



SILICON ISLAND ART & INNOVATION CENTRE



Total Area	30,000 sq. ft.
Total Project Construction Cost	\$2,800,000.00
Electrical Construction Cost	\$650,000.00
Construction Time	8 months
Client	Cape Breton Regional Municipality, Attn: Angus Fleming
General Contractor	JonelJim Construction Ltd.
Architect	Trifos Design Consultants
Electrical Consultants	F.C. O'Neill, Scriven and Associates Limited

Silicon Island is an office complex which brings together under one roof approximately 15 high-tech, state of the art, multi-media firms. The concept of having all these information technology firms grouped in one facility was centred on them being able to share, and trade back and forth, such needs as administrative, marketing, and incubation support, as well as facility management services. In short, the idea was to bring together in one place, digital media firms in what is a burgeoning and ever expanding industry, all so that they could learn from, and feed off, each other.

Silicon Island is situated in the former Cape Breton County Municipal Courthouse. The complex had been abandoned for several years before undergoing extensive renovations to meet the needs of the new tenants. Tile renovations included all new tenant offices, multi-media classrooms, audio/visual boardrooms, a lecture theatre, and a digital art gallery. Electrical infrastructure allowed for a 100-megabyte Windows NT network, wireless connectivity, an ISDN line at desktops, card-access security, and video surveillance.

All new electrical and communications services were implemented in the complex, complete with K rated transformers in the various quads. Of particular interest was the flood lighting of the entire perimeter of the facility from a service moat ringing the structure. The information technology requirements of the complex required extensive Category 5 Data/Voice infrastructure, employing numerous satellite communications rooms, all interconnected to each other by a fibre-optic backbone network.