

## **Surrey Urban Indigenous Community Hub & Housing**

Instructors: Ouri Scott and Jergus Opsal

*\* First Studio meeting will be on September 9<sup>th</sup>*

### **Land Acknowledgement**

*This course acknowledges that we meet on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the Coast Salish Peoples - in particular the xwməθkwəyám (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.*

*The studio site is located on the unceded, ancestral, traditional and current territories of the Kwantlen, Katzie, Semiahmoo, Kwikwetlem, Qayqayt, and Tsawwassen First Nations.*

### **STUDIO OVERVIEW**

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ARCH 520, Design Studio III in the M.Arch. program explores architecture and urbanism at the urban, suburban, and community scales. The course situates architecture within a complex and often contested public realm, highlighting its potential to address issues of social, environmental, and spatial justice.

This Urban Design Studio will focus on reconciliation in the context of urban design, affordable housing, and placemaking. Students will be asked to develop a Master Plan for a community hub and housing for Surrey's Indigenous community on a prominent site located across from Surrey's Civic Plaza, City Hall, and City Centre Library.

Key questions include: What constitutes appropriate development? What are the suitable forms and character for this site? How can Indigenous culture be made visible in the urban context? What is the role of reconciliation in urban planning?

The studio will investigate the changing neighbourhood context, site history, ecology, and the Surrey City Centre Plan. Drawing on Indigenous ways of knowing, students will use storytelling as a method to develop a voice and create a graphic site narrative. They will need to consider site analysis, histories, cultural and traditional knowledge, ecological systems, and the social, housing and economic needs of the community.

In addition, students will learn to develop guiding principles as the foundation for their master plan. These principles will be informed by research, guest lectures, and an understanding of the cultural values and vision of Surrey's Urban Indigenous community and Host Nations.

### **STUDIO STRUCTURE**

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- Site Visits
- Guest Speakers
- Assignments, Presentations & Desk Crits
- Student Presentations (digital submission, plus printed final booklet)

### **STUDIO OUTCOME**

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This studio explores reconciliation, Indigenous issues, and urban development. Drawing on local Indigenous history and context, students will propose gathering space and housing in a prominent location, addressing appropriate development, cultural visibility, and reconciliation in planning.