

Design Rationale

Master Plan Concept

The main feature of the proposed master plan concept consists of a north-south orientation on the Site which creates a strong sense of Campus in collaboration with the future Clinical Support and Research Centre (CSRC) that benefits from improved siting on the New High Street. The two parts become one stronger unified collective enabling NSP to become the catalyst for future urban renewal and development for generations to come. The CSRC's new siting, will have both a public face onto New High Street providing ground floor animation as well as one facing inward towards the Facility and the Civic Plaza.



Site Diagram

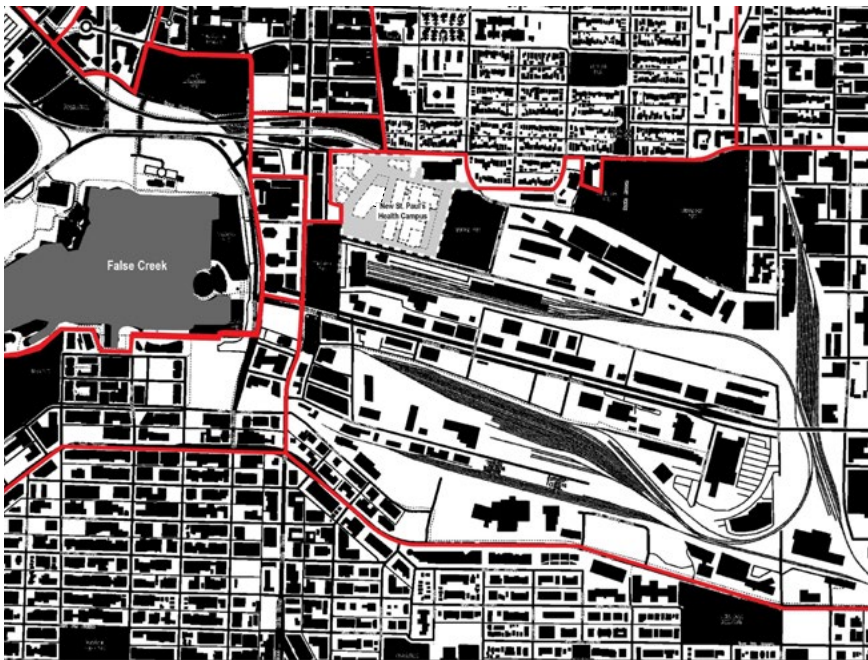


New St. Paul's Hospital

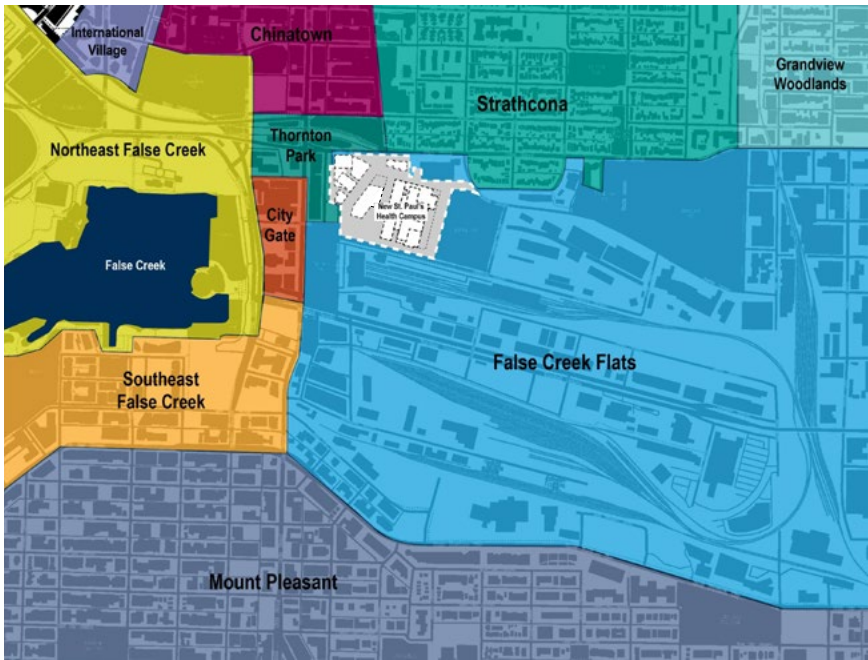


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Master Plan Concept



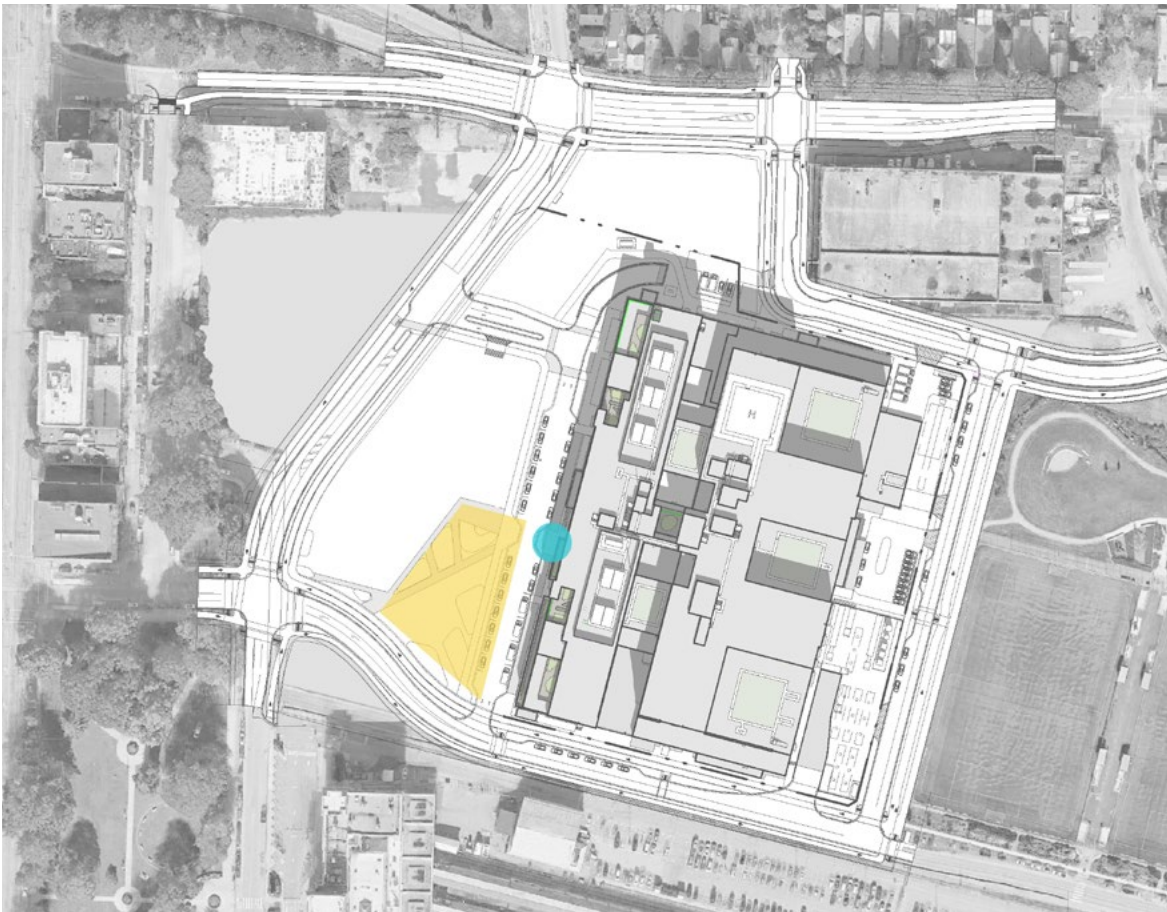
Urban Context - Figure-Ground



Urban Context - Neighbourhoods

The geometry of the Site and the position of the two building masses naturally opens up to the south towards National Avenue, creating an urban Plaza that provides a strong feeling of arrival along with enhanced opportunity for direct sunlight penetration deep into the Health Campus and along Healthcare Boulevard. The Civic Plaza will be a modern, urban piazza with strong edges bounded by the Hospital and the CSRC.

The CSRC position on New High Street enhances development opportunities and greater connections for the Health Campus to the West Parcel on the west side of New High Street.



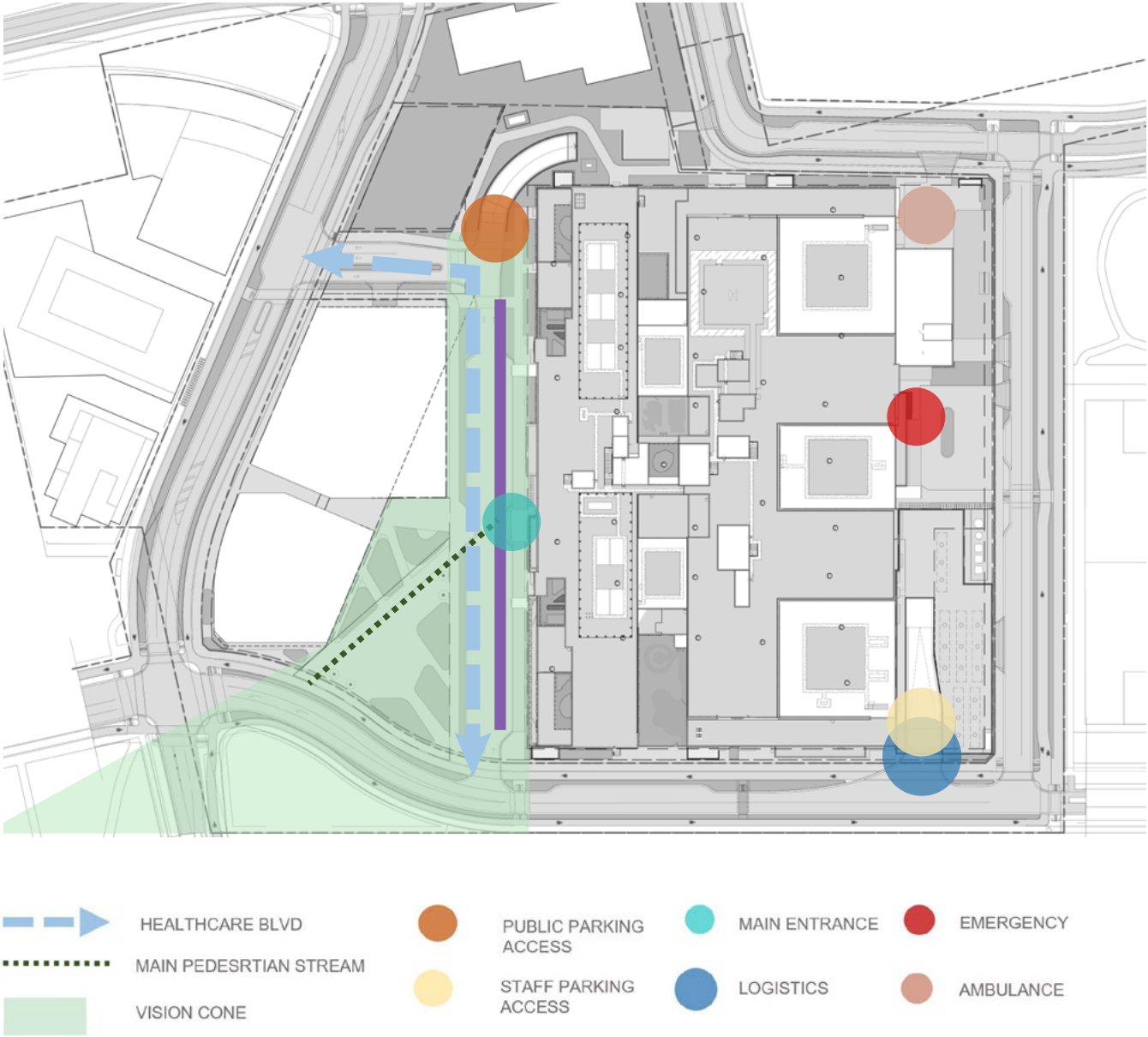
North-South Orientation of Facility allows organization of the Site in a logical manner and creates a Civic Plaza connection.

The CSRC is broken above grade into two parts, an office building component and a research building component allowing for an important pedestrian connection between the two and connecting the Hospital Main Entrance to New High Street and the West Parcel. The wedge shape of the Civic Plaza provides greater “storefront” exposure of the CSRC and the Hospital towards the south and by extension to Thornton Park and the Main Street Station.

In addition to this, it provides enhanced opportunity for direct sunlight through the Site and on Healthcare Boulevard, the Main Entry and program entrances for the Centre for Healthy Aging and Urban Health Outpatient Services. The Civic Plaza will be a modern, urban piazza with strong edges bounded by the Facility and the CSRC.

The Main Entrance becomes a clear and legible visual destination from the corner of New High Street and National Avenue.

The project team has reviewed extensively and considered vehicular traffic flows to delineate and effectively stream traffic from the Site perimeter towards one’s potential destination: the CSRC, the Facility Visitor underground parking, Healthcare Boulevard, Emergency entrance, Staff parking or shipping and receiving.



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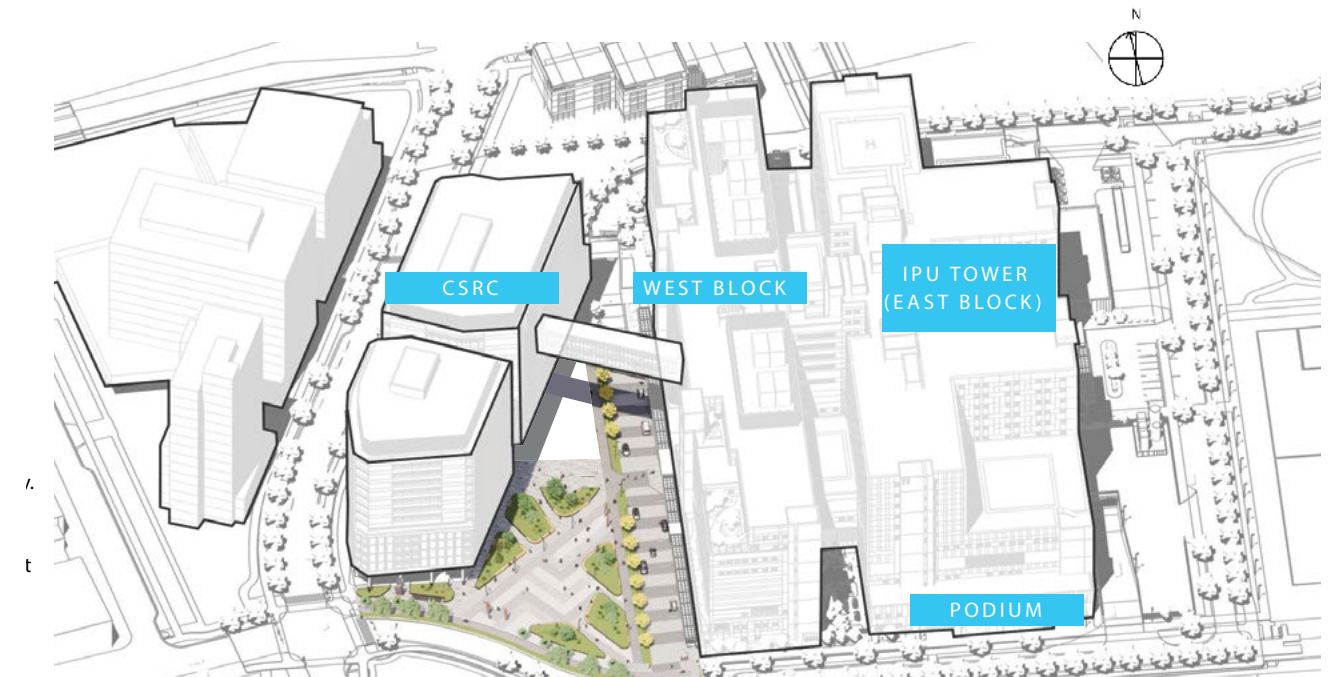
Site Design

This effort ultimately supports the Patient's experience, alleviating the potential stresses of wayfinding to and throughout a large, multi-dimensional social institution such as the NSP. The siting has important operational benefits as well; it maximizes the utility of the available urban street network to serve more distinct purposes which is essential for such a large, complex infrastructure Project.

List of specific functional requirements addressed in the site organization and design:

- Access to Staff parking is separated from Visitor traffic flow
- Logistics and service traffic will be steered away from busy public areas
- Urgent emergency vehicle traffic will be separated from public entries

With the Civic Plaza situated on the south side and stretching westward towards the corner of New High Street and National Avenue, it will become an activated pedestrian zone that will become the gathering point for people coming to the NSP via public transit, conveniently located at the Main Street Station. The Wellness Walk will be an accessible, multi-faceted amenity that will weave its way around the Campus and will create both an important link to the City fabric and a place of respite for Staff and Patients. The Wellness Walk will accommodate places to sit and reflect, as well as incorporate points of interest that will educate and acknowledge the legacy of Indigenous Peoples and the historic shoreline of False Creek.

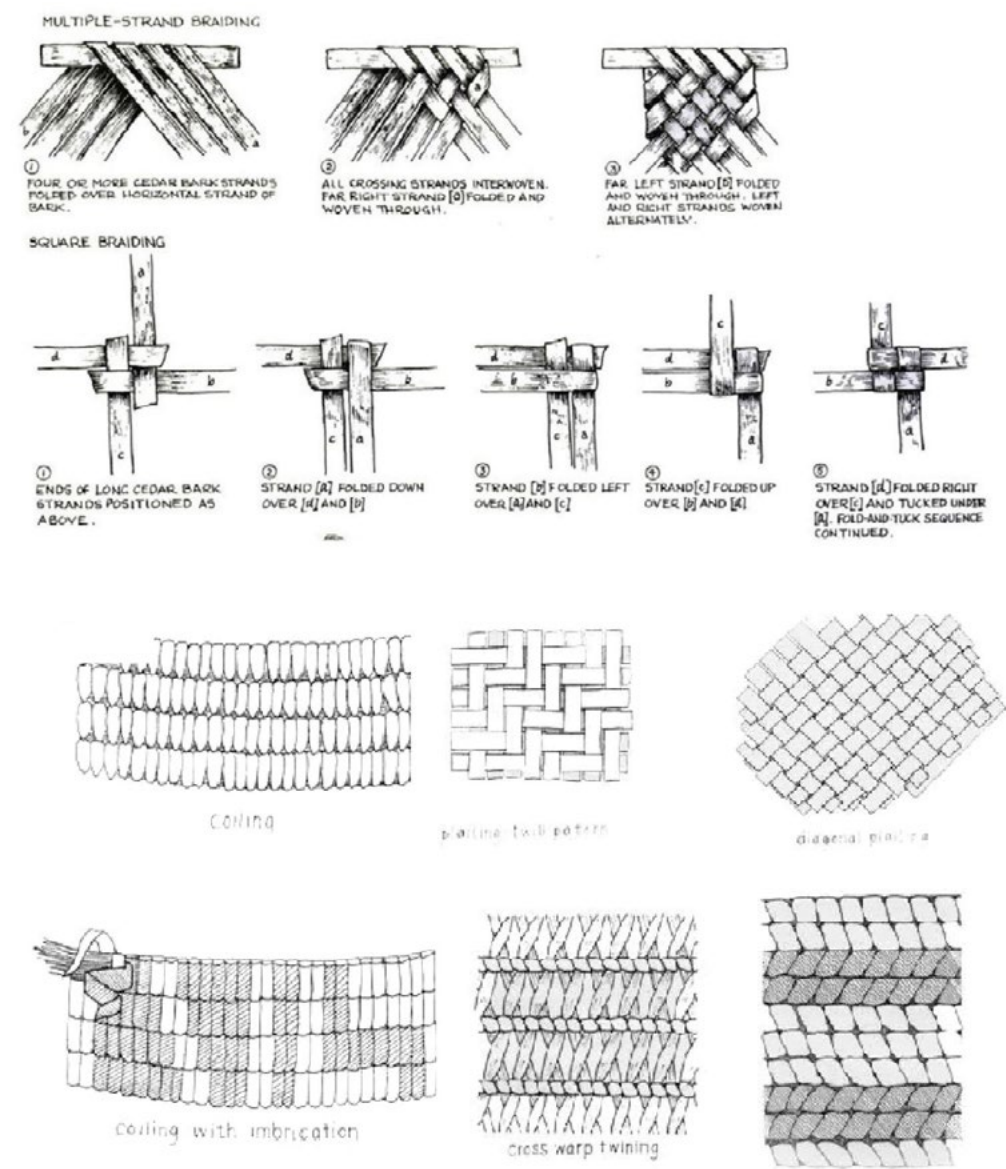


Site and Building Massing Diagram

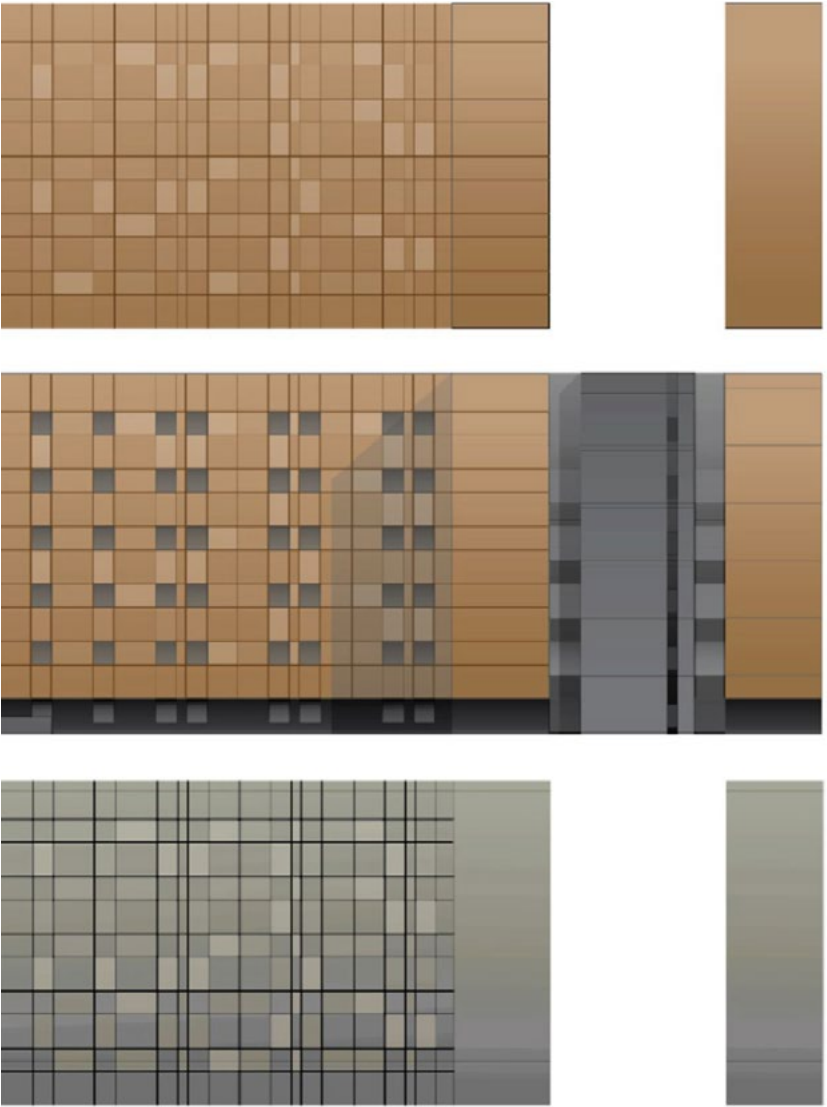


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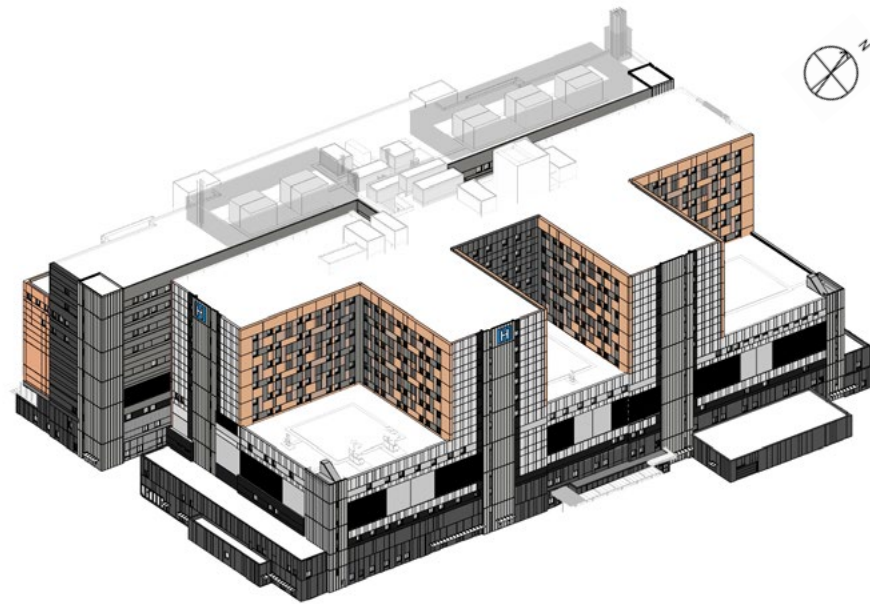
Building Massing and Envelope Concept



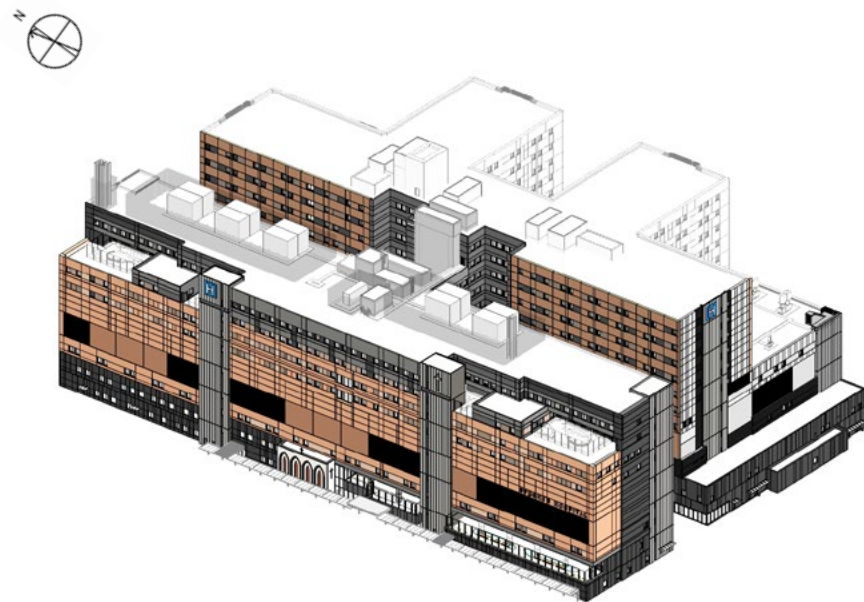
Weave Pattern Inspiration (Pacific Northwest native weave techniques)



Developed weave pattern on the facades



South East View - Woven pattern on patient towers



South West View - Woven pattern on west south facades

The weave concept is the metaphor enabling the Facility to be an anchor for the community, bringing together adjacent City neighbourhoods while acknowledging Indigenous and Catholic cultures as distinct, yet reconciling their presence and strength together.

Early in the Design, Indigenous weaving techniques started to inform the exterior expression of the building. The building massing is very large, yet it needed to be broken down into elements in order for it to sit in its urban context and be appropriately scaled to be welcoming and relatable at an individual/personal level.

Breaking down the large building mass is aided by the functional separation of program components into a West Block and East Block massing. A pedestrian-level scale is created in the form of a two-storey dark gray band encircling the whole building enabling points of interest such as the various entrances to “pop out” as highlighted destinations articulated with accent colour, material, signage and lighting.

The body of the podium up to Level 5 is further defined depending on its façade exposure. The East Block massing is further articulated by the inpatient unit configuration above Level 5.

The eastern exposure of the Inpatient Towers (East Block) enables Patient bedrooms to have individual views to the south, east and north. The individual scale of the Patient is expressed in the façade where metal panel colour and texture create a kind of quilt acknowledging the individual while producing a comprehensible whole pattern. The exit stairs serve as strongly expressed vertical elements on all four facades binding together the quilt of the New St. Paul’s Hospital.

The composition of the facades is enhanced by the use of colour. The earth and dust from which people are born and return is expressed predominantly in ochre, copper and clay tones. This range of colour is used as a “forward welcoming embrace” at key locations such as the public-facing West Block façade. To breakdown the large building massing and to contrast with the forward earth tones, dark gray/black is used to create recessive, shadowed areas of the facades. Areas of distinction such as the Chapel and the Main Entrance, are highlighted against the dark gray/black pedestrian-level podium in light gray masonry.

Design Rationale

Building Massing and Envelope Concept

The Building massing is, in part, articulated by a West block and an East block. The physical separation between these two forms facilitates daylight to penetrate deeply into the central core of the Facility through to the ground floor in the form of enclosed courtyards, and a south facing exterior space comprising a portion of the Healing Corridor and the Spiritual Garden. Tying the West and East blocks together is a two-storey, ground oriented podium base, intersected by strong vertical elements which are the stair towers. The Energy Centre is completely absorbed into the body of the building at Level 5, effectively hidden and providing greater flexibility to accommodate clinical elements at the building perimeter.

As much as the NSP will be an important patch woven into the quilt that is the City of Vancouver, The design team has borrowed on the First Nations form of expression of weaving to create an identity for the Facility that is both timeless and relevant to the history of the Site. The distinct East Block massing, which comprises the inpatient units, uses colour and pattern to create a woven quilt pattern that is representative of each individual Patient within the care of St Paul’s Hospital.

List of Relaxations:

1. The applicant would like to apply for relaxation of one protrusion on the building rooftop which interferes with the View Cone 22 from Main Street and 6th Avenue. (Refer to section Protected View Analysis on page 34 and 35.)



Design Rationale

Renders



