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Environmentally sensitive school nominated for the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce's Environmental Awards.

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A vision to create a building that set a new green standard for schools is paying off for the designers behind Moffat Creek Public School.

The new K-Grade 8, three-storey elementary school, built on wetlands bordered by Dundas Street, Branchton Road and Myers Road, is one of four organizations nominated for the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce’s Environmental Awards. Other nominees include Arriscraft International, From Farm to Table Canada Inc. and Furnish the Future.

Moffat Creek posed a challenge, according to Paul Sapounzi, project architect with The Ventin Group, which designed the southeast Galt school, because it was to be built on environmentally sensitive wetlands. Those challenges were met and exceeded, he said.
Not only did the school respect and blend with its habitat, it made the surrounding landscape a focal point for educating a new generation of environmental stewards. The school’s use of natural lighting and energy efficient design allow the school to use 25 per cent less energy than other schools, according to Sapounzi.

Another highlight is a rounded bridge in the school’s field which serves an outdoor classroom.

“What better textbook is there for students than their own school,” said Sapounzi.

The Ventin Group Architects (+VG) is a full-service architectural firm offering new design, expansions and heritage restorations for cultural, educational, municipal, justice, healthcare, residential and recreational facilities. Our staff of 50+ operates in four offices in Ontario, in Brantford, Kitchener, Toronto and Belleville. See www.plusvg.com for more information.

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