

CENTRE FOR INNOVATION, TECHNOLOGY, AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (CITE) & THE ODEYTO INDIGENOUS CENTRE



photo credit: Gow Hastings



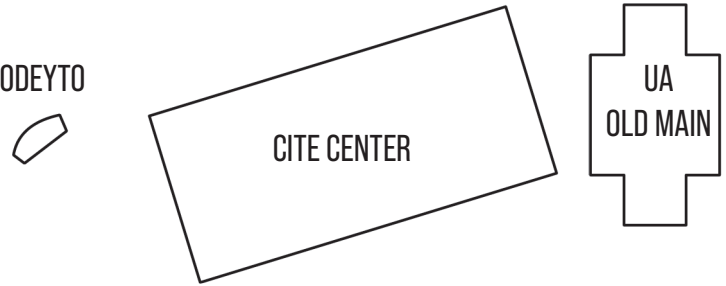
photo credit: Perkins & Will

CITE CENTER for More Information:

<http://urbantoronto.ca/database/projects/seneca-college-centre-innovation-technology-and-entrepreneurship-cite>
<https://www.senecacollege.ca/news-and-events/seneca-news/a-new-era-begins-at-cite.html>

ODEYTO For More Information:

<http://archello.com/project/odeyto-indigenous-centre>
<http://gowhastings.com/projects/seneca-college-odeyto-indigenous-centre>
<http://architizer.com/projects/seneca-college-odeyto-indigenous-centre/>



CENTRE FOR INNOVATION, TECHNOLOGY, AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (CITE) & THE ODEYTO INDIGENOUS CENTRE

The Indigenous Education Protocol for Colleges and Institutes

Seneca's Indigenous education is governed by it's Indigenous Education Council that includes community and college representation. As a signatory institution within the Indigenous Education Protocol for Canada, the council is charged to oversee Seneca's recognition of and responsibility to Indigenous Education.

Seneca recognizes that Indigenous people, including First Nation, Metis and Inuit people, have distinct cultures, languages, histories and contemporary perspectives. Indigenous education emanates from the intellectual and cultural traditions of Indigenous peoples, and Indigenous education improves the lives of learners and communities.

As a signatory institution, Seneca agrees to:

- Commit to making Indigenous education a priority.
- Ensure governance structures recognize and respect Indigenous peoples.
- Implement intellectual and cultural traditions of Indigenous peoples through curriculum and learning approaches relevant to learners and communities.
- Support students and employees to increase understanding and reciprocity among Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.
- Commit to increasing the number of Indigenous employees with ongoing appointments, throughout the institution, including Indigenous senior administrators.
- Establish Indigenous-centered holistic services and learning environments for learner success.
- Build relationships and be accountable to Indigenous communities in support of self-determination through education, training and applied research.

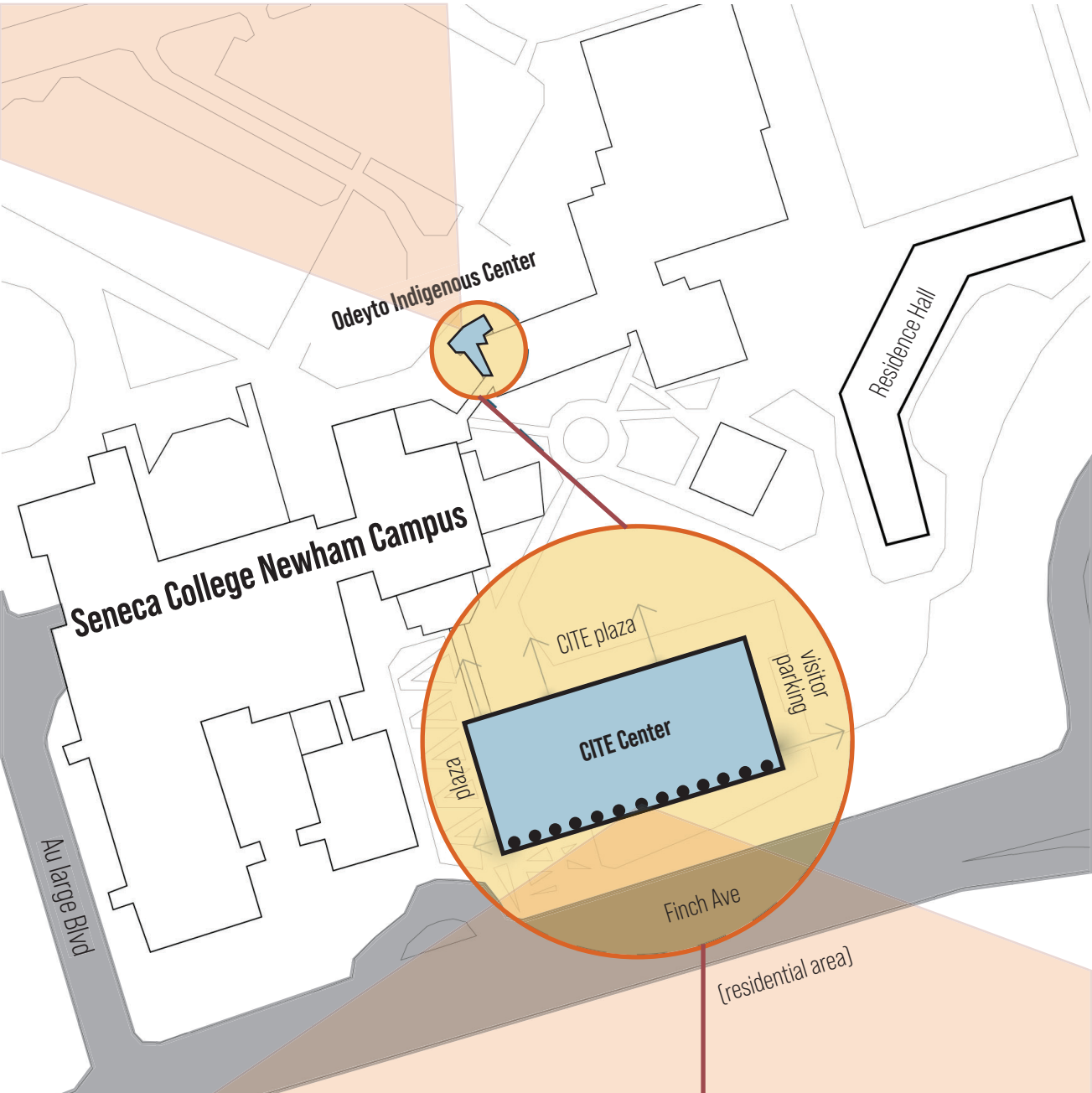
for more information visit <https://www.senecacollege.ca/student-services-and-support/first-peoples/indigenous-education-council.html>

Seneca's Campus Approach

The Seneca campus features two uniquely designed buildings that work together to house the resources needed to meet their Indigenous Education goals; the Centre for Innovation, Technology, and Entrepreneurship (CITE) and the Odeyto Indigenous Center. Within CITE, students engage with programs, technologies and resources designed to support the education, training and applied research components needed to realize self-determination. This facility is open to all students, and leverages the dialogue between western and Indigenous world views to bring about innovation in sustainability. By contrast, the Odeyto Indigenous Center is a 'home away from home' for Indigenous students, providing a warm and nurturing environment where students can study, relax, and engage in cultural practice and traditions. Both Centers are placed prominently on the campus, are in close proximity to each other, and are connected by CITE plaza. The CITE Centre boldly faces Finch Ave, a main thoroughfare along Seneca's southern border, and Odeyto is to the north, with a "longview" to the west.

Loud and Proud

The image below to the far left is of the CITE center, boldly facing Finch Ave. with the Seneca logo in the foreground. The image to the immediate left is of the Odeyto Indigenous Centre, with it's distinctly Indigenous inspired form, seen as you enter campus from the north. Together, they communicate Seneca's loud and proud commitment to Indigenous education.



CENTRE FOR INNOVATION, TECHNOLOGY, AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (CITE)

The CITE Center translates Seneca College’s vision for entrepreneurial innovation, a sustainable practice, and Indigenous worldviews into the design. The building is located on Seneca’s campus in Ontario and the design team worked with Seneca’s leadership, as well as the Aboriginal College Council, to bring together a balanced and visionary design for the college. The building is flexible and modular, housing mixed-use academic programs with state-of-the-art workplaces, high-tech labs, classrooms, and social gathering spaces. The building systems and materials incorporate the latest technology to reduce its carbon footprint by limiting greenhouse gas emissions, a sustainable feature.



photo credits this page: Perkins & Will

Project Goals

- Commitment to **entrepreneurial innovation**
- **Promote a sustainable future inspired by an Indigenous worldview**
- **Showcase** digital technology, entrepreneurship, and culture of the Indigenous Peoples of the region
- **Support** collaboration, displays, and events
- **Create** a new and vibrant presence for the college corridor
- **Provide** a state-of-the-art workplace



Perkins & Will worked closely with First Peoples at the Seneca College to organize a series of discussions with indigenous students, faculty, local elders, the Indigenous Education Council, and the Aboriginal College Council.



The center works with the surrounding topography and landscape to benefit the entire campus. The landscape design is accessible, permeable, and integrated; through capture and control of storm water, the landscape reduce urban heat island effect, promotes biodiversity and human health and wellbeing. LEED Gold Certified.



Seneca College signed the Indigenous Education Protocol in 2015 to better incorporate Indigenous knowledge into its academic curriculum and architecture.

Location: Toronto, Ontario

Architect: Perkins & Will

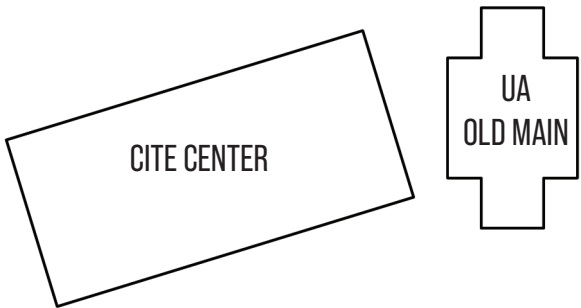
Completed: 2018

Size: 250,000 square feet

Client: Seneca College

Function: Education

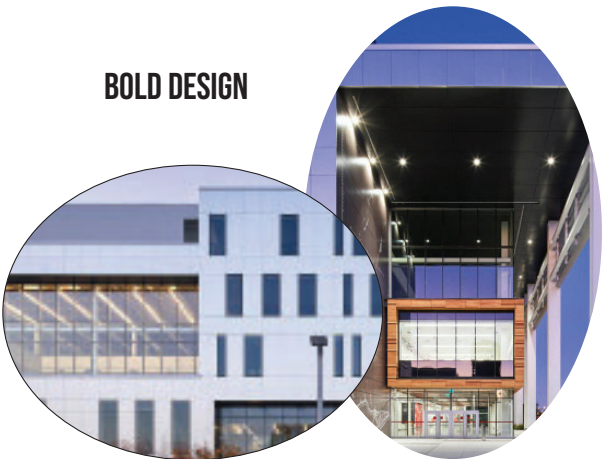
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ENTRANCE
Loud and Proud: The Seneca logo in front of CITE facing the main road; a 3 story graphic by Bruce Mau, a series piece visualizing innovation through an Indigenous lens.



13 COLUMNS
13 columns line the front, engraved with the names representing the moons of the Ojibwe, Cree, and Mohawk’s lunar cycle.



BOLD DESIGN
Crisp modern materials bring contrast to the surrounding area, and speaks outwardly of boldness and innovation happening within.

Location + Context

Located on a major street, the CITE Center is front and center at Seneca College. serving as the face of the college and making it the heart of campus. It has a visitor parking lot directly to the East of the building for easy accessibility, and is surrounded by outdoor plaza space. Along the main facade of CITE are 13 prominently-placed columns, each inscribed with the names representing the moons of the Ojibwe, Cree, and Mohawk’s lunar cycle. The materials chosen and incorporated into and overall expression of the CITE Center communicate outwardly the bold, innovative, technically minded vision for the college as a whole. The orientation of the Center is on the same axis as the rest of the campus aligned with Finch Ave to the south. Directly south of Finch Ave is a large residential area with access to the campus. The Odeyto Indigenous Centre is located directly north of CITE connected through the central plaza space. These two Centers both incorporate connections to Indigenous culture, however the CITE Center houses the research and student success-based programs, where different groups come together and different world views come together to solve problems with innovative solutions. This is part of an overall movement to recognize Indigenous peoples campus wide. A separate space, the Odeyto Indigenous Centre, is focused on creating a “home-away-from-home” specifically for Indigenous students.

CENTRE FOR INNOVATION, TECHNOLOGY, AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (CITE)



MAP OF UNIVERSE

Depicts human spirit thriving off of curiosity and technology that allows us to look deeper and further.



LIGHTS

At night, lights are projected onto hanging textiles to show importance of Indigenous culture with mythology.



CIRCLE

Pays tribute to Canada's Indigenous history; unifies the Indigenous worldview & technological innovation in one place.



HOOP DANCE

Represents the circle of life and is never ending to bring strength through connection.



PARTICLES

Represents how we are all connected to all the matter of the universe; outside the mechanics lab.



POW WOW

Drum circle represents the cycle of life, and where the heartbeat is formed; reflects beauty and diversity.



7 GENERATIONS

Pine cone symbolizes new life and new beginnings. "Look forward and back 100 years".



MOON PHASES

Moon symbolizes the link between past and future; in many ways, the guiding tenant for the CITE.



INTERNET MAP

Massively complex network and power to enable the most fundamental human need: connection.



STUDY SPACE

Ample, daylit study space for individual or collaborative work.



TECHNOLOGY

State-of-the-art labs and equipment. Exposed building systems make the architecture itself a living lab.



MATERIAL

Wood, metal, glass + stone applied to showcase their ability to bring texture, color and light to the architecture.



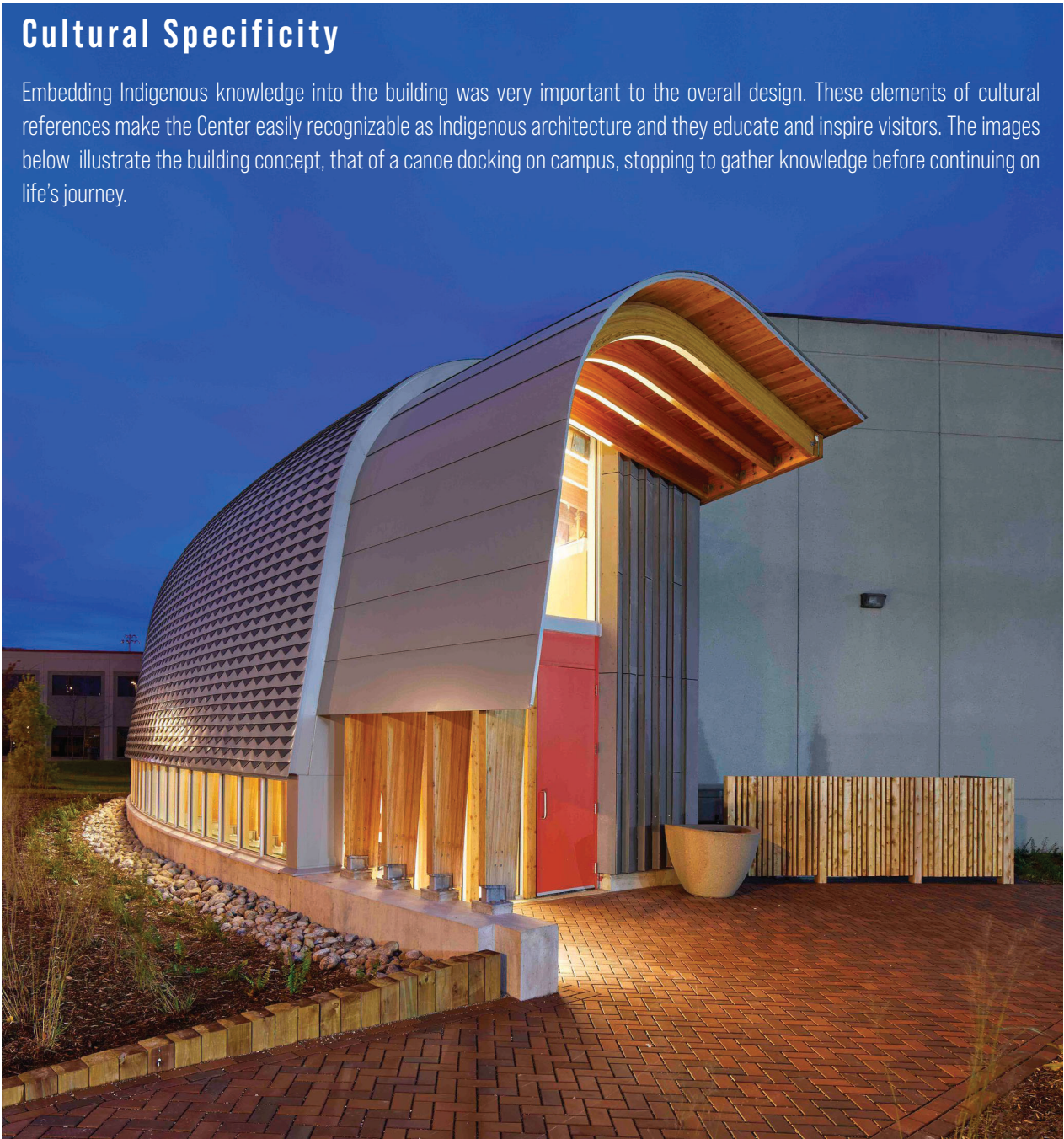
photo credits: ArchDaily

Integrated Design

Unlike NAMI shown previously, the outward expression of the CITE does not read as "Indigenous design". Rather, the building serves as a backdrop to the various programs, installations, art, and symbolic reference incorporated throughout. This approach reinforces Seneca's desire to bring groups together, and approach innovation from a multicultural perspective. The mission is one of innovation and inclusion, and the architecture responds accordingly.

THE ODEYTO INDIGENOUS CENTRE

The Odeyto Indigenous Centre at Seneca College in Toronto was designed to be a home away from home for Indigenous students. The addition was inspired by the image of a canoe, conceptually docked next to the existing adjacent building. The curvilinear design is distinct and iconic, and breaks away from the rigid lines and typical colonial grid of other buildings on campus. The east and west facades are glass, and the rest of the building is a wood structure designed to create warmth in the building. The program space is divided into two parts: space for study and work and a space for gatherings. The space for study and work has lower ceilings and is embedded into the existing building whereas the gathering space have tall ceilings and are a part of the renovation. The main gathering space is generous in size to allow for a variety of celebrations and ceremonies, or simply for people to socialize. Just adjacent to the building is an outdoor space used for ceremonies. Overall, the design was influenced by Indigenous traditions and practices to make it clear to all that it is a place of culture.



Cultural Specificity

Embedding Indigenous knowledge into the building was very important to the overall design. These elements of cultural references make the Center easily recognizable as Indigenous architecture and they educate and inspire visitors. The images below illustrate the building concept, that of a canoe docking on campus, stopping to gather knowledge before continuing on life's journey.

Project Goals

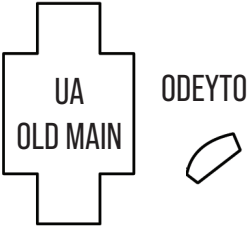
- Home away from home for Indigenous students
- Connection to culture, education, and tradition
- Break away from the colonial grid seen on campus
- Easily accessible for traditional ceremonies
- Recognizable as indigenous



Odeyto is a “form of reconciliation” in Canada’s – ongoing truth and reconciliation process. Odeyto serves between 400 to 700 students on Seneca’s campus who identify as Indigenous and students from other campuses who come to join in ceremonies and feasts and to engage in story-telling with Elders.



The project renovated and expanded an existing classroom space for \$2.8 million Canadian



Location: Toronto, Ontario
Architect: Gow Hastings Architect
Completed: 2018
Size: 1,600 sf
Client: Seneca College
Function: Indigenous Student Support + Success



FORM

The spatial organization reflects that of a Haudenasaunee longhouse. Conceptually, the form represents a canoe that has been docked, symbolizing shelter and journey.

MATERIALS

Wood is used for the structure to illustrate the construction and materials of the canoe. The building skin is a modern interpretation on traditional Indigenous design patterns.

CELESTIAL CYCLES

The east and west entrances are all glass. These are aligned to the rising and setting sun of the summer solstice to represent rebirth and a connection to the earth.

CULTURAL OBSERVANCES

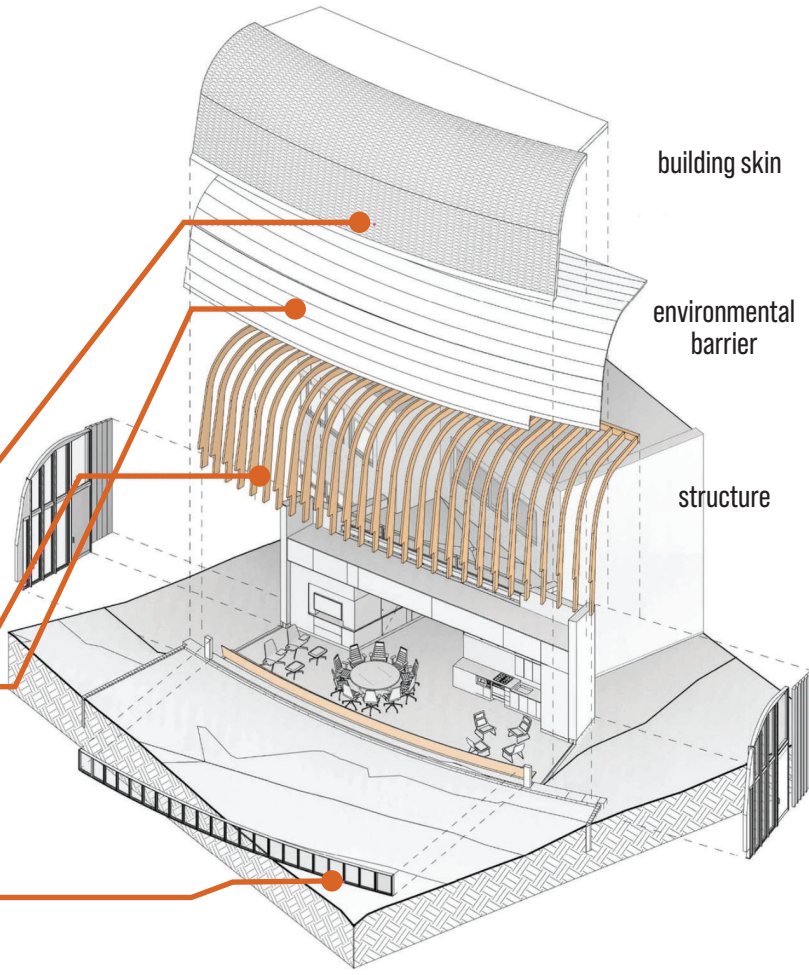
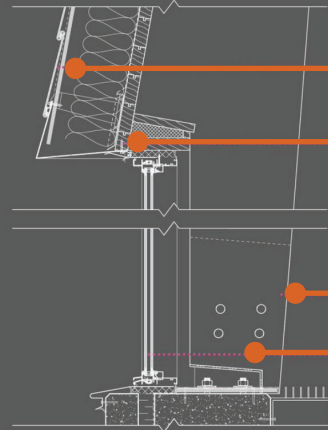
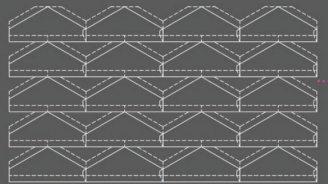
The red doors are used to honor the missing and murdered indigenous women.

photo credits: Tom Arban + Archello

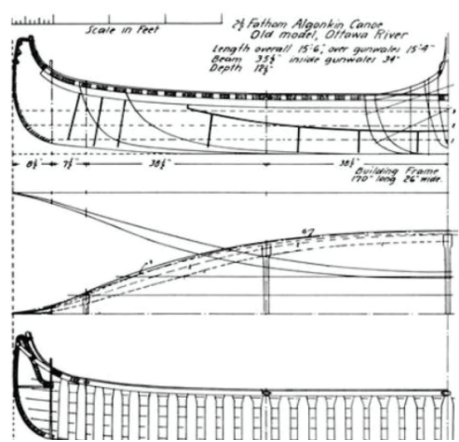
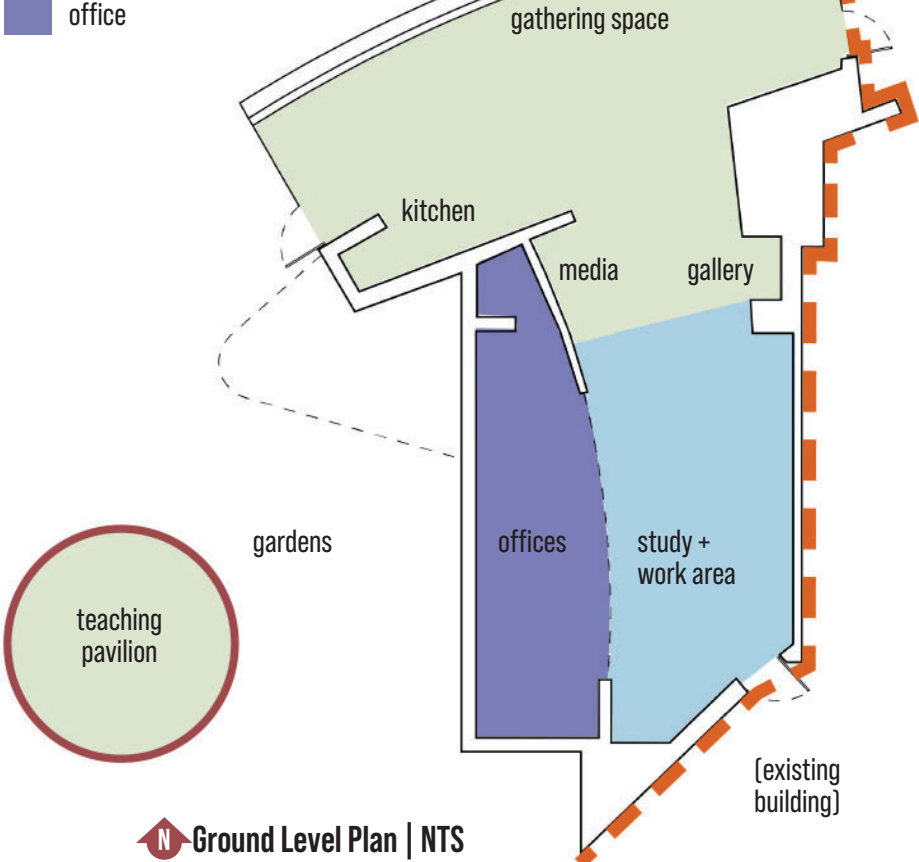
THE ODEYTO INDIGENOUS CENTRE

The Analogy of the Canoe

The architects used joinery, materials, and geometries found in traditional canoe designs and translated those ideas into a modern and contemporary form. In this way, elements of the canoe become part of a living and evolving contemporary conversation, not simply a representation or reconstruction of the past.



- Indigenous student
- indigenous community
- office



Home

The primary function of the Odeyto Centre is to be a home away from home for Indigenous students. A home is welcoming, warm and comfortable. It is safe, familiar, and nourishing. The Odeyto center is very small, but within its tiny footprint, it provides the essentials: work and study spaces, a kitchen and large gathering spaces, offices for support staff, gardens growing traditional plants, and a large outdoor pavilion for teaching, or ceremonial use.

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