



CAMH Queen Street Redevelopment

progress update, June 4, 2007

Over the past several months the issues of the environment and climate change have been at the top of people's minds, front pages across the country and the polls. In this time of heightened concern, it seems proper to report on the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health's (CAMH) efforts towards being a responsible environmental citizen in both its operations and the Queen Street redevelopment project.

Green CAMH

Our facilities and operations staff have been very diligent in reducing CAMH's consumption of energy and resources and in promoting recycling – a large task in an institution with 2800 staff and 21,000 clients. In fact, in 2006 CAMH recycled 81 per cent of its waste, diverting a great amount of material away from landfills. These results place CAMH far ahead of Ontario's goal of diverting 60 per cent of waste from landfills by 2008. Of particular pride to us, is that the amount of paper recycled by CAMH saved the equivalent of 13,765 trees in 2006.

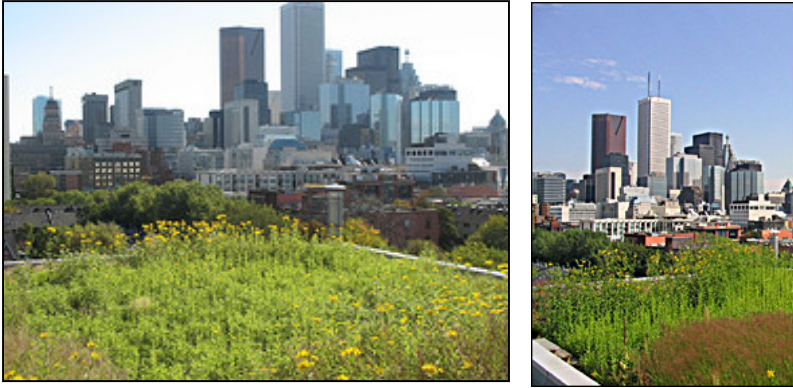
Recently, CAMH has also succeeded in dramatically increasing its energy efficiency with the installation of new boilers in our central plant. As a result of this change, CAMH now uses 200,000 less cubic meters of natural gas per year. The Center was rewarded with a Federal Certificate of Recognition for this improvement in performance. Also, replacing our 'domestic' hot water tanks with 'heat exchangers' has removed the need to heat and store half a million liters of hot water each and every day.

CAMH is also 100 per cent free of any fertilizers or pesticides and has eliminated over 30 chemicals formerly used for housekeeping operations.

Green Roof

CAMH will continue to build upon its record as a responsible and proactive environmental steward through the installation of a 2,800 square foot green roof atop the new Addictions Program Administration / Outpatient building, which is currently under construction. This building is the four-storey structure that will sit immediately to the south of the future public park in the northwest corner of our site.

CAMH's green roof will be of the "extensive" type, meaning that its primary purpose will be to deliver ecological benefits such as storm water retention, a reduction in building heating and cooling requirements, and absorption of airborne pollutants. The roof will be planted with a variety of grasses and wildflowers to create a meadow-like environment. This type of green roof is the same type used on Mountain Equipment Coop's store on King Street. Please see the photos below to see similar examples of extensive green roofs in Toronto.



A future meeting of CAMH's Neighbourhood Liaison Committee will include a presentation on our ongoing efforts to improve our environmental performance.

On the construction site

The union representing construction labourers has called a strike for Monday June 4, and has indicated that the Phase 1a construction site will be picketed. Negotiations between the union and construction industry representatives are continuing. The unions representing roofers, plumbers and operating engineers have all agreed to new contracts. CAMH and Eastern Construction are assessing the impact that past and potential labour disruptions may have on the construction schedule.

Owing to inclement weather and the need to have the Phase 1a buildings ready for occupancy in January 2008, construction work has regularly continued into weekends. We have received several other noise-related complaints over the past several months and have followed up on each one. Despite our best efforts, we acknowledge that some construction work, and more importantly noise, has occurred outside of the hours permitted under City By-Laws. We apologize for any disturbance and inconvenience this many have caused.

In our latest meeting with our general contractor, we have received reassurance that Eastern Construction will provide greater site supervision during the times of day when problems have been most frequent, and subcontractors who are found to be in violation of the noise By-Law will be directly charged.

We want your opinion

The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health wants to know how informative you find our corporate communications. Please take our survey online at:

www.surveymonkey.com/a.asp?u=718993507956

Summary

The first phase of our redevelopment involves the construction of four new buildings, one new public park, the extension of municipal services (including a new road) onto our site and the repair of the western sections of our Heritage Wall which borders our site. In all, Phase 1a will house 48 beds for our Addictions program and 24 for our Mood and Anxiety program in a more home-like setting. These new 'Alternate Milieu' buildings will enhance our ability to provide a high level of care for our clients. Completion of this first phase is scheduled for January 2008. The vision for the overall redevelopment project, is to create a new hub for CAMH within a mixed urban village on the current Queen Street site.

If you have any specific questions about the update, or items that you would like addressed in future e-updates, please contact me (Chris Edey); my contact information is below.

Best Regards

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