



# Capilano Branch Library Edmonton, AB

Previously located on the second floor of the Capilano Mall, the Edmonton Public Library’s Capilano Branch needed a new home that would overcome its accessibility challenges. Public input also called for a new facility provide generous amounts of natural light along with community rooms, private and semi-private meeting and study spaces. The building site offered an additional challenge: a narrow, 60-metre wide grassy site, bordered on one side by Edmonton’s Fulton Ravine and a neighbourhood street on the other.

In order to accommodate the program space requirements, the allowance for natural lighting and to build on a narrow site, the design team devised a jagged roof of three peaks running along the length of the building, giving the appearance of different roofs collapsing against each other. The peaked shaped allowed for the installation of additional diffused glazing and the concealment of mechanical and electrical services.

Fast + Epp was able to recommend a relatively simple structural system to achieve the complex triple-peak form that could also be quickly erected. Fast + Epp created a repetitive series of welded steel frames that were each a cross-section of the entire building form, over which a roof of Douglas Fir timber panels could be installed. The steel frames were pre-fabricated and delivered on site in two pieces, and the mass timber panels, which connect the jagged steel frames, were installed in just a few days.

## Fast + Epp

Status  
Completed 2018

Project Cost  
\$11.8 million

Area  
11,000 ft² (1,022 m²)

Architect  
Patkau Architects, Group2

Client  
Edmonton Public Library

