



Lighting standards at the Shipyard Plaza, designed to represent the shape of ribs in a ship's hull, have been fitted with lighting capable of creating a range of moods and colours.

“The Olympic Village is turning out to be the jewel of the Games”

VANOC CEO John Furlong, on CBC's *The Hour*, December 2009

Ultimately, this is not just about sustainable building. The question before us is how we, as social beings, as many tribes living on this delightful piece of hardware floating through space, collectively take responsibility for its well-being at every level in a way that's real, practical and doable.

Environmental issues are in some ways less critical than what we're doing at the community level. At that level, we're densifying the city and making much better use of existing resources by tying into transportation systems, bringing people closer to their employment opportunities, preserving agricultural land by not spreading out. That's where SEFC's contributions lie. We've demonstrated that you can take an inner city precinct and you can provide a livable, residential community that fully supports the working opportunities that people have in cities, and we've created an environment in that city that is healthy. That's the lesson here, I think, and the example I hope we take into the national and international marketplace. The fact that we put blinds on the outside of our buildings, well, that was fun, but Europeans have had

blinds on the outside of more sophisticated building envelopes for years and years. But if you go to the centre of many cities you won't find the kind of community or neighbourhood of the type we're talking about in SEFC.

So the real lesson of SEFC is not about individual buildings; it's about community. In building this, have we built a better community from the social point of view, in terms of the relationships that exist in it, and the livability and the value to life? Have we at the same time contributed to our environmental resource issues and have we contributed to an economic environment that helps people sustain their livelihood? The real issue lies in understanding community building in relationship to the massive urbanization of the global population that's underway. SEFC has begun to define many of these issues in a constructive way. It shows us what can be done.

Roger Bayley
Millennium Water Design Manager



Left and centre: Their royal highnesses Prince Charles and Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, toured the Millennium Water Olympic Village in November, 2009. Right: The completed Salt Building and south end of the plaza await the arrival of Olympic athletes.