



Vancouver, BC:

As an extension of the relocation of the Faculty of Graduate Studies Offices to the Graduate Student Centre, the adjoining offices, meeting and hospitality areas of the Graduate Student Society were recognized as badly in need of updating. Primarily located in the original student building, Thea Koerner House (c.1960), GSS had not been financially able to fully maintain the 20,000 sq. ft. 'heritage modern' building. By giving back space for the FOGS relocation, the University committed to GSS to re-furbish Koerner House.

Executed in several phases to suit funding availability, The Colborne Architectural Group set about the same range of re-planning, seismic, fire & life safety and building infrastructure upgrades being carried out in the adjoining GSC. Expanded reception, administrative offices and meeting facilities for GSS were accommodated on the ground floor; the lower-level existing pub was expanded to 100 seats with enlarged bar and food preparation areas; a 2nd floor restaurant was completely re-worked with relocated bar, full commercial kitchen and emergency exiting to service 150-175 seats; the upper level 'Penthouse' (originally the Koerner's private residence) was converted to a meeting and seminar facility with food service areas. Washrooms were expanded, updated and made accessible throughout. While renovations and upgrades were extensive, the design intent of the original Massey Medal winning building was fully respected. Construction cost, \$1.8M, 1995-'99.