

## **Gymnasium Expansion Concept**

In 2019, ASAC found out that an expansion would not be considered unless we got Concept Drawings done by a registered architect. In early 2020, Grace Wang Architect Inc., Ancaster (GWA) was retained by the ASAC Advisory Board to conduct a feasibility study for a gymnasium addition. The requirements included:

- Confirming Building and Site Space Program
- Prepare site and building layout options
- Conduct design meetings/workshops with members of ASAC and City Staff
- Develop the preferred layout option to create a set of coherent Preliminary Design Drawings and a 3D massing model showing proposed exterior massing and possible materials

We also wanted a building that was Green Ready. Final concept drawings were complete in the Fall of 2020. Grace Wang presented them to a meeting of the Councillor Ferguson, Chris Herstek (Head Of Recreation), Sylvia Parr (ASAC Advisory Board Chair) and the building subcommittee.

### **Features included:**

GWA considered the distinctive exterior architecture language and materials used in the 2014 addition. They propose to use the same exterior brick veneers on lower portion of the addition and the same fibre-cement siding on upper parts of the Gymnasium walls. They also propose a sloped metal roof for the gymnasium to reduce its bulk and to echo the existing sloped roof of the Lobby/Lounge.

The proposed entranceway Vestibule will serve as a buffer zone for the Lobby/Lounge with space for visitors to put away their overcoats before entering the Lobby. There is also room for people to wait indoors to be picked up. The wind problem will be alleviated by the deeper vestibule and an air curtain outside the sliding doors leading to the Lobby/Lounge.

The existing Office area will be converted to change rooms and a new Office will be located south of the new Vestibule with windows looking west. Female and Male Change Rooms will have maze entrances for privacy and no doors. A Universal Change Room is gender-neutral and opens to the Corridor. Change rooms are lined with benches and wall hooks. Lockers for valuables are provided in all change rooms. Three single washrooms are provided, two inside the Female Change Room and a Universal Washroom along the Corridor. The Corridor is 3 m (10 ft) in width to allow crush space at time of program changes.

The proposed Gymnasium is approximately 25 m x 16 m (92 ft x 52 ft) with a play height of 7 m (23 ft) at the lowest point. Glazing is provided at strategic locations of the Gymnasium to allow in natural light while avoiding glare. A motorized gym curtain will divide the space into 1/3 and 2/3, each part has a door to the Corridor.

New storage spaces are strategically located to be accessed from each end of the Gymnasium, from the Fitness/Dance Studio, from the Corridor, and from the Courtyard.

The ASAC Building Committee is keen on making the facility 'green' through the proposed project. The following sustainability features have been incorporated into the Preliminary Design Proposal and the Project Budget:

### 1. Rainwater Harvesting

We propose to install a rainwater harvesting system to collect rainwater from roofs and use it for toilet flushing and irrigation. (We are on a cistern and have to buy water now).

### 2. Structural Provisions for Solar Panels on Gym Roof

The proposed Gym roof slopes roughly 15 degree towards south – an ideal angle for receiving direct sunlight. The proposed design and construction provides for a stronger Gym roof capable of the additional load of solar panels.

Grguric Architects Incorporated (GAI) has been retained by the City of Hamilton to prepare a design and feasibility study for the proposed new Gym addition to the existing ASAC facility. This is a more in-depth evaluation and design of the GWAI concept.

**NOW WE WAIT! HELP US MAKE THIS DREAM A REALITY!!!**

