

**From:** "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>  
**To:** "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"  
**CC:** "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"  
**Date:** 9/16/2020 3:43:59 PM  
**Subject:** 2nd floor renovations at CH

Hi

As promised, I'm forwarding some background points on the Global Story on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of CH. Let me know if there's further questions that you have that aren't addressed in these points:

With the loss of office space in the former East Wing adjacent to City Hall due to seismic concerns, as well as two City-owned buildings on Broadway Avenue near Cambie Street for Broadway Subway construction, the City has been relocating staff and upgrading older, substandard offices to create more efficient work spaces.

By reducing the number of offices and creating a more flexible workspace, with this renovation the number of staff that can be accommodated in the same footprint has increased by 30 per cent. The updated space – which had seen no major improvements in 30 years – is also more flexible and allows for better desk sharing and remote work, which will continue to be important in the post-COVID operations of the City.

City staff moving into the renovated space will free up work spaces at other locations. This is part of the City's ongoing efforts to reduce the overall office space footprint and costs, including the amount of space the City leases.

The \$2.6 million budget for the renovation, which included \$316,800 for furniture, was approved by City Council in December 2019 as part of the capital budget for 2020. Work was conducted by and purchases made from firms on the City's pre-approved vendor list, based on earlier competitive Requests for Proposal.

The project was under way prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, and once staff based out of City Hall started working remotely it became an opportune time to get the work done with the least disruption.

The renovation also allowed for important upgrades to the end-of-life heating and ventilation system, and installation of more energy efficient LED lighting and baseboard heaters which will reduce building maintenance costs in the future for operating budget savings. Older furniture which does not work in the newer office configurations is reused elsewhere in the City or recycled if damaged.

The majority of the City's four-year capital plan includes upgrades to facilities and infrastructure used by the public, however it is important to maintain all of the City's assets in good repair, including the City Hall heritage building.

**Sadhu Aufochs Johnston** | City Manager  
Office of the City Manager | City of Vancouver  
[sadhu.johnston@vancouver.ca](mailto:sadhu.johnston@vancouver.ca)  
604.873.7627

Pronouns: he, him, his



*The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.*