

The Tower @ SAIT

To attract a world-class and international student body, the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology knew they would need to build a state of the art residence hall.

The tower is an impressive 22 story building running north-south along an existing pedestrian mall. The goal was to activate the space and make it a vibrant environment. A unique aspect of the building is that it will house both a Starbucks and convenience store. The building also has a central lobby with a reception-style desk. With high end finishes, such as walnut veneer and black pearl granite, the area feels more like a hotel than a college dorm.



The student suites are equipped with European styled kitchens that are efficient and compact. All kitchens have that high end feel with black appliances and stainless-steel appliances.

Two colour and material palettes were created for the kitchens with the help of hbi – heritage business interiors. In the double suites, the millwork is vanilla maple with brushed nickel hardware and black granite countertops. In the single suites the millwork is chocolate stained walnut topped with sand coloured granite.

The bathrooms and private bedrooms feature built-in desks and closets giving the students the feeling they are living in an upscale condo.

Every floor has a common room which serves as a student lounge area but can be converted into meeting space for visitors to the campus. Each common room has a view of Calgary's skyline.

Elements of sustainable design were also used. Energy efficient lighting and the use of recycled products were specified throughout the design process.

Project Team & Details

Architect:
GEC Architects

Construction Management:
Stuart Olson

Total area:
281,740 square feet

Total cost:
\$53 million

hbi – heritage business interiors managed this entire project as a single source interiors vendor.

Interior Design:

Our Account Manager handled the majority of the interiors sourcing including custom millwork, appliances, lighting and furniture. hbi also provided full-time project management and worked closely with the construction scheduling.

Our service and installation team provided ongoing support throughout the phased in schedule and time-line. We worked hand in hand with GEC Architects on drawings and specifications.

