As ACI prepares to meet for The Concrete Convention and Exposition, March 24-28, 2019, at the Québec City Convention Centre and Hilton Québec, in Québec City, QC, Canada, here are several nearby projects of interest:

Notable Concrete in Québec City

Examples of concrete construction in the vicinity of the ACI convention

As ACI prepares to meet for The Concrete Convention and Exposition, March 24-28, 2019, at the Québec City Convention Centre and Hilton Québec, in Québec City, QC, Canada, here are several nearby projects of interest:

- Grand Théâtre de Québec
- SENSE Montreal
- Musée National des Beaux-Arts du Québec
- G3 Québec Terminal

Thanks to Michael Paul of ACI Committee 124, Concrete Aesthetics, and Vincent Lapointe of SIMCO Technologies, Quebec and Eastern Ontario Chapter – ACI for compiling this information.
Opened in 1970 after protracted planning and construction, The Grand Théâtre de Québec, a major cultural institution in Québec City, is a complex concrete and steel structure that houses two theaters (1885 and 510 seats) and features a massive concrete mural by the internationally renowned sculptor Jordi Bonet. The mural, which depicts the past, present, and future as death, space, and freedom, covers 12,000 ft² (1115 m²) and used 27 yd³ (50 tons) of hand-placed concrete.

In 2014, to address deterioration of the exterior concrete, The Grand Théâtre de Québec solicited a design-build solution that would respect the original design concept of the award-winning architect, Victor Prus, and the mural by Bonet. The $30.3 million renovation installs an oversized climate-controlled glass casing to protect the concrete from the elements and prevent further deterioration.

Project credits: Lemay and Atelier 21, Architects; WSP, Structural Engineer; SIMCO Technologies, Durability Engineer; Pomerleau, Contractor.

Submitted by Albani Boudreau, Facility Manager, Grand Théâtre de Québec, Québec, QC, +1.418.643.8111, aboudreau@grandtheatre.qc.ca
This is the first flagship store for the online luxury clothing retailer SENSE. Designed by David Chipperfield Architects, the store is located in Montreal's Old Port within a certified historic five-story building from the nineteenth century. A new architecturally exposed structure of cast-in-place concrete was built within the gutted masonry shell. The dark-pigmented concrete was developed by the design team in collaboration with Lafarge-Holcim Canada to create a unique pumpable mixture. A coarse sandblast finish gives the concrete a roughness and uniformity. The formwork for the exposed concrete was developed to match the uniform grid that organizes the entire project. Pour joints and construction details also were coordinated with the temporary steel structure that stabilized the masonry shell throughout construction.

Project credits: David Chipperfield Architects with AEdifica, Architect; Latéral, Structural Engineer; Dominik Hodel and Raphaël Thibodeau, Photographers.

Submitted by Thibaut Lefort, Eng., M.Arch., LEED AP, Latéral, Montreal, QC, +1.514.883.3921, tl@lateralconseil.com
The Pierre Lassonde Pavilion is a dramatic expansion of the storied MNBAQ, providing an incomparable showcase for contemporary art in Québec and Canada on its prominent site near the Plains of Abraham. A signature element of the pavilion is the cast-in-place concrete wall that “floats” within the glass façade to connect an adjacent building. Combining art and engineering, concrete which totaled 10,460 yd$^3$ (8000 m$^3$) on the project overall was placed as a single pour into formwork that was built horizontally, then set by crane. The texture and finish of the concrete contrast with other prominent materials inside the pavilion.

Project credits: Provencher Roy, Architect; Tetra Tech, Structural Engineer; EBC, General Contractor; Coffrage LD, Concrete Contractor; Béton Provincial, Concrete Producer.

Submitted by Jean-François Dufour, Vice President of Strategic Development, Béton Provincial, Québec, QC, +1.418.627.7242, jf.dufour@betonprovincial.com
Since 2009, “Aurora Borealis” is a permanent and kinetic architectural illumination of the 81 concrete grain silos of G3 Canada Ltd. in Québec City’s Old Port. The artistic production by Robert Lepage consists of five 15-to-20-minute “paintings” presented in a loop. The paintings were designed with color themes inspired by polar aurorae, the northern-lights phenomenon known only above the 65th parallel. The play of the colors embellishes the hard concrete volumes, integrating artistic with industrial in a highly sophisticated manner. A collaboration between the City of Québec and Ex Machina, this grandiose, silent, and timeless work is presented 365 days a year, every night, from dusk until 11:30 pm.

Project credits: City of Québec and Ex Machina.

Submitted by Rose-Marie Ayotte, Communication Advisor/Protocol Officer, City of Québec, Quebec, QC, +1.418.641.6411, rose-marie.ayotte@ville.quebec.qc.ca