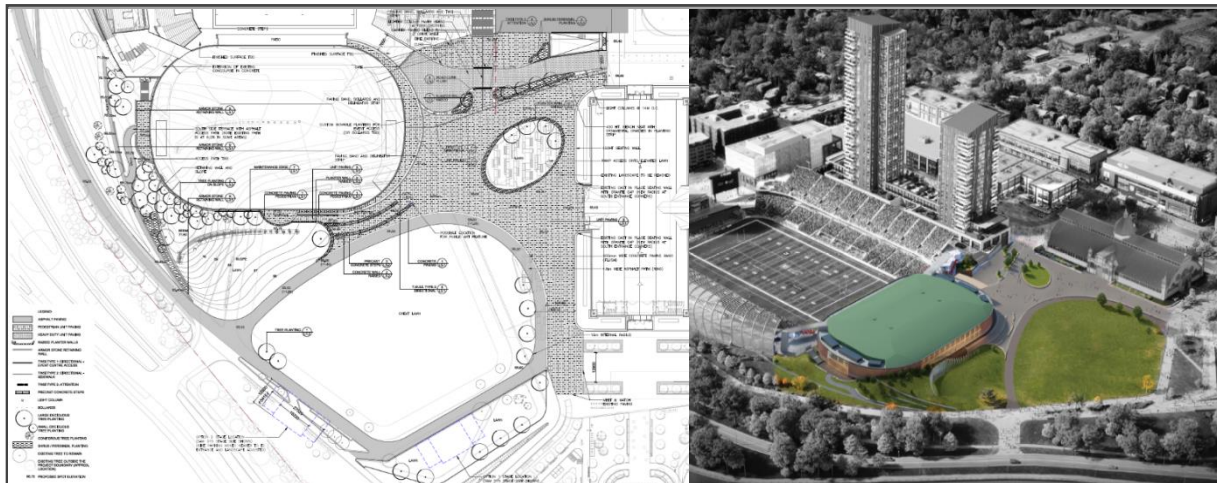


**945 Bank Street (Lansdowne 2.0 – Major Event Centre)** | Formal Review | Site Plan Control Application | City of Ottawa, Ottawa Sports and Entertainment Group, Brisbin Brook Beynon Architects, Fotenn Planning + Design, CSW, ERA Architects

**Panel Members in Attendance:** David Leinster | James Parakh | Emmanuelle van Rutten



## Key Recommendations

- The Panel emphasizes that this Event Centre is an investment in the future of the city and contributes to the image of the Capital. They appreciate the importance of the project and the incorporation of feedback from previous meetings.
- The Panel reinforces the importance of integration with the original award-winning landscape design. The new public realm design requires careful attention to ensure a successful interface with the existing landscape, particularly as it relates to the Great Lawn and the proposed ellipse.
- The Panel recommends prioritizing and enhancing the pedestrian experience, especially along the north side of the event centre. The landscape design should clearly indicate the entrance area is shared space through its materiality, with discrete separation elements such as operable bollards rather than a raised planter. This will require further study and options analysis.
- The Panel acknowledges the significance of protected views from both the Rideau Canal and within the park, especially those toward the Aberdeen Pavilion. The relationship between the Pavilion, the Event Center, and the park needs to be carefully studied and addressed from the various vantage points, in particular the Rideau Canal.

- The Panel recommends providing greater transparency in the Event Center façade, particularly with regard to improving visibility and interaction between the Event Center, the Great Lawn, and the Aberdeen Pavilion.

## **Site Design & Public Realm**

- The Panel recommends the Great Lawn be designed to be as large as possible and that the overall landscape design should complement the character of the national design competition award winning original scheme.
- The form of the elevated ellipse should be reconsidered to ensure that it integrates seamlessly with orthogonal geometry of the award-winning scheme including that of the great lawn and the surrounding pathways.
- The Panel recommends the main pedestrian/vehicular access from Exhibition Way should be further reviewed to ensure the final design is flexible in nature and provides the widest feasible aperture to the event centre and park for pedestrians. This will require further study of the proposed landscaped island, with a lens to providing a more seamless, integrated and flexible approach, which is more orthogonal, in order to define the planned functions for this space and relate better to the Aberdeen Pavilion.
- The Panel suggests that the signage on the Event Centre must be subtle and context-appropriate, ensuring it does not interrupt sightlines or views, especially in relation to the dignity of both the UNESCO designated Rideau Canal and the Aberdeen Pavilion.

## **Sustainability**

- The Panel recommends selecting durable, sustainable, and contextually appropriate materials. While wood materials are encouraged for their warmth and connection to the natural environment, the Panel has concerns with using woodgrain-textured aluminum materials. A full mock-up of these materials should be explored for further refinement and to ensure contextually appropriate and sensitive materials are selected.

## **Built Form & Architecture**

- The Panel recommends the Event Centre's façade should enhance transparency to create a stronger visual connection with the Great Lawn and the Aberdeen Pavilion. Entrances, such as washroom doors and other podium wall openings, require careful attention to articulation to avoid visual clutter and enhance the building's elegance.

- The aluminum cladding with wood pattern needs to be studied in the built context to ensure that it is sufficiently elevated for this significant historic site. The full scale mock-ups proposed will be very useful for this purpose.
- The Panel suggests the design of the entrance canopy to the Event Centre requires further study. Consider exploring a cantilevered roof that could enrich the architectural form.
- The Panel encourages an integrated approach to the building's interiors and exterior in terms of finishes and the general architectural approach.
- The Panel appreciates the idea of wrapping the building in a distinctive manner and encouraged further attention to the roofline and how it shapes the overall design.
  - The Panel supports the proposed colour of the roof.
- The Panel recommends ensuring that public art is thoughtfully integrated into the architecture, particularly on the exterior façade, to animate the building and add to its identity.
- The Event Centre's design should take cues from the existing context, including the Aberdeen Pavilion. The Pavilion's rich detailing in particular the filigree around the doors and openings. This should be considered as a means to elevate key architectural moments in the new design.
- The Panel recommends ensuring the signage is discreetly integrated with the architectural elements, especially around key vistas and protected views from the Rideau Canal, in order to preserve the site's dignity and heritage.