

Central Tower

EIA Fact Sheet



Edmonton International Airport's new eight-storey Central Tower is a sight to behold! Open since March 2013, the new tower represents a key achievement in EIA's Expansion 2012 project, giving EIA a distinctive architectural landmark and providing the city with a dramatic new gateway.

The new NAV CANADA air traffic control tower became operational March 8, 2013. In addition to NAV CANADA and EIA offices, the tower also houses the headquarters of Canadian Helicopters, an HNZ Company.

Better, Greener By Design

EIA's Central Tower is a truly unique building. Designed by the Edmonton architectural firm DIALOG (formerly Cohos Evamy) in partnership with the London, Ontario-based EllisDon, the tower bears a distinctive shape featuring sculpted steel ribbons that evoke the windswept prairie landscape surrounding the Capital Region. The building's interior also evokes the local landscape, with patchwork carpeting and ceiling patterns that mimic prairie farmland as viewed from the air.

The building's sculpted ribbons provide shade from the summer sun and capture sunlight in winter, while the continuous rows of windows serve as a conduit for natural light. The building's spacious office layout is designed to minimize sightline barriers.

EIA is currently pursuing LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold Certification for the new Central Tower.

Clearer Skies

Sitting atop the new Central Tower is NAV CANADA's Control Tower. This new location improves visibility for the airport's air traffic controllers, giving them an excellent view of all the gates. The airside edge of the tower roof slopes downward so as to maximize controllers' view of Gates 49 and 50 (located on alternate sides of the building) while the tower's forward-sitting location provides controllers with an excellent view of the entire airfield.

Tower Power

Central Tower gives the airport more than just office space and a new control tower. The tower's arrivals-

level base houses the airport's new, integrated baggage area, which has doubled the airport's baggage handling capacity. On the Departures level, the Central Tower Retail Area (Central Hall) opened Dec 6, 2011 and features 13 new shopping and dining outlets, including:

- Houston Steaks and Ribs
- River Valley Sweet Shoppe
- Brioche Dorée Bakery and Café
- Starbucks
- Tech on the Go
- Sunglass Hut
- Indigo Spirit



A mezzanine level spanning the Central Tower Retail Area provides pre-security access to the tower offices. The pedway above the retail area mimics Edmonton's iconic High Level Bridge. The mezzanine level also features a publicly-accessible observation deck, with a superb view of the airfield.

EIA's new centralized baggage system places EIA at the forefront of baggage-handling capability. The new system can deliver passengers' bags to their flights from any check-in counter in the airport. The latest in conveyer belt, screening and tracking technology provides maximum security while ensuring bags are delivered smoothly and safely to the correct aircraft.

Both inside and out, EIA's Central Tower is a fitting emblem of a fast-growing airport and city.



Photo courtesy of NAV Canada