



Team Number: 2017-48

Chaudière Falls and its surrounding islands have recently been the topic of much debate. As Windmill tries to advance its Zibi condo development project, it has been met with growing resistance from many communities within the Algonquin Nation. The islands are a sacred site with deep spiritual significance to the Anishinaabeg communities in the Ottawa region. Though Windmill boasts a rhetoric of inclusion and consultation, there continues to be serious opposition to the project and doubts as to the cultural sensitivity of its proposed design. The project would mean a rezoning of parkland and vacant industrial sites to residential and commercial spaces, essentially resulting in a transformation from public to almost entirely private spaces. Because of the discussion surrounding the future of the Chaudière Falls, Victoria Island has been chosen as the primary site of this design proposal.

The Wisdom Collective acts simultaneously as a forum for discussion and a system of communication broadcasting. Transparent walls wrap around the main structure and create a core gathering space. It is here that the groups involved in the discussion surrounding the future of the islands can come together. In the future this structure and its surrounding pavilions can serve as a space for the community to discuss topics of concern. The platform will spread a message to a larger audience with the opportunity for a fruitful discussion engaging the local community, government, and Canadians throughout the country.

The primary structure and pavilions are made of a transparent material to allow visibility through the walls. Groups meeting in the core space will be aware of protests surrounding the discussions. In this way the architecture becomes an interface between analog and digital methods of exchange

From the primary structure, messages of change are broadcast to a receiving pavilion located at the Museum of History. The message is picked up and displayed on the walls of the pavilion, at this moment people located on the site have the opportunity to contribute to the discussion. The message is then rebroadcast towards the pavilion located in front of the National Gallery of Canada, the process is repeated and the message redirected towards Parliament Hill. At this point the message is presented to both government officials as well as posted on a live online feed so that it is made accessible to people across Canada. The movement of the message to each of these sites engages the 'ceremonial loop' and situates the main pavilion within the national context. It is significant to note that the message does not stop at Parliament, once government officials and the public at large have had an opportunity to contribute, the message is broadcast back to the main pavilion, closing the loop. Chaudière Falls physically and symbolically becomes the center and platform for discussion. Inverting existing power structures, the Parliamentary voice becomes a part of the discussion but not the ultimate mediator.









