

THIS PORTION WILL BE TRIMMED OFF

# KITCHENER CITY HALL

200 KING STREET WEST



# SELF-GUIDED TOUR

200 KING STREET WEST

# KITCHENER CITY HALL

THIS PORTION WILL BE TRIMMED OFF

**OTHER CITY HALL AMENITIES**

Public washrooms are available on both the first and second floors.

Parking is available in city hall's underground parking lot, entrance at Young Street between King and Duke.

We hope you have enjoyed the tour and will remember this art-filled community gathering place. Kitchener City Hall is a great place to be.

THIS PORTION WILL BE TRIMMED OFF



CLOCK TOWER LOGO

**THE CLOCK TOWER LOGO**

Unmistakable on city publications and other surfaces is the distinctive clock tower logo, inspired by the 1924 city hall building. Local architect W.H.E. Schmalz designed the 1924 neo-Classical structure. When the 1924 facility could no longer meet the needs of a rapidly growing city because of its small size, lack of elevators, and insufficient heating and ventilation systems, the building was demolished. The land was sold to Oxlea Corporation, which built Market Square at the corner of King and Frederick streets.

The clock tower of the 1924 building was carefully saved and stored before the building itself was demolished in 1973. In 1995, the clock tower was restored and installed in Victoria Park, and re-dedicated on July 1, 1995 during Canada Day celebrations. Both Victoria Park and the clock tower can be seen from the second-floor balcony terrace.

**INDEX**

WELCOME .....7

THE BUILDING - DEDICATED 1993 .....8

WALKING TOUR OF THE PUBLIC AREAS .....9

OTHER FIRST FLOOR FEATURES.....12

SECOND FLOOR .....13

INDUSTRIAL ARTIFACTS, DUKE STREET LOBBY .....16

DUKE STREET PLAZA.....18

CITY HALL DATE STONES .....19

CITY CRESTS.....20

CIVIC SQUARE.....24

THE CUBE.....25

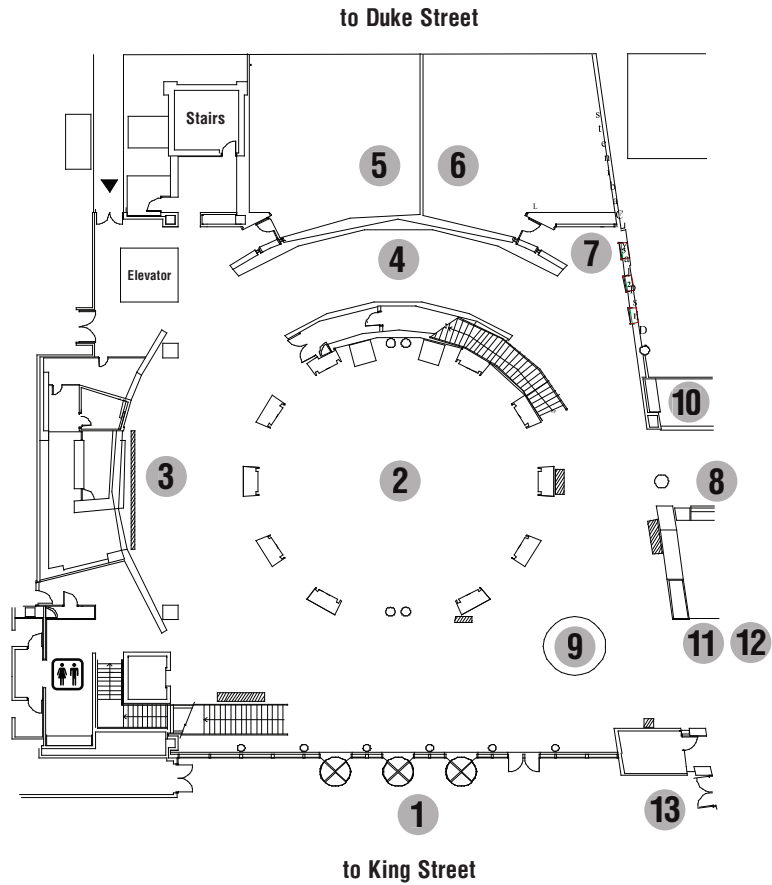
THE CLOCK TOWER LOGO .....26

OTHER CITY HALL AMENITIES.....27

THIS PORTION WILL BE TRIMMED OFF

THIS PORTION WILL BE TRIMMED OFF

THIS PORTION WILL BE TRIMMED OFF



**THE CUBE**

(28) At the top of the Berlin Tower is a cube-shaped architectural feature that provides two large natural projection surfaces that measure 13x13 metres. At night, the digital projections provide bright animation on the building itself. The Cube also acts as a digital gallery for artists in the community and promotes community events.

THIS PORTION WILL BE TRIMMED OFF



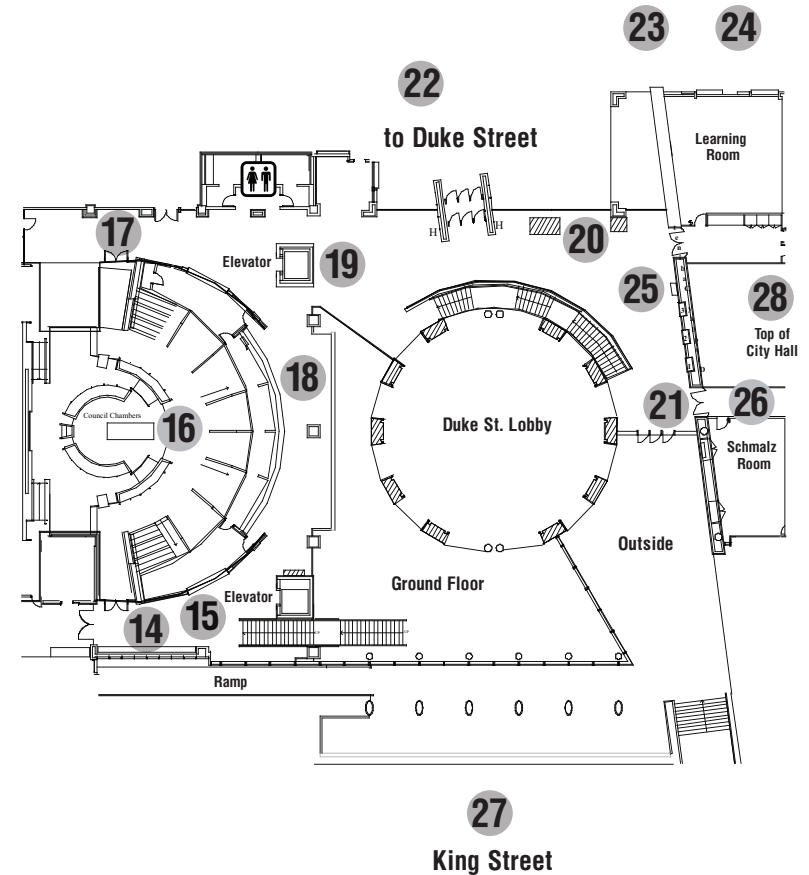
**CIVIC SQUARE**

(27) Civic Square is often the place where the community gathers downtown. The flexible streetscape allows the square to seamlessly expand into the street for special events, attracting approximately 500,000 visitors throughout the festival season. From Discovery Square to Downtown Live, to the heart of major music festivals -- such as the Kitchener Blues Festival, which attracts 160,000 visitors - the square connects participants, visitors and the community to the clock tower and to Victoria Park at the end of Gaukel Street.

The reflecting pool with its powerful fountains, which are illuminated at night, is the showpiece of Civic Square. The pool, made financially possible in part by the K-W Lions Club, has a capacity of 125,000 litres of water. An on-site cistern with a capacity for 185,000 litres, collects rainwater and groundwater, which is used to irrigate the gardens along Duke Street and to keep the building clean.

From November to March, the reflecting pool is transformed into an ice rink, a popular destination for skaters. Special wheelchair skates and sleds are also available.

A granite stage on Civic Square is used for concerts and performances throughout the year. The Kitchener Downtown Business Improvement Association (BIA) generously donated funds for the construction of the stage.



THIS PORTION WILL BE TRIMMED OFF

THIS PORTION WILL BE TRIMMED OFF

## GRAND RIVER: GRAND CONVERSATIONS



Victoria Street overpass, 2010

## Trailhead

With careful observation you'll likely find interstices between everything you survey: old houses' walls have passageways for mice, solid surfaces beta electrons' space-taking, urban residents are unaware of greenbelts. I hardly see any people, the trails along the Grand are Kitchener's well-kept secret. The key to the city's geographic memory resides in everyday repetition of the obvious: Grand River Boulevard, River Road, Water Street. Well-travelled roadways become second nature, only a stone's throw from river, park, or trail access points between houses, pause and you'll see.

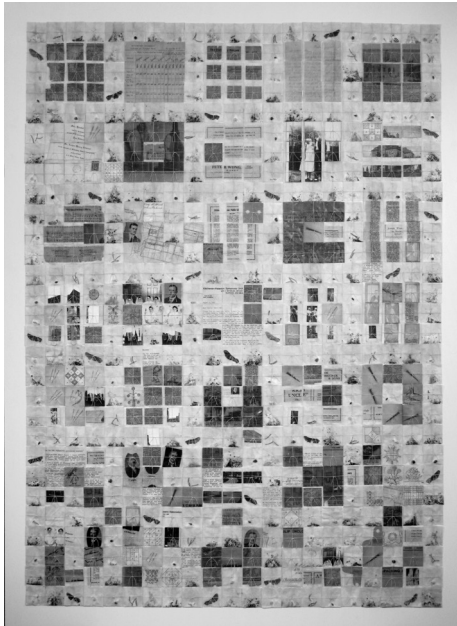
Stefan Rose  
2010 City of Kitchener Artist In Residence  
<http://grandconversations.spaces.live.com>



## GRAND RIVER: GRAND CONVERSATIONS

- (26) Following the curve of the rotunda, you will pass a set of glass doors leading to the city clerk's department. Artwork by Stefan Rose, Kitchener's 2010 artist-in-residence, hangs in the corridor leading to the clerk's department. Titled *Grand River: Grand Conversations*, these works use black-and-white photography in combination with poetry to capture the many moods of the Grand River. Additional work in this series can be found in the reception area on the seventh floor of the Berlin Tower.

**Return to the area by the canoe. You will see another exit to your left, which leads to the upper outdoor terrace facing King Street. Descend the staircase to arrive at the ground-level city hall plaza.**



PAPER MEMORY

- (25) On the green stone wall ahead is the 2007 mixed-media work, *Paper Memory*, by then artist-in-residence, Paul Roorda. Also on display is the canoe presented to the city in 2009 by a local First Nations organization, Healing of the Seven Generations. Entitled *Mino-Mashkiki*, the name of the canoe translates to mean “good medicine.”

## WELCOME

The building you're in is much more than a series of walls, floors, windows and doors. Look between those walls and you will find vitality and soul. You're in a building that gives full meaning to the words 'public space.' It pulses with life: students, refugees learning English, city employees, developers and the curious. Happy couples getting married, posing for photographs on its sweeping staircase. Artists, performers and community organizers -- they all use the space in this building as an extension of the community.

As you walk these two levels of this building, soak in the pieces of public art, the artifacts, the thought and vision of the architect. This is the hub, in many ways, of the community. Things happen here that make your community better. We're proud of this building and the work that goes on inside it. Get a glimpse of what it means to live, work and play in this community.

Enjoy your tour.

## THE BUILDING – DEDICATED 1993

**Hours: Monday - Friday 7 a.m. – 9 p.m.**

**Saturday, Sunday, holidays 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.**

Kitchener City Hall celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2013. The building is a dynamic contemporary presence in downtown Kitchener. As well as being the home of municipal government and the focus for economic and business development, the building and its King Street plaza are venues for hosting and promoting culturally significant events.

A national architectural competition attracting 153 entries from across Canada was held in 1989. The winning design was created by Toronto architect, Bruce Kuwabara of Kuwabara, Payne, McKenna and Blumberg (KPMB).

Known for his remarkable designs and creative versatility, Bruce Kuwabara has become one of Canada's most highly regarded architects, winning more than 50 awards, 12 of which are Governor General Awards for Architecture recognizing both design and management excellence. In 2012, he was invested as an officer of the Order of Canada. In addition to Kitchener's city hall, other projects he has worked on include municipal buildings in British Columbia, academic buildings for Concordia University in Montreal, Art Gallery of Ontario and Art Gallery of Hamilton. He was the lead designer for the new Canadian Embassy in Berlin, Germany.

Distinctive construction features of the building and its site include the use of many types of stone: Canadian granite, green slate from Wales and red sandstone from India. The building is configured with entrances at King, Young and Duke streets. A central, two-storey circular public area houses the council chamber. Two main wings flow from this core: the Berlin Tower and the Ebytown Wing. Construction costs for the city hall project were about \$65 million.

The land alone, an entire city block, cost just over \$10 million. When the building was fully paid for, the achievement was marked with a public ceremony on Feb. 12, 1996.



- (24) Beyond the wall lies a formal garden with benches. Located in the lawn is *The Anvil*, a commissioned work by local artist Nicholas Rees, installed in November 1996. The piece is intended to symbolize Kitchener's industrial past and hopes for the future. Beyond the lawn is a cube gazebo structure, originally designed for climbing vines.

**Return to the building via Duke Street entry doors and turn left.**





### CITY CRESTS

Soon after incorporation in 1854, Berlin village council adopted a community crest featuring four images: the crown, symbolizing loyalty to the Queen; the beaver, which represented citizens' industriousness; the axe and saw, paying tribute to the pioneers, and the locomotive, which stood for a bright future. This crest served the Village of Berlin (1854-1871) and the Town of Berlin (1871-1912). When Berlin was officially designated as a city in 1912, a new crest was designed by Mayor W.H. Schmalz, father of W.H.E. Schmalz. The mayor's design kept both the crown and the beaver from the previous design. Because of the name change, the City of Berlin crest was used only from June 1912 to August 31, 1916.

The current City of Kitchener crest was modified from the City of Berlin crest. These two sculpted crests, plus the third one currently hanging inside the museum (formerly Waterloo Regional Children's Museum), 10 King St. W., were mounted above the entrance of Kitchener City Hall from 1923-1974.



### WALKING TOUR OF THE PUBLIC AREAS

- (1) Enter through the revolving doors at the King Street entrance. Straight ahead is the Rotunda, a Latin name meaning circular. With its many entrances, the Rotunda invites people to step inside. In the bright, generous space, the visitor's eyes naturally lift to the skylights high above. The Rotunda's walls are paneled with Ontario white oak and the spaces between the wood slats on the pillars are filled with sound control material.
- (2) Looking up at the Rotunda's three-storey interior, you will notice a ring of theatre lights and small speakers, hinting at some of the other uses for this space. The Rotunda plays host to concerts, political gatherings and hundreds of special events. With its portable staging, sound system and seating for 300, the Rotunda is a popular location for banquets, charity auctions, receptions, fashion shows and performances.

The Rotunda and other public spaces at city hall, which are available to the public for rent, are used often by cultural, artistic, social, business and recreational community groups. To rent a space at city hall, call the corporate contact centre at 519-741-2345 or go to [www.kitchener.ca](http://www.kitchener.ca) and search the words "city hall rental."



- (3) Walk out of the Rotunda towards the front doors and turn right into the promenade that leads around its perimeter. The Kitchener business development office and Waterloo Region Small Business Centre are located here, as is the Welcome Centre. To the left is a large painting called *Collectivity* by Bill Downey, Kitchener's 1997 artist-in-residence.
- (4) Continue to the right along the promenade to reach the Rotunda Gallery, where monthly exhibits showcase the work of regional visual artists. Behind the gallery's wood display wall are two meeting rooms: the Heritage Room and the Conestoga Room. On its facing sandstone wall hangs a commemorative plaque recognizing former mayor, Dominic Cardillo (1930–2013), who held office from 1982-1994.



### CITY HALL DATE STONES

In 1869, Jacob Y. Shantz built a two-storey structure on the northeast corner of King and Frederick Streets, which originally housed the Village of Berlin's council chamber, as well as the telegraph and post office; it also had market facilities at ground level. A public meeting hall with a stage occupied the entire second floor. The building was torn down in late 1924, when a new city hall was completed. The original date stone from 1869, seen on this wall, is one of the few remaining artifacts from that building.

Kitchener's second city hall, designed by B.A. Jones and W.H.E. Schmalz, lasted until 1973. During demolition of this building, the original 1923 date stone, replicated here, disappeared. The 1993 date stone of the current city hall is mounted on a plinth near the King Street entrance. Images of the first two municipal halls can be seen in the foyer of the current council chamber.



### DUKE STREET PLAZA

- (22) Straight ahead is one of Kitchener's major public art works: a large mixed-media sculpture entitled *Horse Power*, by Toronto artists Brad Golden and Lynne Eichenberg.

*Horse Power* represents both local history and community values. At one end of the 2.5-metre high sculpture, wheels evoke images of agricultural machinery. At the other end, "windows" expose historical scenes such as the old city hall, Victoria Park's Roos Island bridge and early industries. Atop a pedestal in the middle of the work sits a governor, a device used at one time to regulate engine speeds. In this context, it references the role of government. The concrete benches inlaid with bronze display Kitchener's motto, "Industria Prosperitas" (From Industry Comes Prosperity), an assertion of Kitchener's reputation as a productive community that values the work ethic.

- (23) Turn right and walk up the flight of stairs to enter the north public gardens, separated from the rest of the plaza by a wall of green Welsh slate. This wall extends from the north public gardens, through the building, to the front where it emerges onto Civic Square in alignment with Gaukel Street and Victoria Park. The green wall is two storeys high inside the building. The architect created this feature to connect the open space from the back of the building to the front, symbolically linking the north public gardens with the Gaukel Street entrance to Victoria Park. Set into the back of this wall are the cornerstones of previous city hall buildings.

- (5) The majesty of the old city hall's council chamber has been preserved in the Heritage Room with original mahogany railings, desks and chairs made by the Krug Furniture Company. On the wall to your left is a mural created by students from Resurrection High School and Kitchener Collegiate Institute depicting scenes from Kitchener's past in industry, sport and education.



- (6) The Conestoga Room holds meetings of up to 65 people.
- (7) Near the Conestoga Room entrance, a ceramic sculpture called *Homer Watson House 1994* by artist Kathryn Forler is displayed. As you continue around the outside of the Rotunda, note also the grandfather clock presented to the city in 1997 by the Scots Fusiliers Sergeants' Mess in memory of those who served in World War II.

**OTHER FIRST-FLOOR FEATURES**

- (8) Berlin Tower ARTSPACE
- (9) Cashier counter where residents pay taxes, utility bills, parking tickets, and make payment inquiries.
- (10) Across from the security desk is the Berlin Tower ARTSPACE, which showcases community arts and culture. The gallery is home to a variety of exhibits annually, including work in progress by the artist-in-residence.
- (11) *Resident*, a series of 12 paintings by Marshall Ward, 1999 artist-in-residence, is on the wall adjacent to the ramp leading to the Young Street doors.



RESIDENT

- (12) Next to the Young Street entrance is one of the two city hall wedding chapels, available for wedding ceremonies.
- (13) Williams Coffee Shop

**Return to the area of the main King Street entrance doors and continue on to the second floor via the stairs directly to the right of the doors (or use elevator).**

THIS PORTION WILL BE TRIMMED OFF

The Huether Brewery vat doors were donated to the city's collection by Ralph Forbes. These doors were part of a large brewing vat belonging to the Berlin Lion Brewery. This company, located at the corner of King and Victoria streets, operated from 1900.



HUETHER BREWERY VAT DOORS

- (21) Nearby is the Canadian Westinghouse transformer, which dates back to 1905. Grand River Hospital donated the small antique transformer to the city in 1999.



CANADIAN WESTINGHOUSE TRANSFORMER

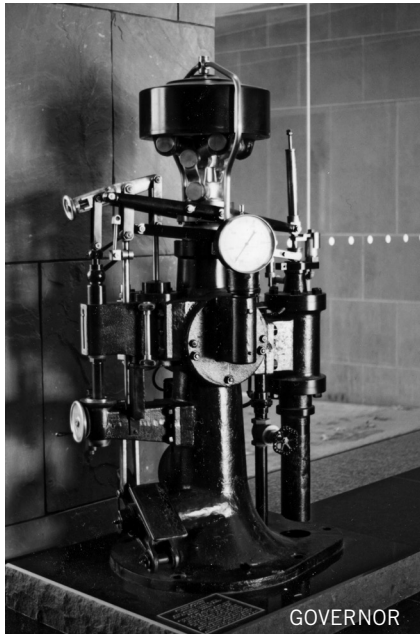
THIS PORTION WILL BE TRIMMED OFF

**Exit through the Duke Street doors to continue the tour.**

### INDUSTRIAL ARTIFACTS, DUKE STREET LOBBY

- (20) Turn around to face the Duke Street side of the second floor lobby. Here you will find items from the city's industrial artifacts collection such as a 48-horsepower horizontal steam engine from 1875.

Next to the steam engine is a hydro-electric governor from 1921, which was used to control the output of hydro-electric turbines. Donated by the Niagara Plant Group of Ontario Power Generation Inc., this governor was part of the original equipment of the Sir Adam Beck Power Plant at Niagara Falls. The piece celebrates the historic connection between the City of Berlin (Kitchener, prior to 1916) and Niagara Power -- Berlin being the first community in Ontario to receive electric power from the falls in 1910.



GOVERNOR

### SECOND FLOOR

- (14) At the top of the stairs, the double-glass doors ahead of you lead into the Office of the Mayor and Council. This area is officially called the Ebytown Wing, in honour of an earlier town name. The area is accessible by appointment only.

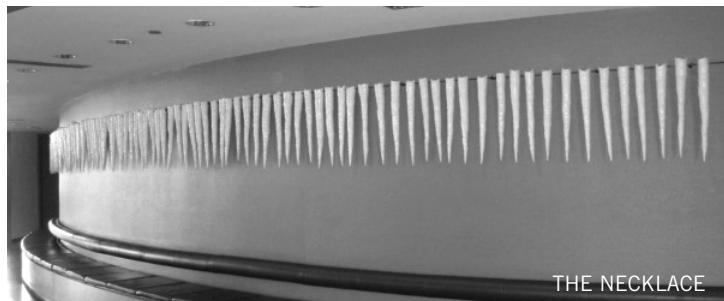
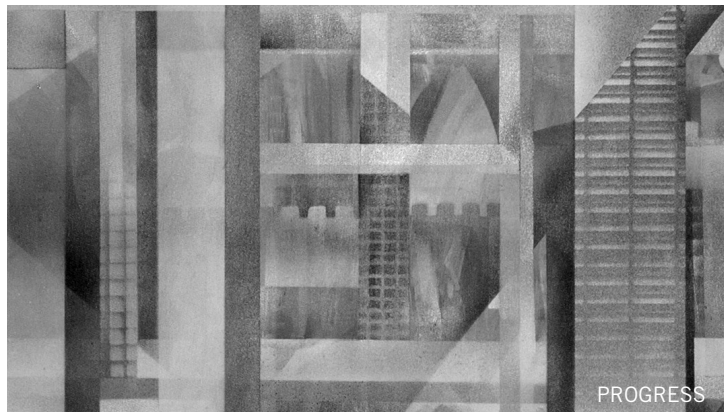
The wall on your left holds a photographic display of mayors from 1854 to the present. Flanking the mayoral wall are two bronze relief plaques. The plaque on the left shows the 1869 Berlin Town Hall and the plaque on the right details the 1924 Kitchener City Hall. The German-Canadian Business and Professional Association presented both plaques to the City of Kitchener at the first council meeting held in the new city hall.

- (15) The large painting to your right portrays Britain's Lord Kitchener, the city's namesake. In 1916, during the First World War, citizens of the former town of Berlin were asked to choose a new name for their city. Other choices on the ballot were "Adanac," "Brock," and "Keowana" but Kitchener was the popular choice.
- (16) Passing the portrait of Lord Kitchener, you will find one of two entrances to the council chamber. Sandstone and oak are used extensively as design elements, along with maple for the councillors' desks and leather-covered seats in the public gallery. Above the council horseshoe, light fixtures hang from a ring reminiscent of a wagon wheel. This is a theme used repeatedly throughout the building as a reminder of the community's agricultural heritage.

City crests etched in glass adorn the walls above both entrances. The tiered seating, configured in a semicircle like that of a Roman forum, affords good visibility for spectators. Public seating is available for about 180 people, far more than was provided at the previous Kitchener city halls, inviting public attendance and participation in local municipal government.

There are 10 seats for councillors, representing the 10 wards or electoral boundaries within the city. The mayor's chair sits just in front and between the flags along the back wall, making up 11 chairs. Facing the mayor is an outer ring of desks for senior city management. The city clerk's desk is located in the middle of the two rings.

The City of Kitchener believes public interest in, and attendance at, council meetings are important for a healthy political climate. As a result, public access has been carefully considered in the design of the facility. Seventy-four speakers are embedded in the gallery, and amplifiers connected to the microphone system are available for the hearing impaired. Ramps have been used instead of steps to accommodate people with disabilities and stairs in the public gallery are a few centimetres shorter than normal as a convenience to older members of the public. All council and committee meetings are available as on-demand webcasts at [www.kitchener.ca](http://www.kitchener.ca), search "council videos."



- (17) Pass through the council chamber to the opposite exit/entry doors. In the corridor is the sculpture *Sawdust Angelus* by Michael Ambedian, 2004 artist-in-residence. Next to *Sawdust Angelus* is an abstract painting by Gloria Kagawa called *Progress*. Continue to your right along the corridor.
- (18) On the curved exterior wall of the council chamber is a long bench. Above the bench hangs a ceramic sculpture called *The Necklace* by Carol Bradley, 1996 artist-in-residence.
- (19) As you enter the Duke Street lobby, stop just behind the elevator and take a moment to browse through the large community photo album called *Portrait of Kitchener*. Consisting of more than 1,000 black-and-white portraits of Kitchener citizens, this artwork was created by the 2011 artist-in-residence, Sean M. Puckett.



PORTRAIT OF KITCHENER

THIS PORTION WILL BE TRIMMED OFF

THIS PORTION WILL BE TRIMMED OFF