

CAMPBELL RIVER AIRPORT EXPANSION

LOCATION

Campbell River, British Columbia

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER

Stantec

COMPLETION

2011

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

Island West Coast
Developments Ltd.

ARCHITECT

Stantec

PROJECT OWNER

City of Campbell River

PROJECT OVERVIEW

In anticipation of larger aircraft and increased traffic numbers—and in serious need of a general upgrade—the Campbell River Airport commissioned development of a long-term expansion plan. Elements of the plan included an additional hold-room, a larger ticketing area, exterior canopies and walkways and new security and baggage systems. In the first phase, completed in 2011, the ticketing area was expanded, the restaurant redone, the curbside canopy installed and the finishes upgraded throughout the public spaces.

One of the explicit goals of the project was to express the ‘sense of place’ unique to Campbell River, B.C. The specific

themes chosen were the culture of the area’s First Nations, the commercial and sports fishery, the local flying community, and the industries of the island, particularly the wood industries.

The most distinctive feature in the first phase is the long land-side canopy. This glass roof, which creates a virtual room, is supported by a series of glue-laminated timber (glulam) structures in the form of the iconic ‘coppers’ of the coastal First Nations. These ‘coppers’ are shield shaped pieces of hammered copper, usually about 1 metre high with a T-shape fold in the centre. They were used as a form of currency, each representing a certain value in canoes, blankets, and other commodities.



Photo courtesy of Bill Matheson

“These upgrades improve the passenger experience, and also support the expansion of aviation-related business, industry and training opportunities in Campbell River.”

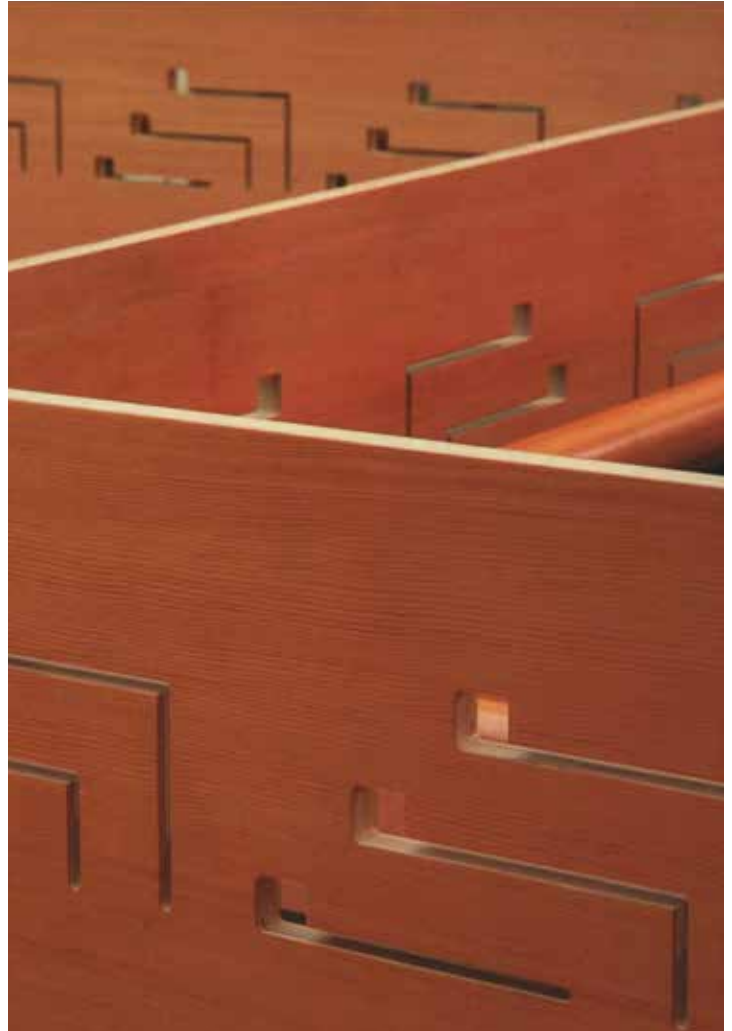
Mary Storry, Acting Mayor, City of Campbell River

For the canopy structure, the glulam takes the form of the copper perimeter, while the T is formed by the inner structure of the steel pipe. Inside, the café is enclosed by a perimeter rail of apple-ply cut out with the forms of the famous local tyee salmon; the tables, also in apple-ply, feature snapshots of the local pilots and their aircraft, collected from the walls and pin boards of the old airport café.

WOOD USE

The roof of the hold room is framed with deep glulam beams through which patterns of holes have been factory cut. The result is a lighter looking, truss-like structure that alludes to the construction of early airplanes.

The wood walkways are comprised of steel columns and timber beams pre-stained in a silver grey – the natural colour of weathered wood on the coast. These structures allude to both the wharves in the area and, with the sawn curve in the overhead beams, to the frames of the old ships.



Photos courtesy of Bill Matheson

FOR MORE INFORMATION

This profile is published by Forestry Innovation Investment, the Government of British Columbia's market development agency for forest products.

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