Project Green Books
Greening the Library

Our goal:

To participate in the Barton Library new extension project and existing library renovations project by contributing new ideas to design a library that is ecologically sound through means of ‘green’ materials and methods. The library should become an example of an efficient and sustainable structure for the campus and community. This could be the first step towards sustainable campus management that supports student life and a move towards a better and healthier way of living.

Our contribution:

Weeks of research have been invested by the team of students who make up ‘Project Green Books’ including searching for information on and contacting companies that meet the criteria for sustainable library needs, attending meetings to discuss progress with the library administration, as well as the Senior project manager Robert Stanley and Dean Madramootoo. Erica Burnham, the head liaison librarian, is our main contact throughout the project.

How companies are selected for recommendation:

**Location**: the less distance covered for transport, the less the cost of shipping and the cost to the environment. We aim for products sold and manufactured in Quebec (with some exceptions).

**Sustainable Products and Manufacturing Processes**: Companies who practice sustainability in their production methods as well as the sustainability of their products are given greater consideration than companies solely focused on the end product.

**Exceptions**: many suggestions for companies and products have been made so far and not all are ‘ideal’ but are in some way certified by an environmental/ecological organization. The idea was to provide as much selection as possible in order to fit the architect’s designs.

**Areas of Interest**: furniture, carpeting, paint, energy efficient lighting, bathrooms (toilets, faucets), sensors (lights and temperature), construction materials (windows, insulation, etc.), kitchen materials (countertops, tiles, etc.) and so on.
Since we came into the project at a late stage, we were unable to recommend any green construction materials though they have been researched in some detail. However we see still see this as an opportunity for the movement towards a healthier more sustainable campus and hope that through this example further sustainability initiatives will be taken in future renovation and construction projects.

We act locally but think globally.

Anthi Mimidakis

Maude Brochu
Natalia Castellanos
Jolianne Demers
Isabelle Laroque
Johanne Philipe
Amelie Roy
Briana Schroeder
Penelope Therier