

Avison Young to relocate its global corporate HQ

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Canada-based commercial real estate firm Avison Young has unveiled plans to relocate its global corporate headquarters to PwC Tower at Southcore Financial Centre (SFC).

The new tower developed by GWL Realty Advisors Incorporation at 18 York Street in Toronto, Canada will span 650,000 square feet encompassing over 26 floors after its completion in 2011 end. The building is equipped with advanced technologies and various green features.

The tower comprises the first phase of the SFC complex at the northwest corner of York and Bremner Streets in downtown Toronto. Phase two of SFC's development consists of a second office building featuring the 30-storey, Bremner Tower spanning 700,000 square feet, and the 45-storey premium four-star hotel, Delta Toronto.

The 1.4 million square feet of office area in the SFC has been designed by KPMB Architects with Delta Toronto designed by Page + Steele / IBI Architects. The three buildings will be linked via over 14,000 square feet of urban forest spaces as well as pedestrian walkways.

The new office will be equipped with floor-to-ceiling glass to enable passage of natural light. The office will also install interior glass walls, occupancy lighting sensors in addition to numerous green roofs and urban garden sections. It will incorporate raised-floor technology resulting in over 30% less energy consumption. There will also be comfortably condition space and improved air quality in the new structure.

The facility will utilise Enwave's Deep Lake Water Cooling system to cut down energy usage and carbon dioxide emissions. PwC Tower is also claimed to be the first building in Toronto to be equipped with a large storage cistern to benefit from off-peak pricing as well as to decrease drain on the city's electrical grid.

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