

# FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES TRAINING INSTITUTE (FESTI)

Greater Toronto Airports Authority  
Fact Sheet

*at Toronto Pearson International Airport*

The Greater Toronto Airports Authority opened the doors of the Fire and Emergency Services Training Institute (FESTI) in April 2007. FESTI is an innovative facility that was built to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) silver standards.

FESTI offers world-leading programs in fire and emergency services training. Programs offered at FESTI are developed to meet or exceed the standards of accrediting bodies at local, national and international levels. The wide range of programs meet the needs of businesses, industries, and fire services personnel.

## **The FESTI Training Philosophy**

FESTI provides the best training available through a combination of education and practical training aids, which allows a simulation of a wide range of emergency scenarios while ensuring the safety of participants.

## **Training and Services**

FESTI is the single access point with respect to programs for new recruits, firefighters and businesses that are interested in certification or expanding their skills. Some of the programs offered include:

- Fire Recruit Training
- Aircraft Rescue Firefighting Training and Recertification
- Structural Firefighting
- Hazardous Materials (all levels)
- First Aid
- Auto Extrication
- Technical Rescue
- Incident Management Training
- Command and Control
- Emergency Patient Care (First Responder)
- Defibrillator Training
- Fire Extinguisher and Symptom Relief Training

## **FESTI Facility**

- designed by Kleinfeldt Mychajlowycz Architects, built in 18 months at a cost of \$13.5 million
- FESTI site is 48,200 square metres; the main building is 2,804 square metres
- the site is not in a restricted area of the airport, meaning that training exercises have no impact on regular airport operations
- the main building offers classrooms, a learning theatre, cafeteria, office space and truck bays identical to those in a fire station

- on-site features include:
  - o *Confined Space Building*: built above-ground for easy egress, the building simulates rescue in a manhole below the street.
  - o *Rescue Tower*: five stories high, allowing simulation of emergency response scenarios including ladder training, high rise firefighting and interior searches. An integrated smoke room allows controlled pushing of smoke into specific training areas.
  - o *Burn Building*: real fire conditions can be created in the burn building with fires up to 900 degrees Fahrenheit.
  - o *Aircraft Training Mock-ups*: propane operated aircraft mock-ups allow realistic training. The area surrounding the mock-ups allows for manoeuvring of fire fighting vehicles.
- the nearby 15-acre Special Operations Training Centre is used for specialized training in hazardous materials handling and other related topics
- partnerships have been formed with firefighting programs at Humber, Seneca, Durham and Georgian Colleges

### Considering the Environment

- The FESTI facility has many environmentally friendly features.
  - o Solar Wall: augments the performance of the air handling units by providing solar heated air induction.
  - o Termodeck: in-slab air distribution systems reducing peak energy use because the concrete structure stores excess building heat.
  - o Green Roof: allows for improved temperature control in all seasons.
  - o Water Saving: waterless urinals and tankless water heaters help to reduce water consumption.
- During construction, recycled products were used whenever possible, including recycled concrete used as an aggregate prior to paving.
- Materials used during construction were sourced from the closest possible suppliers.
- FESTI will provide significant long-term cost savings through reduced energy consumption, water usage, maintenance and groundskeeping.
- FESTI was built to LEED standards, meaning that it was built using globally accepted, environmentally friendly building standards.
- In 1999, the GTAA became the first North American airport authority to achieve ISO 14001 certification. The FESTI project is another example of the GTAA's commitment to the Environmental Management System and sustainability.

### The Success of FESTI

Since opening its doors in April 2007, more than 2,000 people have been trained at FESTI. Trainees have come from a wide variety of locations, including:

- Canada
- Bermuda
- Belgium
- Greece (trainees coming in May 2008)



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For additional fact sheets about the GTAA and Toronto Pearson, visit [www.GTAA.com](http://www.GTAA.com).