

A: Problems/Limitations/Frustrations/Desires/Needs

Problems/Limitations/Frustrations:

- The consultation process for construction projects is not funded by government for First Nations
- The guardian program has 5 large projects they are wanting to begin, but no infrastructure in the community for the program
- All responsibility is left to the proponent and nation
- Limited resources make expansion difficult
- Current office space is too small and does not align with what the Guardians want and need

Desires/Needs: Client wants...

- A Guardian program building to help the program grow in a bigger, better workspace
- To be inspired by culture, sustainability, environment
- To channel the “holistic full circle way of life”
- To reflect who they are (the Guardian Program) and their purpose
- To have a connection to identity and land (land is the foundation of who they are)
- To have something for them and their community to be proud of
- To have a building designed with the future in mind, as the program could grow quickly
- To have a high quality facility, open to the whole community

B: Interpreted needs (statements)

- Reflect environment and culture by having design aspects of the environment, nature and sustainability built in
- Have accessibility features throughout so that anybody in the community can access the building
- Have a multi-functional workspace where cultural activities can be hosted as well as testing and research can be performed.
- Make good use of the natural resources available to strengthen the connection to land and culture
- Create a great facility aligning with the values and needs of the community that instills pride

C: Needs

In order of priority,

- 1. Cultural, land, and values preservation:** It is important to preserve the identity of the First Nation culture which has been an uphill battle for a very long time.
- 2. Reflection of the environment and sustainability:** The environment is a key aspect of the Indigenous culture, and thus, should be treated with respect as it is implemented in the design of the Guardians building.
- 3. Accessibility for the community:** The facility must be accessible because the space is used for far more than the guardian program as it will be open to the community for activity.

D: Problem statement

The Guardian program looks to create a building that invites culture, community, and builds a relationship with the land. Faced with issues such as, no government funding, inability to work on projects, and limited resources. To help with this, we plan on creating a building that is traditional, invites culture, is an open workspace for the community, and helps move the community forward in the future.

E: Reflect

Reflecting on this deliverable gives our team great insight into the clients needs and the important characteristics that will be included in the final design. Considering that only one virtual meeting had been conducted to date with the client, it would be ideal to sit down with members of the local community and staff that would be a part of the project Guardian to gauge their needs and gain information that is missing. As the design process progresses, more questions for the client will arise, and therefore a follow-up interview with the client will be needed where they can also give feedback on our ideas and/or prototype.

Looking towards other similar projects we can observe the feedback of the community and other customers to help identify common problems and roadblocks as well as what worked the best. Benchmarking The Guardian Program’s mission and goals will help us to center our design around important aspects of culture and environment that will result in a design that will satisfy both the client and the community.

E.1: User perceptions / user benchmarking

First Nation run Organizations stance on Culture and the Environment surrounding construction projects.

Product, community member or organization/ Project Aspect	The Guardian program (how its mission can affect these important aspects of the project.) https://www.ilinationhood.ca/mission	First Nations Major Project Coalition https://fnmpc.ca/about-fnmpc/
Cultural Land and values preservation	The program approaches their work with respect for traditional ceremonies and care for community sentiment. They place a deep importance on their culture and identity.	Asserting traditional indigenous laws and influence onto the project. All the while collaborating with industry in a mutually beneficial way.
Reflection of the environment + sustainability	An importance is placed on the health of the land, the program believes that the well being of the land can improve the well being of its population. Maintaining biodiversity.	Safeguard air, land, water and medicine when an area is under development or is being used for its resources. Do not let the project damage the nearby environment.
Accessible to the community	The program places a great importance on the wisdom of elders in their community and an accessible building is important for people with reduced mobility.	N/A

E.2: Identification of other issues/questions :

- Is there any power/hydro storage needed for winter? (Maybe there were power outages in the past?)
- What do they dislike about the building that they are in right now? (more specific)