

SFU STUDENT UNION BUILDING

Burnaby, BC | Completed 2019

Role of the firm: Structural Engineer of Record

Area: 110,650 sq.ft (10,300 sq.m)

Budget: CAD \$55 million

Architect: Perkins&Will

Client: SFU Campus Planning

Student health and wellbeing dictated the design of Simon Fraser University's new Student Union Building – the bright, welcoming facility features less concrete than other buildings on campus, instead marrying the durability of glass and steel for the exterior with the warmth and sustainability of interior wood elements.

The building was constructed over five levels, with a terraced profile for added architectural interest. Fast + Epp achieved this design by offsetting the top three storeys on the north-south axis and creating a large cantilever floor on the top floor to span the main entrance over the convocation hall. A concrete flat plate with transfer beams allows a striking feature stair to run uninterrupted through the entire building.

Programming includes ample spaces to study and meet, as well as recreational spaces – an online gaming lounge, nap room, live performance stage, music and dance rehearsal spaces, dining hall, and a multipurpose room for larger events. It is sure to be a popular destination on campus.

