

FACTS ABOUT THE LESTER B. PEARSON BUILDING

Construction of the Lester B. Pearson Building began in May 1970 and the first moves of the Department of External Affairs took place 36 months later. Cost of construction, exclusive of architects' fees, landscaping and furniture, was \$27.2 million.

Situated on a seven-acre site on Sussex Drive, the building contains 1,088,973 square feet of floor space and has parking for 575 cars. It was designed with the estimated growth of the Department of External Affairs during the next 20 years in mind and can accommodate approximately 3,200 people.

The structure is of reinforced concrete tied to the bedrock, with the exterior clad in pre-cast concrete faced with Quebec granite. The main lobby may be viewed as a street, with four towers of different heights representing buildings. The main floor gives access to these blocks. The colour scheme throughout the building is monochromatic, using various shades of brown, with people and furniture providing accent colours.

Almost all the offices have removable steel partitions which can be moved to provide flexible office arrangements.

The building contains no heating or cooling plants. Steam for heating is piped under the Macdonald-Cartier Bridge from the Government Printing Bureau in Hull and cold water for cooling comes from a plant behind the National Research Council. The climate-control system is designed so that, if necessary, some offices may be heated while others are cooled. Each block has its own ventilating system.