Richmond Community Safety Building Green Building Facts

The Richmond Community Safety Building is designed and built to LEED Gold Standards.

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) is an internationally recognized green building certification system. It provides third-party verification that a building or community was designed and built using strategies intended to improve performance in metrics such as energy savings, water efficiency, CO_2 emissions reduction, improved indoor environmental quality, and stewardship of resources and sensitivity to their impacts.

Actual LEED certification will be finalized after the building's official opening.

Highlights of sustainable elements that support Gold status:

- 'recycling' an existing building.
- reuse of old ballast gravel from the former roof for gravel fill at the building perimeter.
- low-emitting materials that reduce or eliminate volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in paints, coatings and flooring, resulting in no "new building smell."
- white roofing to reflect sun/heat, making operations easier for mechanical systems.
- solar panels for heating domestic hot water with clean, free energy.
- high efficiency heat pump units for heating and cooling.
    - these units are also able to recover waste heat from the building cooling processes, diverting it to other parts of the building needing heat.
- Low E (low emissivity) window glass to reduce the sun's effects on indoor temperature.
- drought resistant landscaping, with no irrigation system, which reduces water use.
    - water efficient landscaping will save over three million litres of water annually at this building.
- low-flow plumbing fixtures such as toilets and faucets.
- timers and daylight sensors for exterior parking lights.

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- overall building lights centrally controlled to turn specific areas on or off as needed.
- sensor-controlled LED (light-emitting diode) track lighting in the atrium, and occupancy sensors in storage and meeting rooms to activate lights only when the room is in use.
- indirect fluorescent lights and LED pot lights in office areas, and built-in task lighting at desks.
- paper and container recycling.
- car stalls for carpooling and outlets for charging electric vehicles.
- refurbished workstations.
- almost 1,200 metric tonnes (over 80 per cent) of construction waste diverted from the landfill.
  - 784 metric tonnes of material recycled.
  - 360 metric tonnes of material salvaged for reuse within the construction project.
  - 50 metric tonnes donated to other projects.