

Ma-sh-ki-ki-ke:

A story of healing, pour nous et pour la terre

"Ma-sh-ki-ki-ke" (mu-sh-ki-ki-kay), an Anishnaabemowin word that means: **to make medicine**.

We envision downtown as a place of healing for all of us, for the land, for the water, for the plants and animals.

The wellbeing of the community, of all community members, and of the earth are the guiding principles for a place of life, joy, inclusion, support, and reciprocity.

Sudbury's urban core is...

Decolonized

Sudbury is located within Anishinaabe Atikameksheng territory. Atikameksheng people and values lead the changes needed in our systems, industries, practices and decision-making structures to heal ourselves and the earth. The urban core reflects and is guided by Anishinaabe identity and values. Signage shares history, facts and teachings. Anishinaabe language (taught to all school children), art, images and symbols are an integral part of downtown, as are Indigenous events and spaces. The urban core is a place of healing and respect for Mother Earth and for each other.

Part of a healthy ecosystem and watershed

Green spaces, native vegetation, green walls and roofs, and low-impact development enhance biodiversity, improve water quality, and connect people to nature in the urban core. Surfaces are permeable to filter and cool water entering the watershed. Proper waste receptacles and storm drain filters prevent litter from entering Nolin and Junction creeks. The path of Nolin and Junction Creek below downtown is marked with informative art, signage, and trails that raise awareness, promote physical and mental health, and encourage eco-friendly activities.

Net Zero and climate emergency ready

A car-free urban core is connected to surrounding neighbourhoods and to all Greater Sudbury communities with safe and convenient active transportation and transit. Green energy is incorporated into public spaces, and both new and existing buildings are designed to the highest sustainable building standards. An energy positive downtown provides a local, decentralized green energy supply to surrounding institutions and neighbourhoods. A greenway of street trees, gardens, green roofs and walls, and permeable surfaces honours and protects the waters below. Green infrastructure cools the urban core and minimizes flood risks and water use. Downtown functions as a waste-free, circular economy.

Caring

People come first in a more humane urban core. Downtown is safe, friendly and caring for all people and cultures. Community-led initiatives, services, programming and celebrations thrive. Downtown is revitalized but not gentrified. Affordable housing, healthy affordable food, public washrooms, and supporting services are integrated into the urban core.

Vibrant and full of life

The urban core is well cared for, and always full of activity. There are gathering places, resting places and activities for all ages. Play areas for all seasons, informal and formal events, and performance spaces provide recreation and entertainment. Multi-purpose public art invites play and reflects the history, communities, and stories of this territory. The downtown is welcoming to all of Sudbury's diverse populations.

Project description

Through a comprehensive community design process, a new Master Plan, which honours the 5 themes described above, creates a thriving downtown core.

The main moves of this project can be summed up as :

- REWILDING / Removing all downtown train traffic allows the vast railyards to rewild themselves through a process of letting the land fallow into perpetuity.
- DAYLIGHTING / Large sections of both Nolin and Junction creek are daylighted. This is not only part of a decolonizing and ecological process, but also creates new spaces for the community to enjoy.
- NORTH-SOUTH NEXUS / Through the daylighting and creation of Nolin and Junction Greens a North-South Nexus is established, which joins the previously dislocated Borgia sector to the Junction triangle.
- REVITALIZATION / Adjacent to the new rewilded railyards, a massive revitalization of the Elgin cultural belt has taken place.
- TRANSPORTATION REDESIGN / A dramatic transportation redesign has created a quieter, less polluted, and more accessible downtown core. Most of downtown is car-free, with exceptions for accessibility purposes, emergency services, and larger deliveries. Main roads going through downtown are narrowed and slowed. Complete streets connect the downtown to the rest of Greater Sudbury. Connections to surrounding neighbourhoods, trails and parks are improved.

NOTE

All new proposed buildings are designed to be built with the latest mass timber construction techniques, to be have integrated passive design systems, equipped with green roofs and/or rooftop gardens, made with local and sustainable materials, and carbon positive.

Vacant buildings, rooftops, parking areas and laneways have been revitalized and repurposed in numerous ways, including affordable housing; youth, family and adult shelters; green energy generation; community gardens and urban agriculture; community and public art; pop-up uses; community-led spaces; performance spaces; and small businesses.

Background & Process

Below downtown Sudbury, Junction Creek and Nolin Creek flows. An Anishinaabekwe team member observed that their path forms the shape of a bear head, which came to be an important symbolic image for the project, and the concept of downtown as a place of healing for people and nature emerged. In Anishinaabe culture, the bear, Makwa (in Anishinaabemowin) is connected with healing, strength, wisdom and defense. The image of the bear is also a reminder that we are living within their habitat and many other animals.

The project name includes "Ma-sh-ki-ki-ke," meaning 'to make medicine' in Anishinaabemowin. To make medicine is to have a relationship with the land. Through gathering the teachings about the plants, the people, the animals, the connections they share and how they move in balance, one finds their medicine and place in the land.

Team members brought diverse personal and professional perspectives, experience, knowledge, skills and values to this project, to collectively speak to and contribute to the different principles, themes, and elements. This diversity of views, which includes healthy critique of design elements, reflects the values of inclusion essential to a community-led design process.

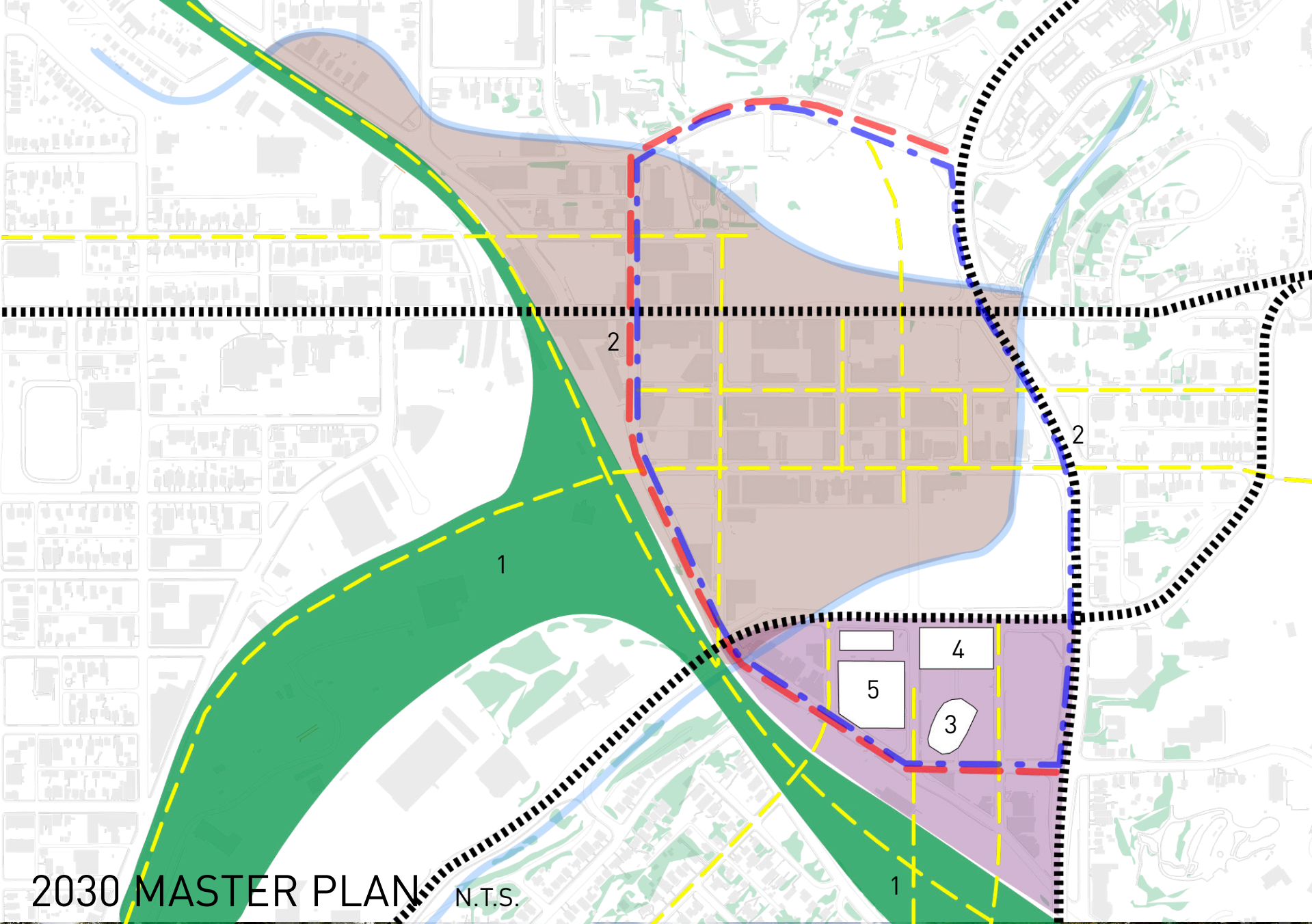
The full team co-created the guiding vision for this project and provided feedback on the design. The design team creatively developed the overarching vision and insights into a comprehensive ecological Master Plan that focused on healing, community and vibrancy.

Public / Community Engagement

This project is locally-based and grounded in local grassroots community priorities, starting with a seed vision based on ~1000 citizen submissions. Community input was also received on the guiding principles and main project ideas.

This design plants the seed for an inclusive and community-based plan for the urban core. Creating a truly community-led design, or implementing any of the projects or ideas in this design would require local Indigenous leadership. Their meaningful and on-going community engagement is a process that takes much more time, capacity, and relationship building than can fit in any design contest submission, including this one.

On-going community engagement is integral to our vision of downtown. Community engagement is not only about shaping the vision for downtown, but an essential part of everyday life in a thriving downtown.



ROUTES / ROADS
LEGEND

2 Lane Cycling/Pedestrian

2 Lane Cycling/EV

4 Lane Complete Road

Downtown Bus Shuttle Loop

PROJECTS COMPLETED BY 2030 /
LEGEND

1. Rewilded Railyards

SIZE / ~2 square kilometers / 500 acres

MATERIALS / Native flora and fauna

PURPOSE /

- + The railyards are rewilded, healing the land, creating greenspace, and connecting the downtown to surrounding neighbourhoods and Ramsey Lake along a multi-use trail.
- + As the land heals, some affordable and sustainable housing can be integrated into this new greenspace.

2. Elgin / St. Anne / Paris Transportation Circuit

SIZE / 2.3 kilometers loop.

MATERIALS / Free Public Electric Buses (2 or 3); Sustainable permeable road paving/brickwork; Treed central medians.

PURPOSE /

- + A mobility hub and corridor now runs a continuous circuit of free public bus transportation around the downtown core.
- + It supports bus transportation, cycling routes and an electric vehicle car-share.
- + Housing and key services are located along this mobility corridor.

3. Sudbury Art Gallery (the Asteroid)

SIZE / ~2,000 square meters/20,000 square feet; 3 storeys in height.

MATERIALS / Mass timber structure; copper cladding.

PURPOSE /

- + The Sudbury Asteroid Gallery has a gravitational force that pulls in masses from near and far.
- + The sculptural form is akin to the asteroid that created the crater that formed the Sudbury Basin.
- + It possesses many gallery spaces for both traditional, contemporary and multimedia exhibitions.
- + The new SAG boasts a large atrium space with open staircases, a triangular skylight, and exposed mass timber structure.

4. Library

SIZE / ~5,500 square meters/60,000 square feet

MATERIALS / Mass timber; copper cladding; high-efficiency glazing; green roof.

PURPOSE /

- + A state-of-the-art library that straddles quiet, intimate spaces and large social spaces.
- + Creates an inclusive hub for all.
- + Equipped with Maker's Labs, classrooms, city archives, folk arts society, cafe/bistro and more.

5. Events Center & Brady Housing/Parking Building

SIZE / ~9,000 square meters/97,000 square feet.

MATERIALS / Mass Timber; high-efficiency glazing; green roof.

PURPOSE /

- + The Arena has been renovated into a model events center.
- + The Brady Housing/ Parking Building is located directly behind the Arena/Events Center and facing Junctions Greens, a much needed housing and parking complex is present.



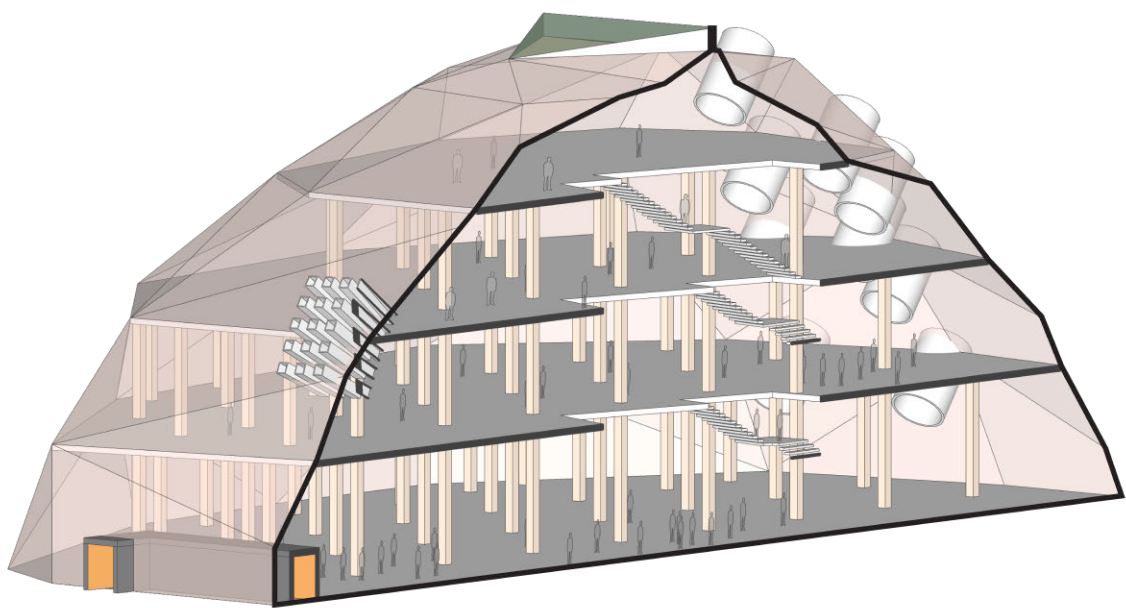
Rewilded Railyards



The Junction Plaza



View from Library



Sudbury Art Gallery
Sectional Axonometric

PROJECTS COMPLETED BY 2040 /
LEGEND

6. Junction Greens

- SIZE / ~52,000 square meters/13 acres
MATERIALS / Native flora & fauna.
PURPOSE /
+ Within Junction Greens (formerly Memorial Park and Tom Davies Square) Junction Creek is daylighted.
+ The creek's riparian zone is rewilded with native flora and fauna.
+ Its long sloping shoreline creates an exciting space for community gatherings and events.
+ Further phased daylighting is planned over time.

7. Indigenous Ceremonial Center

- SIZE / ~470 square meters/5,000 square feet.
MATERIALS / Wood lattice structure.
PURPOSE /
+ A space for teachings, ceremony and gatherings.
+ Located in the heart of downtown and within Junction Greens.
+ At the center, a sacred fire pit is found.
+ A medicine garden adjacent to Junction Creek supports a reciprocal relationship with nature.
+ This project would be planned and guided by the Indigenous community, led by elders and knowledge keepers.

8. City Hall Bridge Complex

- SIZE / ~4,750 square meters/51,000
MATERIALS / Mass Timber; high-efficiency glazing; biodiverse green roof.
PURPOSE /
+ The New City Hall Bridge Complex not only connects the North and South of the downtown core, but also integrates a shared governance space, developed inclusively and led by local Indigenous values.

9. Provincial Services

- SIZE / ~2,000 square meters/21,000 square feet
MATERIALS / Mass Timber; high-efficiency glazing; biodiverse green roofs.
PURPOSE /
+ Offers all Provincial services under one green roof.

10. Brady & Paris Housing & Parking Building

- SIZE / ~2,000 square meters/21,000 square feet
MATERIALS / Mass Timber; high-efficiency glazing; biodiverse green roofs.
PURPOSE /
+ Offers affordable and subsidized housing for individuals, couples and families.
+ The ground and second floor are dedicated to parking.

11. Sudbury Theatre Center

- SIZE / ~2,000 square meters/21,000 square feet
MATERIALS / Mass Timber renovation; high-efficiency glazing; green roofs.
PURPOSE /
+ A major renovation of the existing STC building has renewed and reinvigorated its presence in the downtown core.
+ It is now linked to the new Music Hall by an impressive atrium.

12. Music Hall

- SIZE / ~2,000 square meters/21,000 square feet
MATERIALS / Mass Timber; high-efficiency glazing; green roofs.
PURPOSE /
+ To offer a world-class intimate live music experience, for all concerts not requiring an arena or events center.

13. VanHorne & Paris Hotel/Parking

- SIZE / ~2,400 square meters/25,000 square feet
MATERIALS / Mass Timber; high-efficiency glazing; green roofs.
PURPOSE /
+ Offers affordable downtown accommodations for all visitors.
The ground and second floor are dedicated to parking.

14. Market Hub

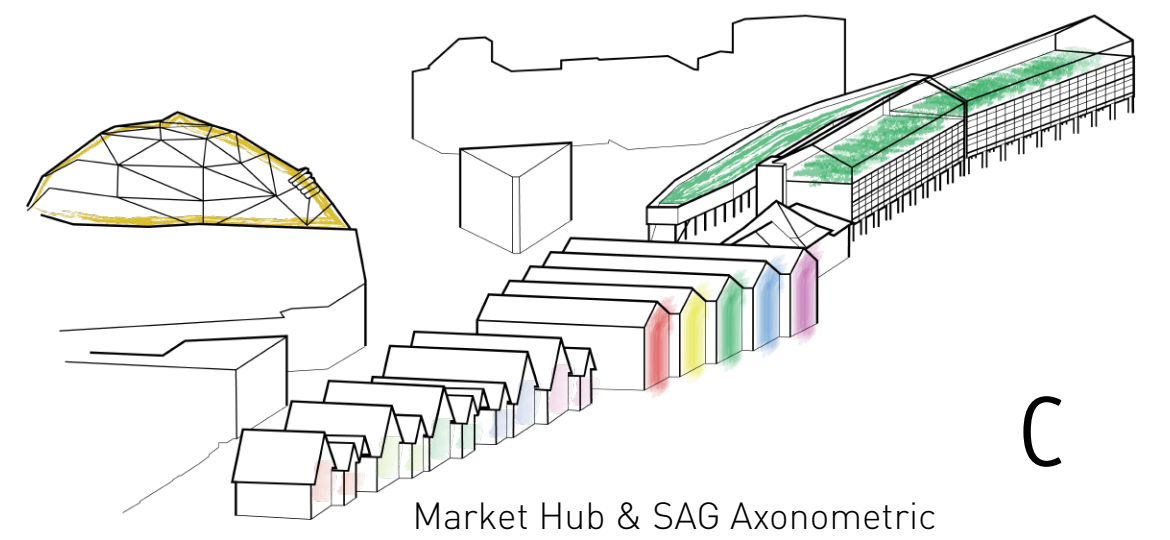
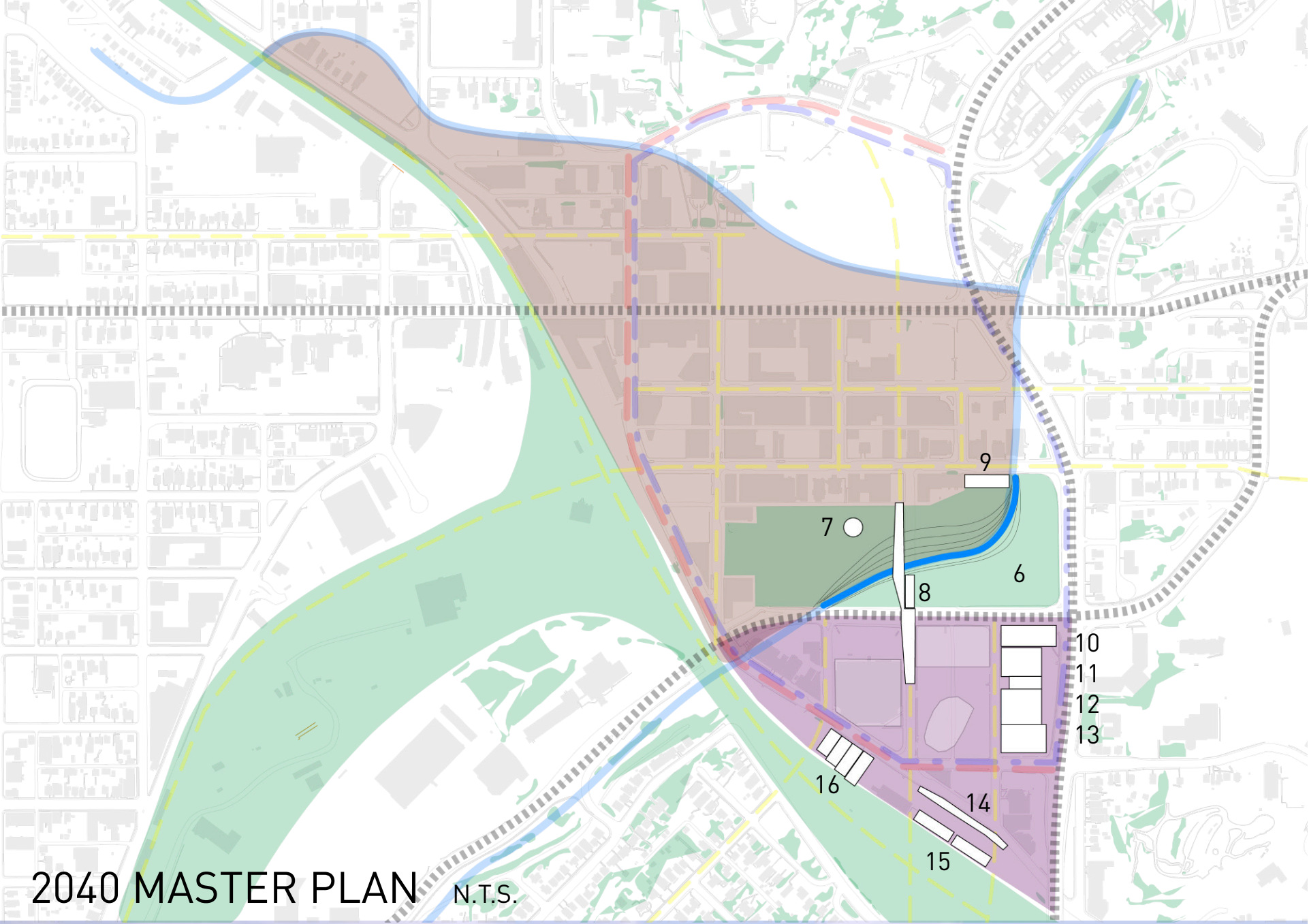
- SIZE / ~1,200 square meters/13,000 square feet
MATERIALS / Mass Timber; high-efficiency glazing; green roof.
PURPOSE /
+ The Market Hub is located on the south side of Elgin, on brownfield land.
+ Houses a year-round market.
+ It is also a local business incubator, green energy generator, and multi-purpose community space.
+ Supports local food security, community-led economic stability, and a zero-waste circular economy.

15. Food Production/Residential Buildings

- SIZE / ~2,400 square meters/26,000 square feet
MATERIALS / Mass Timber; high-efficiency glazing; green roof.
PURPOSE /
+ 2 Net Zero buildings that integrate rooftop urban agriculture, and affordable, comfortable housing.

16. Elgin Commercial/Light Industrial Revitalization

- SIZE / ~3,700 square meters/40,000 square feet
MATERIALS / Mass Timber; high-efficiency glazing; wood & steel cladding.
PURPOSE /
+ Creates affordable multi-purpose commercial and light-industrial spaces for new local businesses.



PROJECTS COMPLETED BY 2050 /
LEGEND

17. Elgin Mixed-use Rowhouses

SIZE / ~3,000 square meters/32,000 square feet
MATERIALS / Mass Timber; high-efficiency glazing; wood, brick & steel cladding.
PURPOSE /
+ Creates an arts, culture and design hub through mixed-use commercial and residential spaces.

18. Community Gardens (various locations)

SIZE / ~16,000 square meters/4 acres
MATERIALS / Natural wood planters; organic soil/compost; organic seeds.
PURPOSE /
+ To create local food security, independence for the local community.
+ Found into multiple locations throughout the downtown core.
+ These community gardens can be initiated at anytime from 2020 to 2050.

19. Northern Ontario School of Art & Design (NOSAD)

SIZE / ~8,500 square meters/90,000 square feet
MATERIALS / Mass Timber; high-efficiency glazing; wood & brick cladding; biodiverse green roof (on student residencies).
PURPOSE /
+ To create a magnet of art and design.
+ To reinvigorate the Elgin cultural belt.
+ It offers programs in a Northern context that bridge sustainability, wellness, cultural diversity and indigenous cultures.
+ Offers a world-class arts & design education for young Northerners.

20. Nolin Greens

SIZE / ~27,000 square meters/6.6 acres
MATERIALS / Native flora and fauna.
PURPOSE /
+ To daylight Nolin Creek and create an urban rewilded zone.
+ The creek's riparian zone is rewilded with native flora and fauna.
+ Its long sloping shoreline creates an exciting space for community gatherings and events.

21. Nolin Public Recreation Center

SIZE / ~10,000 square meters/107,000 square feet
MATERIALS / Mass Timber; high-efficiency glazing; wood cladding; biodiverse green roof; natural swimming pools.
PURPOSE /
+ Fills a large gap in free access to recreation services in the downtown core.
+ Features indoor & outdoor pools, gyms, tracks, saunas, community spaces.
+ The first of its kind in Canada, the naturally purified swimming pools within the Nolin Public Recreation Center are completely chemical-free.

22. Nolin Community Wellness Center

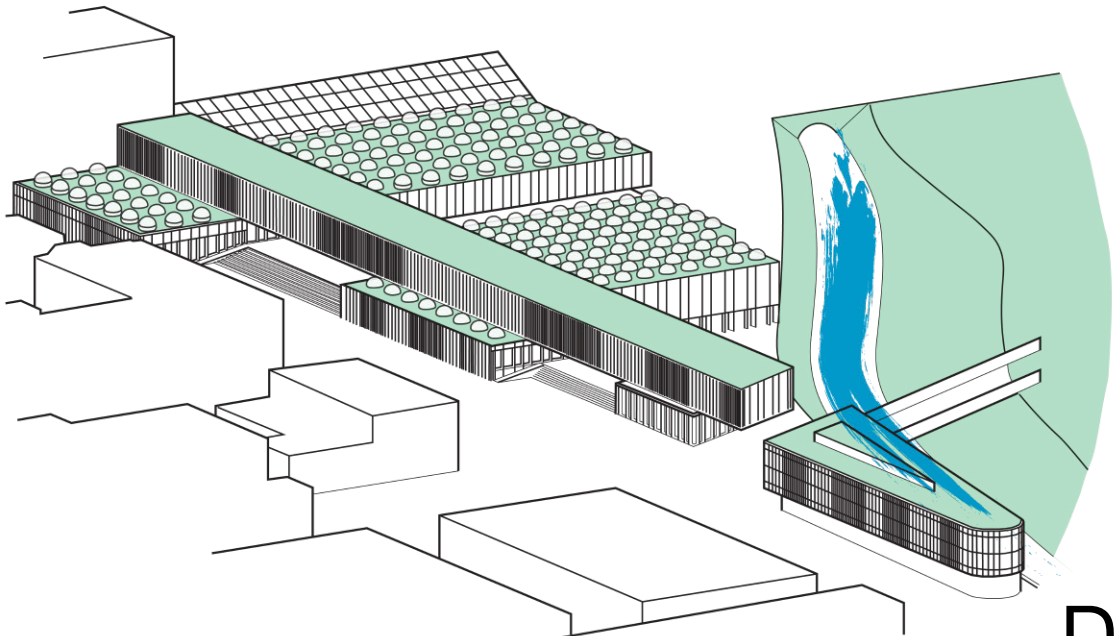
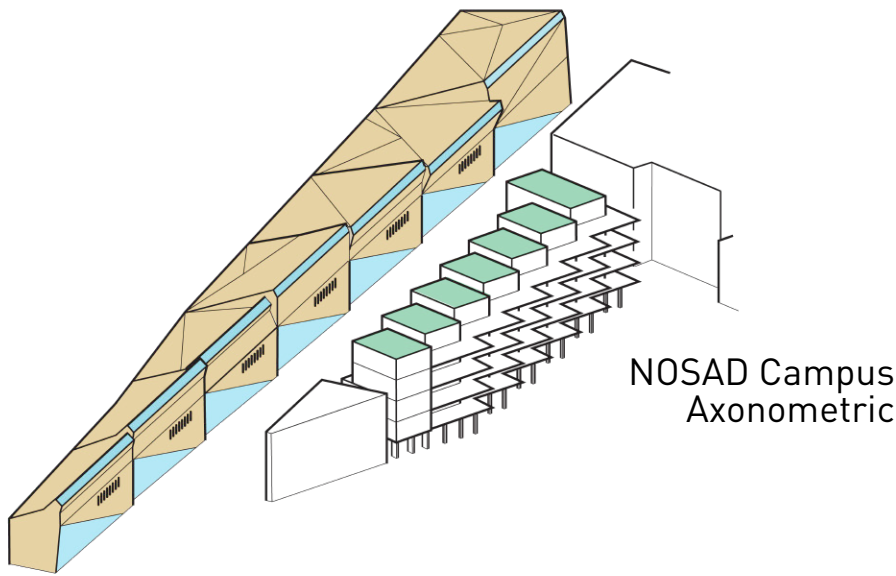
SIZE / ~2,000 square meters/21,000 square feet
MATERIALS / Mass Timber; high-efficiency glazing; wood cladding; biodiverse green roof.
PURPOSE /
+ Offers a broad range of free health & wellness services in English, French and Anishnaabemowin, including a safe consumption site.

23. Elm & Paris Residential/Parking Building

SIZE / ~4,800 square meters/50,000 square feet; 6-7 storeys in height
MATERIALS / Mass Timber; high-efficiency glazing; wood & brick cladding.
PURPOSE /
+ Offers affordable and subsidized housing for individuals, couples and families.
+ The ground floor and second floor are dedicated to parking.

24. St. Anne Residential/Parking Buildings

SIZE / ~4,800 square meters/50,000 square feet; 6-7 storeys in height
MATERIALS / Mass Timber; high-efficiency glazing; wood & brick cladding.
PURPOSE /
+ Offers affordable and subsidized housing for individuals, couples and families.
+ The ground floor and second floor are dedicated to parking.



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2050 MASTER PLAN N.T.S.



Northern Ontario School of Art & Design (NOSAD)



Nolin Public Recreation & Community Wellness Centers

Nolin Greens

