



TOM THURSTON, DIRECTOR, CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

BUILDING YOUR MUSEUM

A Mammoth Recycling Job

Over the last several months, LEDCOR has been carefully and methodically deconstructing the Post Office site to make way for the new Royal Alberta Museum. The work began with the careful removal of all hazmat-related material such as asbestos and lead-based paint. They've just finished demolition of the actual building structures, and over 90% of all building materials have been recycled or reused.

Some of the highlights:

- Decorative metal screens, a large clock dial and, most importantly, the Ernestine Tahedl murals from the walls of the old Post Office have all been carefully removed and preserved for reuse in the new building.
- 200 metric tons of steel beams, girders and rebar have been harvested and chopped into four-foot sections for easy recycling.
- Structural concrete has been separated from the metal rebar and processed for recycling into new concrete.
- Over nine metric tons of wood have been salvaged from the site and converted to wood chips to be sold as mulch.

The care taken during the demolition stage is part of a bigger initiative called LEED, which stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. It's a rating system that recognizes excellence in sustainable building design and construction practices.