

Imperial Oil begins first phase move to Quarry Park

Complete move to be finished by first half of 2016

BY MARIO TONEGUZZI, CALGARY HERALD MAY 2, 2014

Presented By:



Imperial Oil employee Shinderpal Sangha checks out her new office space at Quarry Park in southeast Calgary.

Photograph by: Leah Hennel, Calgary Herald

CALGARY - It's a new era for Imperial Oil as the energy giant has begun moving its first employees from the company's downtown headquarters into new office space in the suburban Quarry Park southeast neighbourhood.

This weekend, about 170 staff will be moving into the first building on the campus-style development which will eventually comprise five, five-storey office buildings as well as another building for amenities.

The complete move of all staff and contractors - totalling about 3,000 - will be completed by the first half of 2016.

Shinderpal Sangha, a project procurement advisor who has been with Imperial for the past 10 years, was checking out her new office space on Friday.

"I'm in the process of moving. So today's move day for me. My first work day at the campus will be May

5 on Monday,” said Sangha.

“I love it. The very first time that I walked into this space it’s a very welcoming space. It’s a very refreshing feeling with access to all the daylight views in this space. I really look forward to working in it. That combined with the very great technology that’s going to be made available to us and the new furniture, it’s excellent.”

Imperial is consolidating into the new campus on the 20-acre site at Quarry Park.

Imperial currently has more than 2,000 employees in the Calgary area in five separate locations. This includes leases in Fifth Avenue Place West (35 floors), Fifth Avenue Place East (35 floors), BP Centre (8 ½ floors), the Trimac Building and at the Research Park at the University of Calgary.

The company leases at BP Centre and Fifth Avenue Place expire in 2014 and 2016.

The Quarry Park complex have about 821,000 square feet of office space and access to facilities such as a childcare centre, a recreation centre, restaurants and other amenities.

Employees will move in phases as the buildings are constructed.

Paul Donovan, campus project executive with Imperial Oil, said about 35 people were moved into the first building last week after it received its occupancy permit.

He said the company will move about 170 staff this weekend, representing its Western Canada major projects group.

“We’ll finish filling this building around the first half of September. It will be about 600 people here,” he said.

All buildings will be connected on the ground level and third floor level by an enclosed walkway.

Each of the buildings will have a theme of Canada.

There is a total of about 2,400 parking stalls with about 1,900 underground.

The amenities building, he said, will be about 30,000 square feet and will have a conference centre for 600 people with a food service venue.

“It’s a great feeling,” said Donovan on Friday about the upcoming move. “The advantage that you have with this building both horizontally and vertically is you can see through the entire building.”

The second move-in phase takes place by April 2015 with another 500 to 600 staff in the second building.

“The real story of this building is we’re moving people in 19 months after we announced to our staff (that the company was moving to Quarry Park),” said Donovan.

The company says it is in a period of increased recruitment to support growth projects such as the

Kearl project, and requires office space to accommodate its current and growing staff population.

The company's goal was to find a property that would allow for growth at a single location.

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