

Fasken Québec

New office spaces for the renowned law firm Fasken in the Old Port of Quebec

LemayMichaud presents this office design project for the renowned law firm Fasken in Quebec, which won the Interior Design of the Year Award at the 16th edition of the Grands Prix du Design. Located at 365 Abraham Street, nestled in the urban panorama of Quebec City's Old Port, the 37,490 square feet offices span two and a half floors, revealing themselves to the city through abundant fenestration.

New spaces full of light

The mandate was for the concept of modern and youthful spaces, while maintaining a prestigious and refined image. The building, with floor-to-ceiling windows on all sides, offers an exposed concrete structure. The two and a half storeys of the upper levels are very bright thanks to the abundant fenestration and offer spectacular views of Quebec City: the Gare du Palais, the Old Port of Quebec and the lower town. The overall concept builds on these assets with a design that takes full advantage of the views and provides maximum natural light to both private and public spaces.

When modernity meets elegance

The vertical connection between the floors is done via a monumental architectural staircase, encased in a yellow glass cube, which links the three levels in the public space. In addition to creating a visual and physical opening on all three levels, the staircase stands at the center of the project as a strong visual element, particularly by its young and vibrant color, one of the few spots of color in the project. Reminiscent of the city's street lamps and their reflections on the Louise Basin at nightfall, yellow introduces a dynamic yet timeless touch to the space.

The rest of the rooms are designed in a purist black and white style, thus ensuring timelessness and elegance of the spaces, and leaving plenty of room for the urban spectacle offered by the abundant fenestration. The vision is consolidated through the choice of materials and furniture expressing prestige and refinement. Black or white cubic volumes divide the vast interior to create sub-spaces, setting a clear demarcation in the work areas. Breakthroughs of light flood all workstations, ensuring the democratization of the office space.

A touch of tradition

The Lawyers' Library, a mythical place of one of the world's oldest professions, resonates with a special charm. The ambience is deliberately rooted in a retro aesthetic, with elements such as old lamps reminiscent of those in English-style libraries, a subtle tribute to the history of their profession. The atmosphere is imbued with this reverence for the past, bridging modernity with timeless legal heritage. Despite this vintage touch, everything remains tastefully curated, from the furniture to the fine details, ensuring a visual harmony that links the library to the rest of the space with elegance.

Awards

Fasken's Quebec City offices won the prestigious Interior Design Award of the Year at the 16th edition of the Grands Prix du Design, which is the highest distinction of this international contest. In addition to this award, the project won a Platinum Award and an International Grand Award in the Professional & Financial Services Office category, as well as the People's Choice Award in the Interior Design category.

"A magnificent appropriation and a unique signature of space! It is both warm and luxurious, with an appealing mix of textures." - explains the multidisciplinary and international Jury regarding the project.

The Grands Prix du Design recognize the excellence of designers and architects who stand out for their exemplary practice. Open internationally for the past 3 years, the competition has so far received entries from over 35 countries.

Technical sheet

Project name - Fasken Ouebec

Client – Fasken
Year – 2022
Architect – LemayMichaud
Interior Design – LemayMichaud
Engineering – CBTEC
General contractor – L2 Construction
Acoustic – Octave Avoustique
Photographer – Raphaël Thibodeau

About LemayMichaud

Founded in 1979, LemayMichaud is a major player in the Québec architectural and interior design scene. The firm's team of skilled professionals has worked on numerous projects across Canada, enabling multiple partners and clients to build and bring outstanding projects to life. Loyal clients have enabled the company to acquire a solid reputation, in Canada and internationally, by signing award-winning projects. The firm now has offices in Quebec, Montreal and Ottawa.

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