

Architecture Landscape Interior Design



Workplace Wellness: Healthy Workplaces - Trends and Myths November 2, 2017

Many of us spend the majority of our waking hours working in an office. Some of these experiences are healthy and productive but many are not. Some of these office buildings are healthy and sustainable but many are not.

This BOMA presentation by **ft3 Architecture Landscape Interior Design** describes where we've been, where we are today, and where we hopefully are headed with the assistance of science and observation.



Healthy Workplaces: Trends and Myths

Topics:

- Historic perspective
- Case study: our office
- Importance of science & measurement
- Workplace trends and myths
- Questions / discussion

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Historic Perspective

Healthy workplaces:

- Health impacts of more energy efficient building construction
- Codes and regulations
- Improve worker performance and productivity



Sick Building = Sick People







Historic Perspective

Healthy workplaces:

• Value of 3rd party certification









- Living lab for sustainable strategies
- Healthy, energy efficient, durable
- Open-concept office









ft3 office at The Strand on Waterfront Drive

 Development Density, Alternative Transportation and Innovative Transportation Strategy



• Over 20 Winnipeg Transit routes, subsidized bus passes, bike path, shared office bicycle, bike courier policy, hybrid taxis, office hour car sharing program, central meetings.







- 48.75% Water Use Reduction over the baseline
- dual-flush WCs, a waterless urinal, low-flow sensor activated lavatories, low-flow kitchen faucet, and a low-flow showerhead using only 4.7 LPM.





- Lighting power density is 32% below ASHRAE 90.1-2004 baseline.
- 3rd party commissioning of lighting controls, HVAC controls, and HRV that was installed as part of the office fit-up.





- 97.8% of construction waste diverted.
- Overall recycled content of 33.6%.
- Regionally Manufactured materials accounted for 21.2% (millwork, concrete, gypcrete, gypsum, DIRTT moveable wall, etc.).









- Task light at each workstation, shared spaces have controls to suit needs.
- 94% daylit area.
- Open office plan, low-profile workstations.
- Exterior views for 98.1% of seated spaces.







- Low-Emitting Paints & Coatings, Carpet Systems, Furniture & Seating, No smoking policy
- Operable windows
- Mechanical ventilation rate is 30% above ASHRAE 62.1-2004









ft3 office at The Strand

What wasn't achieved/pursued:

- Nearly all adhesive & sealants and composite wood products complied with low emissions requirements.
- Construction IAQ Management
- Indoor Chemical & Pollutant Source Control
- Controllability of Systems Temperature and Ventilation
- Thermal Comfort Credit
- Outdoor Air Delivery Monitoring, CO₂ sensors





ft3 office at The Strand

What wasn't achieved/pursued:

- Rapidly Renewable Materials, Certified Wood
- On-site Composting automatic mechanical composter

ft3

- Optimized Energy Performance Equipment & Appliances, Daylighting Controls Credit)
- LEED Certified base building
- Transportation Strategy incentive employee active transportation



NatureMill

arbon film

Drip tray

Power supply

Compost Made Easy!

MDONG CHAMBER

Mix har

Control pane

irap door latches (2) (Isater

CURE TRAY



don't measure.

The Big Question:

How can we be sure that our workplaces perform as intended?

Post-occupancy evaluation:

- How does the building perform Dr. Edwards Deming compared to energy efficiency standards?
- How does the building perform in terms of occupant comfort and wellbeing?
- Do outcomes indicate strategies and additional investment was worthwhile?



Assessment and benchmarking:

- Allows for interesting comparisons / competition
- Reiterative process, follow up data collection/analysis
- Office foobot nighttime temperature setback not happening
- Provide transparency and valuable data to improve design and construction practices, as well as ongoing building operations and maintenance
- Arc Arc Skoru Inc.
- WELL
- Portfolio Manager
- GRESB













Aspect

Weight in GRESB





- Determine health impacts and solutions for improvement
- Complex relationship between wellness
 and the built environment
 Min

This diagram—a representation of the Delos Real Estate wellness database—shows the complex interactions between human health and the built environment, according to creators of the WELL Building Standard.





Workplaces can enhance or harm:

Muscular System Health

- enhance opportunities for safe physical activity
- promote an active lifestyle
- reduce sedentariness
- ergonomic designs intended to reduce the likelihood of ligament strain and muscular injuries
- active furnishings
- design principles that encourage physical activity throughout the day





Reference latest research findings for:

Skeletal System Health

- universal design
- ergonomics
- improve posture and alignment
- limiting physical stress
- fitness and nutrition guidelines to support optimal health and function





650

700

Central clock

ocal clocks



Latest research findings for:

Circadian System Health

- internal clock on a 24-hour cycle
- Light exposure (amount, time of day)
- Light colour (wavelength)
- improve sleep
- properly synchronize circadian rhythms
- guidelines to support optimal health and function



Workplaces should aim to provide occupants:

Respiratory System Health

- optimal indoor air quality
- reduced microbe/mould exposure
- low VOCs and particulates
- more opportunities for better fitness and lung function
- reduced incidence of infections and allergic reactions



Many workplace factors play a vital role:

Cardiovascular System Health

- stress, nutrition, fitness, environmental pollutants
- eliminate environmental pollutants in air, such as tobacco and VOCs
- healthy diets and active lifestyles control body weight and strengthen the heart muscle
- Comfort features mitigate stress and help to maintain hormonal balance in the body for optimal cardiovascular health



Wellness places high importance on supporting neurologic and cognitive function:

Nervous System Health

- limit exposure to environmental toxins in air and water
- encourage balanced diets
- optimal levels of physical activity
- enhance sleep quality
- mitigate stress by implementing of a variety of comfort measures





Workplaces impact the health of:

Immune System

- reduce cumulative effect of toxins, poor sleep, nutrition and excessive stress
- use non-toxic materials to limit exposure to chemicals that weaken immune function
- water and air filtration systems limit the incidence of infections by bacterial and viral pathogens
- reduce stress and improve nutrition and fitness to help strengthen the immune system





Workplaces impact the health of:

Integumentary System

 reduce building materials containing harmful toxins that could be absorbed through the skin

Urinary System

- limit exposure to toxins that can damage kidneys
- strategies to minimize infection-causing pathogens
- stress, chronic high blood pressure and hormone levels can negatively affect urinary function (improve Comfort features)





Workplaces impact the health of:

Digestive System

- support proper diet, easy access to healthy foods
- surface treatments to stop microbes and toxins
 Endocrine System
- mitigate/eliminate exposure to potentially harmful endocrine system disruptor compounds that mimic hormones and disrupt proper endocrine regulation

Comfort features mitigate stress-related chronic health conditions and function of the digestive system microbiome





Trends

What worked:

- Building amenities:
 - fitness
 - Restaurant options
 - parking / transportation / bike storage
- Floor:
 - Useable floor footprints
 - Sunshine / Views
- Workstation:
 - Ergonomics
 - Privacy
 - Collaboration / Flexibility
 - Personalization / Customization







Trends



What would we change?

- Support the open office with more meeting rooms, private areas
- Investigate workstations for better flexibility and personalization
- Under floor system for personal controls
- More extensive workout facilities
- More washrooms / showers & storage
- More daylight / exterior views



Future

The future office. How we work is changing.

- Technology
- Co-working, home working, satellite offices
- Freelancers
- Ongoing measurement and tracking







Discussion and Questions?



