

Green features part of plans

Local architect David McAuley is working with Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis in renovating the warehouse at 38 Elizabeth St. for their needs.

In an interview, McAuley told the Trib about the green aspects the building will have. Here are some of them:

- an oriel (a kind of large skylight) on the roof to let in light. It will have overhangs that allow light to get in without heating up the building in the summer. The windows in it will open to provide ventilation
- south-facing windows at the front of the building that will be operable. They will also have overhangs
- use of natural materials for construction, which means not using anything containing volatile organic compounds
- no furniture with volatile organic compounds
- energy-efficient lights that are operated by motion and photo cell controls. Photo cell lights turn on only when natural light isn't enough to

light the space. There will also be a master switch to turn all the lights on and off

- reuse of as much material as possible
- upgrading insulation in the walls and roof
- interior windows so that light from the oriel benefits other rooms
- a variety of heating systems will be used for different areas of the building and will be able to be controlled separately
- use of low consumption, Energy Star certified equipment such as photocopiers and other office technology
- three-stream waste recycling room
- secure bike parking
- heat recovery ventilator
- low flush toilets
- in-line water heaters that heat water as it's needed.

McAuley said future projects for the building will include a shower, a solar water heater and a rain water harvesting system. "Their roof is also available for a solar farm," he said of the huge warehouse roof.