

VIVIAN LIM

ARCHITECT AIBC
limviviansw@gmail.com
604.655.8665

STATEMENT OF INTENT

I am drawn to architecture that responds thoughtfully to people, communities, and place. Growing up in Melaka, Malaysia - a heritage city shaped by layered histories and diverse cultures - sparked my early appreciation for how the built environment can express identity and create a sense of belonging.

Over the past nine years of practice in Vancouver, I have worked across a range of project types and scales, from mixed-use developments and social housing to institutional and community-focused projects. Early in my career, I gained experience delivering complex residential projects across Metro Vancouver, progressing into a Project Manager role where I led design coordination, consultant collaboration, client communication, and project delivery.

My recent work on feasibility studies for remote Indigenous communities has broadened my understanding of how architecture can support diverse needs, balancing community aspirations with technical requirements, funding considerations, and practical project constraints. These experiences have strengthened my ability to listen, collaborate, and develop thoughtful design strategies within complex contexts.

My background in architecture, urban design, and landscape architecture continues to influence how I approach projects, encouraging me to consider the relationship between buildings, landscapes, and the larger systems that shape communities.

I am eager to contribute to meaningful institutional and community-focused projects while continuing to grow as a designer and project leader. I value collaborative environments that foster thoughtful design, knowledge sharing, and continuous learning.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

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EDUCATION

University of British Columbia
Master of Architecture
2016 - 2019

University of Manitoba
Bachelor of Env. Design
2011 - 2014

SOFTWARE SKILL

Revit ●●●●●
Enscape ●●●●●
Adobe InDesign ●●●●●
Adobe Illustrator ●●●●●
Adobe Photoshop ●●●●●
Vectorworks ●●●○○
Autocad ●●●○○
Sketchup ●●○○○

REFERENCE

Claire Wood
Wood Evans Architecture
Principal
604.358.8860
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Joey Stevens*
University of Utah
Adjunct Instructor
*Former Principal of GBL Architects
+1.385.227.4658

Andrew Emmerson
GBL Architects
Principal
604.736.1156
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ACCOMPLISHMENT

Canadian Institute of Steel
Construction Award
University of British Columbia
2017

Dean’s Honours List
University of Manitoba
2013 - 2014

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Wood Evans Architecture Aug 2024 - May 2026
Architect AIBC

- Conducted feasibility studies for the Nak’azdli Whut’en Health Centre and Ts’il Kaz Koh Clan House, collaborating with Indigenous communities to evaluate site options, program requirements, and conceptual design strategies.
- Prepared proposal submissions for institutional projects by coordinating project strategy, technical content, budgeting, graphics, and presentation materials.

*Prakash Architecture *May 2026 - July 2026
Part-Time Architect

- Developed construction documentation and detailing for an urban public space renovation project.

*JYW Architecture *May 2025 - Feb 2026
Part-Time Architect

- Led program development for an urban Indigenous community centre, integrating BC Housing requirements with stakeholder input and functional planning requirements.

GBL Architects May 2021 - Aug 2024
Project Manager | Intern Architect AIBC

- Managed mixed-use residential and social housing projects from schematic design through completion, overseeing drawing documentation and contract administration for developments ranging from small-scale to multi-phase high-rise projects across Metro Vancouver.
- Led consultant teams through design coordination, resolving technical challenges, maintaining schedules, and supporting junior staff through mentorship and knowledge sharing.
- Contributed to a major project recognized with the 2022 WAN Female Frontier Award – Highly Commended, providing documentation and contract administration support.

MA+HG Architects Mar 2020 - Apr 2021
Intern Architect AIBC

- Produced rezoning applications, feasibility studies, and conceptual design for mixed-use residential and social housing projects in the City of Vancouver.
- Conducted research on emerging housing policies and delivery models to inform design strategies addressing housing affordability challenges.

Ankenman Marchand Architects Mar 2019 - Mar 2020
Intern Architect AIBC

- Supported construction documentation and detailing for light wood-frame residential projects while managing a couple of mid rise residential projects through design coordination, documentation, and consultant collaboration.

Gustavson Wylie Architects Dec 2014 - Jun 2016
Designer

- Supported building code review, construction documentation, detailing, contract administration, tendering, and close-out for hospitality and office tenant improvement projects.

* Collaborative / part-time roles.

PORTFOLIO
2026

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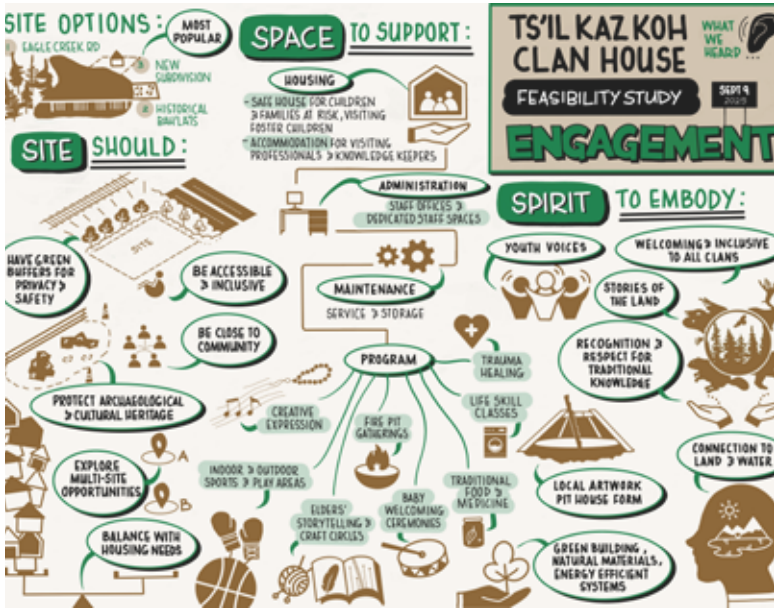
TS'IL KAZ KOH CLAN HOUSE

Client : Carrier Sekani Family Services
Location : Burns Lake, BC
Type : Family Service Building
(Feasibility Studies)
Date : Completed 2026

Role:
I supported the coordination and development of the feasibility study - synthesizing engagement findings, shaping program narratives, organizing design and technical inputs, and assisting in the comparative site analysis that led to recommending a new subdivision site as the preferred location. The report combines demographic analysis, service-delivery review, site reconnaissance, geotechnical and civil assessments, and structured engagement sessions with members living on- and off-reserve.

Overview:
This feasibility study establishes a clear, defensible foundation for a new Clan House facility for Ts'il Kaz Koh First Nation, addressing the community's need for culturally grounded, 24-hour family healing, respite, and child-welfare support. Developed with Carrier Sekani Family Services, the study defines program requirements, evaluates multiple development sites within IR-18, and outlines the scope, scale, and cost parameters for a 641.5 sqm purpose-built wellness facility. The study provides a Class D cost estimate of \$14.5M and positions Ts'il Kaz Koh to advance funding, design, and implementation with clarity and confidence.

The recommended concept includes multi-purpose cultural spaces, counselling rooms, a teaching kitchen, and flexible residential suites supporting both individual and family-based healing.



Engagement Poster Summary



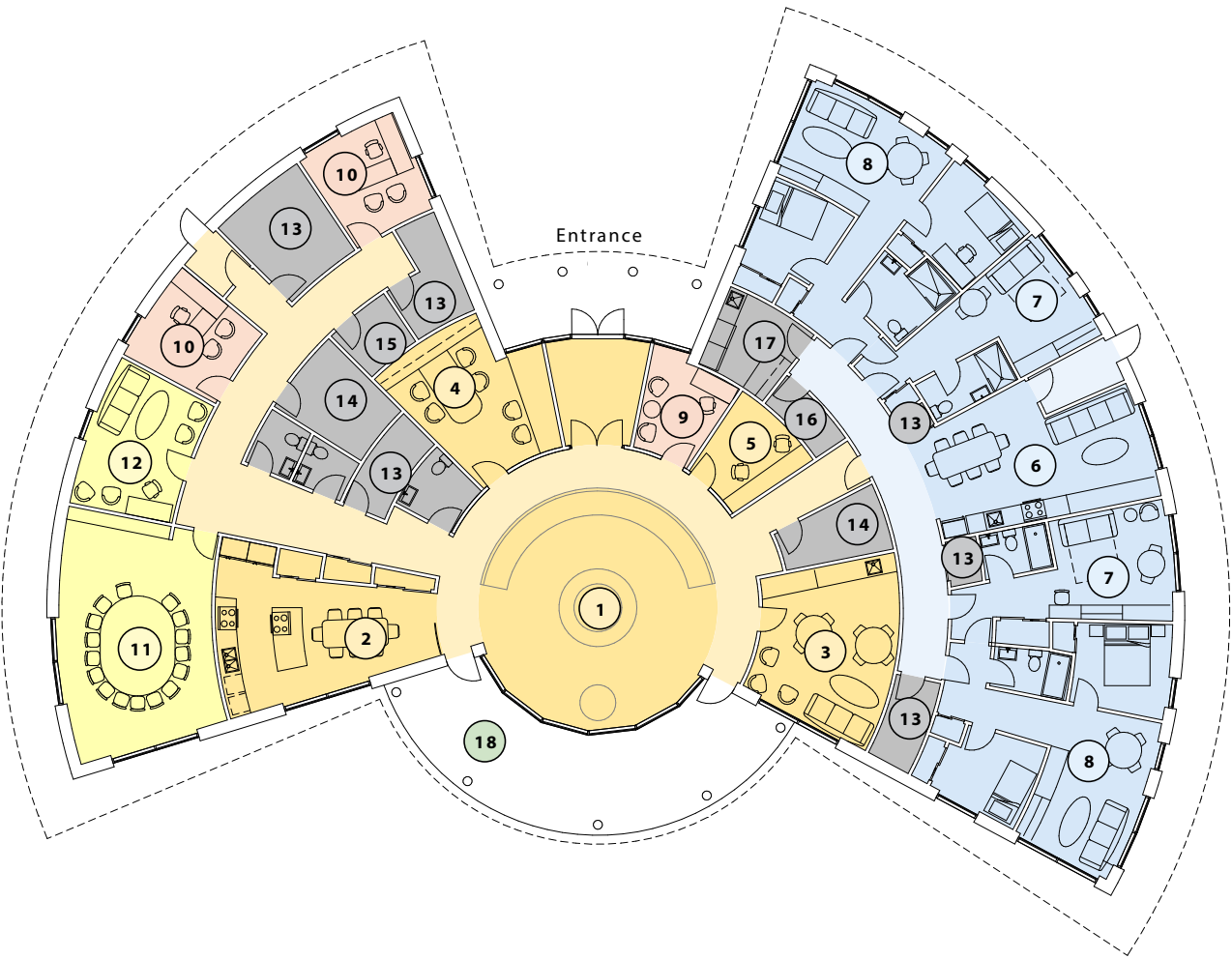
Space organization diagram

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Community | Service / Support |
| 1 Gathering Space | 13 Storage |
| 2 Teaching Kitchen | 14 Service Rm |
| 3 Elders' / Culture Rm | 15 Janitor Rm |
| 4 Craft Rm | 16 Heat Treatment Rm |
| 5 Education Rm | 17 Laundry Rm |
| Housing Support | Meeting |
| 6 Private Common Area | 11 Traditional Decision Meeting Rm |
| 7 Studio Suite | 12 Quiet / Small Meeting Rm |
| 8 2 Bedroom Suite | |
| Admin Support | Outdoor |
| 9 Intake Office | 18 Food Prep Area |
| 10 Private Office | |

Space list



Conceptual rendering



Building floor plan

NAK'AZDLI HEALTH CENTRE

Client : Nak'azdli Whut'en First Nation
Location : Fort St. James, BC
Type : Health and Wellness Centre
 (Feasibility Studies)
Date : Completed 2025

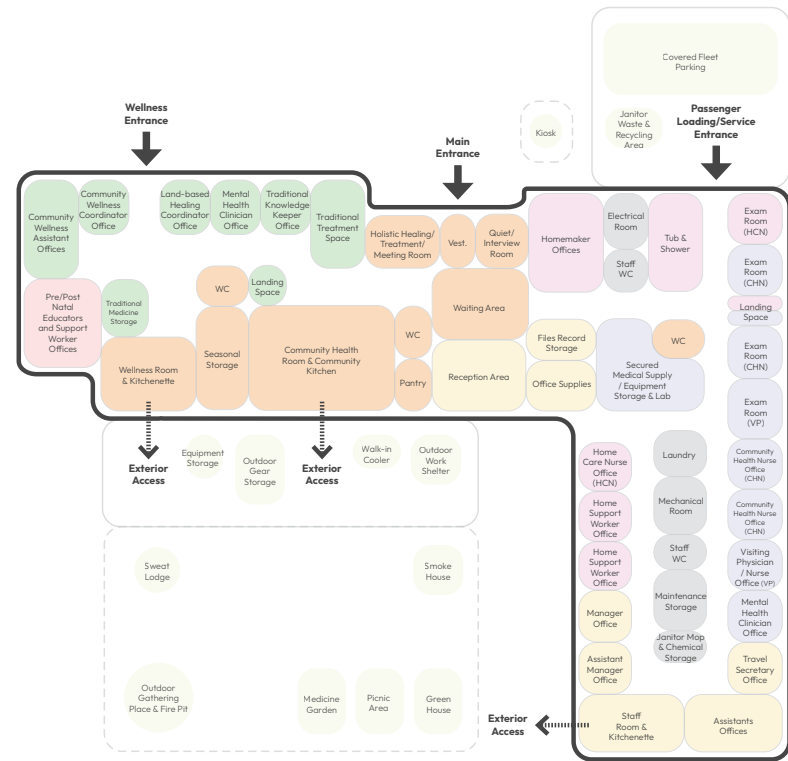
Role:

I supported the project by coordinating input from leadership, staff, and client partners and shaping it into a clear, actionable planning document. I directed the structuring of program requirements, demographic and service-delivery analyses, and the synthesis of geotechnical, civil, and site assessments. I oversaw engagement materials, consolidated community feedback, and translated operational needs into spatial and functional recommendations. I guided the comparative site analysis to align with community preference, service adjacency, and the Land Use Plan, ensuring a consistent narrative and an integrated, well-structured feasibility document.

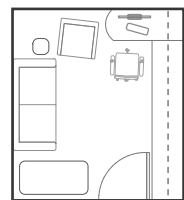
Overview:

This feasibility study establishes a clear foundation for a new Nak’azdli Health Centre, addressing the Nation’s need for expanded health, wellness, maternal, and land-based healing services. It defines program requirements, evaluates four development options across two sites, and outlines the scope, scale, and cost parameters for a 1,100 m² purpose-built facility, with Class D estimates ranging from \$15.9M to \$18.3M.

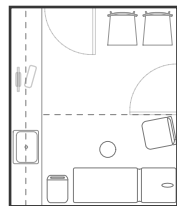
Community engagement indicates strong preference for Option 1B, a new build adjacent to the existing facility. The concept supports expanded clinical spaces, dedicated offices, maternal health rooms, traditional treatment areas, and outdoor healing spaces including a fire-pit gathering area, sweat lodge, and land-based activity zones.



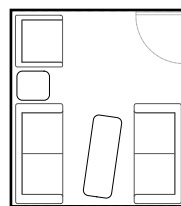
Building program organization diagram



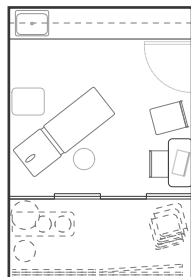
Counselling Room



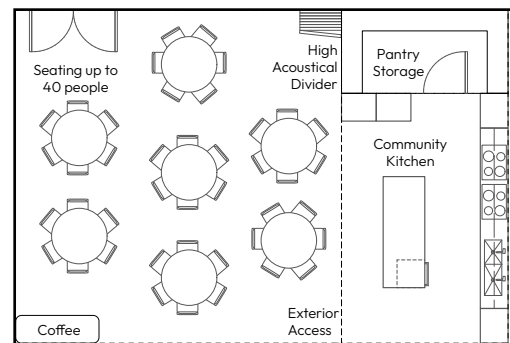
Exam Room



Quiet Room

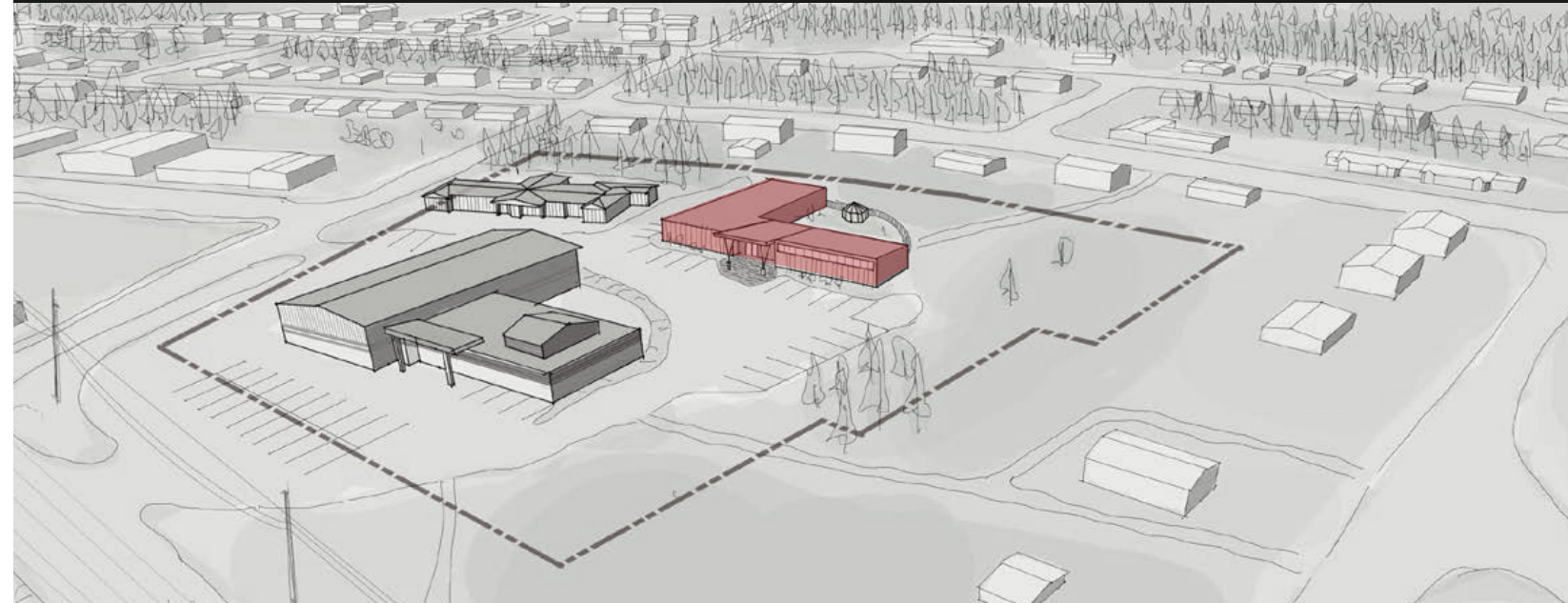


Treatment Room

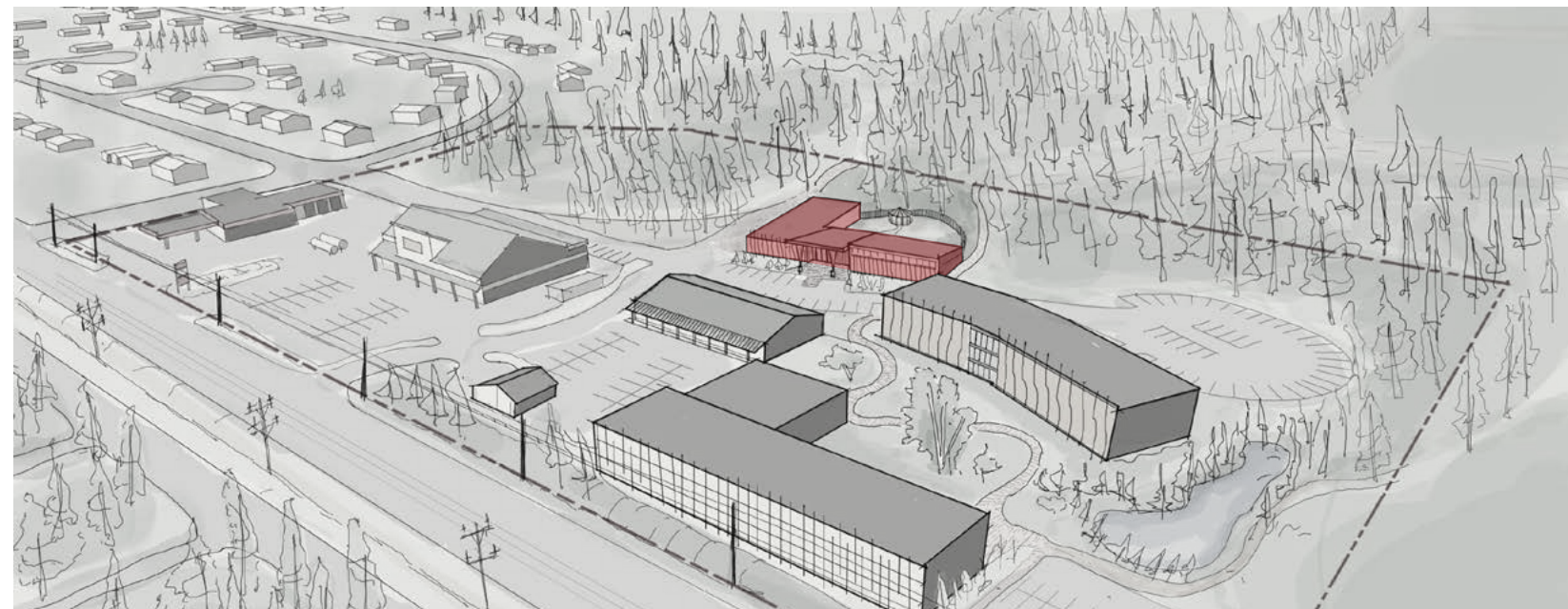


Community Kitchen

Room layout test fit



Conceptual development sketch - Option 1C



Conceptual development sketch - Option 2



OPTION 1A New-Build on the footprint of the existing facility.



OPTION 1B Renovation and expansion of existing building.



OPTION 1C New-Build, adjacent to existing facility.



OPTION 2 New-Build, on an undeveloped site.

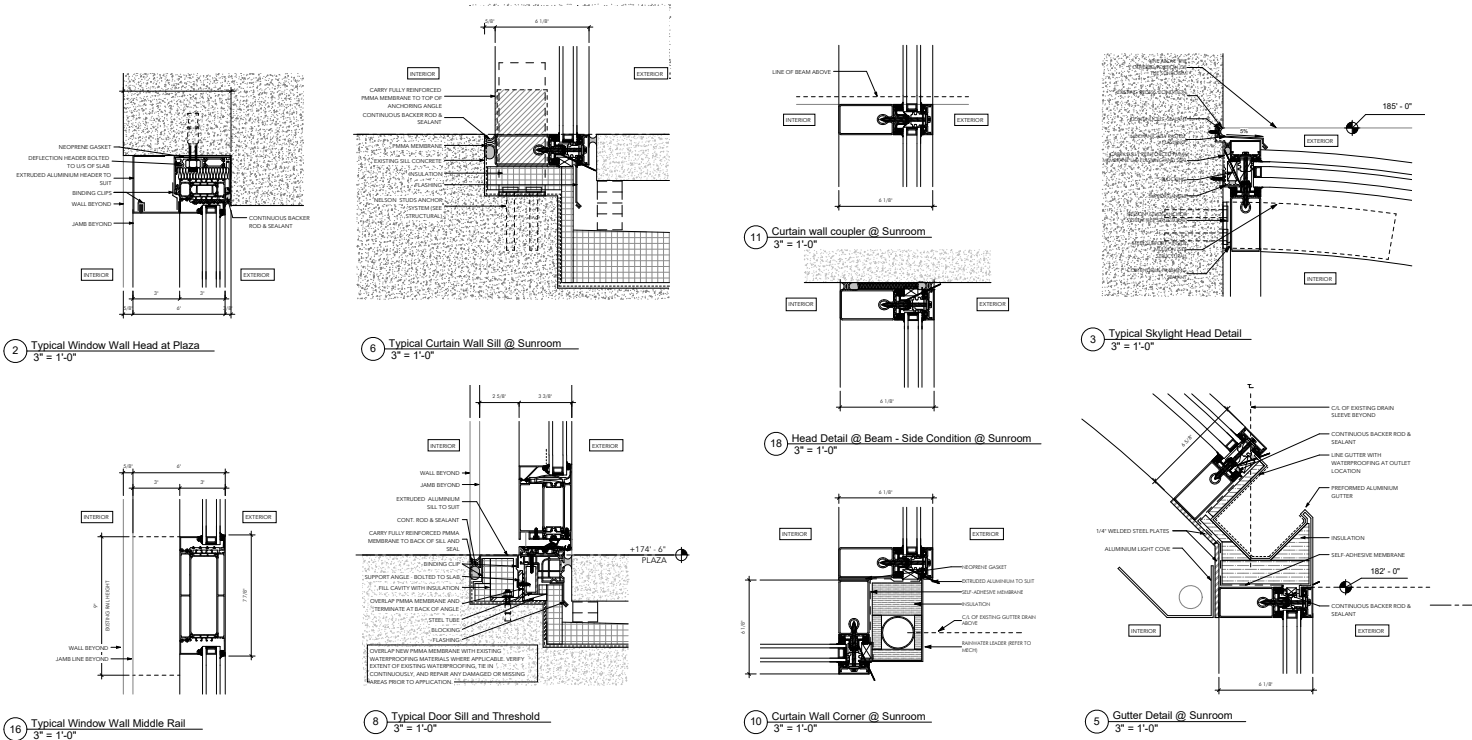
Site option diagram

UBC ROBSON SQUARE

Client : University of British Columbia
Location : Vancouver, BC
Type : Entrance & Envelope Upgrade
Date : 2025 - Ongoing

Role:
I was brought on as part of a larger team to develop new envelope details for the glazing replacement and ensure they aligned with the architectural intent. My work included preparing detailed drawings, refining technical solutions, and contributing to the construction documentation required to move the project toward implementation.

Overview:
The UBC Robson Square entrance renovation involves upgrades to the building envelope and replacement of the existing glazing systems at the primary entrance. The project improves the performance and durability of the exterior envelope while renewing the street-level entrance interface.



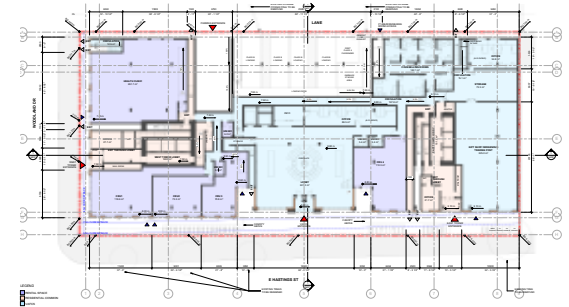
Envelope details package

VAFCS COMMUNITY CENTRE & MIXED-USE SOCIAL HOUSING

Client : Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society (VAFCS) & M'akola Development
Location : Vancouver, BC
Type : Mixed-use Development
Community Centre
Retail
Office
Daycare
Social Housing
Date : 2018 - Ongoing

Role:
I was brought on to lead the program development, coordinate client direction, and prepare the rezoning package for municipal review. Although the project is paused due to the suspension of BC Housing's Community Housing Fund, the study provides a clear foundation to resume design and implementation once funding pathways reopen.

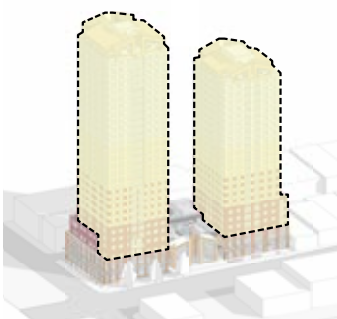
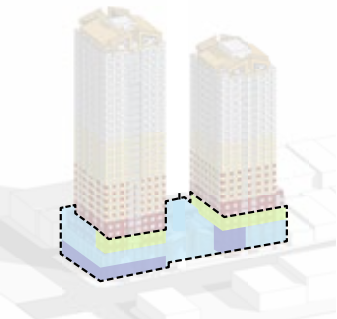
Overview:
This rezoning study advances the replacement of an existing community centre and a mixed-use development for the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society (VAFCS), supported by BC Housing. The project includes cultural programming, commercial uses, health services, office space, underground parking and social housing towers above. The study defines the program needs, sets spatial priorities, and develops a schematic design that reflects VAFCS's vision for an urban Indigenous community hub.



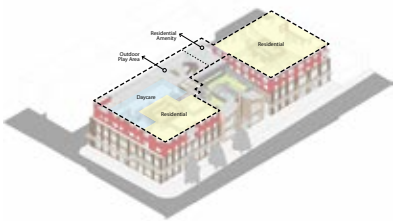
Site plan



Conceptual rendering



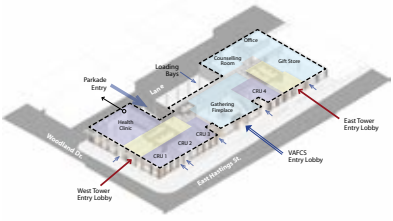
Program diagram



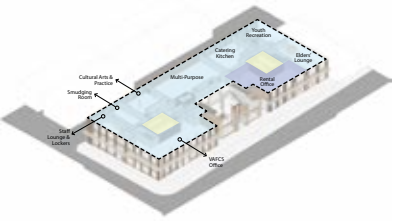
Level 4



Level 3



Level 2



Level 1

Podium program breakdown by level

SIV SOCIAL HOUSING*

[HOUSING FOR WOMEN BY WOMEN]

Client : Soroptimist International of Vancouver

Location : Vancouver, BC

Type : Social Housing

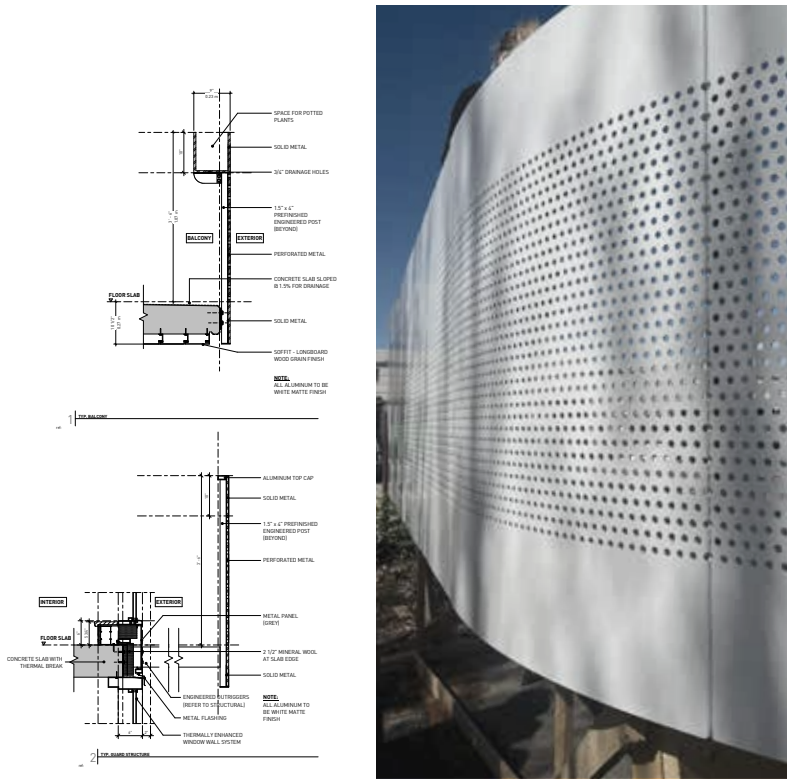
Date : 2018 - 2026

*Recipient of the 2022 WAN Female Frontier Award — Highly Commended.

Role:
For this project, I was brought on during the building-permit stage and continued through construction administration. My responsibilities included coordinating with the design team, consultants, and contractor, ensuring that permit submissions and construction-phase documentation aligned with BC Housing requirements and the project’s design intent. I provided ongoing technical support, resolved coordination issues, and maintained clear communication across disciplines to keep the project moving through approvals and construction milestones.

Overview:
The building is a BC Housing development created for and by women, supporting connection, well-being, and intergenerational community. The design team developed an aesthetic that reflects these values while meeting the functional and cost-effective requirements of affordable housing. The resulting form is simple and efficient, wrapped by a distinctive balcony expression that defines its identity: -

Soft, undulating horizontal ribbons create a fluid, organic presence that contrasts with the rigid, cubic towers nearby, reinforcing Soroptimist’s vision for a welcoming, supportive environment for women. Throughout the project, I ensured technical consistency, documentation quality, and construction-phase clarity, supporting the team in delivering a coherent, well-executed design.



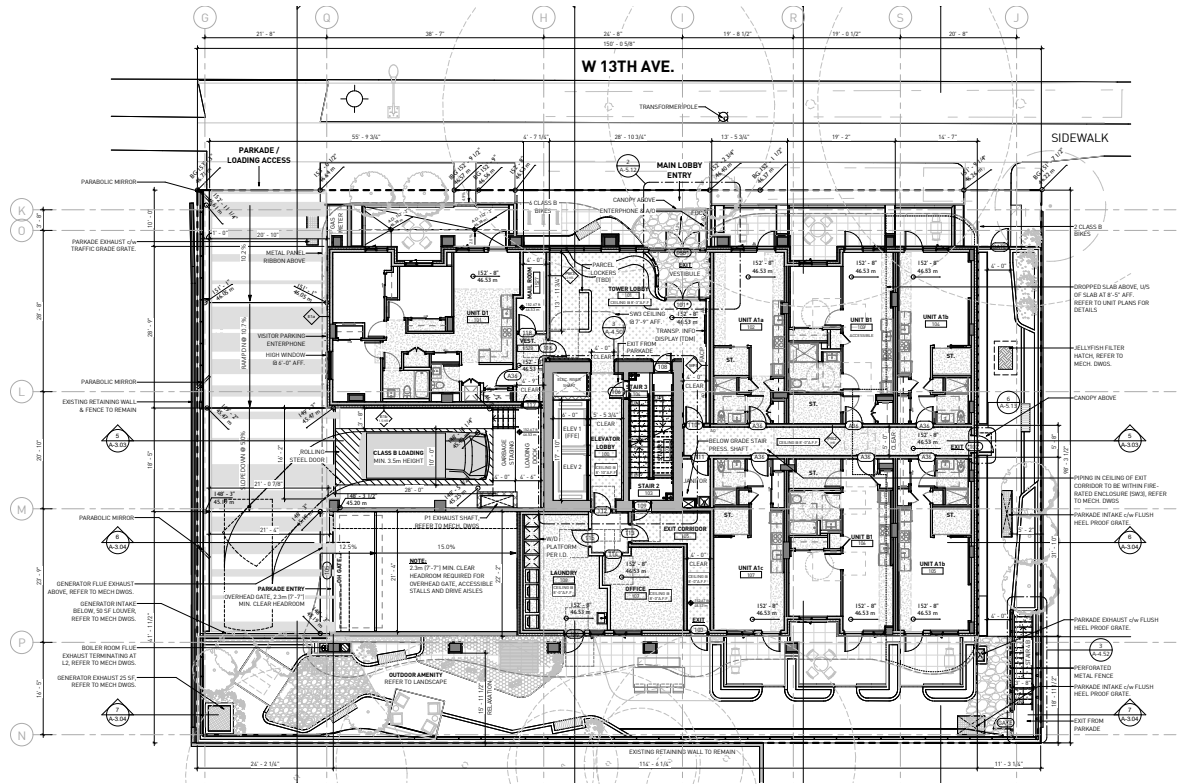
Balcony mockup



Conceptual Rendering



Conceptual rendering



Site Plan

THE CITY OF LOUGHEED 3

Client : Shape Properties Group
Location : Burnaby, BC
Type : Mixed-use Development
Public Urban Park
Retail
Social Housing
Market Housing
Date : 2024 - Ongoing

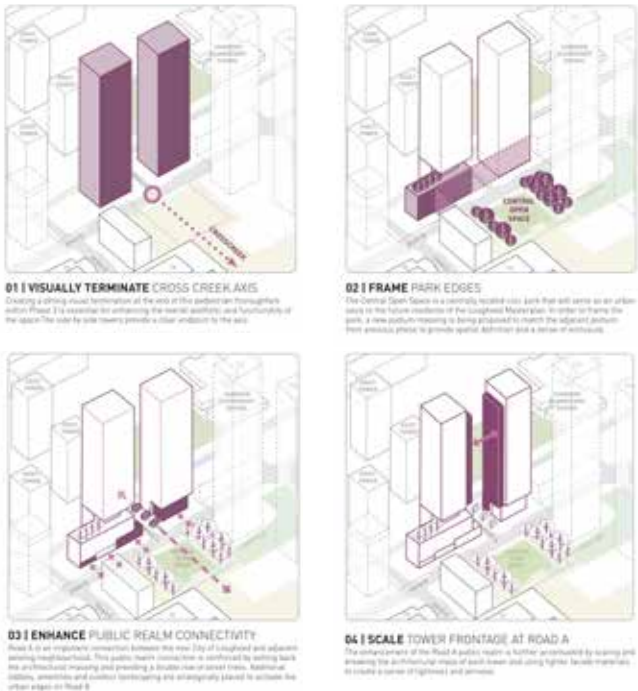
Role:
As project manager, I oversaw all aspects of the work, including weekly presentations, design planning, consultant coordination, and client meetings. My responsibilities included managing schedules, directing consultant inputs, shaping the design narrative, and preparing materials for client and municipal review.

Overview:
The City of Lougheed Phase 3 (TCOL3) is the third phase of the broader master plan. It introduces two towers, a central urban park, and new road connections linking the site to surrounding neighbourhoods. The phase acts as a western gateway between lower-density residential areas and the higher-density core, strengthening the Cross Creek east-west public realm connection.

The architectural intent focuses on the relationship between the towers and the park, creating an immersive public realm that supports social interaction and community engagement. Throughout the project, I coordinated the design team and consultants to maintain a cohesive, defensible rationale, resulting in a clear package for advancing the next phase of work.



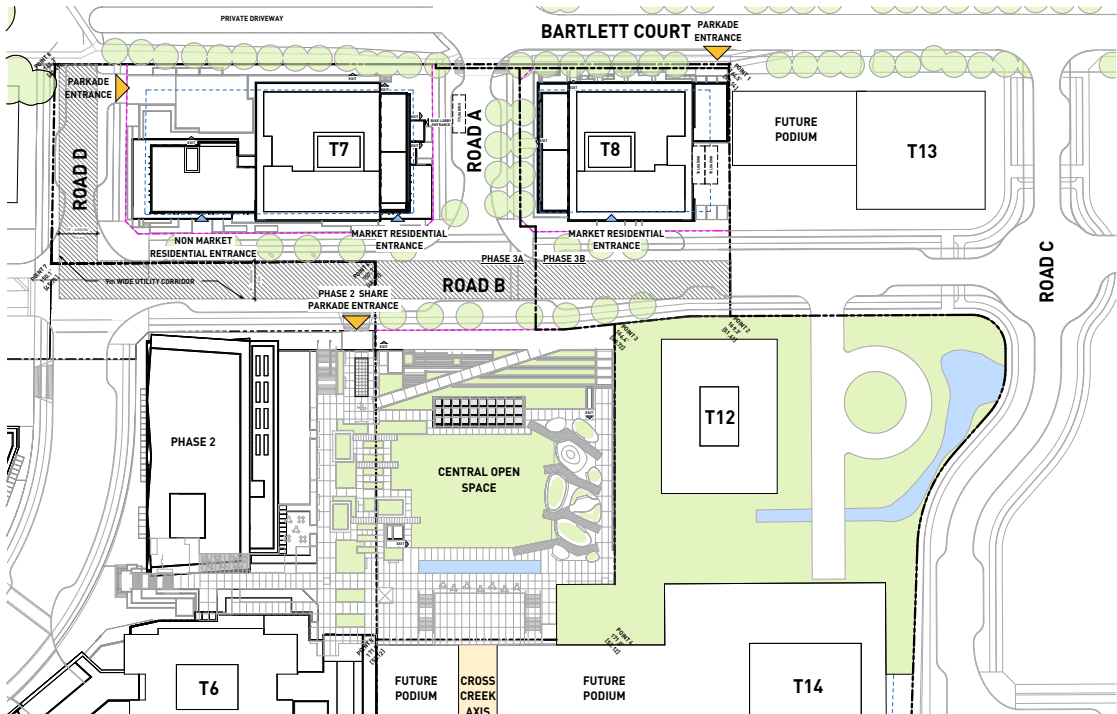
Conceptual renderings



Design diagram



Conceptual rendering



Site plan

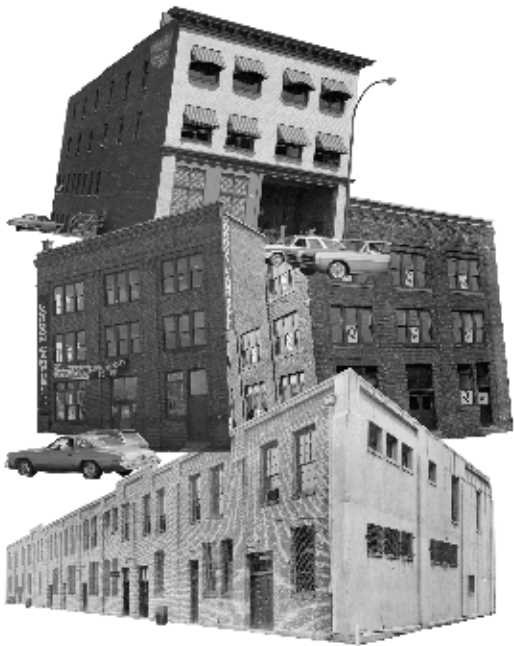
5 W 2

Client : Private
Location : Vancouver, BC
Type : Mixed-use Development
Retail
Social Housing
Market Housing
Date : 2019 - Ongoing

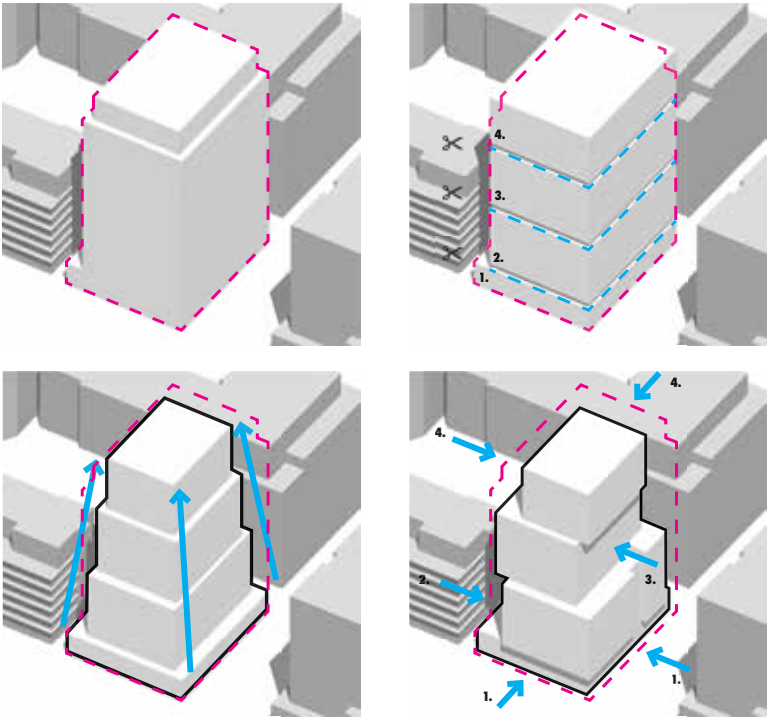
Role:
For this project, I worked closely with the Principal on all aspects of producing the rezoning application. My responsibilities included designing unit layouts, preparing FSR calculations, developing the parkade and circulation strategy, and contributing to the elevation and massing design. I also led weekly client meetings, coordinated with the consultant team, and supported material and specification research to ensure the submission was cohesive and aligned with City requirements. This role involved balancing program needs, site constraints, and architectural intent while maintaining clear communication across disciplines.

Overview:
The project site sits at the northwest corner of West 2nd Avenue and Ontario Street, within the evolving False Creek Flats neighbourhood. The proposal introduces a fully rental residential building with 122 units and ground-floor commercial space, contributing to the area’s growing mix of housing, employment, and local retail.

The design concept draws from the industrial legacy of the area. The building is envisioned as a series of stacked brick massings—robust in form and materiality—referencing the neighbourhood’s industrial past while supporting a more diverse and inclusive future. This approach gives the project a grounded, durable character that aligns with the district’s transition toward a contemporary mixed-use community.



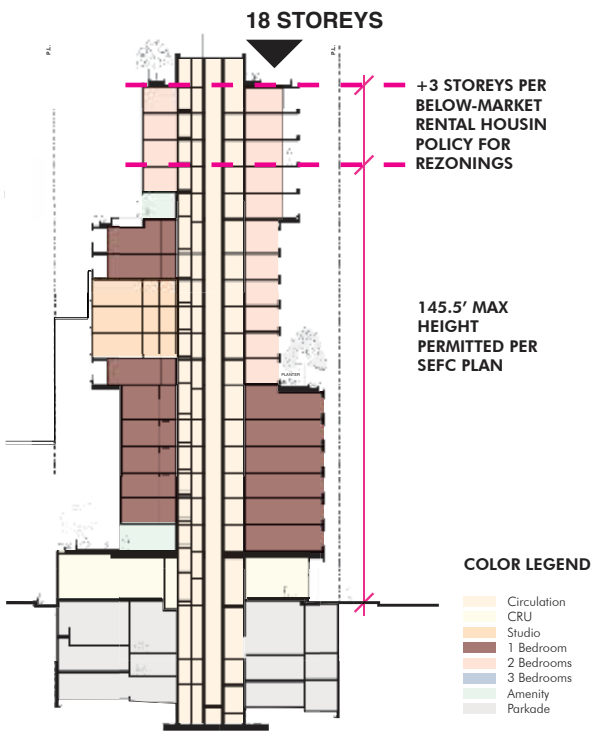
Concept design diagram



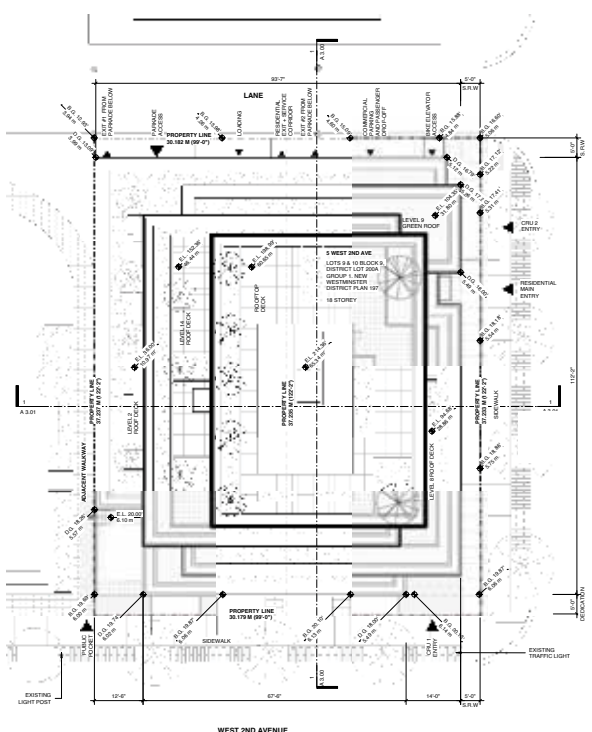
Building design diagram



Concept renderings



Section



Site plan

THE ARTIST LANE

REIMAGINE ARTIST SPACES
IN URBAN PLANNING

Location : Vancouver, BC
Type : Thesis
Date : 2019

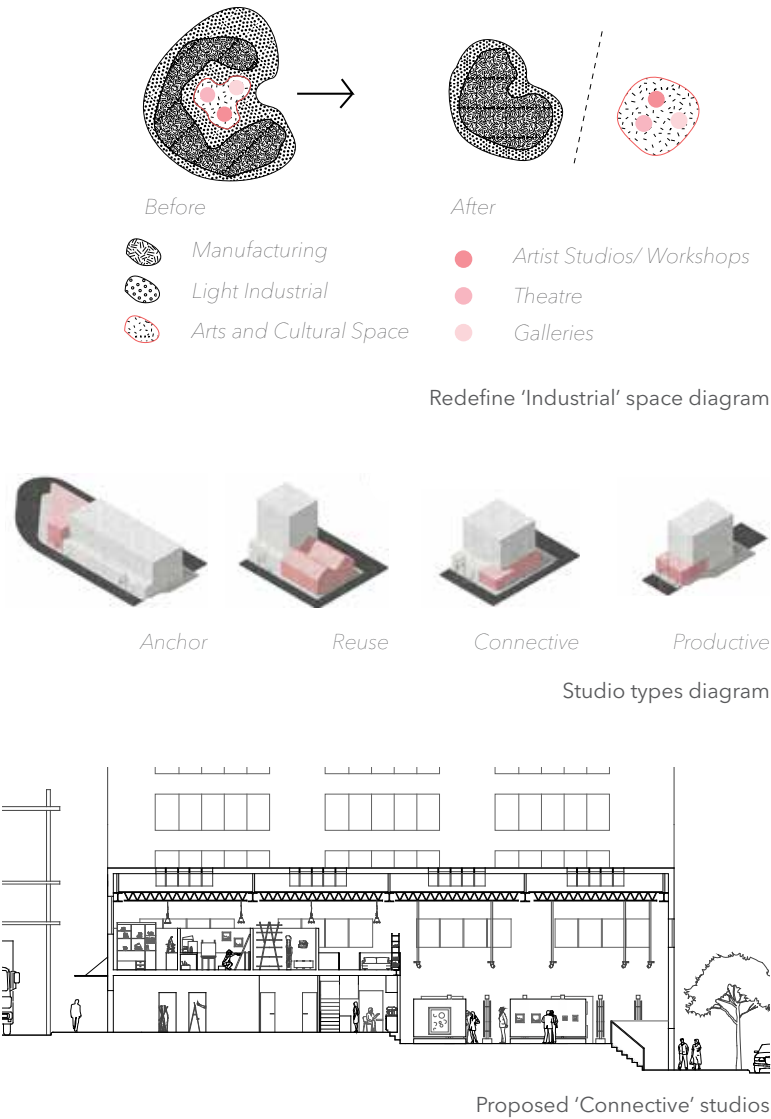
This thesis explores how artist spaces can function as an urban tool for addressing sociopolitical gaps within Vancouver’s master planning process. Artist spaces in the city are often informal, hidden, or pushed to the margins, leaving them underrepresented in conversations about cultural infrastructure. The project reframes these spaces as visible, public contributors to urban life, capable of strengthening community connections and supporting more inclusive planning outcomes.

Working within the False Creek Flats Plan - a major initiative to transform an underused industrial district into a cultural and employment hub—the proposal introduces a cluster of artist studios across three blocks near Main Street and East 2nd Avenue. Four studio types - Anchor, Reuse, Connective, and Productive - reflect contemporary art practices and respond to the neighbourhood’s grain, creating a flexible network that can evolve with the community.

By embedding artist studios within a dense, active part of the city, the project encourages everyday encounters between artists and the public through casual observation, shared outdoor spaces, or curated viewings. The resulting urban typology fosters intuitive, sensory experiences and builds an ecosystem where creativity, public life, and the surrounding environment continually inform one another.



Conceptual model of ‘Reuse’ studios



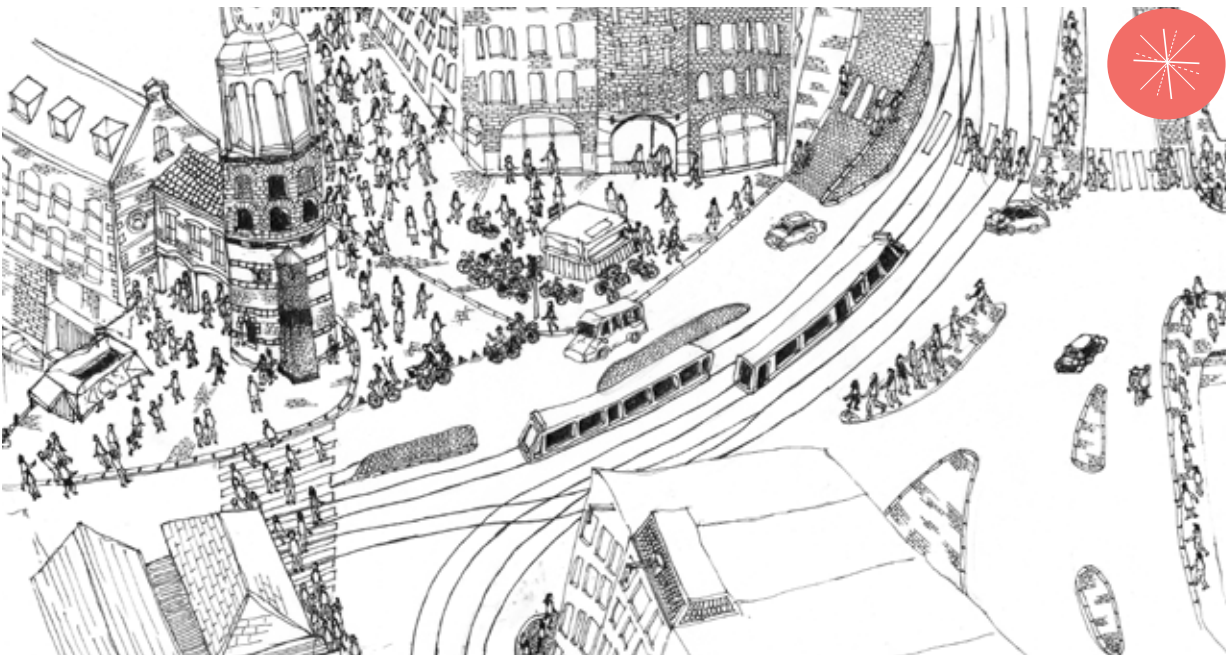
Conceptual rendering of ‘Productive’ studios

XXX

AMSTERDAM CITY INTERSECTIONS
DESIGN RESEARCH

Location : Amsterdam, NL
Type : Directive Studies
Date : 2018

These three illustrations—Getting Laid, Trans-Tram, and XXX - explore the spatial character of Amsterdam’s most distinctive intersection types. The city’s fabric is shaped by the meeting of canals, brick-paved streets, tram corridors, and irregular roads formed by historic waterworks and parks. Its layered circulation network—high-frequency transit, generous pedestrian routes, dedicated bike lanes, and consistent low- to mid-rise form - creates movement that feels intuitive, safe, and socially vibrant. Within this geometry, intersections reveal a kind of ordered chaos: overlapping systems operating in harmony, producing spaces that are both functional and atmospheric. The illustrations aim to capture this quality—gezellig—a Dutch term describing warmth, conviviality, and a sense of belonging. It reflects the lived richness of Amsterdam’s everyday urban intersections, where complexity remains legible and the city’s human scale is always present.



Getting Laid
Walking through Amsterdam, the shifting brick patterns across the pavement quickly stand out. These changing layouts define boundaries for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers while remaining flexible enough for shared use. Through simple material and strategic laying techniques, the city transforms a uniform brick palette into a versatile system that guides people safely and creates a distinctive, all-brick urban experience.

Trans-Tram
The narrow width of most streets in the city center are not capable to accommodate two trams running at the same time. By sharing the gauntlet sections one at a time, and passing one another when the tracks branch out into double tracked sections (where most tram stops are located), the interlaced tracks allow two directional trams to access very narrow streets and run smoothly, efficiently, and safely alongside the heavily pedestrians’ street.

XXX
The multiple angled canals and roads, bike path, tram line, mixed with plazas or parks, can be found mostly in bigger sites, blends extremely well to function as a whole. There are many formal and informal spaces one can easily find to rest and explore. Whether it be sitting by the canal, strolling at the park, eating in the plaza, walking in the market or simply hanging out in the cafes and gawking at the surroundings. One can notice from anything to everything.

PADDLESHACK

WATERFRONT STORAGE FACILITY

Location : Gambier Island, BC

Type : Design Build Collaboration

Date : 2018

Collaboration with Lys Hermanski, Nicholas Dagenais-Lussier, Mark De Souza, Niloufar Goodarzi, Robert Howell, Genta Ishimura, Sam McFaul, Tory Michak, Brit Naylor, Kathy Oke, Alena Pavan, Natradee Quek, William Reive, Sixue Wu

Role:

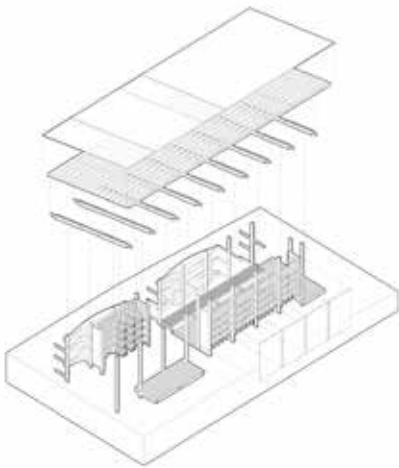
My role focused on leading the design and development of the sliding door storage system, including operational detailing, material quantity calculations, specification preparation, and coordination of material orders and site delivery. The fabrication and assembly of the system took place over two months and was completed collaboratively with ten other team members.

Overview:

Paddleshack sits at the top of the slope leading to Camp Fircom’s waterfront, providing organized, weather-protected storage for watercraft equipment while marking a key entry point from the forested trail. The structure reinforces the boundary of the active camp grounds and creates a clear portal for those arriving from the woods. Smaller items, including PFDs, paddles, oars, and ropes, are stored in enclosed closets behind sliding doors, while larger boats such as canoes, kayaks, and paddleboards rest on exterior supports. A generous platform supports demonstrations and camper preparation before ocean excursions. Built from local fir, hemlock, and cedar left untreated to weather naturally, the exposed bolted structure expresses a simple, durable concept rooted in material honesty.



me!



Design diagram



All images courtesy of the School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, UBC



*More work
available upon
request!*

Thank you!

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