

Curé-Paquin School Is The First In Canada To Be Certified As Zero-Carbon

Saint-Eustache, February 13, 2019 - The Curé-Paquin Elementary School of the Seigneurie-des-Mille-Îles School Board (CSSMI) has become the first grade school in all of Canada, and first project in the Province of Quebec, to receive Zero-Carbon – Design certification from the Canada Green Building Council (CaGBC).

This certification confirms that the Curé-Paquin school has been designed to have net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with its operations. The elementary school is currently under construction and scheduled to open for the 2019-2020 academic year.

Highlights of Curé-Paquin's zero-carbon design include:

- Constructed according to the environmental requirements of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification system. The building meets strict environmental criteria related to energy savings and significantly reduces carbon emissions.
- The use of natural elements such as wood, which will improve well-being and promote academic success among students.
- Innovative solutions for insulation, windows, heating and ventilation systems that provide more energy savings.
- A reduction in energy consumption through innovations such as motion detectors that activate the lighting and turn it off when people leave a room.
- A geothermal system that provides significant energy savings as well as comfort.

The energy efficiency of the building will also reduce its operating costs. The professional firms that worked to make Curé-Paquin's a zero-carbon building were Socam Construction Ltd. (contractor); Leclerc Associate Architects Inc.; Stantec (civil engineers); GBi (mechanical and electrical engineers); Martin Maurice (landscape architects) and EXP Services Inc. (structural engineers).

Quotes :

- « Creative and bold initiatives are needed to counter the effects of climate change. I am therefore happy that our organization is making this environmentally responsible gesture today, through the construction of this school, for the generations of tomorrow. »
 - Paule Fortier, President, CSSMI

- « We are very proud to receive this certification for this avant-garde school, built according to new environmental standards. Our team has been actively working on the development of this construction and continues to do so since the construction is underway. Students who learn in these places will be most pampered. We hope that zero-carbon building certification will now be a standard for all new projects. »
 - Jean-François Lachance, Executive Director, CSSMI

- « I congratulate the CSSMI on obtaining the Zero-Carbon - Design certification for the Curé-Paquin elementary school. This pioneering project is a first in Quebec and the team that performed it has demonstrated remarkable leadership in the deployment of new technologies and new operational concepts that push the limits of the current design of buildings. This leadership has resulted in a project that significantly reduces greenhouse gas emissions and provides a healthy environment for occupants through the abundant use of natural lighting and improved air quality. »
 - Thomas Mueller, President and Chief Executive Officer, Canada Green Building Council (CaGBC).

About CSSMI

Innovative, committed and efficient, CSSMI offers quality educational services within its vast network of public schools and training centers. It has 79 institutions located in the Lower Laurentians. Thanks to 7,300 employees, all energies are deployed for the success of its 43,000 students.