BAnQ’s Saint-Sulpice Library Project

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The Saint-Sulpice Library Project: Outline & Details

- A project with three interconnected components, all within the same building: the Saint-Sulpice Library

1. A creative lab:
   - Access to cutting-edge technology not otherwise readily available
     - Fablab
     - Medialab
The Saint-Sulpice Library Project: Outline & Details

- A creative lab...
  - Open to all
    - Adult and teens
    - Organizations
    - Startups
    - Curious and creative types
2. A **library for teens**
   - A variety of collections
   - Informal space to mingle, hang out and work on individual and group projects
   - Varied program line-up
3. Social inclusion

- Convert groundskeeper’s cottage
  - Adjacent building, originally used by servants
- Drop-in centre for patrons with special needs: those with mental health and financial problems, school dropouts, the homeless, etc.
- Ensure patrons coexist positively and peacefully
The Saint-Sulpice Library

- Built between 1912 and 1914 under the Sulpicians
- Opened in 1915
- The city’s first major francophone public library
- Built in the Beaux-Arts style
- Housed the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec, starting in 1967
- Given heritage status in 1988
- Vacant since 2005
- Located just 75 metres from the Grande Bibliothèque
Just 75 metres from the Grande Bibliothèque
The Saint-Sulpice Library, From 1912 to Today
The Saint-Sulpice Library, From 1912 to Today

Henri Perdriaud’s stained glass windows
The Saint-Sulpice Library,
From 1912 to Today
The Saint-Sulpice Library,
From 1912 to Today

Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec
The Saint-Sulpice Library,
From 1912 to Today
The Saint-Sulpice Library, From 1912 to Today
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Achieve the as-yet-unattained goal

- Few well-documented, relevant experiences
- Few written materials in French
  - Project stakeholders want to leave a comprehensive record of the project for Québec libraries
- A social and technological project
  - Social acceptability
  - Ownership
Two Focal Points

- Brainstorming Committee
  - Inclusive
    - BAnQ
    - City of Montreal Libraries
  - Collaborative design workshops
- Le Square Banque Nationale: a Medialab for 13 to 17-year-olds at the Grande Bibliothèque
1. Brainstorming Committee

• Study day on teenagers

• Inventories of practices and philosophies of makerspace in Québec and elsewhere in the world (Rhizome)

• Co-design workshops (Huneault Design + Collaboration)
  • One-week workshop for 13 to 17-year-olds
  • Four workshops with community groups, library staff, high-tech experts, stakeholders from the gaming and lab communities and the general public
  • Sharing platform open to all

• Urban analysis (Department of Culture of the City of Montreal)

• Co-design workshop: BAnQ and City of Montreal employees

• Brainstorming Committee’s final report (208 pages)
2. The Square Banque Nationale

A space where 13 to 17-year-olds can **create**, **innovate**, **share** and **learn how to use** the latest technological tools

- Digital media: image and video editing, composing music, programming, robotics, virtual reality, etc.
- No collections on site, but steps away from the GB
- Designed by and for teens
- On-site personnel: 2 professional librarians and 2 library technicians
- Medialab with Fablab features
Collaborative digital platform

square.banq.qc.ca: a collaborative digital platform

1. At Le Square
   - Guides, tutorials, resources, equipment
   - Project ideas
   - Showcase / shared space
   - Contests

2. At the other labs (still being developed)
   - Free software (Wordpress)
   - Information sharing platform
   - Buy-in from local stakeholders (respect for local character)
   - Project documentation and best practices
   - Forums for sharing educational materials
A Decisive Moment for Saint-Sulpice

- Medialab
- Fablab
- Living Lab
- Gaming spaces
- Relevant collections
- Common areas
  - Teens
  - General public
- Café
- Art hive

- A retrotheque
- Educational activities room for different client groups
- An incubation space for startups
- Event space
- Video games / virtual reality
- Social inclusion
- Showcase for projects
- Digital platform
The Saint-Sulpice Library
Montreal:
514 873-1100

Elsewhere in Québec (toll free):
1 800 363-9028

banq.qc.ca

Montreal
Grande Bibliothèque
475, boulevard De Maisonneuve Est
Montréal (Québec)  H2L 5C4

BAnQ Rosemont–La Petite-Patrie
2275, rue Holt
Montréal (Québec)  H2G 3H1

BAnQ Vieux-Montréal
535, avenue Viger Est
Montréal (Québec)  H2L 2P3

Capitale-Nationale
BAnQ Québec
Pavillon Louis-Jacques-Casault
Campus de l’Université Laval
1055, avenue du Séminaire
Québec (Québec)  G1V 4N1

BAnQ Gaspé
80, boulevard de Gaspé
Gaspé (Québec)  G4X 1A9

BAnQ Gatineau
855, boulevard de la Gappe
Gatineau (Québec)  J8T 8H9

BAnQ Rimouski
337, rue Moreault
Rimouski (Québec)  G5L 1P4

BAnQ Rouyn-Noranda
27, rue du Terminus Ouest
Rouyn-Noranda (Québec)  J9X 2P3

BAnQ Saguenay
930, rue Jacques-Cartier Est, bureau C-103
Saguenay (Québec)  G7H 7K9

BAnQ Sept-Îles
700, boulevard Laure, bureau 190
Sept-Îles (Québec)  G4R 1Y1

BAnQ Sherbrooke
225, rue Frontenac, bureau 401
Sherbrooke (Québec)  J1H 1K1

BAnQ Trois-Rivières
225, rue des Forges, bureau 208
Trois-Rivières (Québec)  G9A 2G7
A Lab in a Library

UNESCO Manifesto on the Mission of Public Libraries

- Facilitating the development of information and computer literacy skills
- Stimulating the imagination and creativity of children and young people
- Supporting both individual and self-conducted education as well as formal education at all levels
- Providing opportunities for personal creative development