



**INSTITUTE WITHOUT
BOUNDARIES**

Markham Creative Convergence Hubs Charrette

March 30 - April 30, 2012
www.worldhouse.ca

Creative Convergence Hubs Charrette Summary

March 30 – April 1, 2012

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Charrette Information

Contact

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Prepared By

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Google map



This document is hotlinked, so you can connect with more info and larger photos online.

5 Teams
60 Students
3 Days
16 Advisors
5 Solutions



What is a Charrette?

A charrette is a collaborative process that brings together students, stakeholders and professionals to develop innovative solutions for complex issues. Over a few short days of brainstorming, discussion and expert consultation, teams create a broad range of ideas around the central theme.

Charrette Objective

The goal of this Charrette is to design a Creative Convergence Hub that builds on local amenities, draws new creative people, fosters development of new creative businesses and seeds further community growth.

For three days, five teams of students from the IwB and Architectural Technology took on the challenge of proposing designs for Creative Convergence Hubs for five different sites, each with a distinct challenge, in Markham, Ontario.

The charrette began with a lecture from Camelia Melchiori on Passive Sustainable Building Techniques. Her talk gave the students very practical tools and techniques that they were then able to apply to their proposed buildings.

Field Research

On Saturday morning teams traveled from the School of Design to the Centre for Social Innovation, an example of a highly successful convergence hub in downtown Toronto.

CSI is a social enterprise with a mission to catalyze social innovation in Toronto and around the world. Students were asked to observe their tactics for creating dynamic, creative workspaces including, spaces to work, meet, connect, leisure spaces and play spaces.

Design

For the next three days each student group worked intensively to brainstorm, develop and refine innovative new designs that would use these tactics and inspire new ones to create innovative Convergence Hubs for the town of Markham.



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Professional Guidance

Student teams were supported by a dedicated group of faculty and professional advisors drawn from various George Brown College programs, Academic Partners and the local design community.

These professionals mentored and guided the students through the process of evaluating and designing effective solutions for the Convergence Hub sites.

Charrette Results

Teams presented their final design solutions to a panel of municipal managers, faculty and professionals. In just three days of research, designing and consulting groups were able to create strong design concepts for each of the sites that demonstrated innovative new Convergence Hubs.

The designs that were produced during this charrette will be presented to municipal officials and staff of Markham, including members of the planning and economic development departments, and may become part of future plans for Markham as it continues to transform itself for the future.



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Charrette Results: The Designs

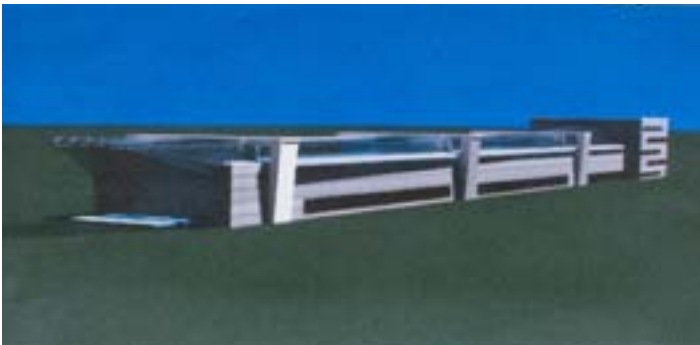


Langstaff East (Red Team)

Team leaders: Asma Khanani Caporaletti and Daniel Felix
Team Members: Daniel Herrera, Elena Dragoman, Tiziana Nicolao, Padraic Wilson, Isabella Amato, Telmo Mussenga, Jason Sullivan, Nelson Paulo, Ayad Basamh, Akkeno Johnson, Bryna Kee, Matthew Lane, Guanzhong Ye and Talin M Balian.

Project Concept: The Creative convergence project aims to drive the development of dynamic physical spaces that will become major collaboration based innovations hubs and economic engines for the cultures and creative sector.

[Click here to download the project presentation board.](#)



Enterprise and Main Street (Yellow Team)

Team leaders: Matthew Koop-Pearce and John Ha
Team Members: Ashely Vigilante, Jessa Sy, Walter Batori, Courtney Richard, Kurtis Eckensweiler, Cordero Wingerter, Sony Pereira, Massimiliano D'Arcangelo, Esteban Came, Winnie Chan, Hley Vacirca, Andrew Wallace and Melanie Gaspar.

Project Concept: Kinnect is a place for open experimentation that provides opportunities for interdisciplinary research and is community oriented.

[Click here to download the project presentation board](#)



Stiver Mill (Green Team)

Team leaders: Raymundo Pavan, Jonathan Gibb and Joshua Danque
Team Members: Andrew Briand, Steven Evelyn, Melody Sarvghadi, Paul Bennett, Renato Trindade, Jordan McCallum, Guan Zhong Ye, Jin Hwan Oh, Paul Nigro, John Carl Cabral, Justin Chan, Tenish Lewis and Mike Campbell .

Project Concept: Students designed a Creative Learning Commons which accommodated craft, cooking, dance, gardening, music, painting, pottery and sewing programming.

[Click here to download the project presentation board.](#)

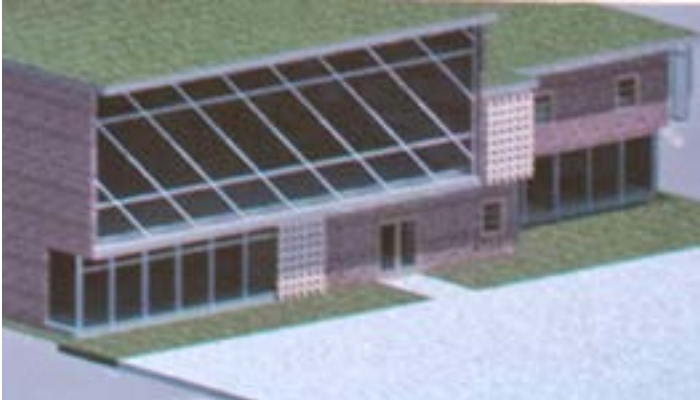
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Charrette Results: The Designs



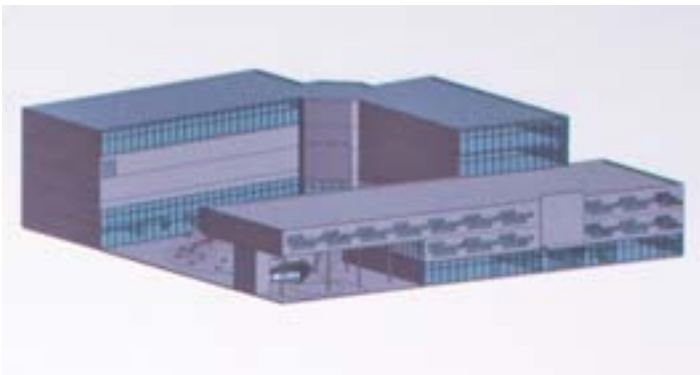
Harlech Court (Blue Team)

Team leaders: Dana Seguin and William Zega

Team Members: Ekaterina Granovsky, Steven Xyloportas, Boi Phan Hoang, Nuno Maceso, Marina Felchin, Asif Shamim, Lester Fallarcuna, Simone Wedderborn, Pauline Praseuth, Daneyka Lauchy, Katayjon Masoumi Rad, Bradley Rasrullo, Mark Rosso and Mathew Tauro

Project Concept: A Convergence Hub for recent design graduates and current students who wish to grow their networks and learn while living independently in an enriching environment full of opportunities.

[Click here to download the project presentation board.](#)



Main St Markham (Purple Team)

Team leaders: Nikki Hsio Chi Shih and D.J. Kwon

Team Members: Marie Paznar, Raman Calliste, Pedro Quinteros, Maia Stubitsch, Jonathan Calle, Patrick Siemek, Geoff Stoneham, Pavel Grigoriev, Steven Defrancesco, Adrian Di Domnico, Jagroof Dhindsay, Sandor Soltesz, Ridvan Isik and Jacky Twsa.

Project Concept: The primary goals of this Convergence Hub is to design a sustainable building, incorporate Arts and Crafts as a special feature, integrating difference space types and creating an inviting, pedestrian-friendly site through the provision of public green space.

[Click here to download the project presentation board.](#)

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Credits & Special Thanks

More than 60 students worked together in 5 teams of 16 students each, led by students from the Institute without Boundaries and Architectural Technology George Brown College. These students were supported by many faculty and professionals, without whom the high quality of design results wouldn't be possible. The IwB extends special thanks to these advisors and most importantly, to the people of Markham for their support of this project.

Lecturers

Camelia Melchiori | Professor, Architectural Technology, George Brown College
Eli Malinsky | Director, Centre for Social Innovation

Panel

John Ryerson | Director of Culture, Town of Markham
Luigi Ferrara | Director, Centre for Arts & Design, Director, Institute without Boundaries
Marlene Slopock | Professor, Architectural Technology, George Brown College
Stephen Chait | Director, Economic Development, Town of Markham
Susan Speigel | Principal & Founder, Susan Speigel Architects
Faculty, Institute without Boundaries

Advisors

Andrew Batay-Csorba | Principal, Batay-Csorba
Brian Lee | Senior Manager, Development Engineering & Transportation, Town of Markham
Camelia Melchiori | Professor, Architectural Technology, George Brown College
Chriz Miller | Producer & Editor, CBC News, Alumni, Institute without Boundaries
Connor Malloy | Alumni, Institute without Boundaries

Eunice Lam | Designer and Public Relations Liason, 3rd Uncle Design, Alumni, Institute without Boundaries
Jennifer Adams | Professor, Architectural Technology, George Brown College
John Ryerson | Director of Culture, Town of Markham
Keita Demming | PHD Candidate, OISE, University of Toronto
Luigi Ferrara | Director, Centre for Arts & Design Director, Institute without Boundaries
Lilliana Diaz Olavarrieta | Professor, Sustainable Building, Ryerson University
Marlene Slopock | Professor, Architectural Technology, George Brown College
Miles Keller | Principal, MKDA, Faculty, Institute without Boundaries
Paul DeFreitas | Strategic Solutions Consultant
Rob Giusti | Special Project Associate, Institute without Boundaries & IwB Alumni
Xavier Masse | Art Director, Wolfson Bell, Faculty, Institute without Boundaries

IwB Staff

Luigi Ferrara | Director, Centre for Arts & Design, Director, Institute without Boundaries
Michelle Hotchin | Program Coordinator
Evelyne Au-Navioz | Special Projects Coordinator
Simon Drexler | Special Projects Associate
Natasha Basacchi | Special Projects Associate
Teresa Miller | IwB Alumni
Graeme Kondruss | Special Projects Associate
Rob Gisuti | Special Projects Associate
Elise Hodson | Special Projects Coordinator
Lori Endes | Student Services Coordinator
Priscilla Li | Special Projects Coordinator
Jeremy Vandermeij | Communications Coordinator