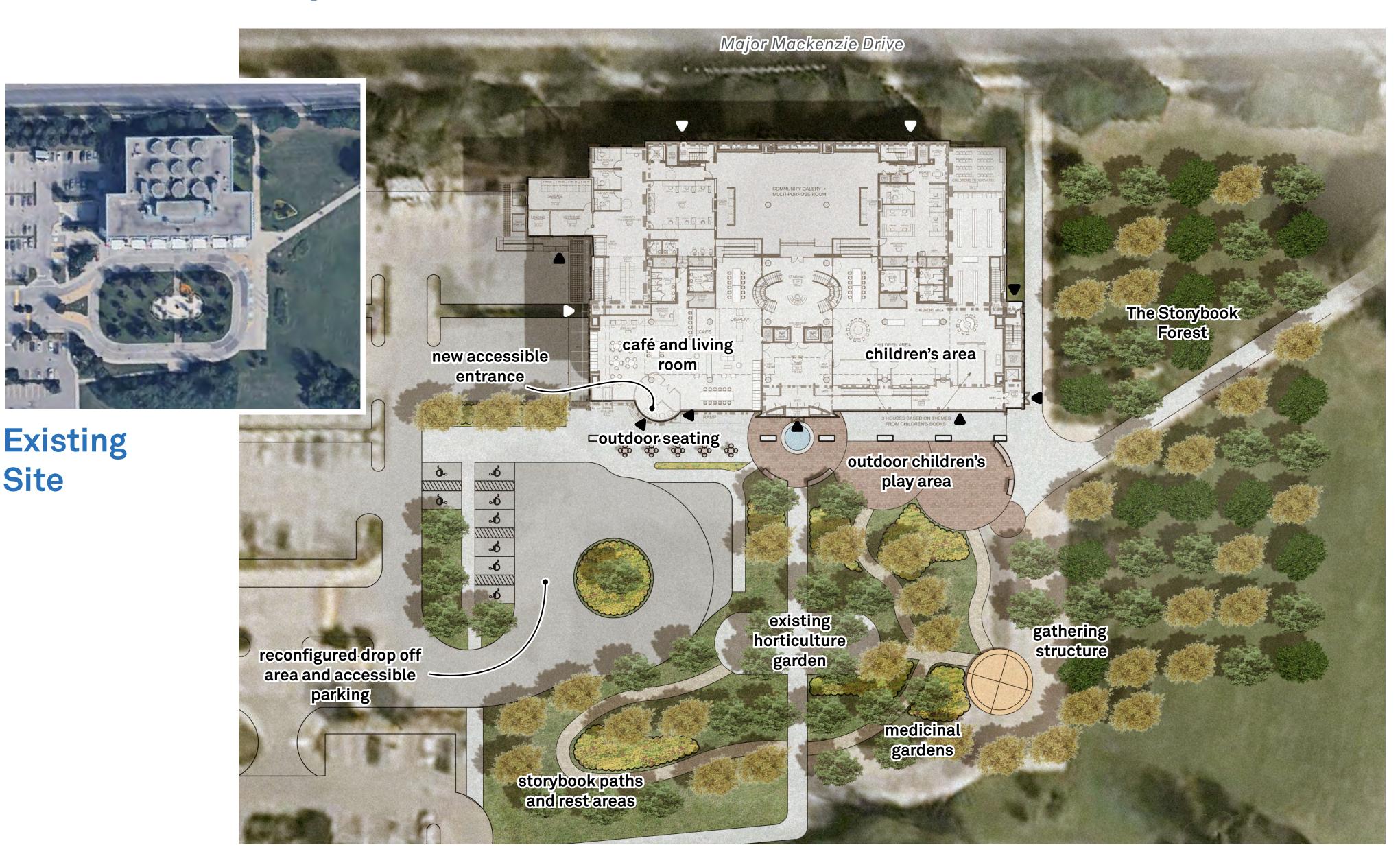
Richmond Hill Public Library Facilities Master Plan

Proposed Renewal of Central Branch

In 2017, RHPL hired Diamond Schmitt Architects to conduct a feasibility study for an expansion of Central Branch that would fill in the east and west sides of the building. The study presented two concepts: Option A proposes a 17,800 ft² addition, and Option B proposes a 31,800 ft² addition. In keeping pace with population growth, we recommend implementation of Option B, with some minor changes to increase the programming potential of

the facility. There is a great opportunity at Central Branch to better utilize outdoor spaces and bring elements of the library outside. Reorganizing the front loop drive to the west of the building frees up space for new paths, seating, formal and informal gathering areas. This includes outdoor spaces for programming, a café extension, an outdoor expansion of the children's area, and a new gathering structure surrounded by native plantings.

Proposed Site Plan



Outdoor Play Area



The Globe Playground, DOKK1, Denmark (Monstrum)

An outdoor children's play area will be accessible directly from the children's program area. Creative and natural play structures should foster imagination and unstructured play.

Storybook Paths



Story trail signage along a naturalized, self-guided children's walk (Evergreen Creations)

Pathways will weave through the gardens and through a new forested area. Signage can guide children on a walk through a storybook or educate on the gardens and plants. Public art can be displayed throughout.

Gathering Structure



Awen' Gathering Place, Town of Collingwood, Ontario (Brook McIlroy)

An outdoor gathering structure will allow for outdoor programming opportunities. It will be designed and programmed in consultation with Richmond Hill's Indigenous community.

Medicinal Gardens



Sage, sweetgrass, and tobacco plantings at Hoop Dance Indigenous Gathering Place, Mohawk College (Brook McIlroy)

The existing horticultural garden will be expanded with native and medicinal plantings, improving the aesthetic quality of outdoor spaces for passive enjoyment, and creating many educational and program opportunities.



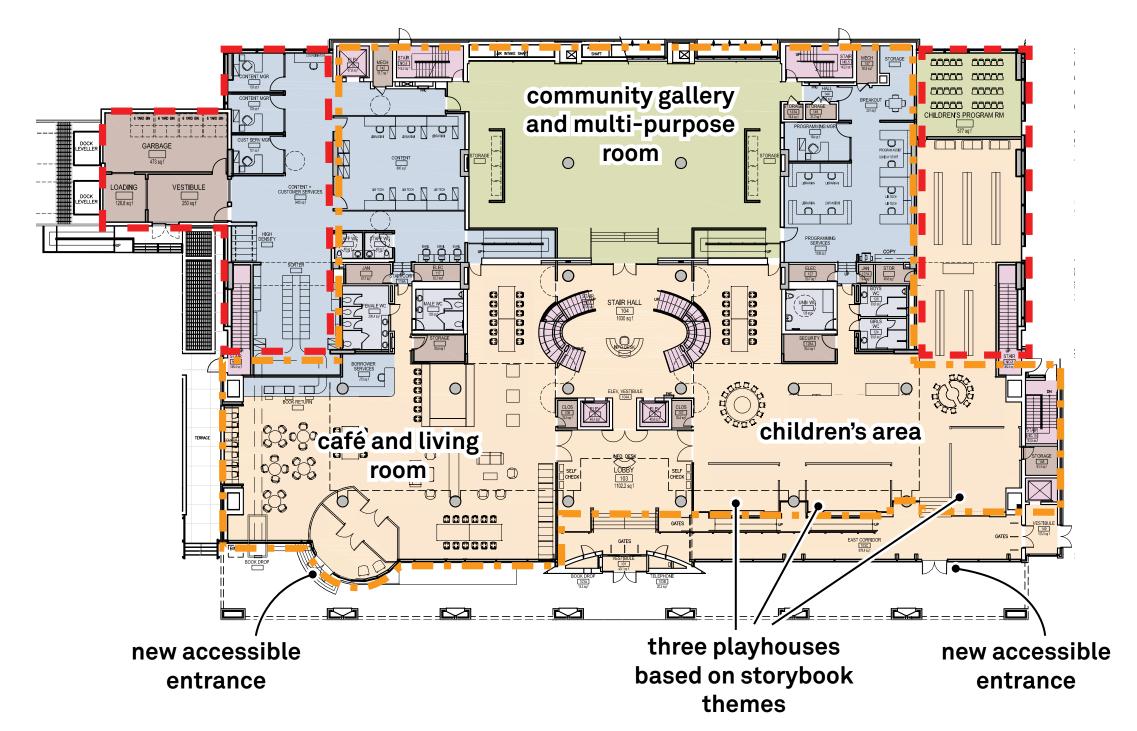
BrookMcIlroy/

Richmond Hill Public Library Facilities Master Plan

Proposed Renewal of Central Branch

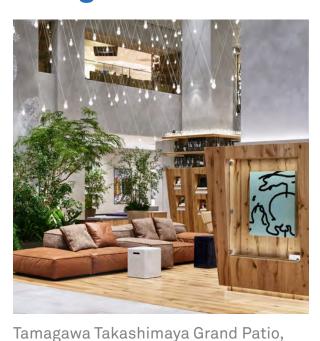


Level 1 (Ground Floor)



On the Ground Floor, a **new café and living room** area is relocated to the west side of the building, and an expanded children's activity area is located at the east, both with connections to the outdoors. Service areas on the Ground Floor are converted for public use, including a community gallery and exhibition space.

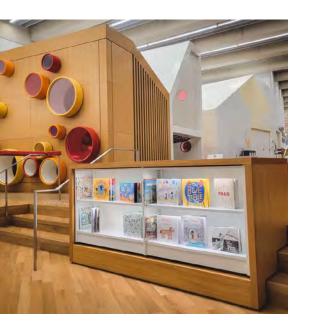
Café and Community Living Room



Japan (Yuko Magayama & Associates)

Children's Activity

Area

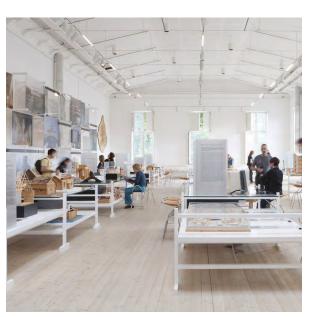


Early Learning Centre, Calgary Public

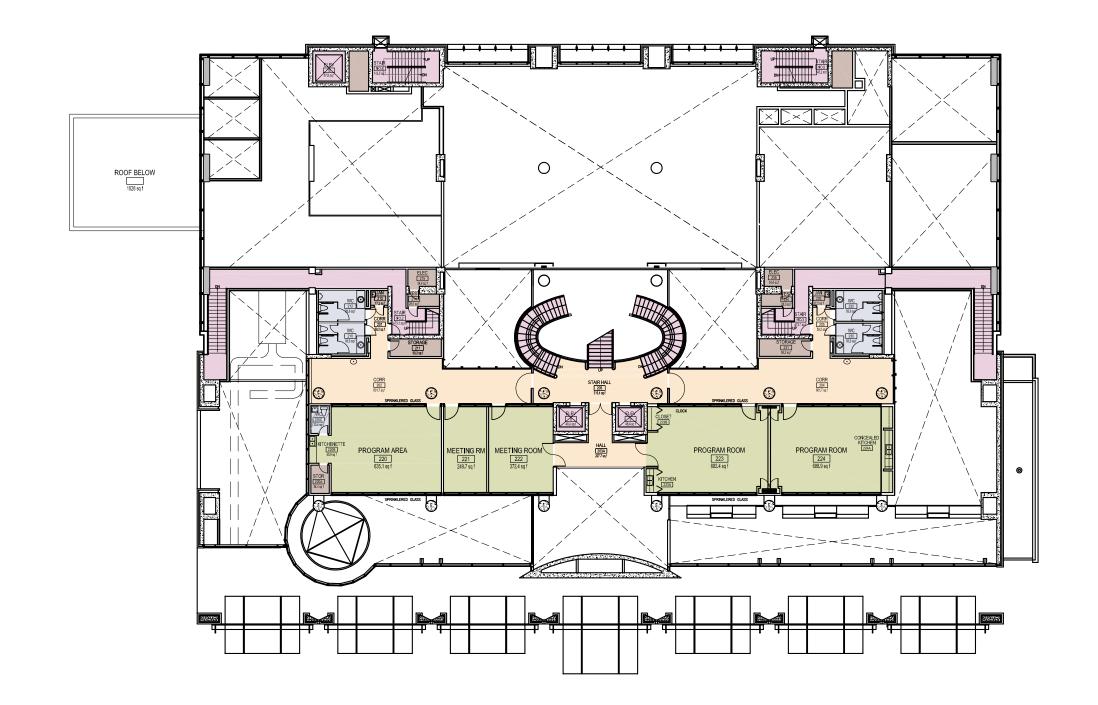
Library (Snohetta)

Exhibition Space, ArkDES Centre for Architecture and Design, Stockholm

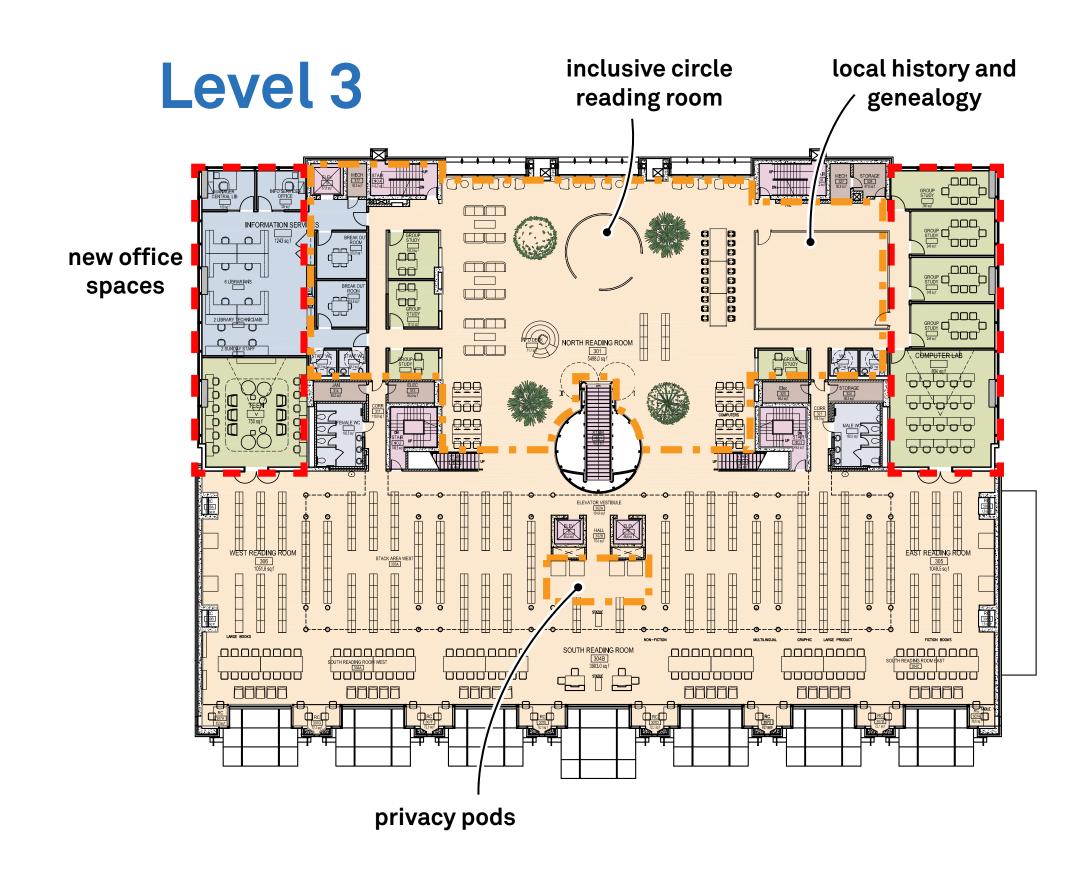
Community Gallery and Exhibition Space



Level 2



Level 2 will retain the multipurpose program and meeting rooms on the mezzanine, and will add improved circulation to Level 3.



Level 3 will include a new inclusive circle reading room, featuring Indigenous writing and art in a new permanent collection. The local history room will be relocated here and designed to acknowledge the cultural diversity of Richmond Hill's population. Interior plantings will take advantage of the full height of the space, with a new indoor forest surrounding the reading room. Small **privacy pods** create additional quiet study or work space for individuals or small groups.

Inclusive Circle Reading Room



Qaumajuq Inuit Art Centre, Winnipeg Art Gallery (Michael Maltzan Architecture)

Indoor Forest



Lenne Offices, Talinn, Estonia (KAMP)

Privacy Pods



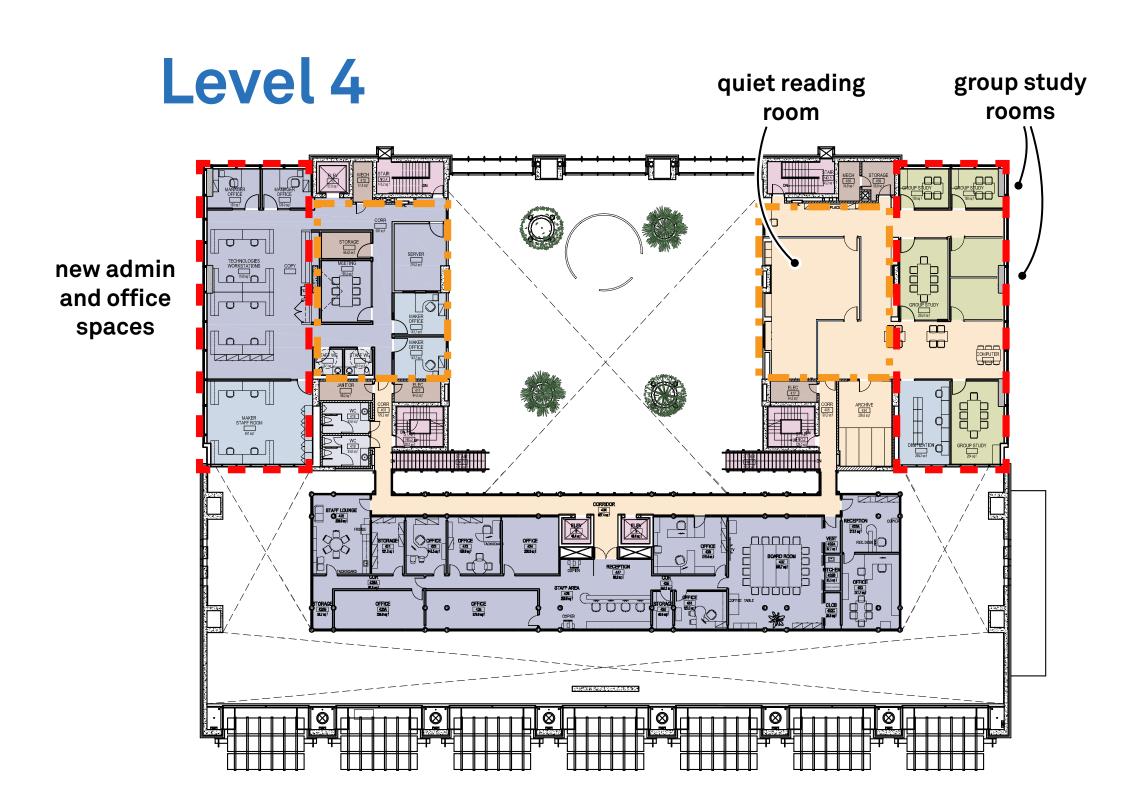
Framery Q Office Pods



Richmond Hill Public Library Facilities Master Plan

Proposed Renewal of Central Branch





Level 4 will include new **administrative spaces** at the west extension, and new quiet and group study areas at the east extension. The millwork in the existing genealogy room will be preserved, visible through a soundproof glass wall to form a **quiet reading room**. Additional **group study rooms** are added to respond to the demand for bookable and semi-private work spaces.

Quiet Reading Room



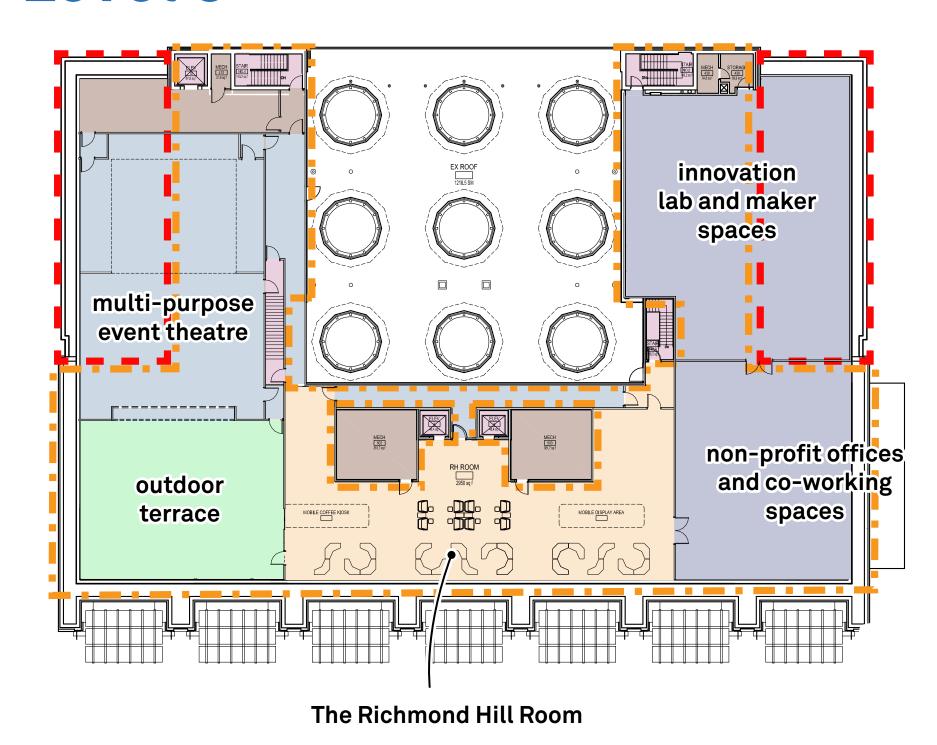
TD Great Reading Room, Calgary Public Library (Snohetta)

Group Study Spaces



Group study rooms, Wychwood Library, Toronto (Shoalts and Zaback Architects; Doublespace Photography)

Level 5



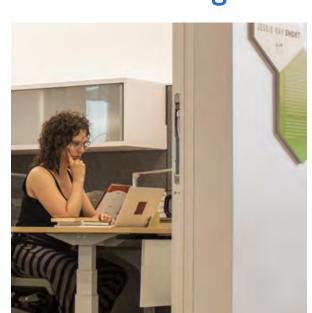
Level 5 will house new state-of-the art innovation spaces, able to house fully-equipped maker spaces, digital labs, business incubators, non-profit offices, residencies, and a creative co-working space. A new "Richmond Hill Room" and multipurpose event theatre will be a full-service destination venue for civic events, performances, graduations, and much more. The outdoor terrace will provide sweeping southward views of the City and full evening sun.

Innovation and Maker Spaces



Mega Maker Lab, Institute of Imagination, London (Matt+Fiona)

Non-Profit Offices and Co-working



Historian-in-Residence Office, Calgary
Public Library

Multi-Purpose Performance Space



Colyer-Fergusson Music Building University of Kent (Tim Ronalds Architects)

The "Richmond Hill Room" Civic Venue



Bookable event space at the City of Vancouver's Van Dusen Botanical Gardens (Mikaela Ruth Photography)

Outdoor Terrace



Rooftop North Garden, Vancouver Public Library (Cornelia Hahn Oberlander)

