominent theme (the River, aqueduct, pumping station, white water course) and many stated that it needed to be showcased. In addition to maximizing views to water, some participants suggested that the facility should engage with water,



for example by incorporating water features into the building or by having the design emulate the flow of water.

- While the majority of comments dealt with features North of the site, some participants also indicated that LRT and LeBreton Flats should also be considered as key features. Others felt that greenspace and natural elements (such as Bronson Park) were important features to showcase.
- Many participants noted that the sun is an important feature and that the facility should give views of the sunrise and sunset (this was also in recognition of the importance of the sun for Indigenous cultures).
- A few participants noted that the new facility should serve as a western gateway to the downtown core, with the newly renovated NAC serving as the gateway to the East. These two facilities should be the first and last views one would see as they travel through the downtown core along Albert and Slater streets. A few even suggested that the new facility should have a lantern feature, to echo the lantern at the NAC.

Inset – Workshop Exercise

Best Features	501 Responses from 211 Participants
Ottawa River	25%
Aqueduct	19%
Escarpment	15%
White-water Course	15%
Fleet Street Pumping Station	9%
Parliament Precinct	9%
War Museum	8%

Participants could submit up to three selections for this question. A total of 501 responses were submitted. The feature that was selected as the most interesting was the Ottawa River (25% of responses), followed by the aqueduct (19%). The escarpment and white-water course were selected next and generated equal amounts of responses (15%). The features that were least selected —and roughly tied for least interesting in regard to the site — were the Parliament Precinct (9%), the Fleet Street pumping station (9%), and the War Museum (8%).

Comments – Of Interest:

- While most of the features considered by participants are located North of the site, a few participants felt that the facility should interact with all its surroundings. According to the participants, all the features are connected, and the design should not focus on one over another. A few participants indicated an interest in the sliver of greenspace South of Albert Street.
- Some participants felt that the building should be taller to take better advantage of views.



What are the Views To and From the Site?

Participants could select up to three views they found most interesting to and from the site, from the following list of options:

Most important view FROM the site:

- Looking North towards park land, Ottawa River and Victoria Island
- Looking South towards the escarpment, Little Italy and Chinatown
- Looking East towards Ottawa Centretown
- Looking West towards LeBreton Flats and Ottawa River
- Other

Most important view TO the site:

- From the white-water Course
- From Pimisi LRT Station
- From Albert Street Looking West
- From Albert Street Looking East
- From Wellington Street Looking South
- Other

Comments – Key Themes for Views FROM the Site:

- The majority of participants indicated that the view to the North was the most important, and in particular of the Ottawa River and the Gatineau Hills.
- Several indicated that the facility needed to allow views of the sunrise and sunset, and allow for lots of natural light to enter the building.
- Some participants felt that the ‘sky’ was a view that needed to be considered, while others wanted a 360-degree view from the rooftop or a panoramic view of the River.
- A few participants stated that nature, greenspace and trees were important viewpoints.
- A few noted that there should be views to the current Library and Archives Canada, the Supreme Court and the Parliamentary Precinct.

Comments – Key Themes for Views TO the Site:

- Participants indicated that most of the views of interest to the site were from the East and West, along Albert and the light rail corridor (from Pimisi station).
- That said, there were several suggestions that the facility should be interesting and prominent from all directions, notably from LeBreton Flats/War Museum, the Sir John A MacDonald Parkway (“Parkway”), the Ottawa River and Gatineau Hills.
- Many felt that the facility should be seen from a distance (the Parkway, Gatineau Hills, Saint-Vincent Hospital, Parliament, Library and Archives Canada, the War Museum, Portage Bridge, etc.).
- A smaller number of participants noted there should be views of the facility from Bronson.

Comments – Of Interest:

- Some participants felt that the view from the lobby or ground floor was important.



- A few suggested that the rooftop should have a glass “lantern” similar to the NAC.
- There was some concern about future development in the area and how that might impact views to and from the facility.
- Some participants suggested the building could be taller to take better advantage of views.

Inset – Workshop Exercises

Best Views FROM the Site	425 Responses from 211 Participants
Looking North	43%
Looking West	23%
Looking South	18%
Looking East	16%

Best Views: Participants could submit up to three selections to this question. A total of 355 responses were submitted. Participants indicated a strong preference for the view “Looking North towards park land, Ottawa River and Victoria Island” (43%). This was followed by “Looking West towards LeBreton Flats and Ottawa River” (23%). The last two views received approximately the same number of responses, each getting less than a fifth of the total responses for this question. The view judged least important was “Looking East towards Ottawa Centretown” (16%).

Best Views TO the Site	355 Responses from 211 Participants
From Albert Street looking West	27%
From Pimisi LRT station	24%
From Albert Street looking East	21%
From Wellington Street looking South	20%
From the white-water course	7%

Best views: Participants could submit up to three selections to this question. A total of 425 responses were submitted. The view to the site that participants found most important was “From Albert Street looking East” (27%). This was followed by “From Pimisi LRT Station” (24%) and “Albert Street looking West” (21%). The view to the site that was least appreciated was “From the White-water Course” (7%).



How do we take advantage of these opportunities?

Participants could select up to three aspects of the site they thought was most important to the facility, from the following list of options:

Options (Select three (3) from the list below):

- Access to the site
- Surrounding features
- Views to the building
- Views from the building
- Other

Comments – Key Themes:

- For this question, the online comments differed from the workshop comments. At the workshop, participants indicated that “Access to the site” was the most important aspect for the facility, followed by “Great views from the building.” For the online exercise, the majority of participants felt that “Great views from the building” was the most important, while “Access” was the least important.
- In either case, there was strong support for a facility that would embrace great views, with a view to the North being seen as the most important.
- A few participants stated that the facility should offer 360-degree views from the rooftop.
- A few also commented that greenspace and natural features were key features that needed to be considered and that outdoor programming was an important requirement.

Comments – Of Interest:

- A few participants suggested that Albert Street could act as the gateway to attract visitors to the facility, and that they could then be encouraged to experience the North side of the site and all that it offers, with its great views, nature and other interesting features.
- It was suggested that views are important for creating good public spaces, and that the best top floor views should be made available to the public.

Inset – Workshop and Online Exercises

Top 3 Aspects of the Site	Workshop: 386 Responses from 211 Participants	Online: % of 1,298 Responses
Access to site	39%	20.5%
Surrounding features	20%	23.5%
Great views from building	27%	32%
Great views to building	13%	24%

Most important to the facility: Participants could submit up to three selections to this question. A total of 386 responses were submitted at the workshop, and 1,298 responses online. Workshop participants indicated that “Access to the site” was the most important aspect to the facility (39%). Interestingly, “Access to the site” was the least important aspect for online respondents, who instead selected “Great views from the building” as the most interesting aspect.

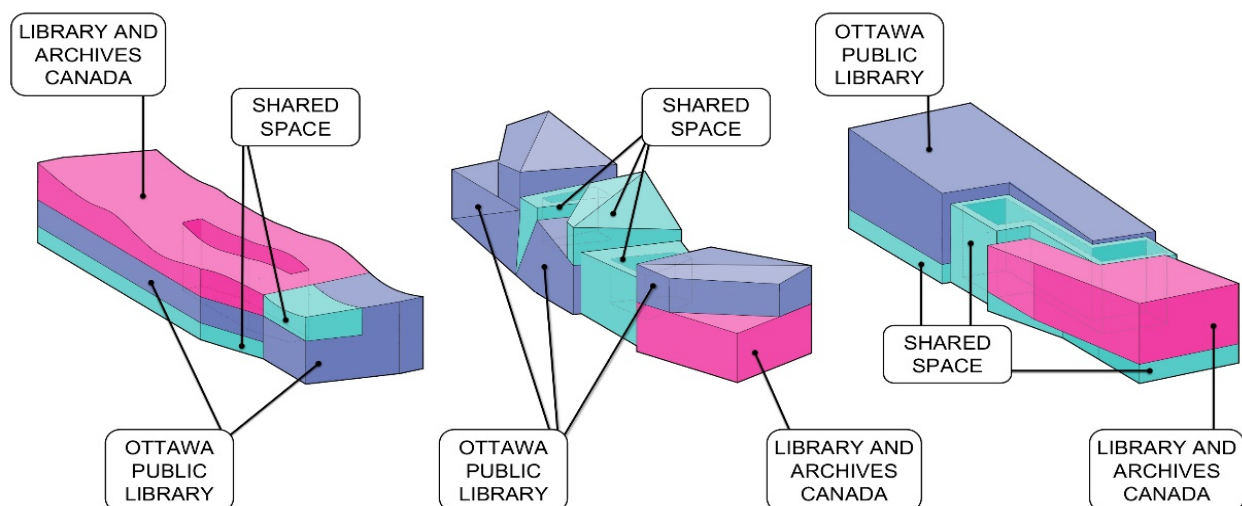


- A number of participants stated that a taller building or a taller tower should be considered to offer better views (including the possibility of a crows' nest).
- There were a few suggestions that the site should connect with Wellington Street via the pathway that cuts through Bronson Park, thereby creating a spur to Confederation Boulevard.

Concepts

The architects developed three initial concepts for how the facility might sit on the site. Each of the concept below show different ways to distribute the spaces intended for Ottawa Public Library, Library and Archives Canada and the shared spaces:

- Concept 1: Layers
- Concept 2: Peaks
- Concept 3: Interlocking



concept 1: layers

concept 2: peaks

concept 3: interlocking

Comments – Generally for All Three Concepts

- Overall, the Interlocking concept was the most liked by participants, followed by Peaks. Interlocking was praised for its interesting design, the good relationship between the partners, and for having the best flow. Layers was often seen as too conventional. That said, several indicated that it offered the best interaction with the site's surrounding environment (e.g., that the flow of water and of the rocks in the escarpment was reflected in this design).
- While many participants indicated they liked Peaks for its design aspects, several also felt that it was the most confusing in terms of flow and the relationship between the



partners and the shared space. A few mentioned that Peaks mirrored the design aspects of surrounding landmark buildings such as the War Museum and the Parliament buildings.

- There were several comments made about using various elements from the other concepts to create a hybrid or modified version of Interlocking. A frequent suggestion was to incorporate one or more towers from Peaks; another was to make Interlocking less “blocky” by incorporating more of the curves from Layers into its design.
- There were several comments that applied to all three concepts, that the facility’s top floor and the best views should be accessible to the public, through shared spaces or Ottawa Public Library space.
- A reoccurring comment was that the concepts needed to provide good views of the Ottawa River and also 360-degree views. In this respect, (and as referenced earlier) there were several comments that the building could be taller to take better advantage of the views.
- There were several comments about the need for outdoor space and programming.
- As well, there were many comments about the need for a functional and public rooftop that could be enjoyed in all seasons. Several ideas were submitted regarding a café, a space for events, a rooftop garden, an apiary, etc. Many also supported the need for a green environmentally-friendly rooftop.
- A few participants indicated that OPL’s main entrance should be located at the western side of the site, closest to the Pimisi LRT station, and that LAC’s entrance should be located on the eastern or south side.

Comments – Of Interest

- There were a number of comments submitted that the facility needed to be bird-friendly and meet the latest design guidelines for bird friendliness.
- A few mentioned that the facility needed to be designed such that it could be expanded in the future.
- Many expressed a desire for access to the rooftop, with one suggesting that there could be a rooftop garden and that OPL could offer courses on how to garden. There was even a suggestion of a skating rink on the rooftop.
- A few participants noted that having LAC on the top floor would prevent a future expansion of OPL space.
- A few participants commented that a taller tower would allow for better views. It was also suggested by a participant that a taller building would result in less footprint, which would allow for more outdoor use of the site.
- A number of participants suggested that the facility’s design should encourage users of the building to explore and discover it (i.e., that one would discover things about the building as they moved through it).



Review the list of statements below and pick three (3) that most apply to each Concept

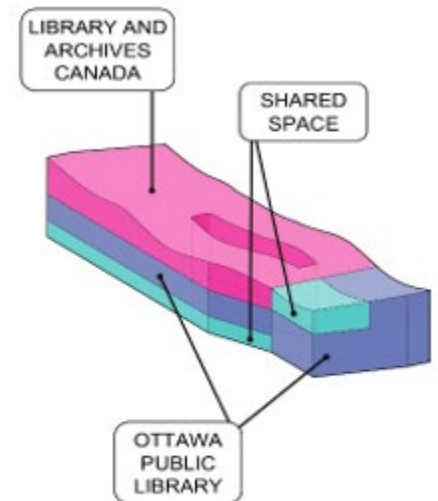
Participants were asked to review a list of statements and select three that applied for each concept.

Statements:

- The building connects well to surrounding streets and pathways.
- The building interacts well with the surrounding landscapes.
- There are opportunities for outdoor programming and green space on the site.
- The concept takes best advantage of views from the building.
- The concept provides opportunity for connections between the three elements of the project.

Comments – Key Themes for the Layers Concept:

- Layers was often cited as the least liked; that it was too institutional, monolithic and “boring.”
- Some felt that the concept was too “chunky” and that its footprint was too large, that it took up too much space on the site and would not allow for enough outdoor programming. Several expressed a desire for outdoor programming.
- Access was a concern with this concept.
- It was also felt by several participants that LAC should not be located on the top floor, in that the best views should be for public spaces.
- Many felt that this concept offered many opportunities for a useable rooftop (green roof; outdoor programming; views; a greenhouse; events, etc.).
- Many felt that that this concept allowed for a good flow; that it was easy to navigate. The flow made it connected with the landscape. I.e., it was akin to the flow of water or the layers of rock in the escarpment.
- The concept was described as ‘utilitarian.’ For some, its simplicity was seen as a negative, while others felt its straightforwardness was a positive.
- Some believed that there needed to be better integration between the LAC and OPL spaces, that the partners were too siloed.



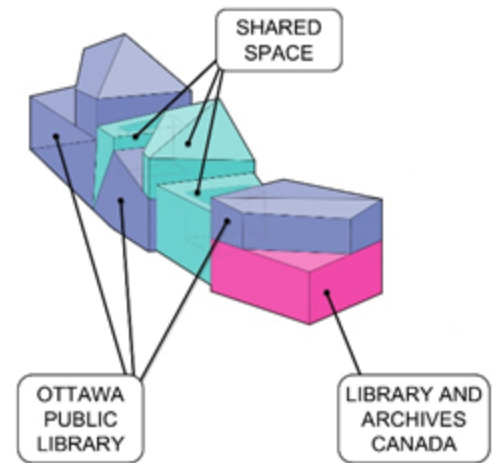
concept 1: layers

Comments – Key Themes for the Peaks Concept:

- Many felt that Peaks was a more interesting design than Layers. Some saw it as striking or more innovative, and that the rooftop's varied texture would allow for more views and light.



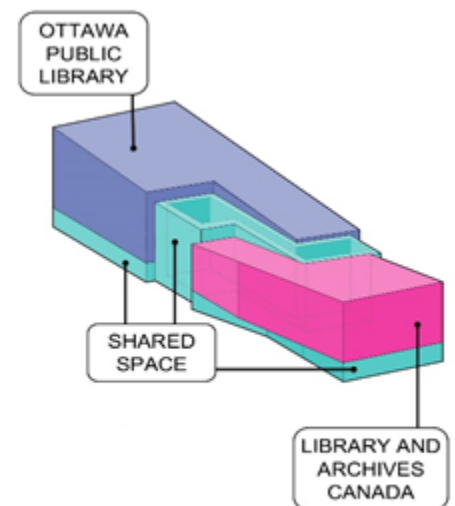
- Many liked the Peaks concept because it allowed for more outdoor programming than Layers.
- Many saw this concept as more open and flexible; that it connected well with the street and pathways, and that it interacted well with its surroundings.
- There was a general like of the peaks' rooftop as it "broke up" the design.
- There were some concerns about the inside flow; that the inside connection was a concern and that the partner programs were too siloed. I.e., that if you started in the wrong peak, you would have a hard time finding your way to where you needed to be. Some users expressed a desire for more seamless functional areas that offered better interaction between the two partners.
- A few also commented that the three peaks needed to be better connected; some suggested they should be connected by a walkway (glassed-in).
- There was a general appreciation for the two atriums although a few participants felt that it broke the flow.
- The multiple entrances were seen as a positive.
- There was support for rooftop access/programming (solarium, garden, events, green roofs).
- Some also commented that each peak or tier of the facility could have a different "feel"; that each could be a distinct habitat with different rooftops, different spaces.
- A few participants suggested that Peaks could be rotated horizontally by 180-degrees to offer a better flow, while one participant suggested it be flipped upside down to allow for more entrances and tunnels in between the three peaks.



concept 2: peaks

Comments – Key Themes for the Interlocking Concept:

- This concept was the most liked of the three and was seen by many as the most flexible of the designs.
- There was general support for the four entrances, and the fact that the shared spaces were located on the ground floor. Some commented that shared spaces also needed to be located on the top floor to make the best views available to the public.
- A few mentioned that a key feature of the facility was its "discoverability." That is, the notion that one would want to explore the facility and discover things as they moved through it.
- There was a general concern that this concept did not offer the best views, and a number suggested that Interlocking



concept 3: interlocking



would be improved by adding one or more of the towers from the Peaks concept (a hybrid concept).

- Some commented that they liked the “Z” shape atrium.
- A few commented that Interlocking was the most functional concept and offered the best connectivity between the two partners. Still, some participants felt that better integration was required between all the spaces.
- Some noted that this concept offered the best opportunities for access to the rooftop, and for outdoor programming on the site.



Inset – Workshop and Online Exercises:

Statements	LAYERS		PEAKS		INTERLOCKING	
	Online	Workshop	Online	Workshop	Online	Workshop
	% of 222 Responses	223 Responses from 211 Participants	% of 705 Responses	412 Responses from 211 Participants	% of 681 Responses	350 Responses from 211 Participants
Connects Well	28%	28%	19%	19%	28%	24%
Surrounding Landscapes	23%	23%	17.5%	16%	17%	15%
Outdoor Programming	19.5%	20%	20%	22%	15.5%	23%
Three Elements	18%	20%	16.5%	11%	24%	23%
Advantage of Views	11.5%	9%	27%	32%	15.5%	16%

Layers - Statements that work well: Participants could submit up to three selections to this question. A total of 222 responses were received online and another 223 responses were submitted at the workshops. More than a quarter of participants for each medium believed that Layers connected well to the surrounding streets and pathways (both at 28%). The next statement that was most often selected was that the building interacts with the surrounding features (both at 23%). The statements about opportunities for outdoor programming and opportunities for connections between the three elements all received about one fifth of total responses. The statement that was selected the least was that that Layers took best advantage of view (11.5% online and 9% at the workshops).

Peaks - Statements that work well: Participants could submit up to three selections to this question. A total of 705 responses were submitted online and 412 at the workshops. Approximately one third of participants who replied to this question believed that the statement that best applied to Peaks was that it took best advantage of views (27% online and 32% at the workshops). The next statement that was most often selected was there are opportunities for outdoor programming (20% and 22%, respectively), followed by the building connects well to surrounding streets and pathways (both at 19%). The statement that was the least often selected was that Peaks provided opportunities for connections between the three elements of the project (16.5% and 11%, respectively).

Interlocking - Statements that work well: Participants could submit up to three selections to this question. A total of 681 responses were submitted online and 350 at the workshops. Nearly one quarter of participants believed that Interlocking connected well to the surrounding streets and pathways (28% and 24%, respectively). The next statement that was most often selected was there opportunities for connections between the three elements of the project (24% and 23%, respectively). The statements that were the least often selected were that Interlocking took best advantage of views (15.5% and 16%, respectively) and that the building interacts with the surrounding features (17% and 15%, respectively).



4.0 Next Steps

The Inspire555 Series will continue throughout 2019 with two additional phases of engagement on a variety of topics, where the public can participate in helping to share various decisions and influence project outcomes.

Anticipated timelines:

- Phase 2 - Spaces and Relationships: Spring 2019
- Phase 3 - Public Art and Landscaping: Summer 2019
- Phase 4 - Iconic Features: Fall 2019

A parallel but distinct stream of engagement is taking place with Indigenous Peoples. The facility's final design will be revealed in Winter 2020.

