

CONCEPT

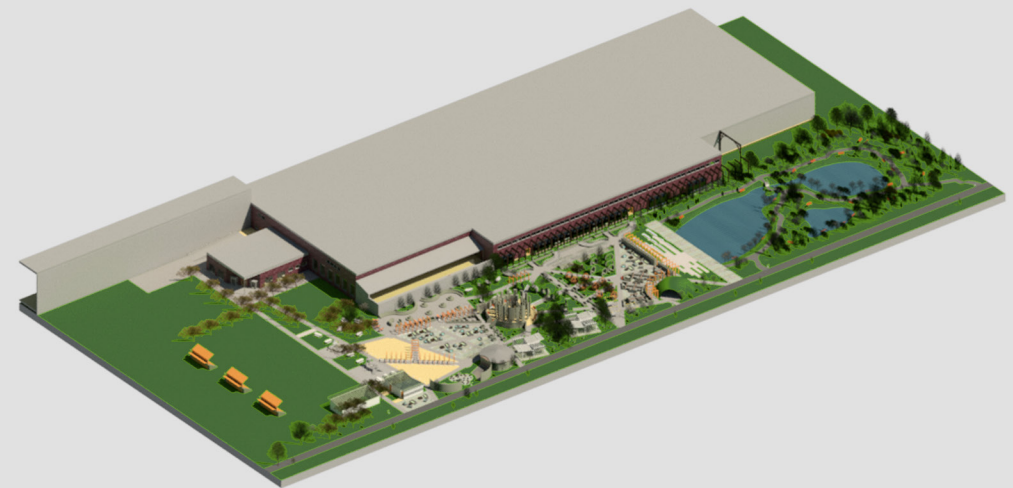
Catalyst137 is a dynamic space for “Makers” which incorporates the concepts of collaboration and connection. The spaces are planned to promote work, education and public collaboration. This is achieved through maximizing occupant comfort in lighting, acoustics and physical ease. Flexibility is a strategy that is implemented in order to accommodate a variety of individuals and groups. “Hackable” spaces with moveable furniture and multi-functional rooms are designed to suit user needs. Technology is seen in both the interior and exterior spaces. This adds a psychological comfort for the Catalyst 137 employees, and raises public awareness to local technological advancements. The Internet of Things is alive, through an online reservation system for outdoor workrooms, touch-screen displays for easy navigation, and the employee Catalyst Card, which grants access to secure areas and can be used around the campus for food, printing and library services. A strong connection to the community has been achieved through integrating the public into the space. Accomplished through public destination spaces, the site hosts a 24-hour fitness centre and yoga zone, onsite restaurant and U-Brewery, tech-library centre, outdoor sports field complex, and a large scale Zen garden. Finally, a strong connection to the outdoors and the local Iron Horse Trail prevents the effects of Sick Building Syndrome and ill employees. This is achieved by a strong visual connection from a glazed façade, the use of pivoting and overhead doors to integrate nature, and a large outdoor office and leisure space for both employee and public use. Altogether, the proposed design concept creates a unique, dynamic and memorable space for the local community, and the “Makers” of Catalyst 137.



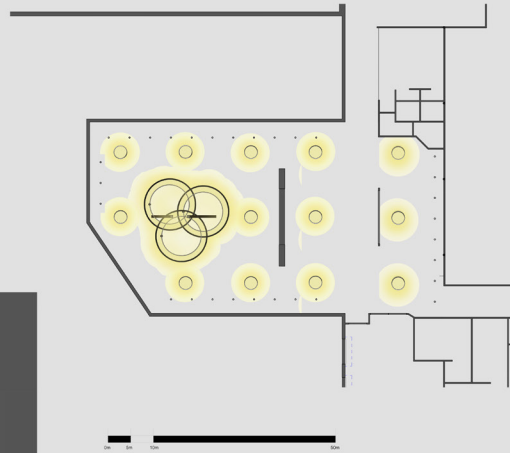
SITE PLAN



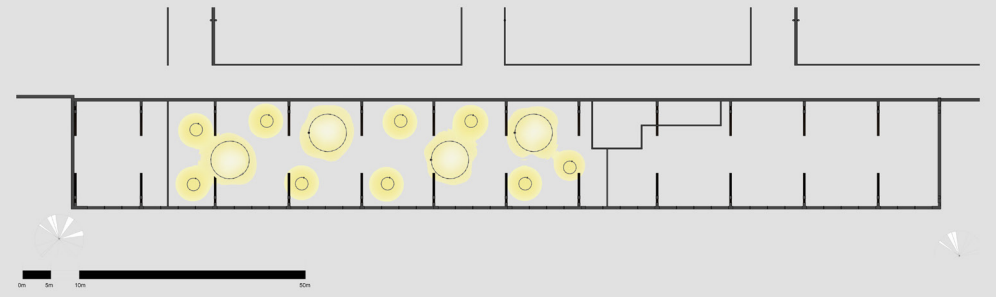
SITE LOCATION



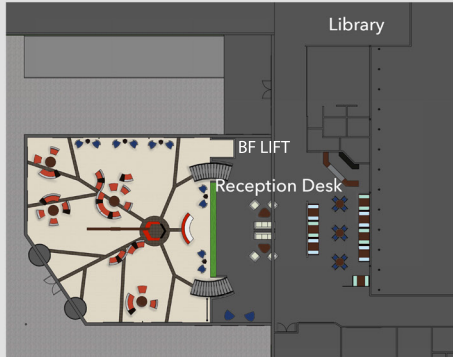
SITE PLAN ISOMETRIC



LOBBY RCP



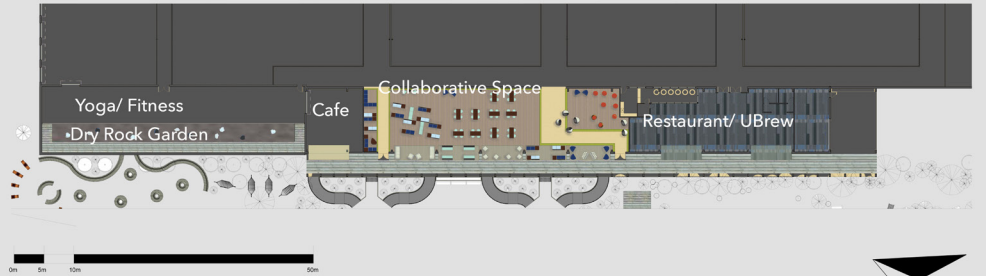
COLLABORATIVE SPACE RCP



LOBBY FLOOR PLAN



LOBBY RECEPTION ELEVATION



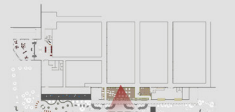
COLLABORATIVE SPACE FLOOR PLAN



LOBBY SECTION



COLLABORATIVE SPACE ELEVATION





Tapping the Future: Exploring Public Collaboration and Connection

CSC Student Design Competition 2016/2017

Client | Construction Specification Canada,
Grand Valley and Toronto Chapters

Primary Building Occupant | Catalyst 137

Institution | Conestoga College I.T.A.L

Henry Dowling
Michael Latter
Thiska Meereboer
Erin Wetzel



CONESTOGA
Connect Life and Learning

Concept Statement

Catalyst137 is a dynamic space for “Makers” which incorporates the concepts of collaboration and connection. The spaces are planned to promote work, education and public collaboration. This is achieved through maximizing occupant comfort in lighting, acoustics and physical ease. Flexibility is a strategy that is implemented in order to accommodate a variety of individuals and groups. “Hackable” spaces with moveable furniture and multi-functional rooms are designed to suit user needs. Technology is seen in both the interior and exterior spaces. This adds a psychological comfort for the Catalyst 137 employees, and raises public awareness to local technological advancements. The Internet of Things is alive, through an online reservation system for outdoor workrooms, touch-screen displays for easy navigation, and the employee Catalyst Card, which grants access to secure areas and can be used around the campus for food, printing and library services. A strong connection to the community has been achieved through integrating the public into the space. Accomplished through public destination spaces, the site hosts a 24-hour fitness centre and yoga zone, onsite restaurant and U-Brewery, tech-library centre, outdoor sports field complex, and a large scale Zen garden. Finally, a strong connection to the outdoors and the local Iron Horse Trail prevents the effects of Sick Building Syndrome and ill employees. This is achieved by a strong visual connection from a glazed façade, the use of pivoting and overhead doors to integrate nature, and a large outdoor office and leisure space for both employee and public use.

Altogether, the proposed design concept creates a unique, dynamic and memorable space for the local community, and the “Makers” of Catalyst 137.

Concept Description

Technology is a constant in today's society. As humans grow, new means of technology emerge. The Internet of Things (TIOT) is an advanced idea of interconnection in everyday life (Catalyst, 2016). TIOT has a goal of giving complete control to common people. This control is one of technology, over one's home, workplace, and even vehicles, from the touch of a button on a smart phone, tablet or computer. TIOT is still evolving, but is becoming more and more present in society, in "tech homes" and public spaces. The people who develop TIOT technology, considered "Makers", require a home of their own; a place to call the workspace. They will find this in the proposed design for Kitchener's new tech hub, Catalyst 137 (Catalyst, 2016). The space at Catalyst needs to support "Makers" in their environment, through integration of technology, while considering the health and well-being of occupants. The simple solution to this design problem includes spaces with collaboration and public connection. Through extensive research in regards to TIOT, public gathering spaces, collaboration and effects on occupants, a unique and dynamic workspace design will implement the following five criteria for successful collaboration and connection spaces.

Occupant Comfort

Occupant comfort is an important aspect in collaborative design. Making people want to be at work promotes productivity, positive cognitive stimulation and boosts overall wellbeing. Mindspace is a café chain which successfully integrates the public into employee workspaces (MindSpace, 2016). They have locations around the globe, each one providing a unique and different atmosphere based on the region. One constant factor is the physical comfort level. Each location boasts soft seating, with a variety of configurations to accommodate large groups, or small nooks for a quiet, personal space. Allowing these spaces to host a variety of group sizes is crucial to their success in flexibility (MindSpace, 2016). Lounge style furniture, alongside traditional desk space, aims to please all occupants and increase productivity for each individual.

Noise control and lighting are two important factors in the physical environment. Factory in Berlin implements strong principles of daylighting design with its fully-glass façade. The occupants of the building find this is a benefit, feeling refreshed and