



Calgary Courts Centre

Creating Canada's largest consolidated court building

Serving both federal and provincial judicial systems, the Calgary Courts Centre, with 73 courtrooms, is the largest justice center of its kind in Canada. NORR, as associate architect working with Kasian, designed the twin 20 and 24-floor towers linked by one of the biggest cold climate glass atriums in the world.

This expression of openness and transparency provides natural light and views to the surrounding city and distant Rocky Mountains. Air movement within the soaring 400-foot (122-meter) double-glazed atrium is closely monitored to ensure that winter condensation does not develop and temperature remains constant from top to bottom. Glass elevator cabs transport visitors up the atrium to bridge lobbies that connect the court buildings. One of the most advanced electronic docketing systems in North America assists visitors in finding their way to court. As stipulated by the client, NORR designed the judicial building to US General Services Administration Guidelines. The result is a landmark in Calgary's downtown core.

CLIENT	Alberta Infrastructure & Transportation
PORTFOLIO	Justice
CATEGORY	Courthouse
SIZE	1,000,000 SF (92,903 SM)
LOCATION	Calgary, AB, Canada
DATE	2007
SERVICES	Architecture Interior Design

AWARDS

- 2010 National Center for State Courts (NCSC) Retrospectives of Courthouse Design, Citation
- 2009 AIA Academy of Architecture for Justice Knowledge Community Justice Facility Review, Citation
- 2001-2010 The Retrospective of Courthouse Design, National Center for State Courts, Williamsburg, VA, Special Citation

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Justice

Justice facilities demand multi-faceted design to uphold and express the legal process, and achieve efficient and functional operations, while maintaining a safe and secure environment. Our experience in the design of judicial buildings spans more than 30 years across all levels of government including courthouses, police and fire facilities and detention and correctional centers.

Multi-Faceted Design to Meet All Users' Needs

Our Justice Center of Excellence continually advances design through research, technology and practice. We believe the key to effective judicial building design is a clear understanding of complex programs and changing processes to support all participants. Working collaboratively with users and stakeholders, we use both traditional and new techniques of visualization and simulation to communicate and collaborate in the design process.

Courthouses

The design of a new courthouse must be accessible, dignified, safe and functional. Detailed design of public circulation, waiting areas, settlement rooms, holding quarters and judicial chambers is undertaken to support the needs of the courts system. NORR has completed more than 50 courthouse projects including programming assessments, standards development, accessibility studies, renovations and new-build designs.

Police and Fire Facilities

The design of police and fire facilities must respond to the increasing demands for service and security in an evolving world. Our Justice team works with multiple police and fire service organizations across the globe to realize designs that achieve efficiency, functionality, integrate technology and provide a safe environment for officers, firefighters and the public that is integrated into the community they serve.

Detention and Correctional Centers

The design of a new detention or correctional center, or overhaul of an existing facility, must emphasize elements such as rigorous security standards, operational requirements, enhanced rehabilitation potential and adaptability for future growth and services. We manage all elements in close partnership with the client and community.

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