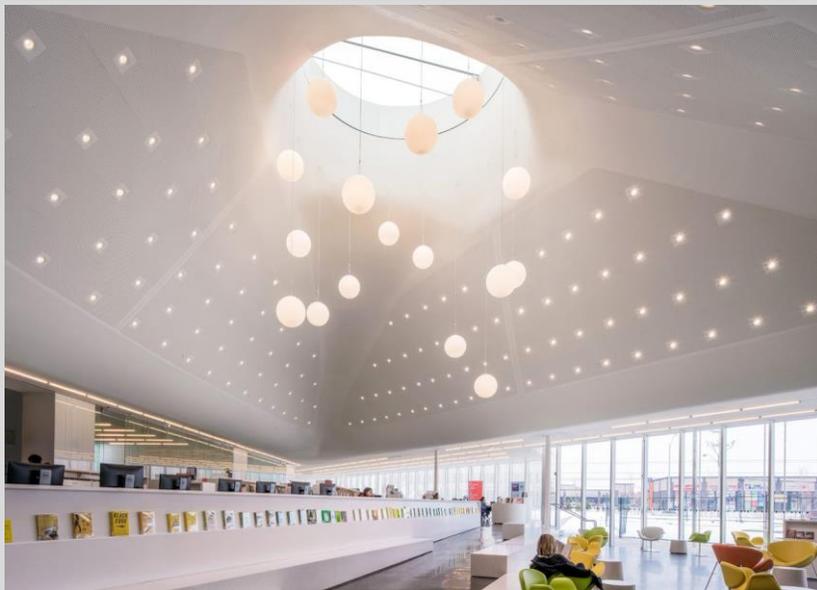


Springdale Library and Komagata Maru Park

City of Brampton / RDH Architects Inc. / NAK Design Strategies / Aquicon Construction Co. Inc.
10705 Bramalea Road, Brampton, Ontario

New Development



This new branch library and community park for the neighbourhood of Springdale is located on a four-acre greenfield site, with Bramalea Road to the south, a new commercial plaza to the east, and a natural ravine to the north and west. The LEED Gold registered building provides 20,000 square feet of diverse library program space, combined with a 5,000 square foot community multi-purpose room. The Komagata Maru Park includes children's play equipment, a splash pad, parking, and a contemplative garden (completed spring 2019).

In an attempt to connect the building to the landscape in which it sits, the concept design utilizes two primary devices: first, the notion of an organic, undulating perimeter condition of building and courtyard; and second, the creation of an artificial topography within the flat landscape of the park; within the floor slab of the interior; and within the ceiling and roof plane of the library structure. The undulations at the perimeter of the building create three distinct courtyards that respond to the urban context. The first encourages pedestrian movement and entry to the building from Bramalea Road; the second facilitates movement and entry from the parking lot; and the third creates a thoughtful dialogue between the building and the contemplative gardens. Further to this, locating the facility close to the street, at the 'prow' of this irregularly shaped site, allows the public library architecture to intensify and define the street edge.

The development of this concept is a genuine response to the immediate urban condition. Both the site and the surrounding area are relatively flat, with little topography, or expressive architectural context. The intent for this project is to create an expressive piece of suburban architecture and urbanism, one that is in dialogue with a created topography, and intensifies the immediate suburban experience.