



How a  
New Downtown Library  
can Transform  
an Entire City

by  
**Bill Ptacek**

CEO, Calgary Public Library



# How do we make one of the 12 Most Anticipated Buildings of 2018 Sing?



Rendering: Courtesy of Snøhetta & MIR



## Calgary Library, by Snøhetta (Calgary, Canada)

Fundamentally, Calgary's new library is about connecting residents to public spaces. Located at the intersection between Downtown Calgary and the East Village, the Snøhetta-designed structure lifts to become a gateway from one exciting neighborhood to the next. The building also hovers over the existing Light Rail Transit Line, which cuts through the heart of the city. The geometrically designed exterior will draw residents into the activities occurring inside the library, while those upper levels (which aren't as open to the public to see from outside) allow for a more quiet, traditional library experience.

Nick Mafi | Dec 22, 2017  
Architectural Digest

How do we use this building to  
**grow the library's audience?**





# How can a downtown library be important to an entire city?



# Partners

Artist in  
Residence



Campus  
Calgary  
Library  
School



Indigenous  
Placemaking

"Food for  
Thought"  
Cafe

Elder  
Guidance  
Circle

Historian in  
Residence

Author in  
Residence



Childminding  
Services &  
Family  
Learning



Performance  
Hall

# Stuff We're Good At

<p>Book Candy</p>	 A close-up of a book display with colorful labels for 'leisure', 'wellness', 'work', and 'world'. A book titled 'The Food of the Gods' is prominently featured.	<p>Curated Collections</p>	 A display of books with 'WE RECOMMEND' signs. Visible titles include 'people', 'place', 'ZADIE SMITH', and 'SWING TIME'.	<p>Library Express</p>
	<p>TD Great Reading Room</p>		<p>We Recommend</p>	
<p>Community Libraries</p>	 A wide-angle view of a large, bright library interior with many long wooden tables and chairs, and bookshelves in the background.	<p>Outreach Efforts</p>	 A display area for early learning materials, featuring colorful bookshelves and a large green and yellow decorative structure.	<p>Early Learning</p>



# Technology

Collective  
Gaming

AV Media Labs



Teen Tech Space

Online Booking &  
Automated  
Meeting Rooms



Living History  
Digital Display



CNOOC Nexen  
Digital Commons

# Innovation





# Government & Community

Your City Today  
& Green Room

32 Bookable  
Spaces



William & Harris  
Shared History  
Centre

Street Life &  
Community  
Celebrations

### Partners



### Stuff We're Good At



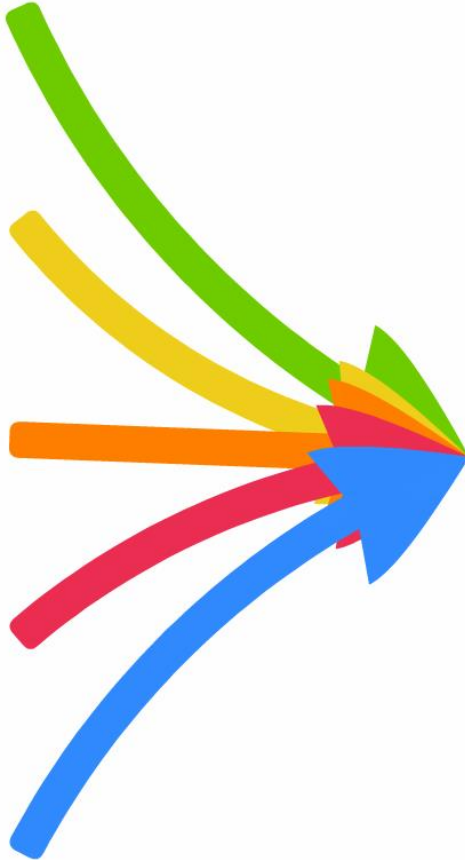
### Technology

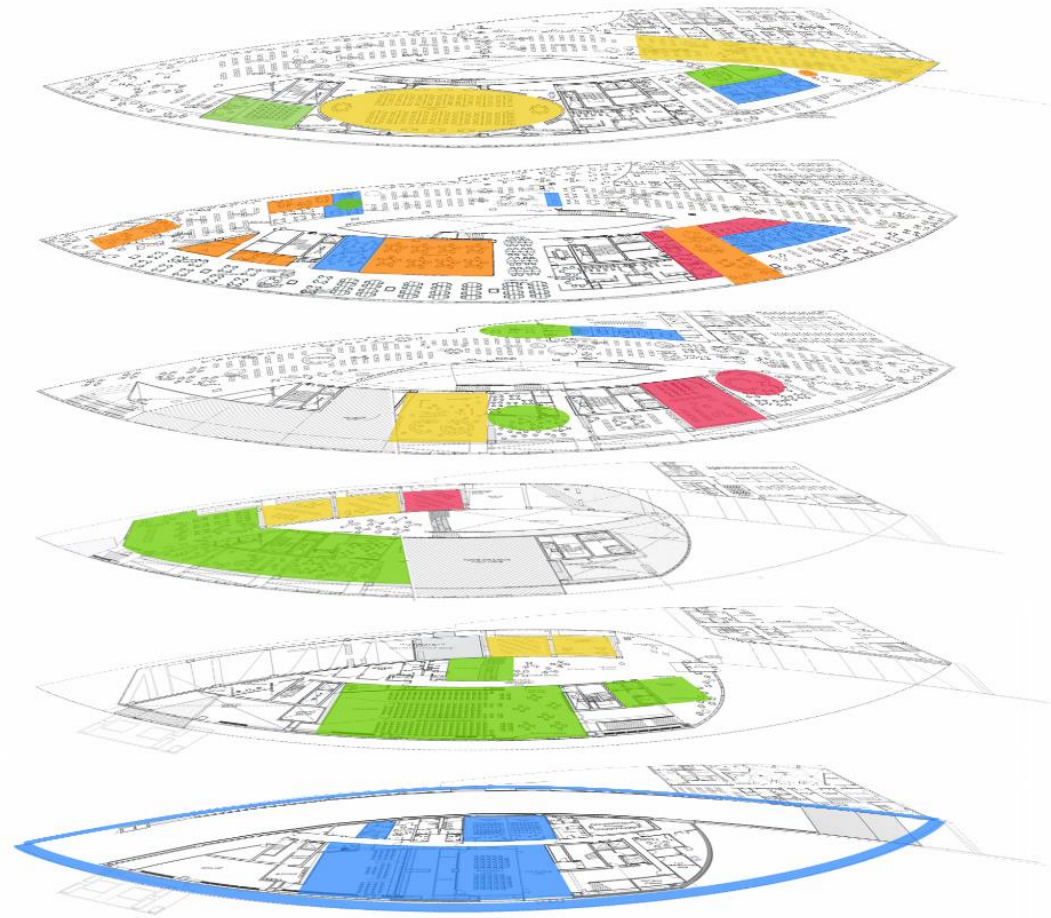
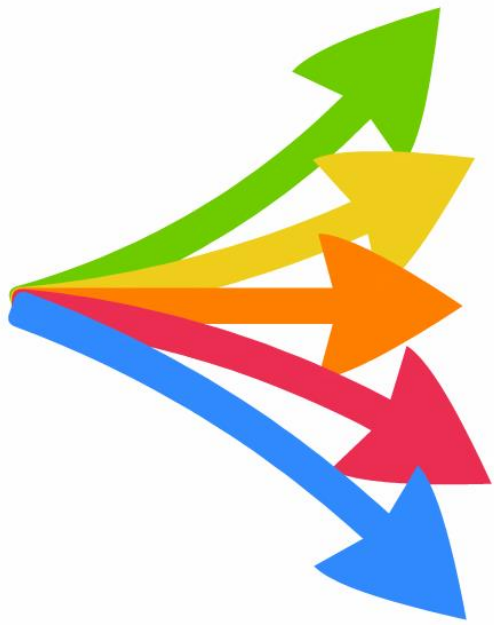


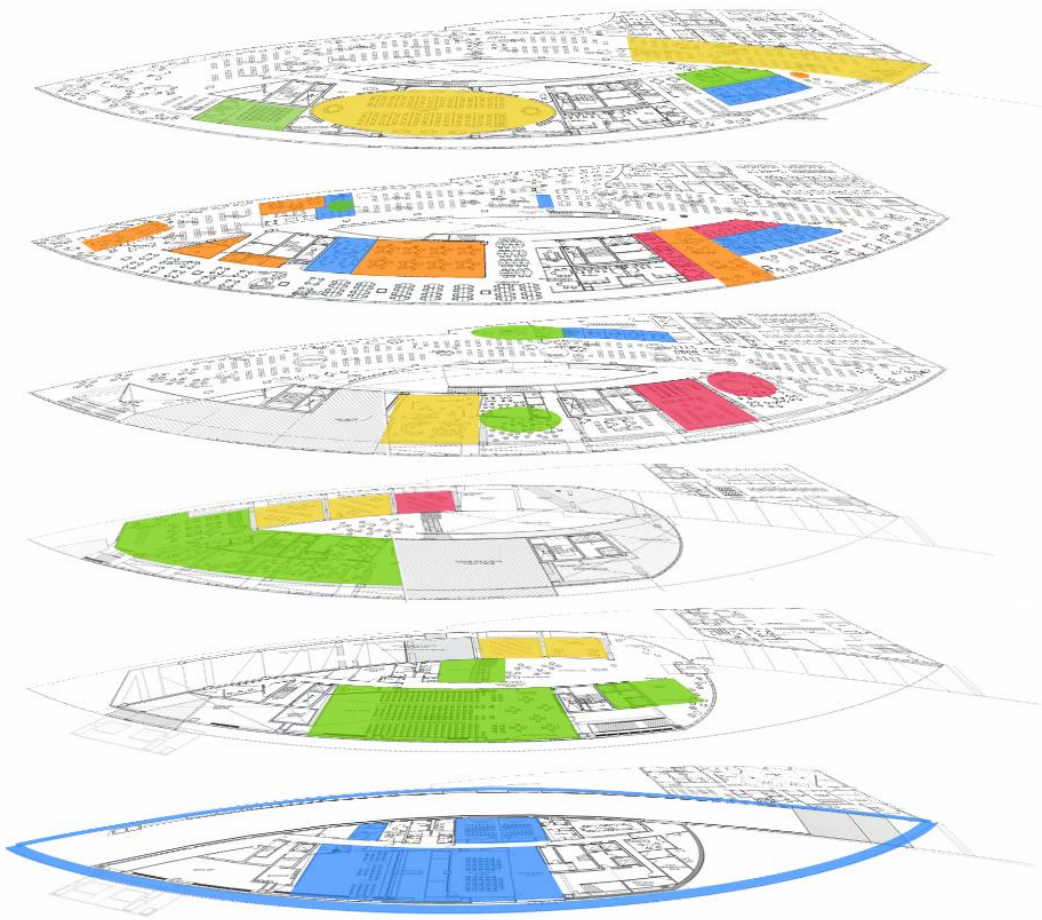
### Innovation



### Government & Community







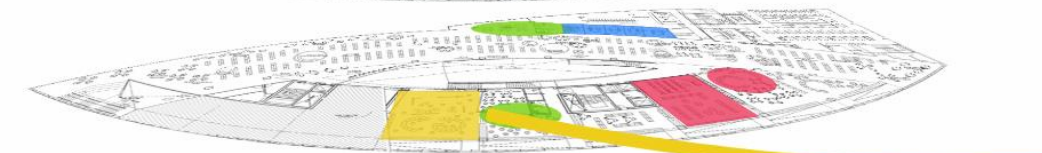




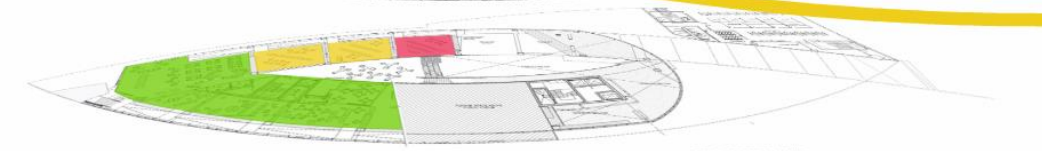
### Living History Digital Display



### Rainforest Alliance & Idea Lab



### Early Learning



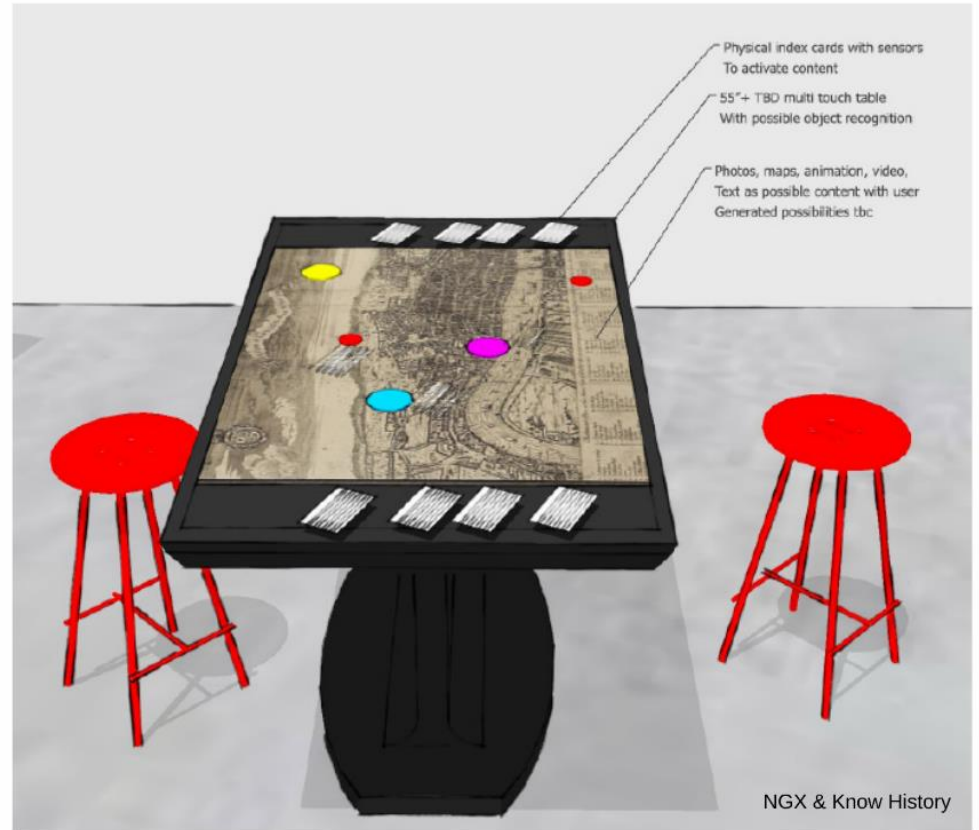
### Indigenous Placemaking



### Street Life & Community Celebrations



# Living History Digital Display



# Rainforest Alliance & Idea Lab





# Early Learning





# Indigenous Placemaking



# Street Life & Community Celebrations



# How are we doing?

Why do we think we can do it?





Opening November 1, 2018



Snøhetta & MIR