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## Laurier offers tours of library and new Lazaridis Hall building as part of Doors Open Waterloo Region

WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University will welcome community members to tour its newest Waterloo campus building, **Lazaridis Hall**, as well as the **Laurier Library**, on Saturday, Sept. 16 as part of [Doors Open Waterloo Region 2017](#).

Laurier will offer guided tours of Lazaridis Hall, home to [Laurier's Lazaridis School of Business and Economics](#) and the [Department of Mathematics](#), from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visitors will have the opportunity to explore the 1,000 seat auditorium, the four-storey atrium with glass ceiling, and more. Tour guides will share the building's green features, targeted for LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold certification from the Canada Green Building Council. Free parking is located at the back of the building, off Balsam Street.

Visitors can also take part in guided tours of the [Laurier Library](#), which has transformed into a hub of ideas, culture, and interactivity. The tour will include the [Robert Langen Art Gallery](#); the [Laurier Archives](#), with collections dating to the 1500s; [WLU Press](#), which is one of Canada's leading scholarly publishers; an outdoor sunken garden/amphitheatre, and other re-energized spaces. Visitors can experience *Transend: Meeting Room* by artist Ron Benner as well as an exhibition by local female painters. Free parking is located off Bricker Avenue. Lot 14 is the closest walk to the library, with signs to direct visitors.

"Laurier is pleased to partner with Doors Open to showcase two remarkable transformations for our community to enjoy," said Joel Peters, assistant vice-president: External Relations. "The new Lazaridis Hall exemplifies the best in 21<sup>st</sup>-century education, with high-quality spaces dedicated to teaching, learning and research. The Laurier Library, in this new era of digital access, is transforming its role and its spaces into a cultural cross-roads for the university community and its neighbours."

Lazaridis Hall celebrated its grand opening May 24. In addition to the Lazaridis School of Business and Economics and the Department of Mathematics, the building houses the [Lazaridis Institute for the Management of Technology Enterprises](#) (Lazaridis Institute), created to support growth-oriented Canadian technology companies, and the **Schlegel Centre for Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation**, which is building and supporting entrepreneurship and social innovation in the Laurier community.

Designed by Diamond Schmitt Architects, Lazaridis Hall is a functional, bright open environment used by more than 6,000 students and more than 190 full-time and part-time faculty members. The building is the site for a variety of events, including convocation ceremonies, business case competitions and national and international academic conferences.

Visitors can plan their visits using the [Doors Open map and guide](#) (pdf) or the [Doors Open Ontario website](#).  
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This year marks the 15<sup>th</sup> year of Doors Open Waterloo Region. Under the theme "Identity and Innovation," the event features 50 participating sites offering a mix of architecture, heritage, and interactive displays. Doors Open Waterloo Region is part of Doors Open Ontario, a province-wide initiative of the Ontario Heritage Trust to celebrate community heritage and architecture. Since 2003, more than 250 sites in Waterloo Region have opened their doors to more than 100,000 visits during Doors Open. Laurier featured its Cold Regions and Water Science building in 2015, and its Science Building in 2016.

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