

2nd Floor Corridor

CLARA BENSON BUILDING



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO

Design & Engineering
University Planning, Design & Construction



Viewing Area



Countertop Seating Area



Viewing Area



Corridor View

2nd Floor Corridor

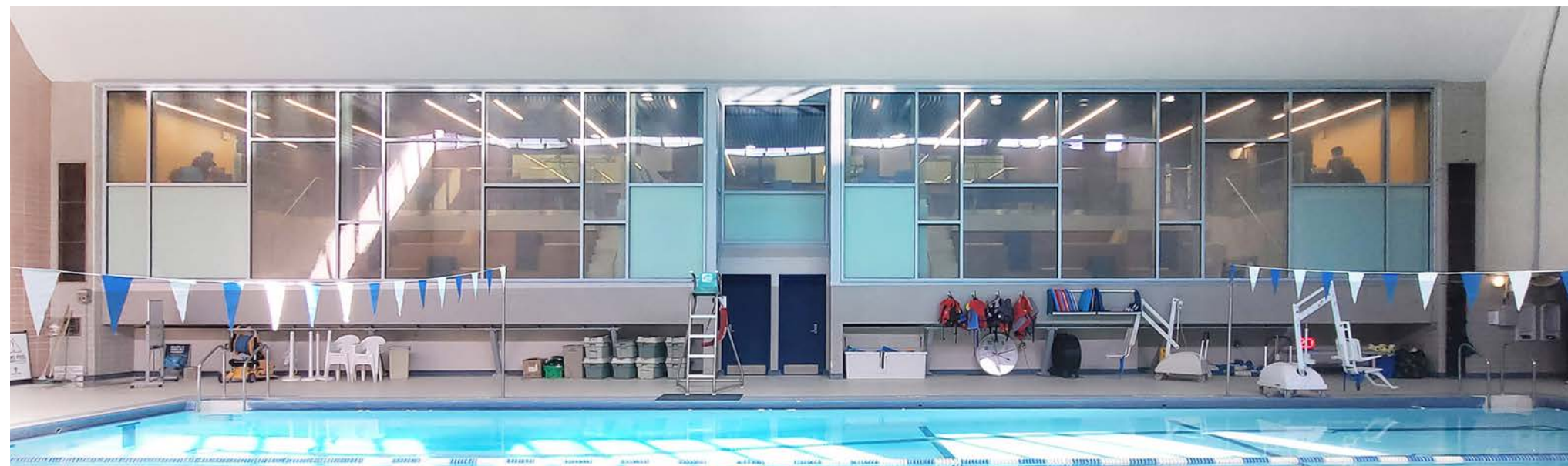
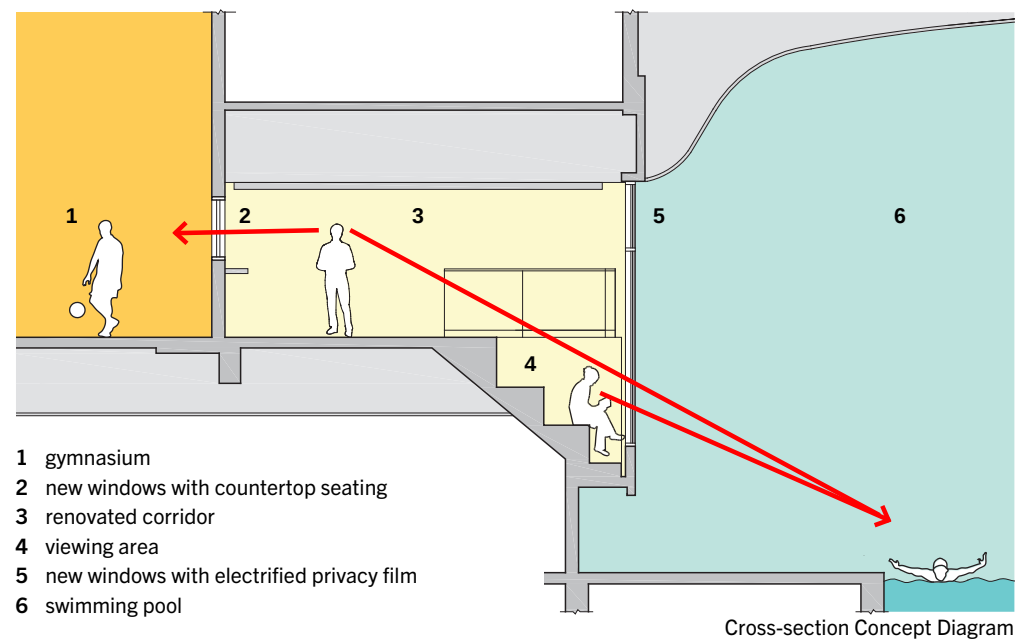
PROGRAM
Student lounge

SIZE
200sm

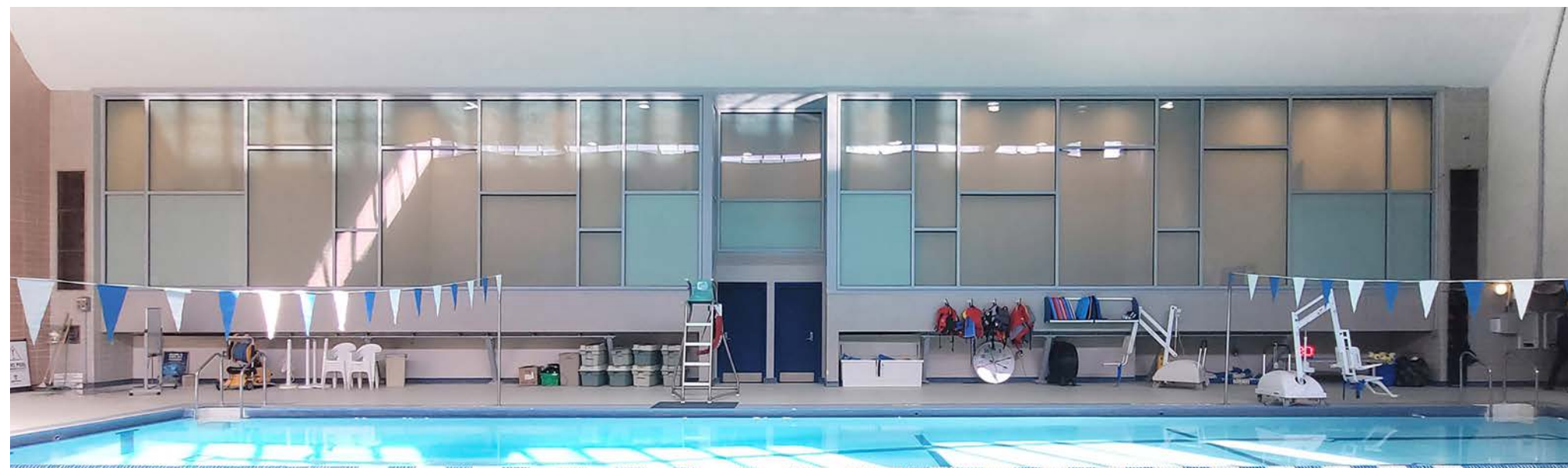
D&E CONSULTING TEAMS
Architectural, Mechanical, Electrical

The 2nd Floor Corridor project in the Clara Benson Building strategically reimagines the spatial relationship between the existing corridor—a primary connection between Warren Stevens and Clara Benson—and the adjacent spaces. Previously, this enclosed thoroughfare ran alongside the gymnasium on one side and the pool with its underutilized bleachers on the other, without engaging either.

The new design thoughtfully integrates these areas to enhance functionality and enrich the student experience for the Faculty of Kinesiology & Physical Education. The redesigned corridor now features stepped seating overlooking the pool, countertop seating facing the gymnasium, and dedicated zones for group study and lounging. A full-height curtain wall provides both physical and acoustic separation from the pool, while an integrated electrified film offers visual privacy when needed, without sacrificing natural light. This transformation fosters openness and interconnectedness between these key student spaces.



Electrified Privacy Film: Clear



Electrified Privacy Film: Translucent

KEY DESIGN FEATURES

Glazing	establishes a clear visual link between the renovated corridor and the active swimming pool and gymnasium, reinforcing spatial connectivity
Pockets	these maximize spatial utility and program flexibility by accommodating diverse seating arrangements and informal gathering zones
Ceiling	the design addresses spatial challenges - such as low ceiling height, narrow width, and large structural columns - through the introduction of a linear wood grille ceiling that adds warmth and rhythm
Automation	an electrified smart-film system delivers instant privacy effortlessly, while maintaining shared light



Space Before Renovation