



—Summary Report—
September 2019

**In-person and Online Engagement
for “Public Art and Landscape,” Phase 3 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 August 21 and 22, 2019, as well as an online exercise that ran from August 7 to 27. All comments and feedback 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.

1.2 ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW – INSPIRE555

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.

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 4 phases:

- Phase 1 - Building Blocks: Winter 2019 (completed)
- Phase 2 - Spaces and Relationships: Spring 2019 (completed)
- **Phase 3 - Public Art and Landscape: Summer 2019 (current phase)**
- Phase 4 - Iconic Features: November 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.

1.3 ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW – PHASE 3, PUBLIC ART AND LANDSCAPE

This Summary Report provides an overview of the engagement activities initiated as part of "Public Art and Landscape," the third phase in the Inspire555 Series. Participants were asked to provide their ideas to help inspire the artists from Jason Bruges Studio and the landscape designers from PFS Studio. Input was also requested on the sustainable design features that participants would like to see in the project.

The report provides a summary analysis of two in-person design workshops that were held in the evenings of August 21 and 22, as well as an online exercise that ran from August 7 to 27.

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.

Note that the Design Team is engaging with Indigenous Peoples to get input into how best to recognize, support and value Indigenous art and cultures at the facility.



2.0 Approach

2.1 APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

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

OBJECTIVES

The broad objectives of Phase 3 – Public Art and Landscape, of the Inspire555 engagement process are as follows:

1. To clearly communicate design opportunities, challenges, inspirations, and solutions for the OPL-LAC joint facility.
2. To engage participants in a discussion about the role and importance of the public art, landscape design, and sustainability features for the OPL-LAC joint facility.
3. To ensure that community considerations remain in the forefront and input is continuously incorporated back into the design process.

DESIGN WORKSHOP FORMAT

Members of the public were invited to register for one of two design workshops. A total of 206 participants attended the sessions, which were held August 21 and 22, 2019 in the Pellan Room at Library and Archives Canada. The workshops were an opportunity for participants to meet the artists and designers selected to bring life to the facility's public art and landscape design.

Workshop attendees were seated at tables with up to ten participants, including a designated facilitator from either the City of Ottawa, LAC or OPL. Each table had large print-outs of the proposed themes for the art installation, as well as sketches and images of exterior landscaping options.

The workshops began with an Algonquin Anishinabe territorial acknowledgement, followed by brief introductory remarks by the leadership of the Ottawa Public Library and Library and Archives Canada.

Diamond Schmitt Architects then delivered a technical presentation on:

- Where the project was at in the design process;



- How feedback from Phase #2 – Spaces and Relationships – inspired and shaped the design process leading up to Phase 3;
- The importance of Public Art and Landscaping to the design process;
- The importance of sustainability to the design of the facility.

Jason Bruges Studio (JBS) then presented potential concepts for the integration of public art within the interior and exterior of the building, and the landscape. PFS Studios ended the technical presentations by discussing potential landscape design concepts.

Following the presentations, facilitators led exercises with the participants at their table on how to bring to life the facility’s public art and landscape. The facilitated discussion was in three parts:

1. A discussion on potential concepts for the integration of public art into the interior and exterior of the building, and the landscape.
2. A discussion on the options for landscape strategies and how to make the best use of the site.
3. A general discussion regarding the facility’s potential sustainability features.

A total of 151 comments sheets were submitted at the end of the two workshops. In addition to providing general comments related to the project, participants were asked to rate their degree of satisfaction for six statements using a scale of one to five, where “1” was very dissatisfied and “5” was very satisfied. The following table indicates the responses received for each statement:

Statements	Phase 3: Average	Phase 2: Average	Phase 1: Average
Overall satisfaction with the workshop	88% (4.4/5)	89% (4.46/5)	n/a
The objectives of the workshop were clear	88% (4.39/5)	88% (4.41/5)	84%
The presentations were clear	85% (4.25/5)	89% (4.44/5)	90%
There were sufficient opportunities to provide input	92% (4.56/5)	90% (4.48/5)	82%
I understand how my feedback will be used	79% (3.93/5)	79% (3.97/5)	61%
The next steps are clear	76% (3.82/5)	76% (3.81/5)	73%
Information on the Inspire555 web site was useful to help me prepare	82% (4.1/5)	79% (3.93/5)	51%



ONLINE EXERCISE FORMAT

Canadians were invited to participate in an online questionnaire on the www.inspire555.ca website. The intent was to provide a convenient opportunity for members of the public, both locally and nationally, to participate and provide input into Phase 3 of the design process.

From August 7 to 27, over 1,400 individuals visited the Inspire555.ca site to learn more about the project and the opportunities to engage and inspire the architects in the design process. Of these, 400 responded to the online questionnaire.

The questionnaire had a total of eight questions, divided into the following four parts:

1. An introductory question to help identify the degree to which respondents were OPL and LAC users;
2. Questions related to public art with a view to inspiring the artists from Jason Bruges Studio as they consider options to incorporate public art inside and/or outside the facility;
3. Questions on how landscape can help make this facility truly iconic, ensuring the design makes the most of the site and its key features; and
4. Questions on how the architects can design a state-of-the-art green facility that will meet the needs of today and generations to come.

The questionnaire took approximately 10 to 15 minutes to complete. Respondents had to register through the City of Ottawa's engagement platform to complete the online exercise.

2.2 PROMOTION

Phase 3 of Inspire555 was launched at the end of July with the following activities to promote both registration to the workshops and the online questionnaire:

- Web content on Inspire555.ca, including link to registration;
- Public service announcements to announce the workshops and the online engagement;
- Organic social media campaigns on LAC, City and OPL channels (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter) to promote workshop registration and participation in the 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.

The workshops and online engagement generated significant social media buzz, including 254 instances of #Inspire555 on Twitter and Facebook from July 1 to August 31, with a peak of 122 mentions the week of the workshops. Top key words included public art (85), joint facility (90), landscape, paysage (48) and art public (46). The estimated social reach of these posts was 1.5 million in August, and 420,000 in July.



3.0 What We Heard

3.1 ANALYSIS

As part of its reporting mandate, PACE reviewed and analyzed all input received during Phase 3 – Public Art and Landscape – of the Inspire555 engagement process.

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. These are as follows:

- Input from the engagement activities show that the public want public art and the landscape design to complement and bolster the facility’s iconic design. They see this as a future destination for Ottawans and visitors, and a gathering point to engage in a multitude of activities.
- A common thread in the comment, is that the public wants all aspects of this facility to be iconic. This desire for a landmark facility extended to all aspects of this phase of engagement, from creating unique outdoor experiences for users of the site, to having public art that caught people’s attention, to showcasing the best and latest advancements in sustainable building design.



- Regarding public art, there was a clear desire it be bold, yet welcoming, and that it serve to draw visitors to the facility.
- Regarding the landscape, participants wanted a mix of quiet and vibrant outdoor spaces that would showcase the site's natural features and surroundings, and also allow for intimate, smaller-scale events.
- In terms of sustainability, participants both online and at the workshops wanted the facility to incorporate a wide range of features, making it a leader in environmental building design. They also wanted the sustainable features to be showcased to help raise awareness for the environment and leading-edge environmental solutions.
- There was a keen interest in incorporating elements of nature and the environment into all aspects of the facility, recognizing Ottawa and Canada's great cultural diversity, and showcasing Indigenous history, culture and heritage where appropriate.

KEY OBSERVATIONS – IN-PERSON DESIGN WORKSHOPS

This section looks at the input and feedback provided for each of the following three discussion topics that were explored at the Phase 3 workshops:

1. Landscape Design
2. Sustainable Features
3. Public Art

1) Landscape Design

Facilitators led a discussion on the pros and cons of the proposed landscape design concepts. Participants were presented with three different approaches for how the outdoor spaces could be designed and had to consider how each approach impacted the kind of exterior programming that could take place outside the facility.

To properly frame the discussion, participants were told that natural (soft) landscaping such as grass, gardens and pathways, was more suitable to quiet reading and contemplation, but less suitable for large events, while paved (hard) landscaping allowed for more variety of programming such as outdoor events, but offered fewer intimate spaces.

The objective of this exercise was to solicit input on what participants considered the most appropriate balance of hardscape and softscape, with a view to creating a comfortable and functional outdoor space.

The analysis below follows the order of the questions asked by the table facilitators:

1. What do You Want to Experience in the Outdoor Spaces of the Joint Facility?
2. Discuss the pros and cons of the following three approaches to landscape design:



- a. Mostly Natural Landscape
- b. An Equal Mix
- c. Mostly Hard Paved Surfaces

Q1) What do You Want to Experience in the Outdoor Spaces of the Joint Facility?

- Similarly to past phases of engagement on the inside spaces at the facility, participants expressed a desire for a mix of vibrant and quiet areas in the outdoor spaces. They were keen on having activities and public events but it was also essential to create an inviting and welcoming space that was connected to nature.
- In this respect, many participants noted that they were keen to have performance and public activities, but that these should be appropriately scaled to be intimate and welcoming, as opposed to creating a major concert venue that would require a large, open and uninviting space.
- There was a clear desire for a variety of public activities and programming. This ranged from live performances, to outdoor movies, book fairs, festivals, concerts, markets (i.e., farmers; craft; X-mas), etc.
- There was also a strong desire for discreet, separated spaces with comfortable seating areas for reading and relaxing. Creating spaces for “respite” and a “green oasis in an urban setting” were reoccurring themes throughout.
- Several participants indicated that this space should be unique and in keeping with the facility’s mandate, as a centre of learning and knowledge (“The outdoor activities should complement the indoor activities. They need to mesh with the concept of the building.”). For these participants, there were several other locations in Ottawa that could accommodate large events; it was felt that this facility should provide a more unique and intimate offering. It was also noted that the outdoor activities should work in conjunction with the indoor programming – for example, by showcasing LAC and OPL exhibits or hosting outdoor events that were associated with knowledge, learning and books. The outdoor spaces should be an extension of the indoor spaces.
- A reoccurring theme was that the outdoor spaces should become a gathering point and destination place for Ottawans and visitors. It should create social connection opportunities at the community-level.
- A few suggested that the programming and activities should be multi-generational; i.e., that they should appeal to all ages: with games and play structures for kids; storytelling; picnic space; exercise classes such as yoga; etc.
- There was also a desire for outdoor learning activities, such as gardening workshops and bike repair clinics.
- A few participants mentioned that outdoor paths need to be wide and designed for strollers and people with mobility challenges.



- A few mentioned that noise from Albert street and the LRT might be a concern, and that landscaping should include sound barriers.
- Weather was a concern for many. This included requests for ample shading (trees, awnings, gazebos, etc.) and permeable surfaces. There was a concern that a large open and paved space would create a heat sink that would not be enjoyable in hot weather.
- Participants also wanted spaces that were useable all year – a four season design. In terms of winter activities, some participants suggested fire pits and chimeneas, while others wanted to see a skating rink or track. A few also suggested that the facility grounds would be a good gathering point to begin a cross-country trek to the Sir John MacDonald Parkway and other pathways.
- A few mentioned that the outdoor activities should not be over-programmed, to leave room for spontaneity.

Q2) Discuss the pros and cons of the following three approaches to landscape design

Approach 1: Mostly Natural Landscape – Pros and Cons

- There was general support for this approach, as many participants noted that it would result in a more welcoming and inviting space. Participants liked that there would be more grass than paved areas.
- Participants offered that the benefit of this approach would be more tree cover and a better flow with more natural lines, rather than the hard, angular lines that a large, open landscape would create.
- They also liked that this approach favoured more quiet, calming and intimate spaces.
- There was a reoccurring notion that this space should be designed to create a “green oasis” in an urban setting, with lots of natural features such as the use of wood and other natural materials.
- A few mentioned that the paths should be winding and allow for discovery and surprises (also a prominent theme at phase 2 for the inside of the facility).
- A few mentioned that this approach was more sustainable and environmentally-friendly as it avoided creating heat sinks, created permeable surfaces, allowed for more greenspace, and helped support pollinator species such as bees and butterflies.
- In terms of cons, participants noted that the greenspaces might result in less space for seating and that it was less functional, especially in non-summer seasons. It was also noted that this option might not be as accessible for visitors with mobility challenges. Others mentioned that the greenery (grass, gardens) might require more maintenance than a large paved area. Generally, however, there was a sense that these were acceptable limitations, and that it would be more beneficial to have soft surfaces over hard ones.



Approach 2: An Equal Mix – Pros and Cons

- Overall, this was the favoured approach as it offered the most flexibility in terms of allowing for a mix of quiet and vibrant spaces (“the best of both worlds”). Several participants, however, noted that the mix should lean more towards soft surfaces rather than be an equal mix of soft and hard surfaces (i.e., a 60/40 or 70/30 mix).
- Participants noted that a key benefit of this approach was that it allowed for a diversity of activities and that it was a good compromise between the three approaches.
- Some participants noted that providing shaded areas would be important, particularly since large open areas can become very hot in the summer.
- A few mentioned that the hard surfaces should not be constructed with concrete or asphalt, but rather, with softer materials such as wood or flattened/hard grass as these would be more appealing.

Approach 3: Mostly Hard Paved Surfaces – Pros and Cons

- This was the least favoured approach of the three. Those that were in favour of this approach liked it because it allowed for larger events, and they liked the notion that this space could become a vibrant destination in Ottawa.
- Several participants noted that there were a lot of paved, plaza-like surfaces in Ottawa, and that the outdoor spaces for this facility should provide a different offering.
- Many felt that this approach was the least inviting, and that heat would be an issue in the summer months (“urban desert”).
- It was recognized that hard, paved surfaces were the most accessible for people with mobility issues.
- A few participants noted that this approach was too angular, and that softer curved angles would create a better flow and be more esthetic.
- Many participants also noted that they wanted a more intimate space, with quieter and smaller areas to read and relax.
- There was a concern by some that hard spaces were not permeable, and that water runoff might be an issue. Others felt that the space would be underutilized in the wintertime (“Will it be a frozen wasteland for six months of the year?”).

2) Sustainable Features

For this exercise, participants were told that the new facility will be built to a high environmental standard (a minimum of LEED Gold certification) and be accessible by light-rail and pathways for cyclists and pedestrians. They were then asked to provide their ideas and comments for the sustainable features they would you like to see inside and outside of the building.



Q) What Sustainable Features Would You Like to See Inside and Outside of the Building?

- It is clear that participants are highly supportive of a state-of-the-art sustainable facility. Participants offered a wide range of features they would like to see inside and outside the building.
- A common theme was that the facility's sustainable features should be prominently showcased to help raise awareness and educate visitors on the benefits of a sustainable design. A few suggested that the facility should be a leader in green building design ("Put Ottawa on the map for the sustainability features of the building."), with some proposing that it be carbon neutral.
- A number of participants noted that the facility should be constructed with locally sourced and recycled materials.
- Regarding the outside of the facility, there were several proposals for green rooftops and significant greenspace, such as trees for shade, community gardens that grow produce that could be used by the facility's food service supplier, and native plants to attract pollinator species such as bees. Several participants also wanted the outside spaces to be designed using permeable materials.
- A few also mentioned that the facility needed to accommodate cyclists as a way to encourage active transportation. This included good connectivity to the surrounding cycling paths, and ample and secure bike parking.
- With respect to the facility's energy features, some suggested that heating and cooling could be provided by a geothermal system. Others supported solar panels, and a few suggested wind turbines.
- Many participants proposed ideas that related to the facility's operations; for example, that water conservation technologies be incorporated, such as waterless urinals, and the use of grey, rain and river water for sanitation and irrigation. Several suggested that green or living walls would help purify the air within the building. Many also wanted to see waste management practices at the facility, such as recycling and composting bins throughout.
- It was also proposed that the food and beverage suppliers be required to adopt sustainable practices, such as prohibitions on single use plastics, the requirement to purchase local foods and services, composting, etc.
- Other suggestions included electric vehicle charging stations, water bottle stations, bike repair stations, heated pathways to reduce the use of salt in winter, bee hotels, etc.
- A few mentioned that the facility needed to adopt bird-friendly design standards.

3) Public Art

Participants were asked for their ideas on how best to integrate public art into the facility, with a focus on the three initial themes presented by the artists:



1. Confluence: This theme references the natural elements such as the river and the escarpment on the site, the coming together of the two partners (OPL and LAC), the sharing of knowledge, and the coming together of people who will use the new facility.
2. Connections: The connections that link us together through our family tree, our history, and our stories (i.e. genealogy resources, local history resources).
3. Information: The volume, categorisation and content of the extraordinary collections of LAC, OPL.

The analysis below follows the order of the questions asked by the table facilitators:

1. Which of these themes do you like the best?
 - a. Confluence
 - b. Connections
 - c. Information
2. Do you have any ideas for other artwork themes that would reflect the civic and national significance of this facility and the unique partnership between a city library and Canada's national library and archives?
3. Discuss the pros and cons of the following five possible locations for public art:
 - a. Integrated within the building itself, such as in the exterior shell.
 - b. At one of the building entrances (outside or inside).
 - c. As part of the site's outdoor landscaping.
 - d. Integrated in the walls or ceiling of the main Town Hall, which will be the building's principal focal point and centre of activity.
 - e. Dispersed throughout the facility in active program areas such as the Children's Discovery Centre, Adult Fiction, Genealogy Centre, etc.
4. What would you like public art to achieve or accomplish for this facility?

Q1) Which theme do you like the best?

Themes - Generally

- A number of participants suggested that the proposed themes should be combined. The most frequent proposal was for all three to be combined, followed by a combination of "confluence" and "connections."
- There were several suggestions that the theme should connect more with nature, the environment and sustainability.
- A number of participants believed that the art needed to be in keeping with the facility's mandate as a learning centre and repository of knowledge.
- Participants were divided as to whether the artwork should be digital. Those that favoured digital liked it for its flexibility and ability to change over time. Those that were against it felt



that it was not an enduring medium for art – that the technological focus was a trend that would soon be outdated. Others felt that digital-based art was cold and unrelatable, while others expressed concerns that it might create light pollution (if the artwork were outside) or that it might be an issue for people with autism or sensitivity to flashing lights.

Comments on Theme 1: Confluence

- The “confluence” theme was the most favoured of the three. Participants particularly liked that it incorporated elements of nature, the river, water (the aqueduct) and the surrounding landscape. Nature and the environment were aspects that resonated highly with participants.
- Participants generally felt that this theme was the most interesting, that it worked well with the site, and that it was the most distinctive to Ottawa. Others felt this theme was the most organic and the one that allowed for a better depth of concept.
- There was a sense, expressed by some participants, that this theme also related to community and people (“the idea of the river being symbolic and connecting people, places, cultures, etc”).
- A few participants also linked this theme to the passage of time and “shifts in thinking and consciousness” (“it joins the past and the future”; “the idea of moving forward, thinking towards future connections”).
- A few suggested that this theme could showcase the city coming together with the country (“it represents Ottawa and Canada moving forward”); in this respect, some saw a tie-in to the City of Ottawa’s new tag line, “Canada in One City.”
- A number of participants commented that they did not feel the concept of the two facility partners coming together was a topic worth reflecting in the artwork.

Comments on Theme 2: Connections

- The “connections” theme was ranked second by most participants. A very popular aspect of this theme was the binary tree concept.
- There was a sense that this theme was relatable (“the most ‘human’”) and would allow for good interactions with the public.
- Many felt that this theme was very relevant to the mandate of the partners and the facility.
- While some liked the notion of genealogy being represented in the artwork, an equal number of participants were against it. Some felt that the notion of family trees and genealogy reflected traditional ideas of family and heritage and would not be inclusive to different types of families or newcomers to Canada. Some saw it as too limited a concept to represent the full range of services that will be provided at the facility.
- A few believed the focus should be on human connections to nature, and connections between cultures.



Comments on Theme 3: Information

- “Information” was the least popular of the three themes.
- Those that liked it felt that it was the most relevant to the facility and the partners. A number of participants also liked that it was the theme that allowed for the most interactivity with users of the facility. Others liked it because it was tied to learning and promoted “growth and inspiration.”
- Some felt that it was “too abstract,” “boring” and “unappealing.” Others stated that it was too “obvious” a theme, and that it might not be an enduring concept. Related to this, some participants felt that the theme was too narrow as the facility was much more than just about books.
- A few noted that there were negative connotations with data and information, such as data harvesting. In this respect, it was suggested that the theme could focus on knowledge rather than information and data.

Q2) Do you have any ideas for other artwork themes that would reflect the civic and national significance of this facility and the unique partnership between a city library and Canada’s national library and archives?

The following are the top themes that were proposed by workshop participants (not in order of priority):

- Sustainability;
- History of Ottawa (and the site) and Canada;
- Diversity and culture (closely associated with the theme of Canada’s history and heritage);
- Knowledge, wisdom, inspiration, curiosity and learning (associated with the facility’s institutional mandate);
- Nature, water, the river (flow), the Canadian landscape;
- Recognition of Indigenous Peoples, culture and heritage (some participants commented that the public art program needed to be coordinated with the Indigenous art program).

Q3) Discuss the pros and cons of the five possible locations for public art

- Participants were divided as to whether the major public art installation should be located inside or outside the facility.
- Regardless of its location, there was a clear desire that the artwork should be impressive enough to draw visitors to the facility (a “wow factor”). Several participants also commented that the art should be a landmark piece that adds to and complements the facility’s iconic architectural design. A few cautioned, however, that the art should not compete with or take away from the architecture or distract from the facility’s design.



- For those that wanted the artwork outside, there was no clear preference for whether it should be part of the landscape or part of the building' exterior shell. Some participants stated that they wanted the art to be seen from far (such as from Pimisi LRT Station).
- For those that wanted the artwork inside, many believed the Town Hall to be the most appropriate location. There was no clear indication of whether it should be a central piece or displayed on the ceiling. Several expressed a desire that it be seen from both inside and outside the facility by locating it near a glass wall or an entrance. That way, the art would draw visitors from outside to the inside.
- Other participants noted that if the art was located in the Town Hall, it should be significant enough for it to be seen from all floors and should animate the space.
- A few participants indicated that they would prefer smaller art pieces that are spread-out throughout the facility, allowing one to discover various art pieces as they visit the building and the landscape.
- A few noted that if the art was outside, there may be issues with snow and maintenance.
- A few participants stated that the artwork should not be in the reading areas and should not distract readers with flashing lights or noise.
- A few participants also wondered if the impact of public art located outside the facility might be diminished by future developments at LeBreton Flats.

Q4) What would you like public art to achieve or accomplish for this facility?

- According to participants, the primary reason for public art is to draw visitors to the facility, create a sense of awe and encourage people to stay and visit.
- Many expressed a desire for the art to be bold and impactful, yet welcoming and inspiring. It should appeal to all, including children and youth, A few participants expressed concern that the art should be appreciated by all visitors to the facility, and not be so abstract as to be pleasing only to a few.
- A number of participants wanted the art to be interactive and "touchable," to make it more engaging for all visitors.
- Some noted that the artwork should help build the facility's brand and be part of the building's visual identity.
- A few noted that the artwork needed to be representative of Canada and Ottawa as the capital city.



KEY OBSERVATIONS – ONLINE QUESTIONNAIRE

The following is an analysis of the online questionnaire, which included both quantitative and qualitative questions. The questionnaire was in four parts and comprised 8 questions. The analysis follows the order of the questionnaire.

Note that participation in the online exercise was by interest, and the analysis is therefore not intended to be statistically representative of a randomly selected population.

Part 1 - Introduction

Introductory Question

Before we start, please tell us if you are a client of OPL or LAC (pick all that apply):

- > I am an OPL cardholder
- > I am not an OPL cardholder, but I use OPL services (e.g. branches, programs, website)
- > I am not an OPL cardholder, and I do not use any OPL services
- > I have a LAC researcher card
- > I don't have a LAC researcher card but I have attended at least one LAC event, tour, workshop or exhibition in the last two years
- > I have never visited a LAC facility

Analysis

The vast majority of questionnaire respondents, 91%, were OPL cardholders (365 of 399 responses). One in ten respondents had a LAC researcher card (95 of 920, or 10%).

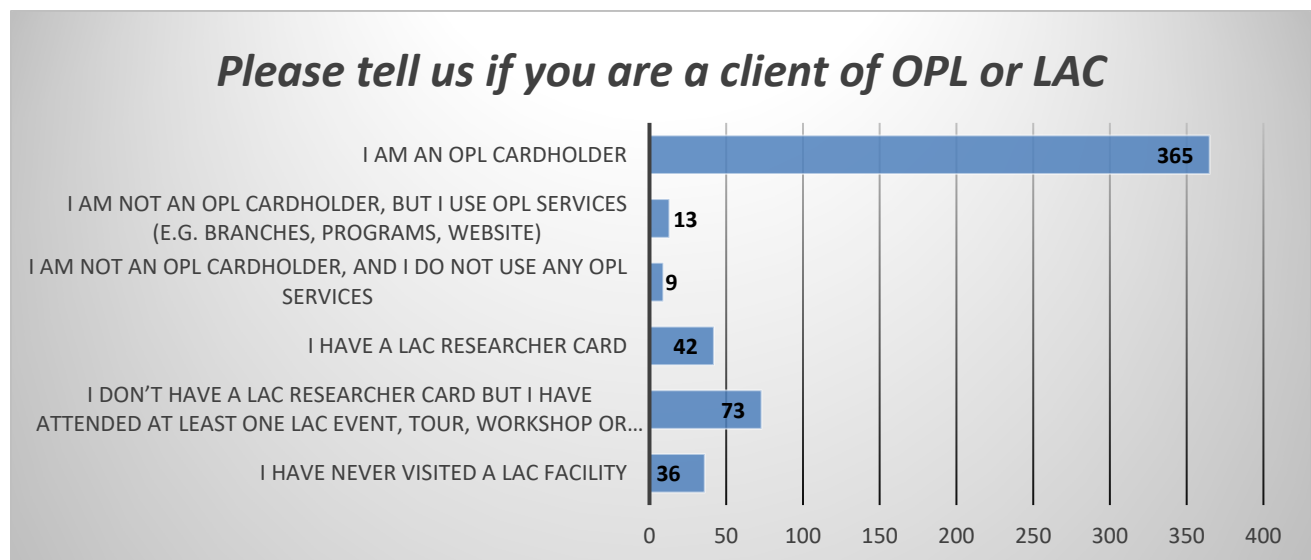


Figure 1: 399 responses



Part 2 – Public Art

Question 1

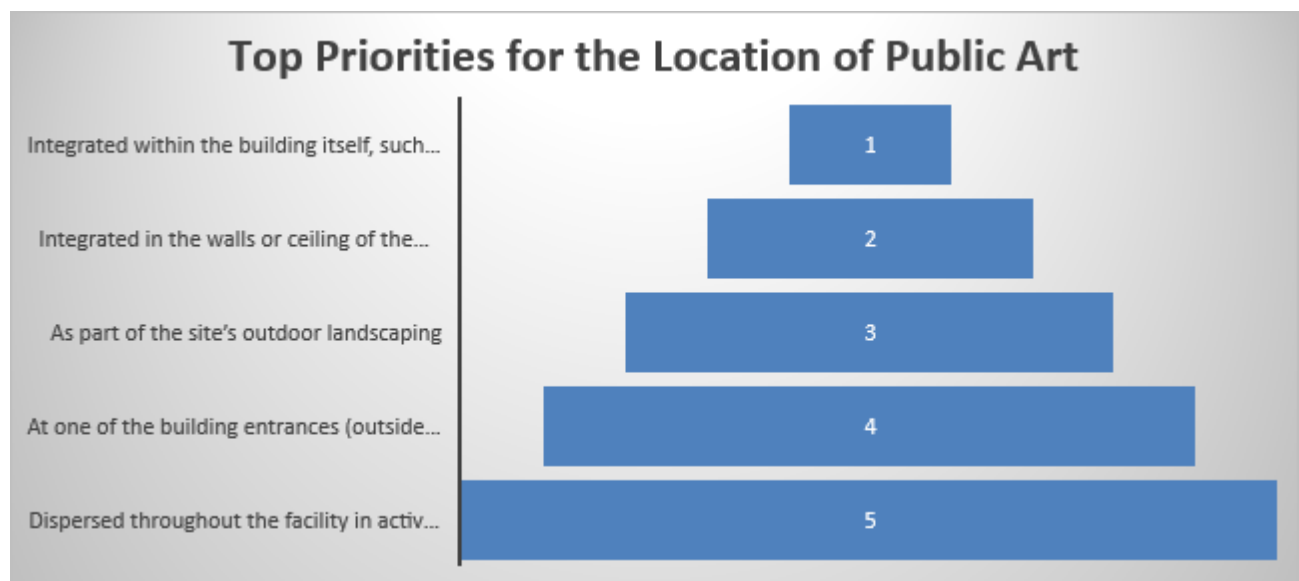
Based on the information above, please pick a ranking (1 to 5) for your top spot to have public art, where "1" indicates your top priority, "2" your second priority, and so on. You can rank as many options as you like:

- > Integrated within the building itself, such as in the exterior shell. This could help form the identity of the building
- > Integrated in the walls or ceiling of the main Town Hall, which will be the building's principal focal point and centre of activity
- > As part of the site's outdoor landscaping
- > At one of the building entrances (outside or inside)
- > Dispersed throughout the facility in active program areas such as the Children's Discovery Centre, Adult Fiction, Genealogy Centre, etc.

Analysis

Respondents were asked to rank their top location for public art. Of five options for art inside or outside the facility, the three most frequently selected locations were, in order of priority:

1. Integrated within the building itself, such as in the exterior shell.
2. Integrated in the walls or ceiling of the main Town Hall, which will be the building's principal focal point and centre of activity.
3. As part of the site's outdoor landscaping.



Question 2

The facility will be an important civic and national institution and a major destination for visitors and residents. Which of these themes do you like the best? Pick your favourite theme:

- > **Confluence:** This theme references the natural elements such as the river and the escarpment on the site, the coming together of the two partners (OPL and LAC), the sharing of knowledge, and the coming together of people who will use the new facility.
- > **Connections:** The connections that link us together through our family tree, our history, and our stories (i.e. genealogy resources, local history resources).
- > **Information:** The volume, categorisation and content of the extraordinary collections of LAC and OPL.

Analysis

When asked to choose the public art theme they liked best, respondents were very clearly in favour of the ‘Confluence’ theme:

1. More than two thirds selected “confluence” as their favourite theme (274 of 397 responses, or 69%).
2. The two other themes, “Connections” and “Information,” received equal amounts of support, at 15% each (63 and 60 responses, respectively).

This appears to align with input received from the earlier phases of engagement, where the proximity to the river and the site’s natural features were deemed to be of significant importance to participants.

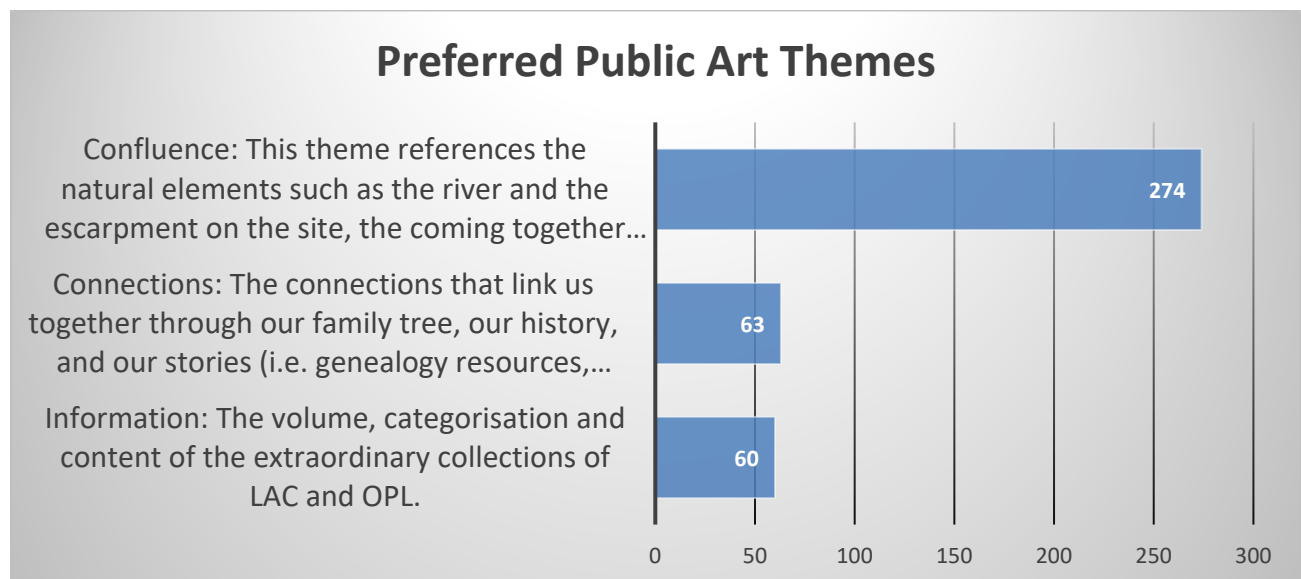


Figure 2: 397 responses



Question 3

Do you have any ideas for other artwork themes that would reflect the civic and national significance of this facility and the unique partnership between a city library and Canada's national library and archives?

Analysis

This opened-ended question generated thoughtful responses and wide range of themes that are representative of the civic and national significance of this facility. The following captures the most frequently raised suggestions:

- A prominent theme was that public art should have an Indigenous aspect to it. For some participants, this meant that Indigenous artists should be involved in creating the art, while others indicated that the artwork needed to reflect Indigenous history and heritage. A few respondents also indicated that the artwork should acknowledge that the facility will be located on unceded Algonquin territory.
- Another popular theme was tied to knowledge. For example, several respondents felt that the artwork should highlight the role that knowledge plays in advancing culture. Others suggested that knowledge-sharing and learning was a critical function of LAC and OPL that should be showcased in the facility's artwork. Associated with knowledge sharing was the notion that the theme should reflect the facility's focus on literature, such as including references to books and the alphabet in the artwork.
- Canadian and/or Ottawa history was often suggested as a potential theme. Associated with history was the idea that art could capture Canada's story past-present-and-future, from the Indigenous presence to the arrival of other cultures, and portraying Canada and Ottawa as a diverse and welcoming multi-cultural centre.
- Nature and Canada/Ottawa's natural landscape were often raised as a potential theme.
- A few respondents suggested that the themes of 'confluence' and 'connections' should be combined. For example, that confluence should also reflect the coming together (i.e., connection) of various peoples and cultures.

Quotes in Support

"The transmission of knowledge from past to present, old to young.
Expanding your imagination through literature and learning."

"The Confluence theme could be used on the exterior and pathways of the buildings, echoing how we are travelling and coming together. Connections could be used in spaces where we meet (town hall, meeting rooms) to show how we are forging connections in these new spaces."

"Under confluence, I'd include diversity, as in multiculturalism, ethnic range of early settlers."



“The beauty of history - art that imaginatively evokes the historical moments and Canadian zeitgeist as it changed throughout its history; captured in the gravity and the beauty of the physical documents which attest to it.”

“Public access to knowledge is an essential foundation for a democracy -- for building a healthy city and a healthy Canada. We have to know the past and understand the present to strive for a better future, which includes Reconciliation with Indigenous people.”

“On the Path to Knowledge: The new OPL and LAC facility is on many pathways to knowledge both natural and cultural; the LRT which connects our Universities and Colleges with Parliament, Pimisi Station which celebrates the Indigenous heritage of the area, bike paths and the Great Trail that unites us from coast to coast, the Ottawa River traveled by the Indigenous and Explorers alike and the vast array of cultural, historical and scientific information in the collection of the OPL and LAC. Together they can facilitate access to these pathways to help us develop the knowledge needed to move our society forward sustainably in respecting and protecting different cultures and the natural environment.”

Question 4

What would you like public art to achieve or accomplish for this facility?

Analysis

There were many excellent responses to this open-ended question, and respondents were clearly engaged by the topic. The following captures the most frequently raised suggestions for what public art at the facility should strive to achieve:

- The most frequent answer to this question was the public art should draw visitors to the facility. Several suggested that the artwork should have a ‘wow’ factor that would complement the facility’s iconic design and help it become an important destination point for Ottawans and visitors alike. In this respect, a few respondents referenced the “Maman” sculpture at the National Gallery of Canada.
- Many respondents suggested that the art should inspire visitors at the facility and stimulate their imagination. This suggestion was sometimes made in connection with the notion that art should reinforce the facility’s mandate to promote learning and knowledge sharing.
- There was a desire by many that the art should be welcoming. Several respondents commented that the artwork should be interactive (i.e., “touchable”), while others suggested it be joyful and playful. Some respondents indicated the artwork should be bold, thought-provoking and inspire discussion, but accessible, nonetheless.



Quotes in Support

“I think the public art should inspire artists, writers, and those using the library as a third space.”

“I want public art to set this new building apart as a destination, as a landing place, as home.”

“Make the landmark visually impressive and something people want to visit to see when they come to Ottawa.”

“I want it to add visual interest and invite people to explore the library.
I'd love to see some interactivity in some of the art.”

“Make the library a destination with something very distinctive and unique for Ottawa.”

“I would like it to convey a sense of value - a sense that all who step within its walls are valued, and that the content of the library is highly valued; that the breadth and diversity of people's perspectives and how they show value to themselves is captured. The point is to make it an uplifting place where all are welcome, all are respected, and all are empowered.”

“I would like this facility to be one of Ottawa's most notable landmarks and a premier destination for visitors to the city...as well as an inspirational place for residents and regular users of the facility.”

Part 3 - Landscape

Question 5

Tell us your preference for how the outdoor spaces should be used. Rank the options below, with 1 being your preferred option and 3 your least preferred:

- > An equal mix between natural landscape features and harder paved surfaces, which will allow for a combination of quiet reading and contemplation, and events such as medium-scale concerts and book fairs.
- > Mostly natural landscape with lots of trees and grass, more suited for quiet areas, and less for large events and outdoor programming.
- > Mostly hard paved surfaces to allow for larger scale event such as farmers markets and festivals, leaving less room for natural landscaping such as grass, trees and flower beds.

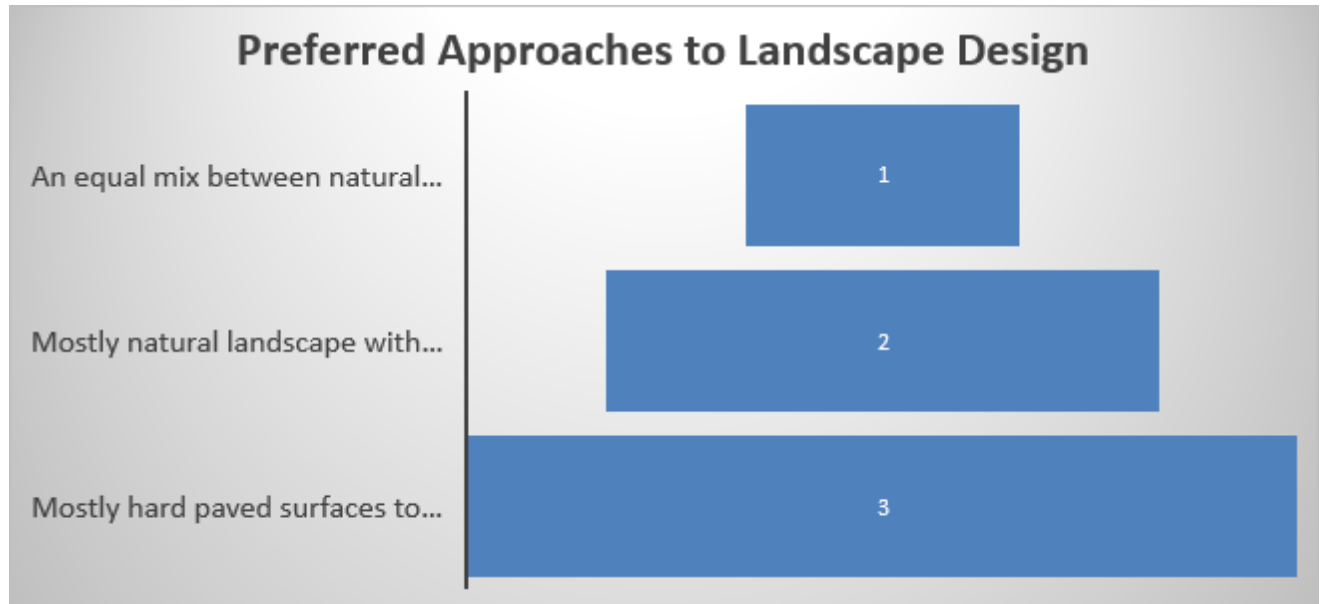
Analysis

Respondents were asked to rank three different approaches for the facility's landscape design. In order of priority, respondents selected the following:

1. An equal mix between natural landscape features and harder paved surfaces.
2. Mostly natural landscape with lots of trees and grass, more suited for quiet areas.
3. Mostly hard paved surfaces to allow for larger scale event.



This priority ranking for a landscape that would allow for a combination of different types of activities aligns with past feedback, in which participants indicated a clear desire for quiet and vibrant spaces at the facility.



Question 6

Give us your suggestions for winter, spring, and fall activities that could take place on the outdoor spaces.

Analysis

Respondents submitted a multitude of suggestions for this question. For the most part, suggestions were for active and vibrant community activities that were in keeping with and respectful of the site, its location and the facility's mandate. For example, while many were in favour of concerts and performances, there was a desire that these be mid- to small-sized in scale. There was also strong support for small festivals of all kinds, and quite often, respondents suggested these could be held in partnership with existing festivals (such as Winterlude, Bluesfest, Chamberfest, Tulip Festival, Ottawa Fringe, etc.). Other suggestions included:

- Performances, including concerts, theatre and dance. Also, outdoor film screenings were a popular suggestion.
- Seasonal fairs and markets, such as farmers markets, arts and craft fairs, flea markets, etc. In the winter months, there were a few suggestions of having sugar shack-style events, such as making maple toffee on snow.
- Book related events, such as book fairs, book readings and book signing events. There were also many suggestions for outdoor storytelling for children (and adults too).



- Space for physical activity and exercise classes, such as yoga, Zumba, tai chi. A few even suggested more active sports such as badminton, tennis and basketball.
- There were several suggestions that the facility would be a good starting point for nature walks, cycling and walking tours, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing along the Sir John A. MacDonald (SJAM) parkway and surrounding pathways.
- Regarding winter activities, there were many suggestions for a skating rink or track. Others suggested ice or snow sculptures, snowshoeing and tobogganing.
- Weather-related concerns were a reoccurring theme. There were suggestions for covered and shaded benches and reading areas, as well as heated areas with fire pits or heating lamps.
- A number of respondents also recommended having outdoor workshops or classes, and that these could be seasonally themed. For example, there could be gardening workshops in the spring and summer, harvest related classes in the fall, and winter sport classes in the winter.
- A few expressed a desire for community gardens.

Quotes in Support

“Outdoor public gardens [in the Spring and Fall] with Canadian and local significance that can be used for education as well as beautification.”

“I think the outdoor spaces could be good for events like festivals, writer talks, poetry readings, and activities for children. There could be events related to Halloween in the fall, flowers in the spring, and building snowmen in the winter.”

“Workshops and learning should be a key part of library activities, including in outdoor spaces. I’m thinking educational gardens where people could learn about growing plants, some kind of connection to the aqueduct and pumping station where people could learn about the history of the area/how we use water resources.”

“In the winter, the site should be connected to the SJAM winter trail via track setting to allow people to arrive on skis or snowshoes. A secure place to leave skis while in the library would be idea.”

“Gathering around a fire to tell stories about nature, animals etc. is another activity that comes to mind. When implemented, it can be a good way to bring people together regardless of the season.”



Part 4 - Sustainability

Question 7

What sustainable features would you like to see inside and outside of the building? Pick your top three from the options below:

- > Green roofs
- > Use of native plants
- > Solar panels on the roof
- > Green walls
- > Water conservation methods
- > Renewable materials used in the building's construction
- > Low waste policy

Analysis

When asked what sustainable features they would like to see inside and outside the building, participant responses indicate a desire for numerous features, rather than one option over others.

While “green roofs” was the most frequently selected option (210 of 393 responses, or 53%), most of the other features received a near equal share of support (ranging between 41% and 46% of responses). The least frequently selected option was “green walls.” It is worth noting that in past phases of the engagement program, green walls were deemed highly desirable, which might indicate that respondents value them more for their esthetic appeal rather than their impact on the environment.

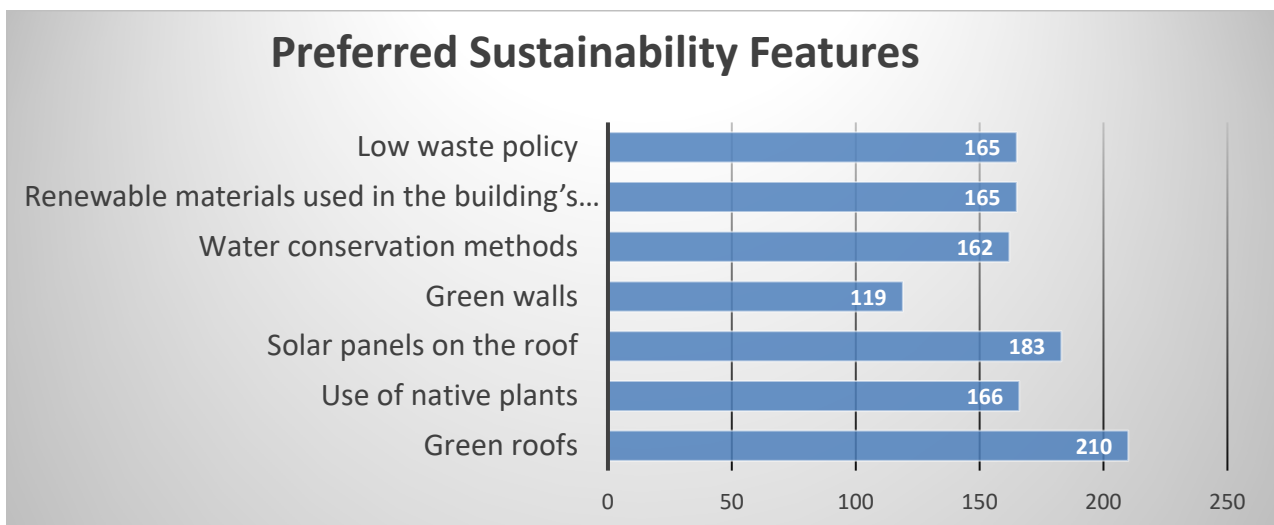


Figure 3: 393 Responses



Question 8

Give us your ideas to help inspire the architects as they design a state-of-the-art green facility that will meet the needs of today and generations to come. Are there any other sustainable ideas you would like to share?

Analysis

Respondents were passionate about this question and provided numerous ideas for how to design a state-of-the-art green facility, covering all aspects of sustainability, from materials used in the building's construction, to technologies to reduce water and energy use in operations, to practical ideas for staff and users to reduce their ecological footprint when on site.

Several respondents felt that the facility's sustainable features should be prominent and showcased to demonstrate leadership by a civic institution. Programming and posted information should educate users and visitors to the site about the building's sustainable features. A few also suggested that sustainability should be integral to the facility's architectural design and form part of its identity – i.e., that sustainable features and technologies could be part of the public art, the construction materials, the landscape. For example, some suggested stationary bikes that produce electricity when pedaled, tree-shaped wind turbines (used in Paris), bioswales as 'greenways', etc.

A very frequent suggestion was to incorporate passive building philosophies ("Passivhaus") into the design, thereby maximizing sun and shade to manage heating, cooling and lighting, and using negligible amounts of energy. Others suggested renewable energy technologies such as solar energy (in panels, walls and paint), wind, and geothermal heating and cooling. A few suggested that the building and furniture should be wood based (as opposed to concrete) and use reclaimed and recycled materials.

Regarding operations, there were several suggestions that the facility should incorporate waste and water reduction strategies, and that policies needed to be adopted to ensure these were effective in practice. For example, many respondents suggested using rain and grey water for toilets. Others suggested that suppliers at the facility (such as food operators) should be contractually obliged to adopt sustainable practices, such as composting; the use of compostable utensils, cups and plates; prohibitions on single-use plastics; the purchase of local food and products; etc. Many suggested that there be recycling and composting bins and multiple water stations throughout the facility, to make it easy for staff and users alike to adopt sustainable behaviours.

There was strong support for green walls and roofs, as well as using native plants throughout the site to reduce water consumption and support pollinator species such as bees and butterflies. A few also suggested having bee hotels on site. Note that a small number of



respondents expressed concerns that some sustainable features, such as green walls and roofs, might not be suitable for LAC's sensitive collections.

Some suggested that food could be grown at the site's gardens and rooftops, which could be used by the facility's food suppliers (such as the restaurant or café) or given to food centres.

A number of respondents indicated that the facility needed to be designed such that it promoted and facilitated sustainable and active transportation (transit, walking, cycling, etc.), while discouraging car use.

A few mentioned that the facility should go beyond LEED Gold and should aim to be net-zero.

Quotes in Support

"Make sustainability a part of the building's interactive identity."

"Water conservation could have a nice tie-in to the site and really help build the identity of the building. I think there's a real opportunity to explore how these sustainable systems could be highlighted in the design visually and be used to create an interesting spatial experience on top of just making an environmentally friendly building."

"We need to use public buildings to set an example and educate people about how beautiful and smart construction can be and we need to be forward thinking in terms of solar panels and energy use. It doesn't make sense to build for the past."

"I like the idea of having the building incorporate green walls/roof and interior green space as a nod to the concept of "confluence"."

"Building should architecturally identify as a "green" facility with natural wood finishes. This also gives it a national Canadian identity."

"Procurement policy should ensure no single-use plastics on site, minimal packaging in items/materials delivered during construction and operations."

"This building should incorporate new experimental measures regarding water and energy conservation as a pilot project and serve as a showcase for these measures to encourage the public to follow suit."

"Often people think living "green" is essentially living under some austerity regime, and I would love for the library to demonstrate that a green building, far from being spartan and ugly, can be incredibly beautiful, fresh, light, and peaceful - something that will attract people and encourage others to think about how they can implement these types of principles in their own homes on a smaller scale. Let's inspire people!"



4.0 Next Steps

The Inspire555 Series will continue throughout 2019 with one additional phase 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 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.

