We have walls!

Walls are typically thought of nothing more than a way to support floors and ceilings, to enclose a space, to give a building form, and to provide shelter and security, but to us they represent much more. We can now see what were once just lines and shapes on blue prints become something more tangible.

Metal and concrete have been used in construction for hundreds of years and for good reason. Both materials have advantageous properties but thanks to concrete’s bountiful benefits, and the durability of metal there has been an increase in their use.

The concrete insulated panels (CIP) that are being used for basement walls of the expansion are built like sandwiches where the concrete is the “bread”, forming the outside and inside walls and the Styrofoam insulation is the “filling.” Together, this process provides durable structures for both external and internal structures without the need for wood framing. This efficient all-in-one construction method means CIP buildings are energy efficient and extremely resilient.

In keeping with the theme of lower costs, metal studs are being used throughout the renovation and expansion. Metal is more resistant to moisture and humidity, while also offering unmatched strength.

While we anxiously await the next big milestones . . . we are excited by what has already been accomplished. When standing in the middle of the expansion, one cannot help but feel dwarfed by the massive structure that will become “home” for the collection, and that the addition like the historic building, will soon hold its own memories for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Executive Director