

The City of Vancouver and the Britannia site is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the xwməθkwəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and sə́lilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Peoples and is home to a large and diverse community of Indigenous residents. Indigenous Elders, families, and youth are part of the daily activity at Britannia, and make important contributions as leaders, volunteers, participants, and advocates.

With respectful recognition of the Host Nations and the Urban Indigenous community, project partners are committed to reconciliation as a key value guiding the renewal of the site.

The project centres Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh values based design to inform the orientation, programming and design of the overall site.

The design will be rooted in Story of Place. This was originally a richly forested area of providence and we are restoring these providence grounds through ethnobotanical medicine gardens throughout the site, land-based learning areas, and culturally safe areas where smudging and ceremony can take place.

The design will ensure there is hunq'umin'um'and Skwxwú7mesh sníchim story of place imagery throughout the site with opportunities for multicultural and multi Nation areas.

Britannia Land Blessing Protocol Ceremony

The Land Blessing Protocol Ceremony took place on February 26th, 2021, and was conducted by Eugene Harry, cultural knowledge keeper, Skwxwú7mesh Nation.

The purpose of the ceremony is respectful acknowledgement of the relationship the xwməθkwəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and sə́lilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Host Nations have had with the land for time immemorial, and to ask permission from the land before the project proceeds. Eugene also shared teachings of the lands, forests, sky, and waters, and the importance of honouring the longstanding and sacred connection that Indigenous people have to the lands and waters.



Heart Design

The Eagle Heart design appearing on the Britannia Renewal material was designed and gifted to the project by Wade Baker, Halikium, from Sky Spirit Studio. The design represents spiritual affection, or heart, skwálwen. The eagle surrounded by feathers represents peace and leadership, and is a spiritual messenger for the people as he brings prayers to the Creator. Eagle feathers are often given as gifts to symbolize honor and respect for accomplishments and displays of courage and wisdom.

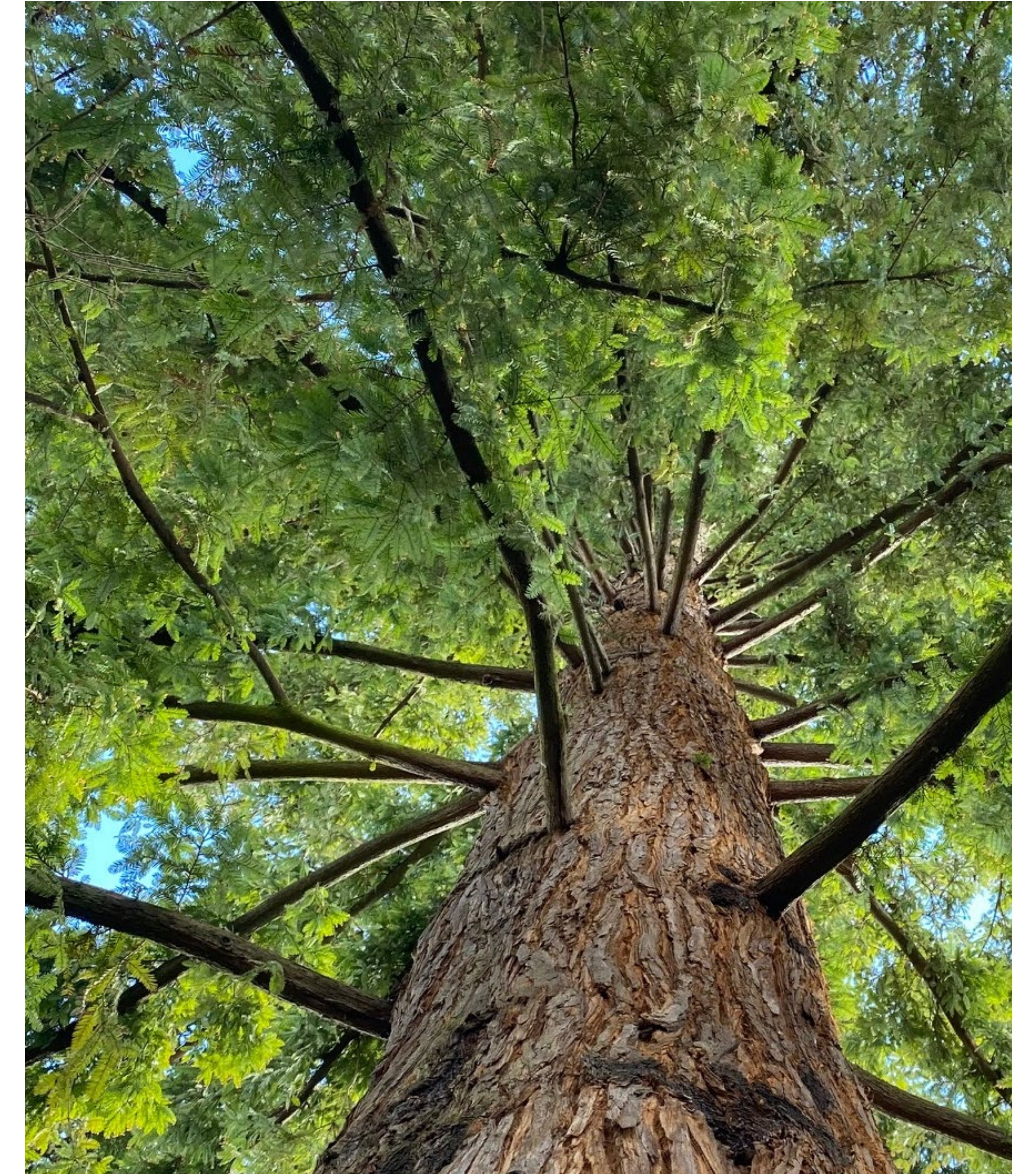


Photo by Sky Spirit Studio



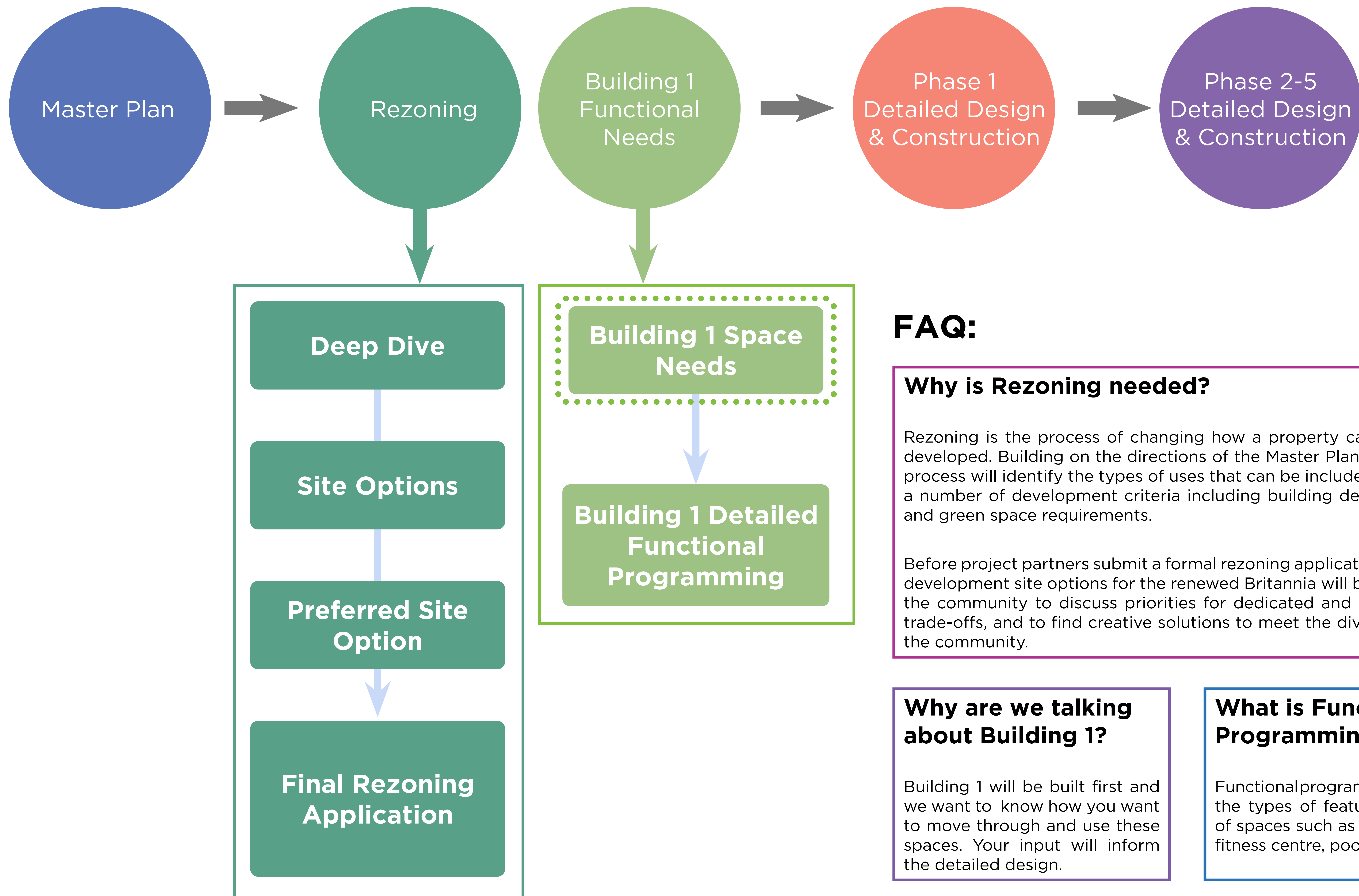
Photo by Sky Spirit Studio

Your feedback will help us define the specific features of the spaces within Building 1.



- A central **Common** gathering and event space
- A greenspace connection or **Play Way** connecting the site to Grandview Park
- Extending street right of ways into the site as fully accessible **Pedestrian Promenades**
- Framing and maintaining the "**grand**" views of the city and mountains from key places.
- Locating **ᓃx̣q̣ẉelaẉen ct Carving Centre** as a gateway to site
- Adding **significant green space** to the site through greenways and intensive native plants and trees
- Incorporating **water play** in central gathering space
- Consolidating social and cultural services to **create a sharing and caring place**
- Building community and resilience through a **central food hub**
- Locating **Childcare** on lower roof tops with large outdoor play decks
- Including **affordable non-market housing** above community facilities

We are here!



FAQ:

Why is Rezoning needed?

Rezoning is the process of changing how a property can be used or developed. Building on the directions of the Master Plan, the rezoning process will identify the types of uses that can be included on site, and a number of development criteria including building density, heights, and green space requirements.

Before project partners submit a formal rezoning application, a series of development site options for the renewed Britannia will be shared with the community to discuss priorities for dedicated and shared space, trade-offs, and to find creative solutions to meet the diverse needs of the community.

Why are we talking about Building 1?

Building 1 will be built first and we want to know how you want to move through and use these spaces. Your input will inform the detailed design.

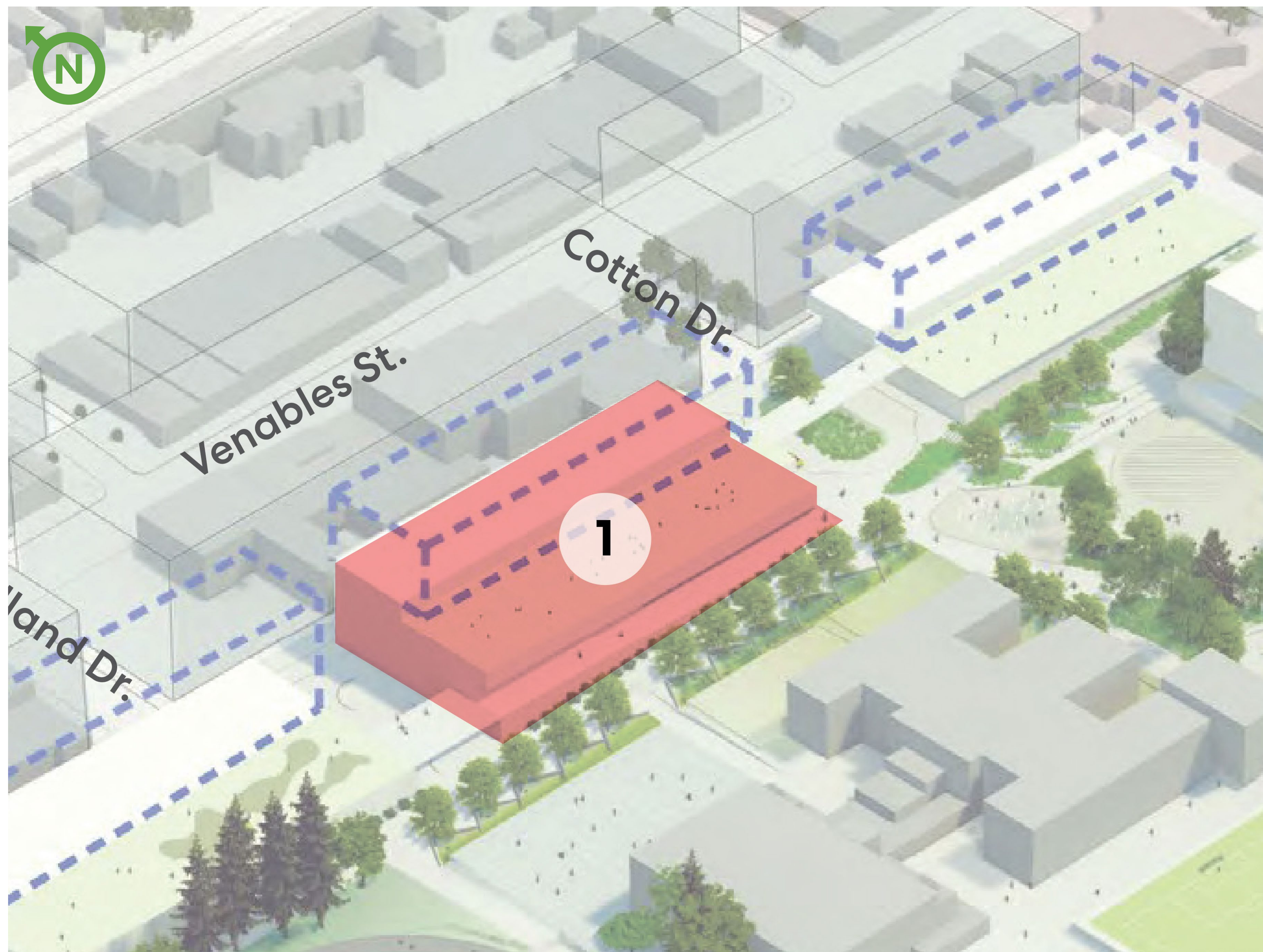
What is Functional Programming?

Functional programming outlines the types of features and sizes of spaces such as a gymnasium, fitness centre, pool, etc.

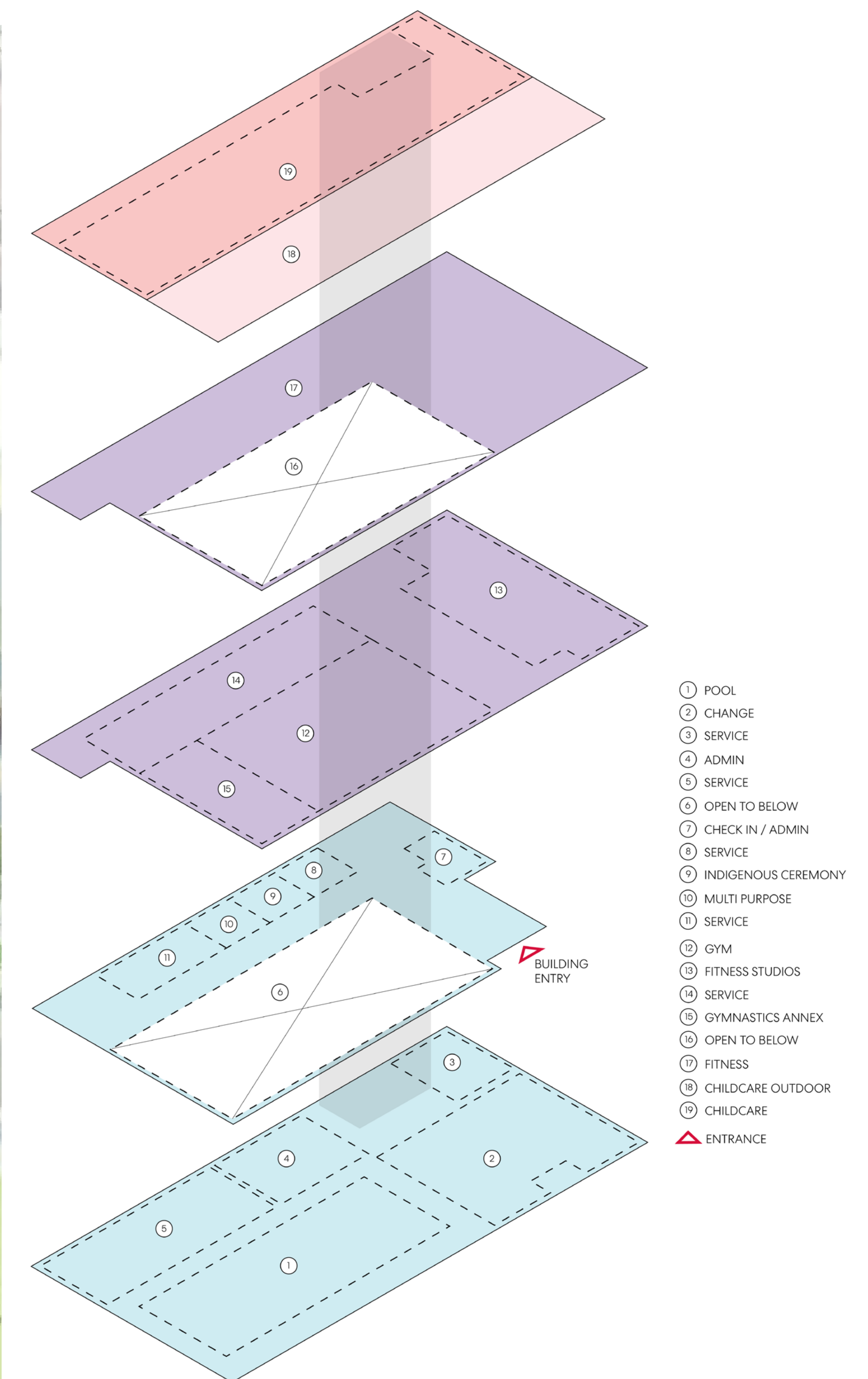
The Master Plan identifies:

- Renewal will occur in phases, and
- Building 1 will be the first phase

Building 1 is planned to include a pool, fitness spaces, a gymnasium, childcare and potentially non-market housing.



Britannia Building 1 Site location



Britannia Building 1 Concept Diagram

Britannia Renewal Master Plan

The City of Vancouver and its partners, City of Vancouver (COV), the Britannia Community Services Centre Society (BCSCS), Vancouver School Board (VSB), Vancouver Public Library (VPL), and Vancouver Park Board (VPB), are working together to renew and revitalize the Britannia Community Services Centre (BCSC) and the 18-acre site it sits on. The Britannia Renewal Master Plan was unanimously approved by Council in July 2018 with support from the site partners based on an in-depth community consultation process focused on the values and principles that should guide the Britannia Renewal.

VanSplash

How will this shape the plan?

The Park Board developed Vancouver's Aquatic Strategy, VanSplash, in 2019. VanSplash provides strategic direction for the Park Board's long-term delivery of indoor and outdoor aquatics opportunities.

VanSplash provides the following direction for the future of Britannia Pool:

Recommendation 4: Replace Britannia neighbourhood pool with a new pool on the Britannia site.

Recommendation 5: Engage with Templeton pool users during the design development phase of Britannia facility



VanPlay

How will this shape the plan?

VanPlay is the Park Board's overarching parks and recreation master plan. VanPlay provides Targets for key types of amenities, including fitness centres and gymnasium spaces. VanPlay's Equity Initiative Zones also identify areas of the city that should be priority for investment (Britannia falls within one of these areas).

Other Information:

- Trends (local, regional, provincial and beyond)
- Population and demographics
- Analysis of the current 'supply' of community spaces in the catchment area



Today, we are focusing on the spaces in Building 1. Thank you for your continued feedback on the Britannia Renewal. All feedback heard to date will help the project team develop site-wide development options, which will be shared with the community for future feedback. Here are some comments we are keeping top of mind:

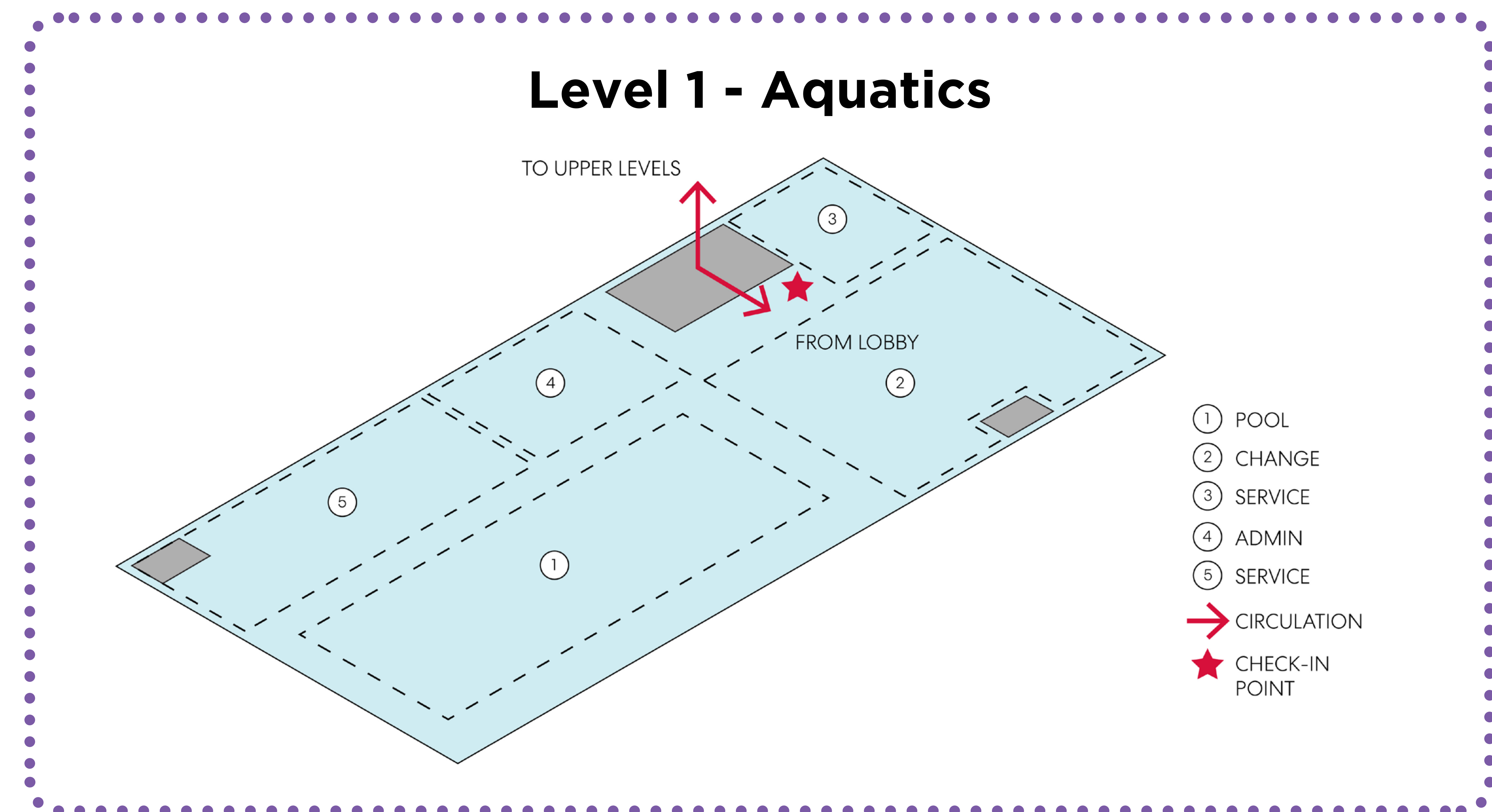


Aquatic needs we heard through the Master Plan include:

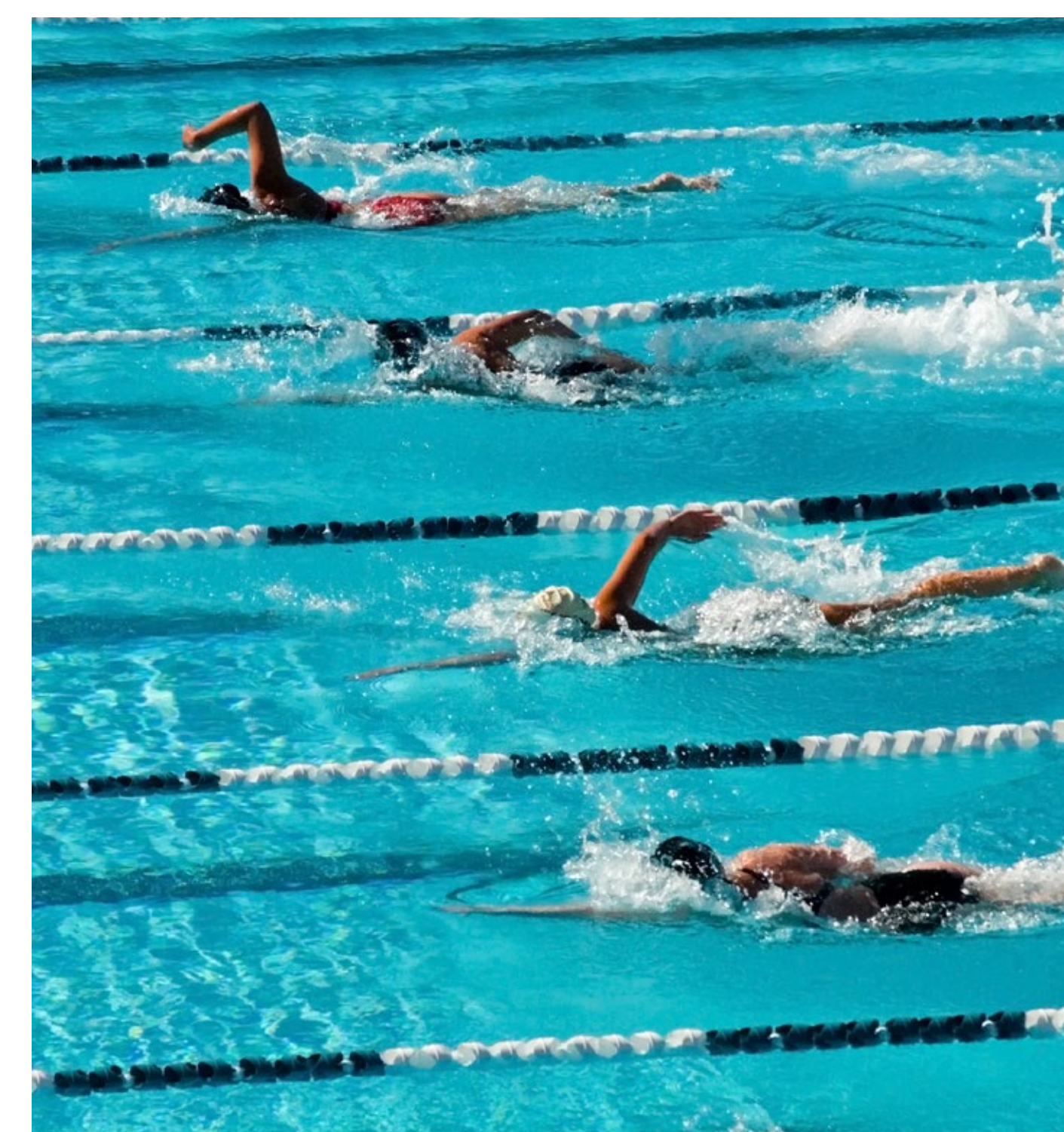
- Multiple pools – leisure, training, and hydrotherapy
- Connect pool area to nature
- Lots of natural light and transparency
- Careful consideration needed for balancing personal privacy with being on display
- Quieter, calmer spaces

What we've heard so far:

- Following the requests for centering Indigenous worldviews and presence in the Renewal plans, we are exploring options to include a cold plunge pool for quiet contemplation
- Requests for a 50m pool have been heard, but the constraints on site limit us to a 25m pool so that we can provide other aquatics features requested by the community
- Include art and murals inside the building



Lane swimming



Lane swimming



Cold water plunge pool



Thomas Cannell, Musqueam

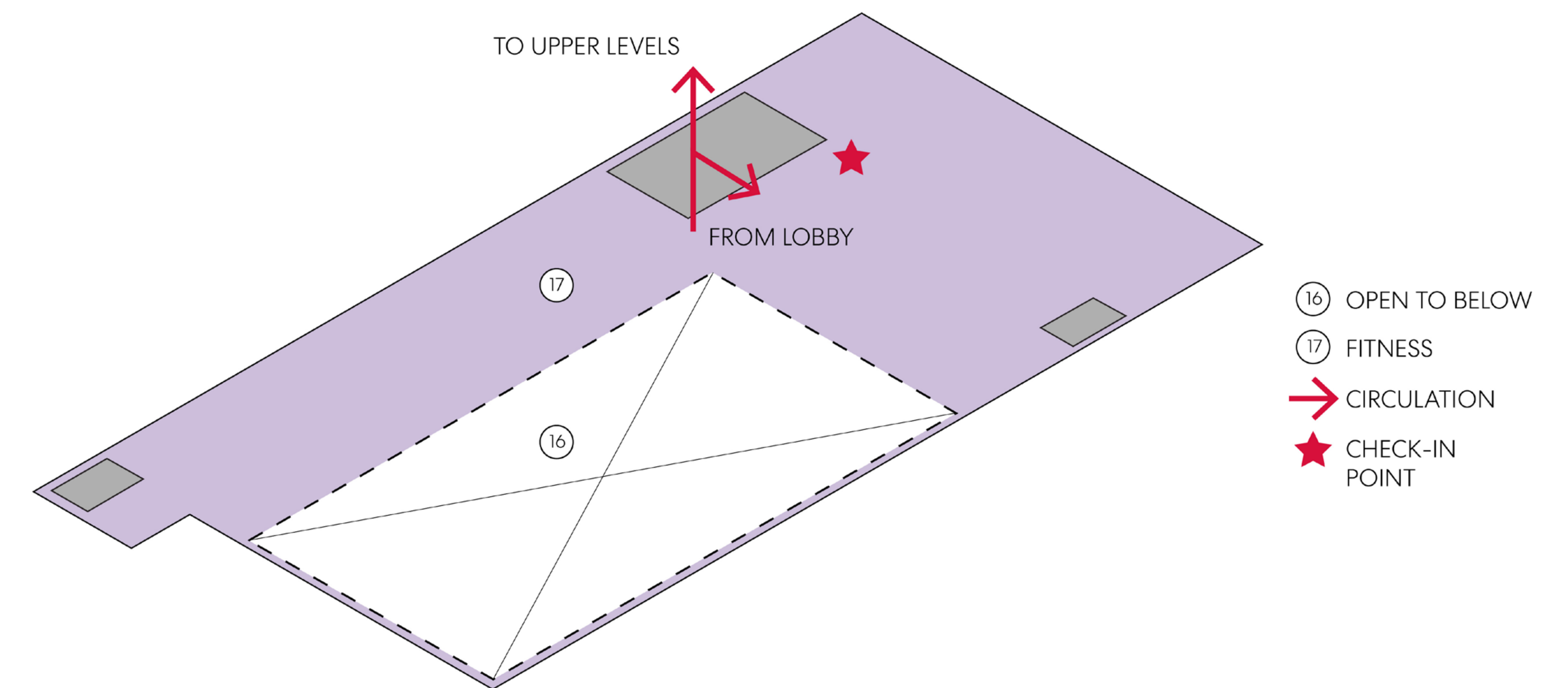
Fitness space needs identified through the Master Plan include:

- A variety of spaces to accommodate a wide range of uses and users
- Large spaces for stretching and self-directed workouts
- Attractive spaces with lots of natural light
- Specialized space for boxing and martial arts
- Connections between indoor and outdoor fitness spaces

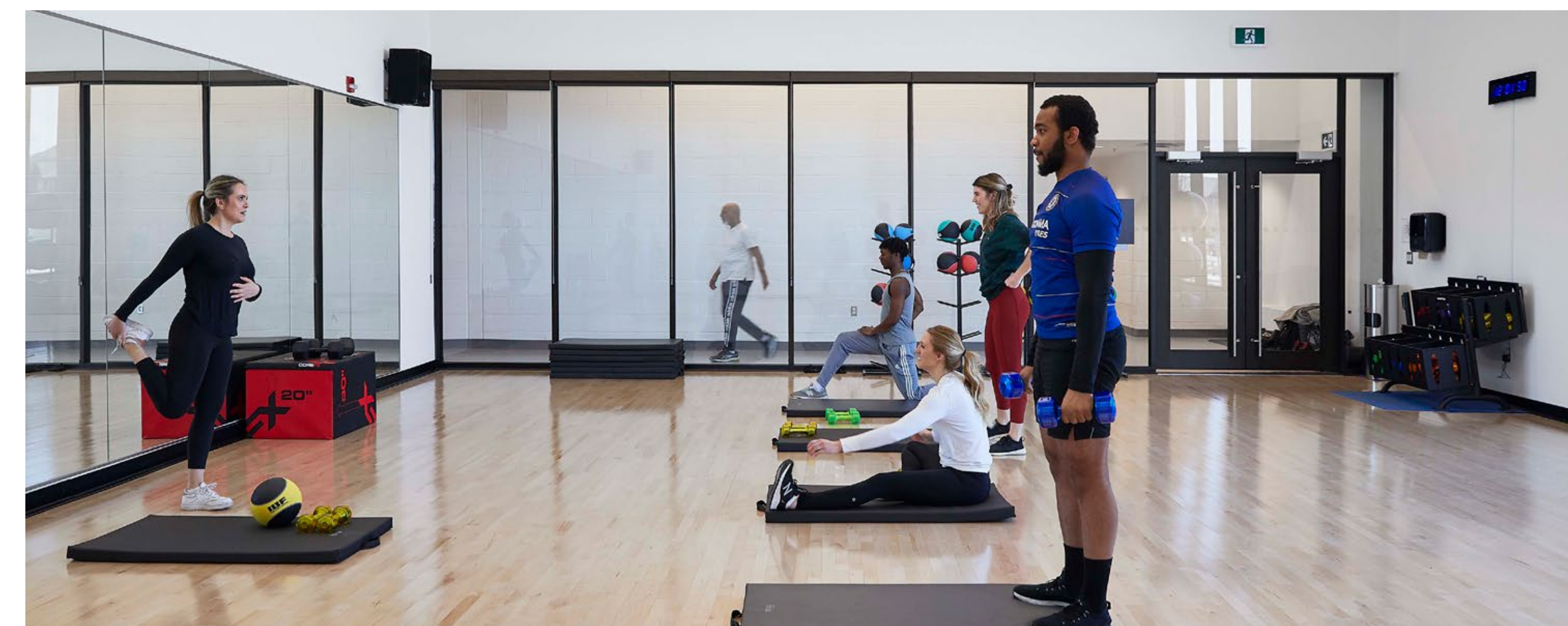
What we've heard so far:

- Provide an improved and expanded fitness centre. The proposed fitness centre includes an 8000sf (743 sm) weight room (2 times larger than current facility) and studios for martial arts, dance, and other fitness classes
- Provide an inclusive and safe space universally accessible for all
- Fitness spaces that are adaptable and able to react to trends and changes in activity preferences
- Importance of modern support amenities (e.g. sufficient wifi, water bottle refill stations, lockers)

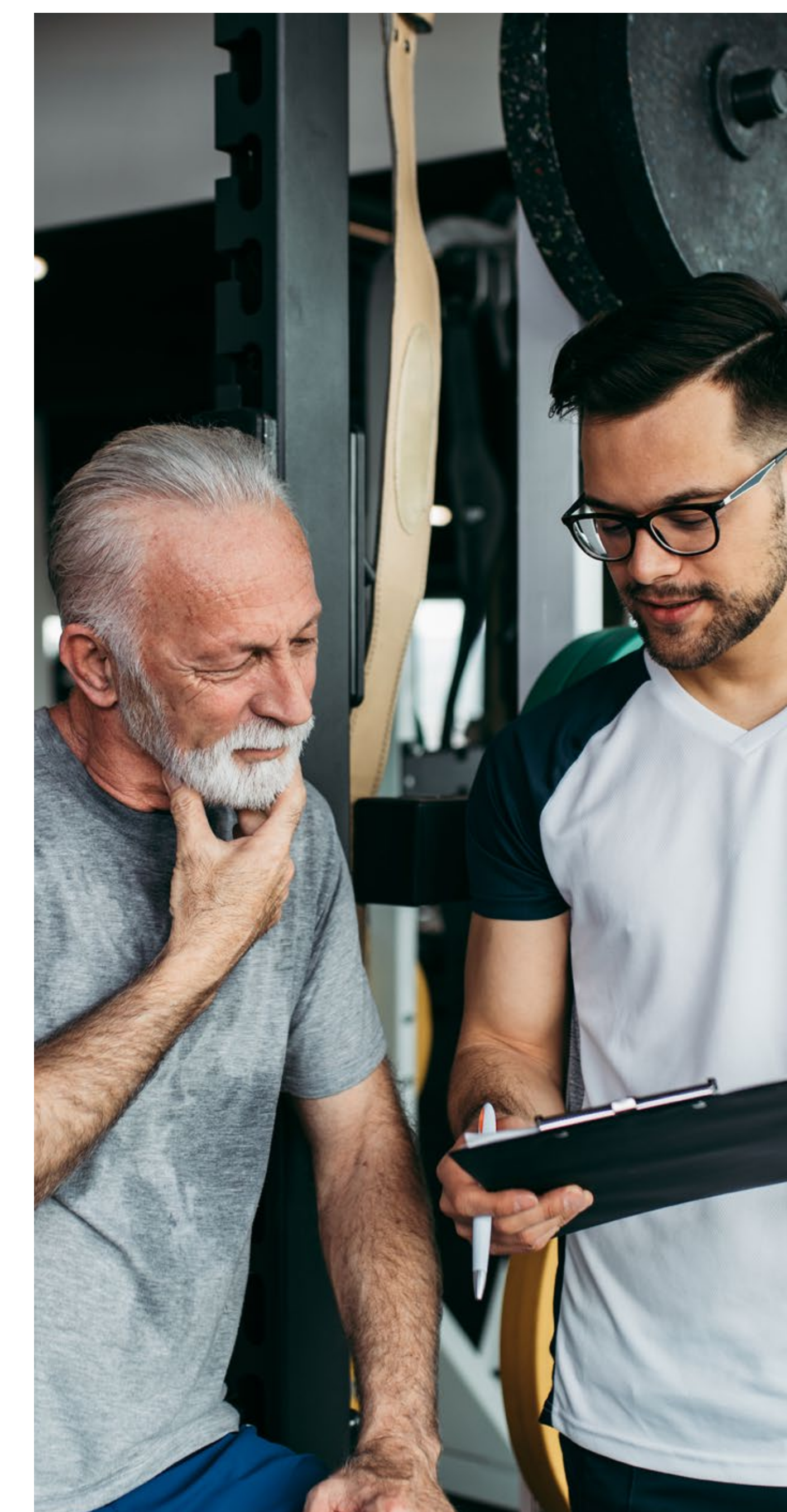
Level 4 - Fitness Spaces



Community members using fitness equipment



Fitness studio space



Community members talking beside fitness equipment

What types of aquatics experiences are most important at a new Britannia pool?

Please consider:

- *Current gaps from your neighbourhood*
- *Things you can't do*
- *Experiences and amenities you like at other pools*

<<<Please put your sticky notes here>>>

What types of fitness experiences and amenities are most important at a new Britannia Community Centre?

Please consider:

- *What is missing in fitness spaces in your neighbourhood*
- *Experiences and amenities you like at other fitness centres*
- *What makes you feel comfortable in a space when exercising*

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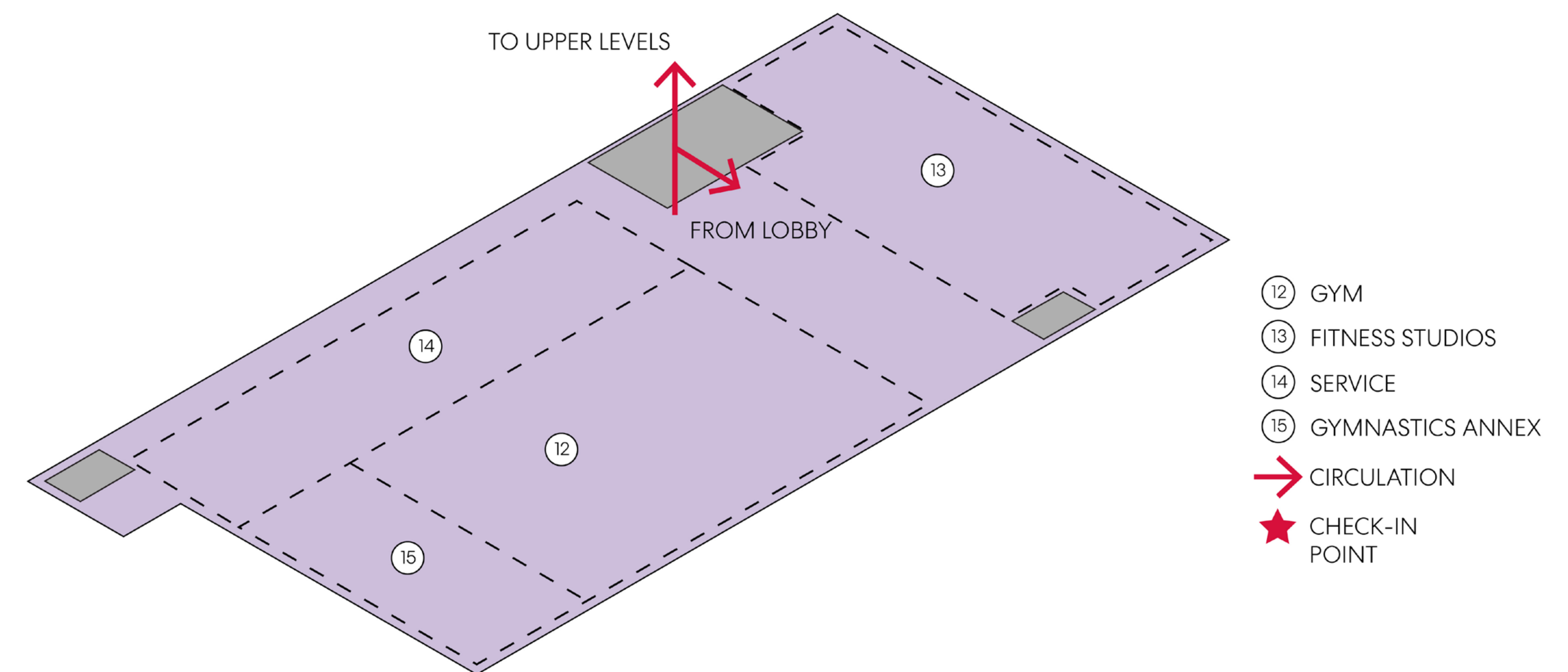
Gymnasium space needs identified through the Master Plan:

- Multi-use space to accommodate a wide range of activities, including programmed and casual use
- View looking in to activate and inspire community
- Designated space for popular programs

What we've heard so far:

- Importance of storage relating to flexibility of space
- Opportunity to accommodate more spontaneous activity at a new gymnasium
- Adaptability to meet trends and emerging activity needs
- Provide options for spectators to view activities
- Provide an archery curtain to support athletes training for the World Indigenous Games
- Provide an Indigenized space to support athletes training and ceremony before games
- Provide support for the basketball community at Britannia
- Include murals on the inside of the gymnasium

Level 3 - Gymnasium



Community basketball programs. Photograph taken by Ben Nelms (CBC).



Community member playing basketball in a gymnasium



Mural by James Harry, Squamish Nation + Lauren Brevanar, Dream Weaver provides example of art that will be incorporated into the gymnasium space.

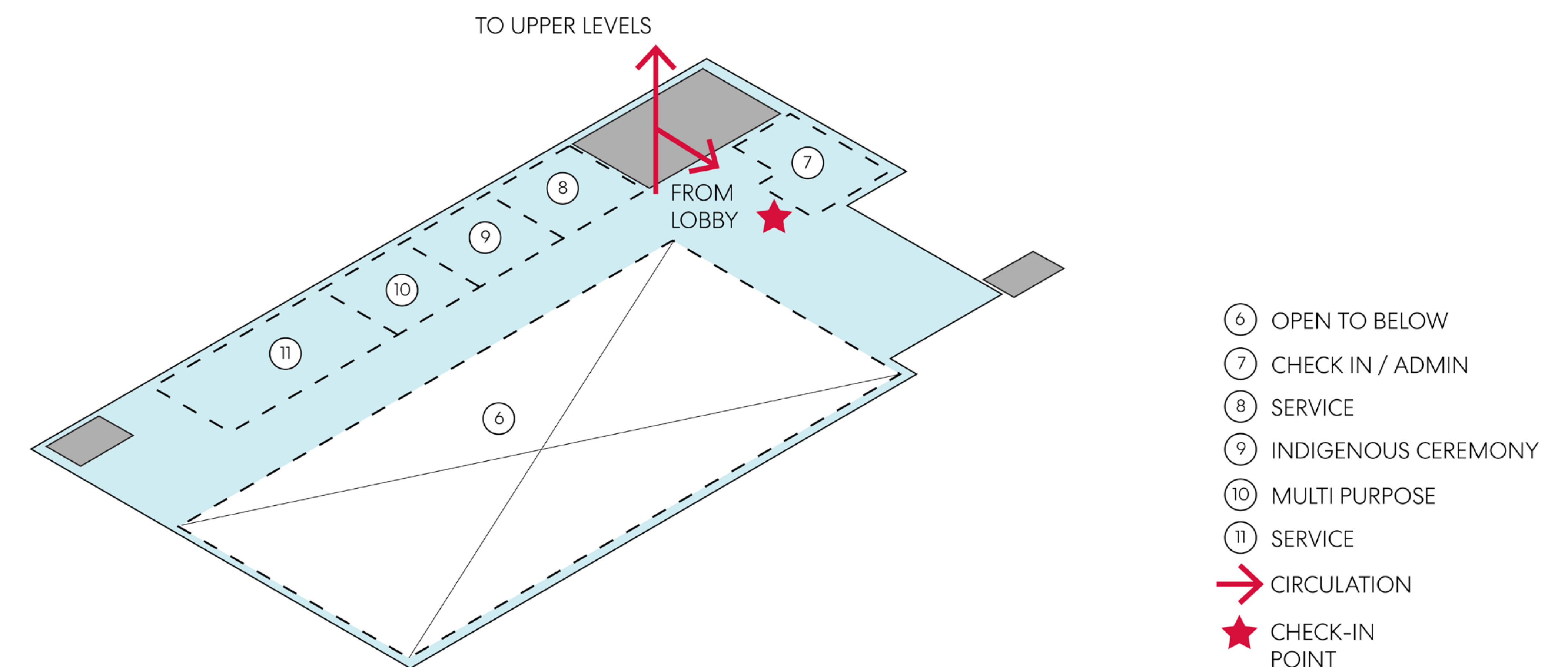
Welcome space needs identified through the Master Plan:

- A main entry space that is welcoming to all cultures
- Indigenous Teaching, Ceremony and Healing spaces
- Spaces and Places for waiting and viewing programming and quiet spaces to linger for conversations and for reflection
- Access to support areas – washrooms, drinking fountains
- Spaces for stroller, bicycle and scooter parking

What we've heard so far:

- This space should feel like a community living room
- An Indigenous worldview is important and needs to be incorporated throughout the design of the building
- Includes art and/or murals including work by Host Nation artists from the xwməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətaʔt (Tsleil-Waututh) and Urban Indigenous and multicultural artists
- Maintain a village feel to the space
- Inclusive and welcoming for all individuals
- Provide an indoor play space for small children
- Include signage in the Host Nation languages
- Include quiet bench areas to sit and reflect

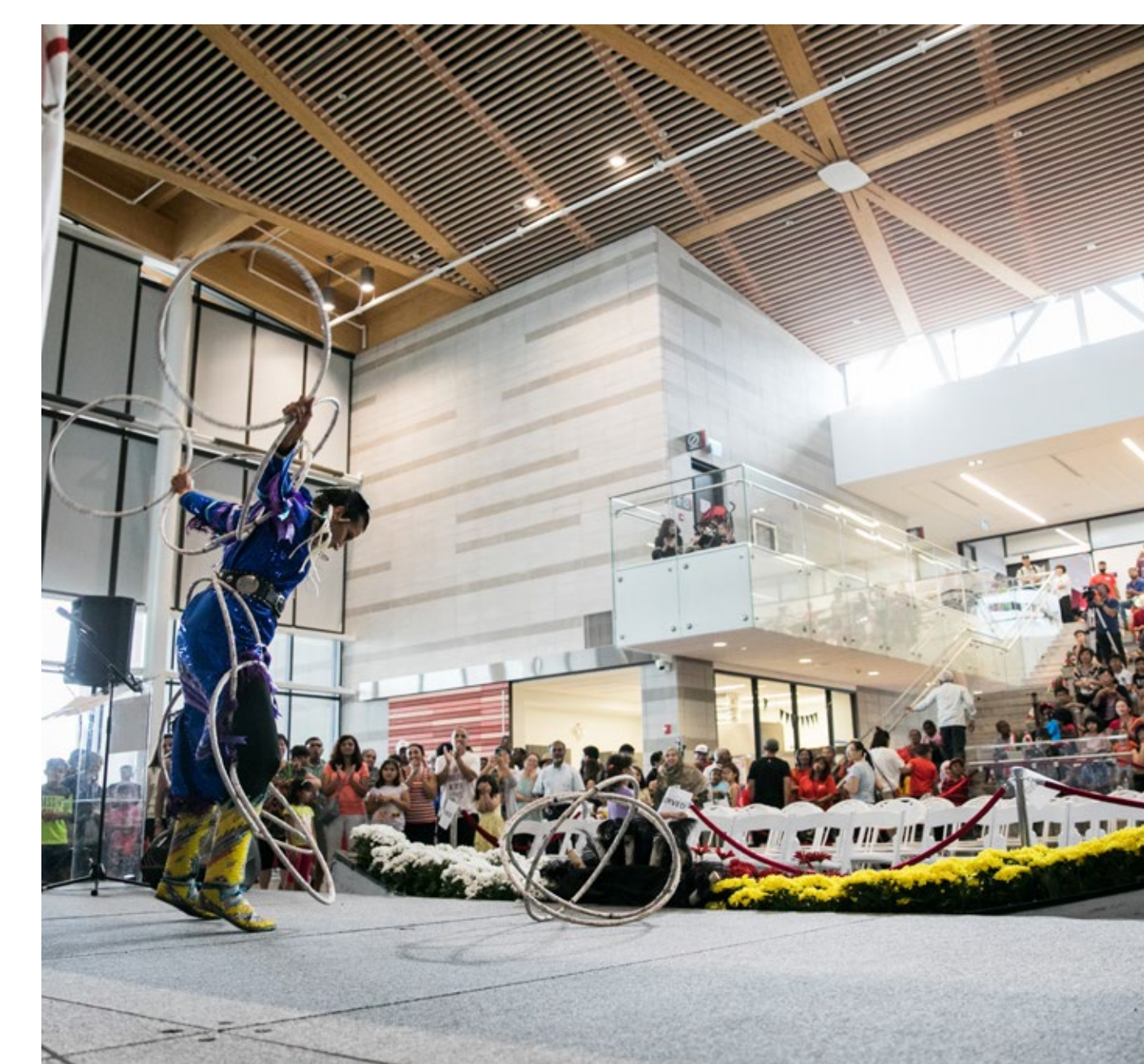
Level 2 - Welcome Space (Lobby)



Community member weaving a cedar bracelet. Photograph provided by Sky Spirit Studio.



Ocean Hyland, Tsleil-Waututh



Aaniin Community Centre & Library, Markham, Ontario – Dancer from the Eabametoong First Nation

How can a new gymnasium provide the greatest possible benefit to the community?

Please consider:

- Activities, opportunities and experiences you would like to do in a new gymnasium space
- Gymnasium characteristics and features needed for your favorite activities

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What are important features of a welcoming space?

Please consider:

- What you would like to see when you enter
- How you would like to feel as you enter

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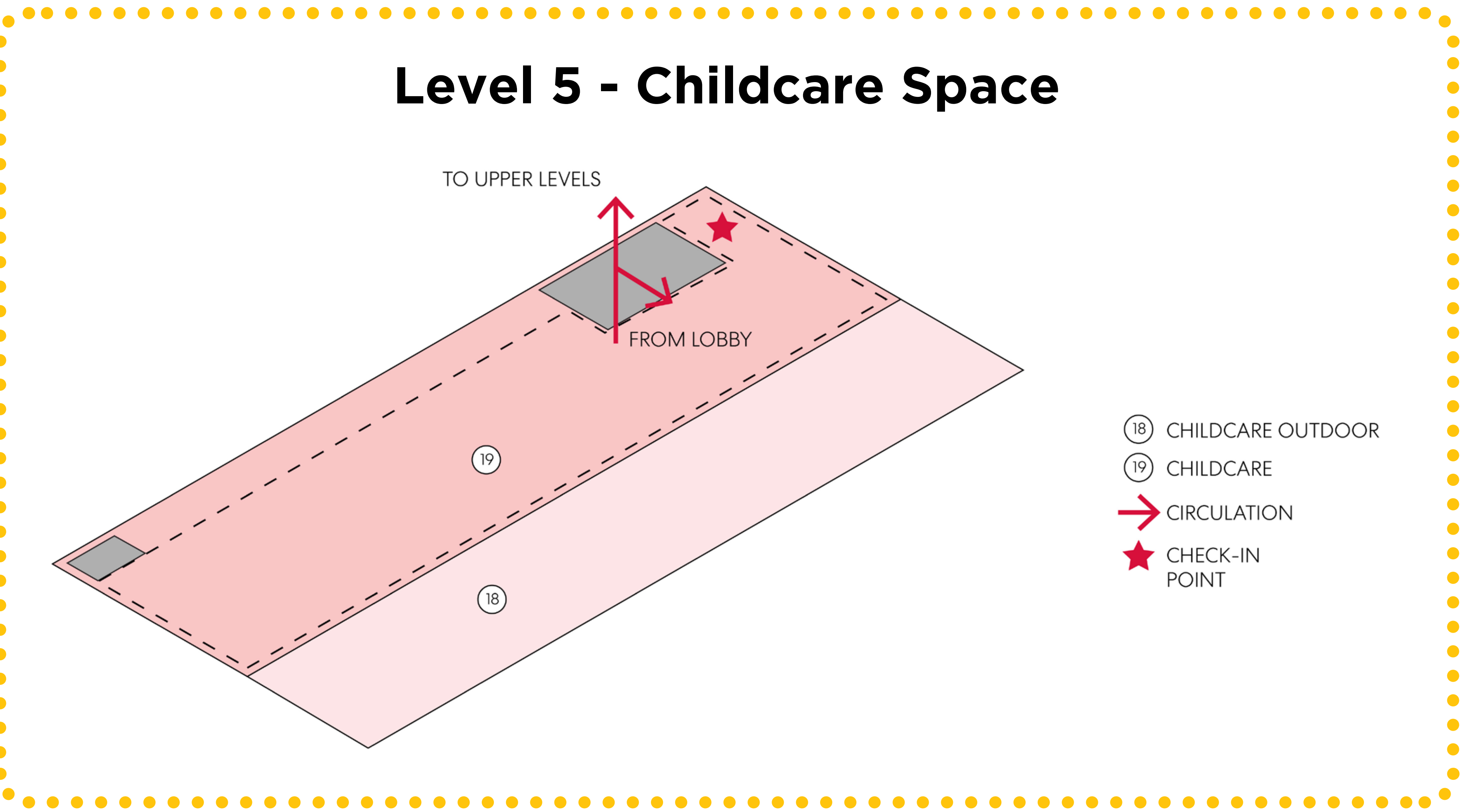
Non-Market Housing

Project partners have agreed to seek opportunities to include non-market housing in the redevelopment of the Britannia site. There have been no decisions made regarding height, density, or the number of units at this time.

Once site-options are developed, project partners will ask for community feedback on options for non-market housing.

Childcare Spaces

Childcare spaces are planned for Building 1 and 3 and a Family Place is planned for Building 5. All childcare and family space characteristics will be designed, built and operated as per provincial and city guidelines.



Creekside Childcare indoor space



Creekside Childcare outdoor space



Woodward's YMCA Childcare outdoor space

What features would make Indigenous children and families feel comfortable in the new childcare space?

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