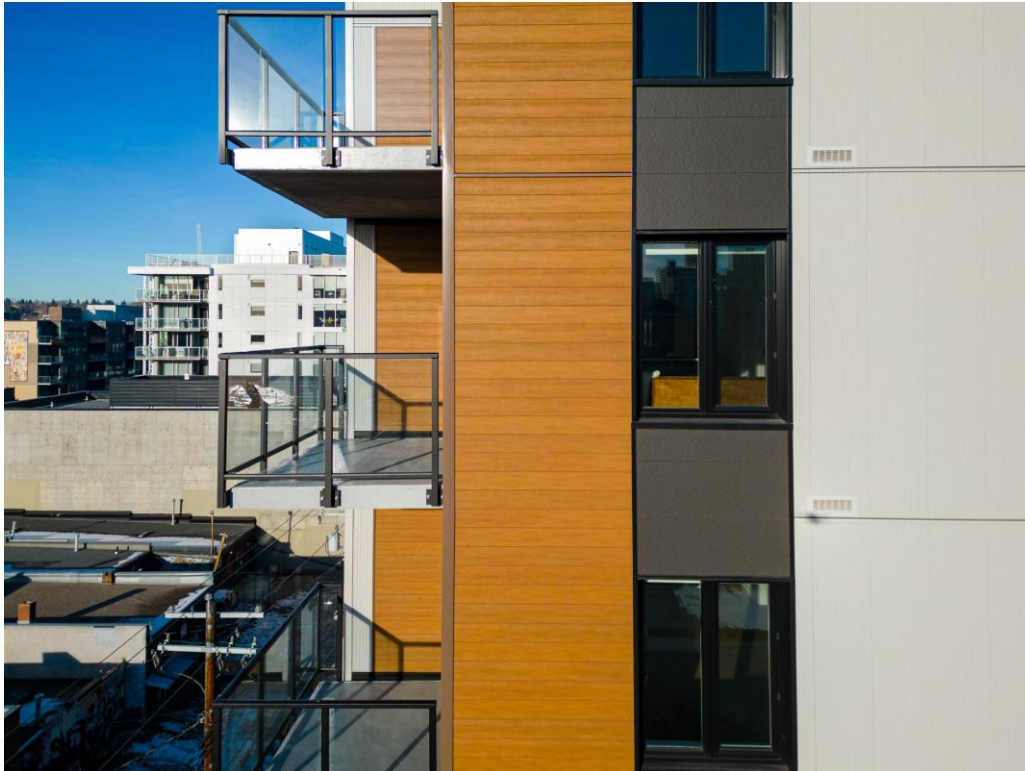Blair Davies. P.Eng.
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The Hive: A Landmark in Calgary's Boutique Living meets cost, and beats schedule goals.

Project Overview

Location: Calgary, Alberta

Developer: Gem Properties

Architects: Lola Architects

Exterior Cladding: CERACLAD Rain Screen System

The Hive is **a six-story, purpose-built rental** in a vibrant Calgary neighborhood, designed to attract young professionals. It combines **modern aesthetics**, efficiency, and sustainability in a boutique-style residential setting. The project stands out due to its durability, design innovation, and integration of public art.

The next building is under design now using the same CERACLAD system.

Overcoming Challenges

Despite obstacles such as a **concrete strike, rising material costs**, and a neighbor's lawsuit, The Hive was completed **five months ahead of schedule**. The seamless coordination between the owner, architects, contractors, and suppliers ensured efficient execution without compromising on quality

Decision Criteria

Thorough comparison was done between CERACLAD and ACM. In the end CERACLAD was chosen because:

- Cost vs ACM supplied and installed.
- Speed of construction
- Variety of aesthetics to match vison of building, all in one system.
- Quality and long-term performance, especially cleanliness with its photocatalytic finish.

Innovative Design & Materials

The CERACLAD Rain Screen System was chosen for its low-maintenance, high-performance, and aesthetic appeal, offering a sleek, modern facade that enhances the urban environment.

- **Panel customization** to meet aesthetic and durability needs.

- **Three unique panel textures and colors for architectural depth**.

- Aluminum extrusion corners and trims to **optimize material usage and minimize costs**.

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Art Integration: More Than Just a Building

A **striking mural** adorns the side of the building, reflecting Calgary's mural festival and The Hive's theme of community and nature. This art piece transforms the building into a **local landmark, reinforcing the idea that buildings can be both functional and artistic**.