



Parallel 52°

The Dutch Canadian Sustainable Planning and Building Network

Newsletter Parallel52° - December 2017

Message from the Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Canada, Henk van der Zwan



When I began my term as the Netherlands' Ambassador to Canada in August 2016, I was well aware of the important and enduring historical relationship between our two countries. I was also aware of the substantial economic partnership that exists, and the mutual benefits this has created for citizens living in both Canada and the Netherlands. I further recognize that one of the particular channels through which our strong economic ties can be further enhanced is in the sustainable building sector.

This is an important and highly-relevant sector in the Netherlands. My government places an emphasis on the promotion and facilitation of sustainable energy production, and sustainable building plays a critical role in maximizing environmentally responsible and resource-efficient practices.

The Netherlands believes in strong collaborations between businesses, universities, research institutes, and the government. This is what we call the triple-helix approach. This intense cooperation has led to ground-breaking research and successful innovations in a variety of sectors, and Parallel 52° has sought to promote this approach in the field of sustainable building.

Since my arrival in Canada, I have become acquainted with the critical work being carried out by Parallel 52°, in its efforts to enhance collaboration between the Netherlands and Canada in the sector of sustainable building. In just a short period of time, Parallel 52° has facilitated numerous exchanges of ideas, knowledge and expertise amongst Canadian and Dutch companies, municipalities, and universities. Furthermore, they have developed broad and well-established networks in both Canada and the Netherlands, which includes all of the Dutch network in Canada, i.e. the embassy in Ottawa, and the Consulates' General in Toronto and Vancouver.

In this age of climate change and CO2 emissions, sustainability plays an increasingly vital role in architecture and city planning. In addition to the environmental benefits, sustainable building solutions also create economic and social advantages, and I look forward to the innovative projects that Parallel 52° will continue to stimulate, in order to meet the standards of the future.

The Dutch network in Canada stands ready to render its assistance wherever possible.

Point of Contact at Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Ottawa:

Taylor Heaven

Economic and Trade Officer

Taylor.Heaven@minbuza.nl

February 21st - 26th 2018

GaGBC Zero Carbon trade mission



From Sunday January 21st 2018 until Friday January the 26th 2018 Canadian members and invitees of the CaBGC, architects, engineers, owners, investors, builders, and technology providers, will visit the Netherlands and Austria in context of the CaBGC Zero Carbon Trade Mission.

The first target of the mission is to provide a hands-on experience on the Net Zero Energy and Zero Carbon Building sector in The Netherlands and Austria. The second target is to support the Canadian industry and government in the transition to a clean growth economy and to let them take advantage of the business opportunities in such economy. And at last to provide opportunities for business to business networking and potential market opportunities in the Netherlands and Austria.

During this mission, there will be site visits to innovative local Net Zero Energy and Zero Carbon commercial projects. These project are of both institutional as residential character. Also meetings with local net zero subject matter experts, practitioners and owners are planned. Below and overview can be found.

We would like to invite you for a reception with participants of the CaBGC Zero Carbon Trade Mission on Monday evening, January 22nd. More information: justdebruin@live.nl.

The programme in Austria will take place from Wednesday 2 until Friday 27. There will also be visits to several Austrian green building, Net Zero Energy and Zero Carbon companies and projects. Beside the participants will attend the 15th international BauZ! Vienna Congress on sustainable buildings.

Project visits (Netherlands):

- Circular pavilion ABN AMRO. Shown in the image above (ABN AMRO, ND)
- Think-wonen Carbon Neutral Residential Construction Systems Factory in Drunen
- Fluor office location in Amsterdam
- “Stroomversnelling” residential project
- Hogeschool Rotterdam, Paul de Ruiter Architects

Meeting with local stakeholders (Netherlands):

- Key local government officials
- The Dutch Ministry of International Affairs
- Green building industry companies, and firms providing trade expertise to Canadian companies. Such as the Dutch Green Building Council, Think-wonen, OVG Real Estate and Paul de Ruiter Architects

HAUT - Amsterdam



HAUT, the 21-storey wooden residential building in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, is a serious contender to become the tallest timber tower in the world. This month the project received a BREEAM Outstanding certificate for sustainable design with the exceptional score of 90,76%. This is truly unique; never before has this qualification been awarded to a residential building in The Netherlands. The BREEAM label is very popular throughout Europe, it not only measures sustainability in terms of energy use but also examines themes like material use, environmental friendliness, ecological contributions and healthy living conditions.

At present the architects of Team V and the engineers of ARUP are finalizing HAUT's Technical Design. Timber construction was chosen for its sustainable nature; over three million kilos of carbon dioxide will be stored in the cross laminated timber panels. The application of CLT-panels for its main structure and the experimental use of energy-generating facades make HAUT a prototype of sustainable and innovative architecture.

During the Building Lasting Change Congress 2017 in Vancouver earlier this year Do Janne Vermeulen, Architect and Director of Team V Architecture, talked about how a truly innovative project like HAUT is initiated. How do you inspire developers and local governments to invest in innovation? In the case of HAUT the municipality of Amsterdam played a leading role. They devised a competition brief with very high ambitions for sustainability and environmental quality. It is interesting to explore the differences between The Netherlands and Canada regarding real estate commissioning, building regulation, sustainability and of course the timber industry. There is a lot we can learn from each other. When our countries join forces we can boost sustainable innovation to the maximum and set an example for the rest of the world.

Trade mission climate change resiliency

Last October a Dutch trade mission to Vancouver and Toronto took place around the topic climate change resiliency. The event included several workshops, speakers and network events that relate to the challenges that both Canada and the Netherlands are facing to ensure liveable cities in the future. Some of these challenges include spatial planning, water management, storms, fire hazards, transit, soil remediation and social equity. None of these topics can be dealt separately and an integral approach is required.

To survive in a country as the Netherlands the Dutch are over centuries used to interdisciplinary planning and design of their land to live, work and recreate within the boundaries of nature. In collaboration with Canadian counterparts they are able to provide integrated solutions regarding the challenges for the design of a resilient urban fabric. The solutions address challenges such as aging and deteriorated infrastructure, heat stress in the built environment, pluvial and fluvial flooding, soil remediation, transit oriented development and sustainable architecture. Especially for the great Canadian cities Toronto and Vancouver, joint efforts will make the already thriving relationship even more successful and fit for the future.

In the picture below speaker Henk Ovink is speaking. He is the first Special Envoy International Water Affairs of the Netherlands, the head of the trade mission.



Dutch neighborhoods approach based on Toronto-experiences

Anke van Hal, one of the founders of Parallel52, lived two years in Toronto. She recently returned to the Netherlands. During her stay, she became very inspired by tower renewal programs in the city of Toronto. These are as well initiated by the municipality (<https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/community-partners/apartment-building-operators/>), as by ngo SNAP <https://trca.ca/conservation/sustainable-neighbourhoods/>. Also architectural firm like Sustainable.TO and ERA were involved. Together with the Dutch organization Platform31 she initiated an experimental program in the Netherlands based on her experiences. For information: a.vanhal@nyenrode.nl

CISCO-meeting about Dutch-Canadian cooperation

The new trade-agreement changes the opportunities for cooperation between Dutch and Canadian organizations. In the first quarter of 2018, a meeting will be organized between interested people in Toronto and the Netherlands in studios of CISCO. Their technology makes it possible to interact with the impression to be around the same table together. People who are interested can send a mail to Lotte Meijers (info@parallel52.org). They will be informed about time and place soon.

We wish you happy Holidays and a happy 2018!



LinkedIn



Twitter



Website



Email