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OAA bestows recognition to 15 new building in Ontario

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The annual Ontario Association of Architects (OAA) Celebration of Excellence Awards on Friday, May 9 showcased the best in architectural design and innovation by Ontario architects. 15 new buildings in Toronto, Ottawa, Winnipeg, Bracebridge, Hamilton, Brampton, Midhurst, and Halifax were distinguished in this year's 'Design Excellence' category.

The 2014 award-winning projects reflect their environment and surroundings and invite the local community in. "Increasingly it's becoming important to have a seamless relationship between the interior and exterior of a structure," says OAA president, Bill Birdsell. "A building should engage with its location and it should create spaces for end-users and members of the community to enjoy."

In addition to the 15 Design Excellence awards announced before the ceremony, three more honours were unveiled during the gala:

- 'Best of Show' was awarded to **Centennial College Library and Academic Facility** by Diamond and Schmitt Architects Incorporated.

- ‘Michael V. and Wanda Plachta Award,’ honouring architectural excellence for projects in Ontario that cost no more than eight million dollars, was presented to G. Bruce Stratton Architects for **Mount Dennis Library**
- ‘People’s Choice,’ decided by public vote, went to Dubbeldam Architecture + Design for **Through House**

“We are honoured to receive the OAA’s Best of Show Award,” says Donald Schmitt, principal of Diamond Schmitt Architects, who took home ‘Best of Show’ for the design of the Centennial College Library and Academic Facility. “This project is designed to be a welcoming and versatile place to learn. The central atrium with its four-storey living wall creates that vital social hub where students and faculty can interact. The use of quality materials and detailing – granite and copper cladding on the exterior and custom wood screen panels and limestone stairs for the interior – convey a message that this institution respects students and their pursuit of knowledge. Daylighting is drawn deep inside from a sawtooth glazed façade that lends further distinction to this LEED Gold facility.”

The 2014 OAA awards were presented at the OAA Celebration of Excellence Awards and Dinner at the Fairmont The Queen Elizabeth in Montréal on Friday May 9. *etalk*’s Ben Mulrone was the MC for the evening, and the awards were hosted by Birdsell.

Algonquin Centre for Construction Excellence

Ottawa, ON

Diamond and Schmitt Architects Incorporated

2014 OAA Awards - List of Winners Design Excellence Edward J. Cuhaci and Associates Architects Inc.

Bridgepoint Active Healthcare

Toronto, ON

Stantec Architecture Ltd., Architects / KPMB Architects

HDR Architecture Associates, Inc./ Diamond and Schmitt Architects Incorporated

Centennial College Athletic and Wellness Centre

Toronto, ON

Kongats Architects

Centennial College Library and Academic Facility Chinguacousy Park Redevelopment

Toronto, ON

Brampton, ON

Diamond and Schmitt Architects Incorporated

MacLennan Jaunkalns Miller Architects Ltd.

County of Simcoe Administration Centre

Midhurst, ON

Teple Architects Inc. & Ted Handy & Associates Inc., Architect in joint venture

Manitoba Hydro Place

Winnipeg, MB
KPMB Architects (Design Architect)
Smith Carter Architects & Engineers Incorporated (Executive Architect)
Prairie Architects Inc. (Advocate Architect)

Moore Park Residence

Toronto, ON
Drew Mandel Architects

Mount Dennis Library

Toronto, ON
G. Bruce Stratton Architects

Nova Scotia Power (NSP) Corporate Headquarters

Halifax, NS
WZMH Architects
Fowler Bauld and Mitchell, Associate Architects

Stealth Cabin
Bracebridge, ON
Superkül Inc., Architect

Stoney Creek Recreation Centre

Hamilton, ON
Rounthwaite Dick & Hadley Architects Inc. with Lintack Architects Incorporated Toronto, ON

Through House

Dubbeldam Architecture + Design

Victoria Park Subway Station

Tommy Thompson Park Pavilions Toronto, ON
Toronto, ON IBI Group Architects
Montgomery Sisam Architects Inc. Brown and Storey Architects Inc. **Concepts Semi [Detached]**

Batay-Csorba Architects **Jiigew (by the water)**

Jodi Batay-Csorba Prince Arthur's Landing, Thunder Bay, ON
Andrew Batay-Csorba spmb & Brook McIlroy Architects

UnEarthed

Honourable Mention
Ken O. Lum

Manitoba Hydro Place

Winnipeg, MB
KPMB Architects (Design Architect)
Smith Carter Architects & Engineers Incorporated (Executive Architect)

Sustainable Design Excellence Award Prairie Architects Inc. (Advocate Architect)

Landmark Designation

50 Park Road

Toronto, ON
John B. Parkin Associates
(Now NORR Limited, Architects and Engineers)

McMaster University Health Sciences Centre Wandich Cottage

Hamilton, ON Peterborough, ON
Zeidler Partnership Architects Strasman Architects Inc. **Best Emerging Practice**

Atelier Kastelic Buffey Inc.

G. Randy Roberts Service Award

Recognizing members of the OAA for extraordinary service to the members
Susan Ruptash

Lifetime Design Achievement Award

Honouring members for career-long contribution to Architectural Design Excellence Jerome Markson

Order of da Vinci

Presented to persons who have made a significant and meaningful contribution to the profession of architecture

Gordon Grice 2014 OAA Award Juries

The 2014 Award winners were chosen by juries that included members of the public whose interests and backgrounds represent many areas of the Ontario design community.

Design Excellence & Sustainable Design Excellence Awards:

CHAIR – Marco L. Polo, Associate Professor, Writer & Architect

Mark Cote, Vice President Development, Oxford Properties Group

Terrance Galvin, Founding Director, Laurentian School of Architecture

Rina Greer, Public Art Consultant and Director, Toronto Sculpture Garden

Robert E. Millward, President & Founder, R.E. Millward & Associates Ltd.

Sheena Sharp (Sustainability Advisor,) Architect, Coolearth Architecture Inc.

Concepts:

CHAIR – Kelvin Browne, Executive Director & CEO, Gardiner Museum

Arlene Gould, Director, Design Industry Advisory Committee

Ivan Martinovic, Architect, Principal-Archdesign Architects,

Jim Melvin, Partner, PMA Landscape Architects

Landmark, Order of da Vinci, Best Emerging Practice & G. Randy Roberts Award:

CHAIR – Diarmuid Nash, Partner, Moriyama & Teshima Architects

J. William Birdsell, OAA President 2014

Diana Osborne, Architect, Osborne Architect

Andrew Bruce-Payne, Society Chair – North Bay Society of Architects

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