

A 1978 DECRA Tile Roof Passes the Test of Time

In 1978, building owner and master roofer Charles Lortie converted an Ottawa apartment building into an upscale condominium complex. Lortie chose DECRA Tile for the roof upgrade, and the weather extremes of Ottawa, Canada provided us with the perfect field test for proving the durability of DECRA's stone-coated steel roofing products.

Ruling Out Conventional Roofing Materials

As a master roofer himself, Lortie knew that an authentic clay tile roof in the frigid Ottawa winters would be highly impractical. Clay tile fractures easily after repeated freeze/thaw cycles and would require ongoing maintenance that would be both costly and disruptive to the residents in the upscale condos below.

The original composition shingle roof lacked the authentic Baroque Period aesthetic appeal and would require repeated replacement every decade or so after exposure to the Canadian weather. With 3,000 square feet of total roofing area to protect,

Lortie was looking for a roofing product that could eliminate all the future costs of re-roofing without compromising on style, color, form, or beauty. He found it all with DECRA Metal Roofing.

5 Decades of Protection Against the Harsh Canadian Weather

With the steep slopes of the mansard roof, secure roof fastening is mandatory for withstanding high winds, wind-driven snow, and sleet. Further, 10 major snowstorms per year are typical in Ottawa and severe blizzards occur every decade.

DECRA Tile replicated the elegance of clay tile with strength and durability to withstand the Canadian elements. DECRA roofs use a proprietary interlocking panel technique that provides unmatched wind uplift resistance and are warranted up to 120 mph. DECRA tests for wind uplift at twice that velocity to ensure a 100% safety margin. All DECRA products are freeze/thaw resistant and carry the highest UL Class 4 impact rating for hail damage and storm debris.

More than four decades later, this roof is still holding strong. With other roofing materials, the building could have required as many as four new roofs in the same time span. The prominent DECRA Tile roof on Lortie's distinctive condominium building has withstood the test of time and is still under warranty for the lifetime of the building.



About DECRA Metal Roofing

DECRA Metal Roofing has provided the first line of defense against the elements for homes and buildings for more than 60 years and is unsurpassed in every roofing product comparison category, from wind, fire, and impact resistance to energy efficiency and sustainability. With a Lifetime Limited Warranty that goes far beyond the 10 or 20-year warranties of asphalt roofing products, DECRA is the gold standard of modern roofing systems for architects, contractors, and homeowners who will settle for nothing less than the best.