

Diamond and Schmitt Architects

MEDIA RELEASE

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Queen's University Opens Medical School, announces Engineering Centre Diamond and Schmitt Architects strengthens ties with historic campus

TORONTO – Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario officially opened its new Medical School today. Designed by Diamond and Schmitt Architects, the \$77-million, four-storey building provides for new methods of teaching and enhanced learning opportunities.

"The classrooms, labs and study rooms are designed to facilitate teamwork and case-based learning," said Donald Schmitt, Principal at Diamond and Schmitt Architects, which undertook the project in joint venture with Shoalts & Zaback Architects of Kingston. "The collaborative learning model positions Queen's School of Medicine in the vanguard of a pedagogical revolution that is improving learning outcomes," Schmitt added.

"It's going to be an exciting year in undergraduate medical education. Many of our faculty have redesigned and enhanced their learning events, with a greater balance of lectures and independent group learning," says Anthony Sanfilippo, Associate Dean, Undergraduate Medical Education.

In addition to two 125-seat lecture theatres, 30 small meeting rooms and several videoconference rooms allow students to work together to solve clinical problems. A surgical skills and simulation lab is equipped with high-tech mannequins, observation rooms and recording facilities. Students can hone their clinical skills in a facility set up as a real-life clinic. The school also houses an Anatomy Learning Centre and Museum, wet lab teaching and support space in addition to ground floor lounge and common space.

Clad in limestone, the traditional building material used at Queen's since the 1840s, the 125,000-square-foot School of Medicine anchors a campus precinct. Medical School faculty offices in two renovated historic houses are structurally connected to the school and a walkway links with the neighbouring Biosciences complex.

Queen's University also announced Diamond and Schmitt Architects will design the \$30 million Engineering and Applied Science Centre for Innovation in Global Engineering (CIGE). In association with Shoalts and Zaback Architects, Diamond and Schmitt Architects has previously designed for Queen's University the Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Leggett Hall, Watts Hall, Leonard Hall, the Cancer Research Institute, and is currently at work on the Reactor Material Testing Laboratory.

"We know our client and their ambitions well and look forward to designing a facility that meets and exceeds the demanding expectations of this fine university", said Jack Diamond, Principal with Diamond and Schmitt Architects.

Diamond and Schmitt Architects (www.dsai.ca) is a leading Canadian full-service architectural practice. The firm is recognized for excellence in the design of award-winning academic research buildings, commercial, residential and health care institutions and performing arts centres. Current projects include the Centre for Global Innovation Exchange at Wilfrid Laurier University, the Schulich School of Engineering, University of Calgary, and the Sick Children's Hospital Research Tower in Toronto.

For more information on Diamond and Schmitt Architects, please contact:

Paul French
Manager, Public Relations
Tel. 416 862-8800 x454
pfrench@dsai.ca

