

RIVERSIDE SCHOOL BOARD LAUNCHES NEW ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE

Saint-Hubert, January 18, 2012 – Riverside School Board officially opened its new administrative center January 17, 2012 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The new building was constructed on land already owned by the School Board, taking into account the highest ecological standards that respect the requirements of LEED (Leadership and Energy in Environmental Design) certification. Completed under budget and on-time, this new 3,000 m² building was ready to welcome staff on January 9th after the holiday break.

Some of the characteristics of energy economy and sustainable development of the new building include:

- Ultra high-performance roofing system to prevent UHIs (urban heat island effects);
- Ultra high-performance, low-heat exchange glass;
- Floor to ceiling windows providing increased natural light and decreased energy consumption;
- Heat reflective, see-through blinds;
- 99% of the construction materials used was from recycled products or is recyclable (ex. flooring, interior/exterior dry wall, insulation containing soy, etc...);
- Smart lighting (motion detector shuts lights off automatically);
- New parking lot with bio-retention of surface water;
- Usage and optimisation of the existing energy systems at the neighbouring school.

“As a Council, we debated long and hard over the choice to build new. In the end, we believe it was responsible governance to proceed with this project. Most importantly, our students and schools will not be negatively affected as the project was completely self-financed,” says Chairperson Moira Bell.

The cost of the building was covered by the sale of previously owned land, with no additional burden on our taxpayers. Total construction costs came in under budget at less than \$5M. “We looked at many possibilities for a new administrative centre, such as renting or renovating existing space. The decision to build will be more cost effective for us in the long run. I’m already seeing positive effects on staff morale. Another added benefit is that the building meets the specific needs of our board and employees,” says Director General, Sylvain Racette.

The building, which took 8 months to complete, was designed by Montreal firm Leclerc-Labbé, architectes en consortium, with the help of mechanical-electrical and structural engineer firm Les Services Exp Inc., CIMA+ in civil engineering and Construction RDJ, expert general contractors.

Thank you to all for a job well done!



Seen cutting the ribbon, from left to right : Pierre Farmer, Director Material Resources; Ken Cameron, commissioner; Sylvain Racette, Director General; Moira Bell, Chairman