



Sunset Community Centre Vancouver, BC

Tucked away in a residential neighbourhood, the original Sunset Community Centre lacked visibility, accessibility and – at almost 60 years old – the building was showing its age.

The design vision for the new community centre was inspired by the predominantly South Asian district dotted with Punjabi restaurants and sari shops. The structure would play off the idea of movement; flowing fabrics or flower petals blowing in the wind.

The primary concern for this type of organic structure was the budget. The architect approached Fast + Epp to employ tilt-up concrete construction – a low-cost solution with high-quality finishes. We developed 46 individually-shaped tilt-up concrete panels to create the free-form nature of the structure and allow many of the services to be hidden within the wall panels, resulting in a functional and architecturally-pleasing facility. The highlight was a 4m x 27m-long structural wall beam bridging the reception area, the largest of its kind in North America.

The new facility has transformed the community's recreational and social programming. It features a new gymnasium, fitness centre, administrative spaces, multi-purpose rooms and activities for toddlers and youth.

Fast + Epp

Status
Completed 2017

Project Cost
\$12 million

Area
30,000 ft² (2,787 m²)

Architect
Bing Thom Architects

Client
City of Vancouver

