

## Section B. Project Description

### Place

Mathison Hall at the University of Calgary innovatively addresses site constraints by integrating a new wing with Scurfield Hall while respecting topography and landscape. The design accommodates all abilities with accessible features. Architecturally, it is visually striking, incorporating Indigenous themes, especially in the unique round Viewpoint Circle for Dialogue that serves as a central feature within the atrium. The project enhances the public realm with inviting, accessible open spaces, fostering community interaction. Its design supports 21st-century learning, including collaboration rooms and terraced study areas that promote inclusivity and innovation.

### Scale

The arrangement of uses in Mathison Hall effectively addresses street edges, ensuring appropriate scale and placement of buildings for public space. Large service areas are thoughtfully screened by landscaping, reducing visual impact. Strategies to mitigate height and bulk create a well-defined street wall, while human-scale details enhance the surrounding character. Public spaces are framed by structures that encourage community engagement, all while supporting contemporary program solutions like social stairs and breakout zones that enrich the campus environment.

### Amenity

Mathison Hall prioritizes equitable access with varied movement options for all users, accommodating diverse travel modes safely. The design considers sun orientation and seasonal climate, ensuring year-round comfort. Service and utility elements are discreetly integrated to minimize visual clutter. Architecturally, the building exceeds universal access standards, featuring abundant daylight in all learning and social spaces. The public realm prioritizes pedestrians and cyclists, offering visually engaging and safe environments that cater to users of all ages and abilities.

### Legibility

The project features a well-defined urban structure with permeable blocks and streets, ensuring clear walking and cycling routes that connect to adjacent systems. Large parking areas include safe, direct pedestrian pathways. Buildings are designed with distinct entries to aid wayfinding, while the central atrium fosters a sense of community. Public routes and spaces are configured with clear paths and strategic wayfinding elements, facilitating easy navigation and enhancing the user experience throughout the site.

### Vibrancy

Mathison Hall enhances campus vibrancy with an animated streetscape, contributing to the University's diversity in educational and community spaces on campus that promote gathering. Outdoor shared spaces are designed for various activities—from small festivals to traditional Indigenous ceremonies—fostering community interaction. The integration of highly integrated technology and inventive teaching strategies, such as flat-floor and raked spaces, enriches the overall student experience, creating a lively atmosphere conducive to learning and collaboration.

### Resilience

The project accommodates a range of facilities and services, ensuring adaptability to changing economic and social conditions. It meets climate resilience and sustainability expectations through high-performance integrated mechanical systems, including a chilled beam system and renewable energy

solutions like roof-mounted PV panels as one of the first projects to pursue both LEED Platinum and Net Zero certification. The building's design emphasizes durability and low maintenance, supporting long-term functionality. Public spaces are versatile and adaptable for multiple uses, aligning with a vision of a sustainable, active lifestyle for the community, all while being delivered on time and within budget despite significant challenges.