



Planters, stairs and seating terraces with the new roof as backdrop

Court House Square

In South Africa, Terraforce is often used to upgrade public spaces, such as the recent construction of a retaining wall at the new Public Transport Hub in Athlone that functions as a ramp, as well as informal seating for after hour recreational games.

In Canada, a similar upgrade was recently completed in the City of Williams Lake, using the Terraforce retaining wall system to re-establish a communal square.

Following an announcement in early 2008 of the "Spirit Square Program" by the Province of British Columbia, Williams Lake applied for funding to upgrade their Courthouse Square with a new

retaining wall, landscaping components, decorative lighting, concrete sidewalks, and a new roof on an existing cover.

The Spirit Square Program offers BC communities the opportunity to apply for funding of up to C\$. 500,000.00, with the essential criteria that the applying community provide some funds towards the project.

The intended aim of this initiative is to provide communities with the option to revitalise existing squares or to create new spaces where people can gather and hold events.

Williams Lake, a bustling city in the heart of the Cariboo region of British Columbia, derives its

Seating arena seen from above

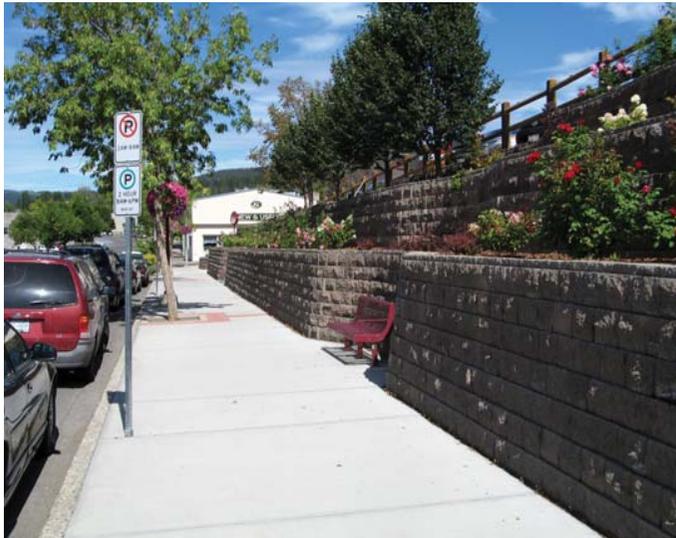


income mainly from mining, the logging/sawmill/log-home industry and clean electricity generation with mainly sawdust.

The city is situated alongside the mighty Fraser River that was explored in 1808 by Simon Fraser, almost in its entire length of more than 770 km.

This hazardous exploration took place in an effort to open up supply routes from Vancouver to the outlying areas of British Columbia, supply routes to fur-trade posts in the interior and also the location of the Gold-rush fever that gripped the area.

The Courthouse square was the original location of the Provincial Court House that was demolished in the early 1970's. From 1985 to 2008 the square served the local citizens as a parking lot and as



Three terrace walls to total height of almost 5m were built.

a place where people could gather for leisure time and special events.

To be able refurbish the square, Williams Lake applied for funding to the value of C\$ 380,000.00, offering to contribute C\$ 190,000.00 themselves. Once funding was granted, Van der Zalm and Associates Landscape Architects developed a proposal of the overall design, including the landscaping and retaining wall design.

Initially a different retaining/landscaping system was specified for the retaining walls, but after some deliberation the project was successfully tendered to Blocksrus, Terraforce appointed licensee in in the interior of British Columbia.

The concrete works was contracted to Cariboo Curb and Gutter and the new roof structure was contracted to Hoelzler Construction. The total cost of the project amounted to C\$. 380,000.00.

Construction commenced in June 2009, and the project was completed in May 2010, when the City gardening staff planted a variety of perennials and an irrigation system was installed by Renegade Irrigation.

Kevin Goldfuss of the City of Williams Lake says he is happy the Terraforce System was chosen: "It was extremely interesting to see how everything came together, the retaining wall system was the catalyst to the project, it really sets the whole project off and there were no challenges."



Showcasing versatility: 1 of 3 stairways.

During extreme cold of winter in Cariboo no landscaping can take place.



During spring, colour erupts in Canada