

Mold overtakes Ottawa showcase pavilion

by UPI

OTTAWA -- A 7-year-old, \$5.7 million pavilion near the Canadian prime minister's residence is sitting vacant because it's riddled with mold, the Ottawa Citizen reported. The building served as the "Canada and the World Pavilion" with various displays and exhibits but closed in 2005 due to public indifference, the newspaper said. The National Capital Commission oversees the building and tried to lure Governor General's office to make use of the impressive and picturesque facility at the confluence of the Rideau Canal and Ottawa River. However, an engineer from Public Works and Government Services Canada examined the building and issued a warning. "There is a high risk to the Crown (government) to proceed with this project," engineer Joseph Wong reported. "This facility presents a risk for developing significant mold-related problems that can induce allergies and other health and comfort problems." Wong said the area's high water table hadn't been taken into account when the facility was built. "This problem will never go away," he said.

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