



## **The Recreation Center at Osprey Landing**

Very few opportunities exist that allow a place to soar and become great, iconic and beautiful. This rare and significant location will become “that place”, “that building” putting Osprey Landing on the map. Osprey Landing is very appropriately named, especially as you ascend to the top of the ridge near the high point of the site chosen for the recreation center.

Perched on the cliff well over a hundred feet off the waterline, the building is meant to give every resident at Osprey Landing the opportunity to access this wonderful spot. By placing it at this vantage point a panoramic view can be had by all residence and visitors alike. The building then becomes a welcoming to the cliff.

The design was inspired by its truly unbelievable location and many metaphors were used to create the overall concept of the building. The irregular jagged roofline can be interpreted as the majestic mountains echoed in the Rockies across the lake. The angular design also mimics the take-off of the namesake Osprey and some may see the partial outline of the beloved Canadian Maple leaf – all things considered, intended to be dramatic. Even the geometry was derived by taking vanishing points both from the grade on the cliff and the waterline, merging the two and hopefully creating harmony.

The soaring structure is easily seen and understood as large beams supporting the roof which is merely a folded plate. The simplicity of this scheme is by draping the roof over the structure, the end walls can be left open and exposed to the sky. The east face overlooking the lake is floor-to-ceiling, wall-to-wall glass exposing the interior to the elements. The western face or entrance side is purposely reduced and enclosing, womb-like to explode the view to the east.

The western side will also see most of the late, hot afternoon sun and a screen to control natural light and heat gain will protect the interior comfort. During the winter, the sun will be low entering the western high glass and exiting the eastern glass. Approaching the building in it's rough and natural terrain, the building welcomes visitors by the central passage way leading directly through to the ridge without entering the building.

The view-side of the building will incorporate a trellis for comfort, giving those casually enjoying the view some sense of enclosure and protection over the patio. Also conceived from the geometry of the main building, the trellis will also cover the planned exterior hot tub.

Planned for the building is a large gathering space that can be used for multiple functions. A large stone fireplace anchors this space while providing stunning views to the Rockies to the east. Functioning independently from the interior pool, the gathering room has a kitchen and serving area and facilities.

The interior pool was conceived as a more intimate space, with lower ceilings created naturally from the folded roof above. Although more private, the pool space is also oriented towards the view, and why not! Facilities include a small workout space with views into the pool area and full dressing rooms.

Natural materials were considered of the utmost importance. Wood, stone, and glass makeup the significant cladding of the building, while also providing many years of minimal maintenance. Beyond that, the wood and stone chosen should give some sense of place and capture those romantic images of mountain lodges prevalent in the area. Interpreted in a modern way however to stimulate and encourage the future of this development.

The building color scheme was also conceived not merely as a necessity but to augment the concept of the building. Wood used as siding and interior walls will of course remain natural, exuding warmth and organic beauty. The stone used on the fireplace to mirror the natural stone outcroppings found throughout the property. The floors throughout and including the patio will be completed in earth tones as it transitions from entrance, gathering room, and pool deck, unifying the entire space.

And finally, the significant building element is the roof and it was conceived to be a color that would naturally blend and reflect the ever changing color of the skies and seasons. While also taking on the role as the icon, the immediate impression of the building, the metal roof should be a non-color that is a color of nature. Rendered in rust red, raw umber, aged copper, the roof will never date itself with trendy colors but always present itself with dignity.

I hope all can share in the absolute and unique potential afforded to us with this building as I see it becoming the figurehead and pride of not only Osprey Landing, but the community at large.

Thank-you for the opportunity to be involved with the design of the Recreation Center at Osprey Landing and I look forward to the day we all share in it's beauty and glory.

I wish to thank Mark Taylor for his support and enthusiasm and to Frank Marocco and his team at Brainwave Inc., for their passion and total commitment to providing the spectacular life-like images we have today, enjoying a special view into this project left only to our imaginations otherwise.

My best regards to you all,  
Piero F. Gabucci  
Architect