

Twinkle, twinkle, little...dome.
Science World LED lights last five
times as long as regular bulbs

Designed for the Future

Snazzy sentinels for a greener tomorrow, these West Coast buildings LEED* the way in using resources more efficiently

*Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design criteria established by the Canada Green Building Council

SCIENCE WORLD

Vancouver's iconic "golf ball," Science World at TELUS World of Science, may not be LEED-certified, but it still has sustainability down to...well, a science. The dome recently replaced 391 exterior energy-sucking fluorescent bulbs with dimmable LED lights that twinkle five times longer. Inside, the interactive museum is home to the "Our World" gallery, an electricity exhibit devoted to eco-friendly energy sources, including water, wind and sun. The museum's volunteer-based "Green Team" finds clever ways to reduce the waste of both staff and visitors, including going paperless whenever possible and rolling out the BC Green Games program, which encourages students province wide to share green practices in the classroom. A \$30-million building renewal project is in the works, with plans for an Outdoor Science Experience focusing on sustainability. — *Kristina Urquhart*
Science World at TELUS World of Science, Quebec St.
604-443-7443; www.scienceworld.ca

PHOTOS: (LEFT) © LIUJIAN GUO, FOTOLIA.COM; (OPPOSITE) COURTESY TOURISM BRITISH COLUMBIA

Ice palace: Richmond Olympic
Oval was built in time for the 2010
Winter Games, but designed to
last long after the Olympic skaters
had gone home

RICHMOND OLYMPIC OVAL

Named the "sexiest" venue of the 2010 Olympic Winter Games by *Omega Lifetime* magazine, this curvaceous new building on the Fraser River keeps racking up awards for its seductive design and eco-friendly building practices. The 2.6-hectare (6.5-acre) roof, made from salvaged pine-beetle-damaged wood, collects and funnels rainwater into toilets and into the picturesque outdoor pond for irrigation. Natural light illuminates many interior spaces. Energy required to make the ice for skating is captured and used elsewhere in the building. Non-toxic construction materials ensure healthy indoor air quality. The building was designed to qualify for, at minimum, LEED's silver certification — making it both green and gorgeous. — *Sheri Radford*
6111 River Rd. 778-296-1400. www.richmondoval.ca



One Kingsway consumes over 40 per cent less energy than the average building



Crystalworks



Miku Restaurant



The spice of new life: historic Salt Building is LEED-certified

ONE KINGSWAY

A younger, more attractive sibling has joined the older, faded façades of Main Street at One Kingsway. The Mount Pleasant Community Centre charmed its way into this \$38-million structure and it's no wonder it's so hard to resist: according to Canada's Model National Energy Code, this eco-chic property cuts greenhouse gas emissions by 59 per cent and consumes 42 per cent less energy than the average building. A marriage of sustainability and style, this LEED-certified space woos with its bright, airy interiors and sweeping park roof, home to an intimate community garden — a welcome addition indeed. — *Jennifer Patterson*

1 Kingsway. 604-257-3080. www.mountpleasantcc.ca

CRYSTALWORKS

Past and future collide in the present at Crystalworks, where Susan Lipsett and daughter Karen Lipsett-Kidd have been in the decorative-mineral business for over a quarter-century, purveying “gifts from the heart of the Earth” as old as 600-million years. Their new gallery looks forward. Designed by Lipsett-Kidd and Catherine Youngren to display ethically mined, fairly traded stones as pieces of art, the space glows beneath LED lights researched by Lipsett's optical-physicist husband. Millwork and furniture are all renewable bamboo. Countertops and tiles mimic concrete, but are Squak Stone, made of recycled newspaper, crushed auto glass and Portland cement. No formaldehyde was used in plinths or paints. Wholly sustainable, Crystalworks is not LEED certified only because of the older building it occupies. — *Louise Phillips*

1760 W. 3rd Ave. 604-732-3870. www.crystalworks.ca

MIKU RESTAURANT

Eco-wise foodies may head to Miku Restaurant for Ocean Wise fare, but the sushi-centric menu isn't the eatery's only sustainable star. The lofty interior's reclaimed oak floors and a subtle, undulating bar of recycled steel and white Carrera marble share centre stage. Arca3 Design Studio, a Vancouver-based firm known for its green architecture, created the natural, organic space using mostly sustainable materials. Ninety per cent of the restaurant's lighting is LED; these longer-lasting bulbs mimic the flow of water on a recycled-glass waterfall. A naturally-sourced, black-pebble pathway winds the length of the restaurant, representing a stream flowing into Burrard Inlet. — *Kristina Urquhart*

1055 W. Hastings St. 604-568-3900. www.mikurestaurant.com

THE SALT BUILDING

During the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games, gold medalists kicked back with fellow athletes at their social lounge in The Salt Building, a False Creek landmark. It's a winner too, now one of only a few heritage spots in Canada to have earned LEED gold-certified status. Built in the 1930s, it was originally a refinery for raw salt, but in 2007 it began a 20-month, \$10-million restoration. A restaurant, bakery, coffee shop and brewpub where your own golden moment comes in the form of a pint of ale, will soon occupy the space. — *Jennifer Patterson*

85 W. 1st Ave. www.vancouveraltsaltbuilding.com

VANCOUVER CONVENTION CENTRE

From the bees on its roof to the fish at its feet, the new, eco-conscious west building of the Vancouver Convention Centre is bursting with life. Its 2.5-hectare (six-acre) living roof houses 400,000 indigenous plants and four beehives — with beekeeper. The foundations function as a fish habitat. A seawater heating and cooling system takes full advantage of the ocean. The kitchen serves fresh local ingredients whenever possible, shuns disposable cutlery and dishes, and donates leftovers to charity. Throughout the building, natural light illuminates widely used BC wood products. The new landmark is the world's first convention centre to receive LEED's highest rating, platinum certification. Easy on the environment, the building is equally easy on the eyes. International media couldn't have asked for more idyllic headquarters during the 2010 Winter Games: the building, 40 per cent of which juts out over the water, boasts a magnificent mountain-and-ocean backdrop. — *Sheri Radford*

1055 Canada Place. 604-689-8232.

www.vancouverconventioncentre.com



The west building of the Vancouver Convention Centre nurtures fish at its foundations and bees on the roof

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