

NOTICE OF 2010 ANNUAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE
78TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
NOVA SCOTIA ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS

WILL BE HELD

THURSDAY, APRIL 29th, 2010

AT THE WAEGWOLTIC CLUB

6549 COBURG RD., HALIFAX, NS

The Nominating Committee has submitted the following
nominations for 2010/2011 NSAA Council:

President: Ronald Burdock

Councillors: Mark Atwood, Leif Fuchs,

and Barbara MacDonald

Councillors Remaining on Council: Stacey Hughes, Harry Jost,
and Stephen Outerbridge.

Nomination Papers are available at the NSAA offices,
submissions to be made no later than April 15th, 2010.

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WWW.NSAA.CA

AGENDA

- 7:30 A.M.** RAIC Breakfast
- 8:30 A.M.** AGM Registration
- 9:00 A.M.** NSAA Annual Meeting Call to Order
- Approval of Minutes of 77th Annual Meeting
- Presentation of 2009 Financial Statements
- Treasurer's Report and Presentation of 2010 Budget
Appointment of Chartered Accountants for 2010
- Receive Reports of Representatives of Other Groups
CaGBC Update - J. Crace, National Director
- Election of Officers and Councillors for 2010/2011
Term
- Business Arising from Minutes and Reports
- Business Meeting Adjournment
- 12:00 A.M.** Luncheon
- 1:15 P.M.** Mandatory Continuing Education/Professional
Development Session
- 2:30 P.M.** Review of Corporate Practice/Permit
as per Architects' Act
- 3:30 P.M.** Address by J. Philip Dumaresq
"How to Survive and Have Fun in Architecture"
- 4:30 P.M.** President's Reception

2009 - 2010 COUNCIL

Thérèse LeBlanc	President
Stacey Hughes	Vice-President
Harry Jost	Secretary-Treasurer
Stephen Outerbridge	Registrar
Susan Fitzgerald	Councillor
Stephen Mannell	Councillor
Talbot Sweetapple	Councillor
Eugene Pieczonka	Past President
Terrance Galvin	Dalhousie University Representative
Linda Garber	Public Representative

NSAA COMMITTEES 2009-2010

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(Chair) T. LeBlanc, Pres.902-454-6665
S. Outerbridge, Registrar
H. Jost, Sec-Treasurer
S. Hughes, Vice-President
E. Pieczonka, Past President
D. Scott-Stewart, Exec. Dir.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

(Chair) E. Pieczonka 902-422-1446
P.Frank
D. Lohnes

NSAA BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
COMMITTEE CONVENER – S. Mannell

Professional Practice Committee

(Chair)D. Goodspeed 902-422-1557
S. Adams
J. Thomson

Architect/Engineers

Executive - NSAA/ENS/CENS

DTIR Procurement

D. Ramsay
G. Cotaras
S. Dumaresq
P. Connell
E. Pieczonka (Council Rep) 902-422-1446

NSAA BOARD OF EDUCATION

CONVENER – S. Hughes

Continuing Education

(Chair)D. O'Reilly 902-429-5490
T. LeBlanc
S. Hughes
J. Bowdridge
D. Spencer
J. Marriott
D. Scott-Stewart, Executive Director

NSAA REGISTRATION BOARD

CONVENER – S. Outerbridge

Board of Registration

S. Outerbridge (Registrar) 902-469-9000

T. LeBlanc

G. Cotaras

C. Young

S. Keating

M. Grunsky

M. Hawkins

D. Scott-Stewart, Executive Director

RESPONSE COMMITTEES

Public Awareness Committee

S. Mannell

R. Burdock

J. Crace

A. Gillis

G. Hanley

D. Garrett

G. Fry (Intern)

D. Scott-Stewart (Ex.Dir.)

T. LeBlanc, (Pres.) Ex-officio

Stoddard House Committee

CONVENER – H. Jost

H. Jost (Council Rep) 902- 479-2847

D. Scott-Stewart, Executive Director

R. Bonardelli & S. Esber, Condo Unit #2

Intern Architect Committee

CONVENER – T. Sweetapple 429-1867

C. Young

S. Keating

M. Hawkins

D. Scott-Stewart, Executive Director

NSAA REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER GROUPS

N.S. Building Advisory Committee

R. McLaren 902-429-5490

N.S. Building Officials Association

J. Thomson 902-422-3000

Royal Architecture Institute of Canada

P. Frank 902-422-3000

Canadian Architecture Licensing Authority

T. LeBlanc 902-454-6665

President's Report 2010

Another challenging, but interesting and rewarding year has come and gone. At the close of my third year in this position, I appreciate more than ever the tremendous amount of work that our committees and staff undertake – including addressing the day to day issues that seemingly get more complex every year, as well as dealing with the ongoing impact of our new Act.

The following summarizes the highlights of the NSAA's activities of the past year.

New Act - The new Act, proclaimed in September 2008 continues to demand ongoing changes to the NSAA's processes. Last year's unprecedented volume of work for the staff and volunteers at the NSAA was repeated and possibly surpassed this year as efforts continue to revamp and implement these new processes. We are learning that, like design, it is not entirely a linear process.

We have completed our second renewal process under the new Act, using new forms designed to address those issues that the Act requires be addressed. It has not been a particularly smooth process for some members who seem to feel that they are being caused undue grief. It is regretful that there are some who feel this way. However, the new Act imposes certain new obligations upon your association that it has no choice but to take very seriously. That said, I have faith we will all grow very accustomed to the new requirements very quickly.

As we work through the Act and its Regulations, and gain an understanding of all of its impacts and peculiarities, deficiencies are being highlighted and ways to improve the documents are presenting themselves. The process of making changes requires approval from within and outside our membership and thus can be lengthy, but we have undertaken to initiate it and will be advising of a special meeting in the future to discuss and seek your support of potential changes. In the meantime, I would invite you to review the documents and submit any issues you may have so they can be addressed as well.

Public member – NSAA Council is very pleased to announce Linda Garber as its first ever public member. Ms. Garber began attending meetings in January of this year and has already established herself as a valuable contributor. Her background is legal; she has considerable experience serving on a number of significant Boards and Committees within the province. Ms. Garber's appointment fulfills the requirement of our new Act for the inclusion of a member of the public-at-large on our Council. Her term is for three years.

Labour mobility – The NSAA's efforts toward developing the FRPA-mandated reporting process have taken a back burner to dealing with the membership renewal process. As the renewal process for this year winds down, the NSAA will be focusing its efforts to reviewing, understanding and addressing the FRPA requirements, which are about providing professionals from outside NS with a clear, well-defined process to registration within the province. Related to this is the federal initiative to simplify the process for foreign-trained professionals to become licensed in Canada.

Statute of Limitations – As reported last year, a letter requesting establishment of an Ultimate Limitation Period of 10 years, signed by the Presidents of the NSAA, APENS, CENS, Association of NS Land Surveyors and Association of Professional Geoscientists of NS was submitted to the government in February 2009. The change of government may have slowed the process down. However, we did receive acknowledgement in September 2009 from the new Minister of Justice that his department was continuing their review, and we remain hopeful that we will hear a positive response soon. Engineers Nova Scotia (APENS) continues to communicate with the government on our behalf to ensure the issue remains on the table.

ExAC – The second sitting of the Canadian national exam (*Examination for Architects in Canada*) occurred in October 2010. Seven NS interns wrote; all passed all sections except for one, who passed three of four sections. Across Canada, 558 interns wrote; the overall pass rate was 75%. The third sitting is scheduled for November 8 and 9, 2010. As reported previously, these exams are intended to provide a less costly and less onerous examination process for Canadian interns who do not intend to work in the US.

Stamp – The NSAA has a new seal. This was created last year to reflect specific requirements of our new Act. A few have been issued. Details for replacement of the old seals will be forthcoming shortly.

Procurement – Discussions have recently resumed between the NSAA's Procurement Committee and DTIR to address concerns that the province's school projects are being awarded to too few firms, despite the development of a QBS system a few years ago as a result of earlier discussions between DTIR and the NSAA's Procurement Committee.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my esteemed colleagues on this year's council, particularly those who agreed to a longer-than-anticipated term in the spirit of facilitating a smooth transition between our new and old Acts. Their patience and meaningful input are most

sincerely appreciated. I would also like to extend my deepest gratitude to our various committee members for their significant contributions of time and effort in dealing with the many ongoing and new issues that have faced them in the past year. And I would like to offer heartfelt thanks to our Executive Director, Diane Scott and her assistant Jeremy Martell for their success in remaining calm and effective in the maelstrom that this year has often seemed like. Their tireless dedication and fortitude is inspirational.

Lastly, I would like to thank our members, particularly those of you who have patiently and graciously accepted the new regime and have made your best effort to fulfilling the new requirements.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to serve as your president.

Respectfully submitted,

Thérèse LeBlanc MNSAA, MRAIC

CALA Report 2010

CALA (Canadian Architectural Licensing Authorities), for those who may not be aware or have forgotten, replaces the former CCAC (Committee of Canadian Architectural Councils) and provides a forum where issues can be discussed (and resolved) at a national level.

Two meetings have been held since last year's AGM, one in Montreal in June and one in Winnipeg in October. Both were held in conjunction with RAIC events for efficiency. A spirit of good will and cooperation continues to prevail at the meetings.

The following is an update on the topics currently being discussed:

Canadian Exams (ExAC) – 521 interns sat the first session in November 2008. The overall pass rate was 77%; the pass rate for individual sections was 89%. (One NS intern wrote and passed 3 of 4 sections.) 558 interns sat the second session in October 2009. The overall pass rate was 75%; the pass rate for individual sections was 87%. (Seven NS interns wrote; all passed all sections except for one, who passed three of four sections.) The third sitting is scheduled for November 8 and 9, 2010. AIBC has not yet begun to participate, but remain committed to licensing architects who have written the ExAC under reciprocity arrangements.

The 07/08 ExAC Financial report was distributed in Montreal in June 2009. Development costs incurred by founding parties exceeded initial expectations. This required adjustment to the guiding documents. A revised ExAC Protocol Agreement was signed by all the presidents of the participating Association at the Winnipeg meeting in October 2009.

It was confirmed that the initial objective of two sittings per year would not happen in the near future to simplify logistics and costs, and allow time for an adequate pool of questions to be developed. Self-sustainability by 2015 is a current goal.

A possible adjustment to the 2800 pre-requisite hours requirement is being considered, which would allow interns to write sooner than the current minimum of a year and a half into their program.

CACB (Canadian Architectural Certification Board) – automatic CACB Certification of School of Architecture graduates began in 2009 and has already made a difference in after-graduation intern applications. Some schools are ahead of others due to their processes.

National Competency Standards are being developed, using a psychometric approach, to address situations where assessment based on credentials is challenging.

A new Canadian Education Standard has been developed and is in the final stages of review. It is ultimately intended to define requirements for the BEFA (Broadly Experience Foreign Architects) process.

Intern Architect Program (IAP) – a number of changes to the program are being considered that may impact total experience requirements, including discretionary and student experience, and will likely be unveiled in late 2010. Employer/Mentor roles are also under review, as are work settings and the possibility of remote supervision.

It was noted that the term "Intern Architect" contravenes legislation in Manitoba and Quebec, so the program name will be revised to the Internship in Architecture Program.

National Labour Mobility – associations across Canada are assessing the impact of the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT) and considering the need to harmonize legislation to meet labour mobility objectives. The variability in requirements for registration is a particular challenge.

The Canadian Reciprocity Agreement was revised to address requirements of the AIT and was signed by all Association Presidents in Winnipeg in October. Definition of "home jurisdiction" and what information should be provided regarding a potential licensee continues to be discussed.

International Affairs – terms of reference and a budget have been developed to allow CALA's International Relations Committee (IRC) to deal with regulatory / certification issues on an international level. NCARB (National Council of Architectural Registration Boards) and ACE (Architectural Councils of Europe) have been established as the current priorities requiring this Committee's action.

The IRC met with NCARB in September with an objective to reach a resolution to the issues which currently exist around the Canada/US Inter-recognition Agreement, including the role of CALA vs CCAC, the ExAC and the status of IAP vs IDP, in terms of changing experience requirements. Commitment was made by both parties to work toward renewing the agreement. (It has been noted that the US does not have an initiative similar to Canada's AIT that provides unrestricted access across the country after registration in one jurisdiction. A bigger issue for them is reciprocity between state boards; the NCARB blue cover is only accepted in about 20 states without question or further review.)

A bilateral agreement recently signed between the OAQ and France (despite a general understanding that the European Union does not allow individual jurisdictions to enter into agreements with other countries) is seen to have potential to pave the way for other similar agreements. This provides OAQ architects with access to the EU market. French architects can become registered in Quebec; after a minimum of 3 years experience, they eventually gain unrestricted access across Canada via the AIT. This is a start, but is not ideal as non-Quebec architects gain no benefit from this agreement. (OAQ architects must have attended a PQ school of architecture.)

BEFA (Broadly Experience Foreign Architects)

AIBC's existing BEA process is being looked at carefully for inspiration in evolving a national process to deal with assessing the credentials of foreign architects wanting to work in Canada. (AIBC currently processes 10 to 15 individuals per year using their process.) Anticipated implementation date is late 2010. Review panels and a pool of assessors with representation in all jurisdictions are being developed.

Closure of CCAC / ARE exam fund status – CCAC's closing finances included almost \$124,000. \$72,000 in the ARE account was turned over to ExAC fund, with the exception of AIBC's share, which was transferred to them directly. \$52,000 in the operating account was divided up according to who contributed and how much. That's it for CCAC!

Budget and costs for CALA initiatives – a formula has been developed to distribute costs for initiatives fairly and to allow provinces to budget appropriately.

Respectfully submitted (and apologies for all the acronyms),

Thérèse LeBlanc MNSAA, MRAIC

Stoddard House Report
2009/2010

This year was primarily a year of planning for the Stoddard House. Cost comparisons were undertaken to determine the best possible price to supply and install one new front entrance door for the NSAA office on Barrington Street and two new entrance doors to the NSAA on Bishop Street. The supply and installation cost will be \$2,800.00 per door plus hardware. A new security system will be installed when the new doors are installed at a cost of about \$950.00. The security system will consist of a combination of door contacts and motion detection on both floors of the NSAA offices. On behalf of the Stoddard House Committee I would like to thank Harry Jost for his assistance in obtaining an alternate price for the supply of the doors.

Other areas of building maintenance included the temporary repair of a small roof leak in the dormer window roof in the upper office condominium on the Barrington Street building elevation during the month of December. After the temporary roof repair was complete, a field inspection and price quotation was obtained from B&R Roofing to do a more permanent roof repair to both of the dormer windows on Barrington Street and to replace the missing slate tiles on the dormer roof at the back of the building. The cost of this repair will be \$2079.20 including HST. The Stoddard House Committee will push to have the installation of the doors and the repairs to the roof started this spring.

Respectively submitted,

John Doucet
Stoddard House Committee

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Diane Scott
Executive Director

The statistics of membership changes recorded in 2009 are as follows:

The following Members passed away in 2009:

MacGowan, Alan
Procos, Dimitri
Wilwerth, Roy

The following new Licensed Architects were admitted during 2009:

Archibald, Martha
Doucette, Richard
MacEachern, Abigail
Wuerr, Krista

The following Licensed Architects resigned in 2009:

Cash, Donald
Cochrane, Peter
Gallagher, Terence
Penney, Allen

The following new Licensed Architects (Reciprocity) were admitted in 2009:

Balmer, Duff
Brandts, Elisa
Chorny, Bohdan
Dimare, Dario
Eslahjou, Babak
Frontini, Andrew
Gartner, Leslie
Gross, Naomi
Hartley, Alan
Hind, Mary Jo
Paquette, Albert
Ploeger, Steven
Poletti, Deni
Regehr, Hanna
Shremshock, Gerald
Thibodeau, J. Robert
Vermeulen, Frederick
Wignall, Douglas
Yip, Tony

The following Licensed Architects (Reciprocity) resigned in 2009:

Anderson, D. Richard
Coles, Howard
Dissinger, Donald
McLeisch, James
Pellow, Harry
Schmitt, Donald
Scott, David
Sutherland, Thomas

The following Licensed Architects (Reciprocity) were removed from the register for non payment in 2009:

Ellard, Robert
Koenka, David

The following Licensed Architects (Reciprocity) reclassified to Associate in 2009:

Coviensky, Jerry
Hazell, Charles
Irwin, Stephen
MacKenzie, Peter
Scoler, Marcus
Taylor, Jill

The following new Intern Members were admitted in 2009:

Blouin, Richard
Cameron-Surette, Lee
Carmichael, Jonathan
Choo, Douglas
Cranford, Andrew
Felix, Jean Paul
Fitzgerald, Emma
Fudge, Nicholas
Gandhi, Omar
Gaudet, Marc Andre
Gilman, Sheena
Kawar, Ramzi
Lipsett, Tyler
MacQuarrie, Catherine
Mandiville, Jonathan
Matebekwane, Setlhom
McNaughton, Catherine
Molloy, Alanna
Reid, Kevin
Sampson, Anna
Terrauds, Stephen

NSAA Continuing Education Committee 2009 Year end report

Committee Members: Dan O'Reilly (Chair)
Jennet Bowdridge
Therese LeBlanc
James Marriott
Darrell Spencer
Diane Scott
Stacey Hughes
Jeremy Martell

With the proclamation of the new Nova Scotia Architects Act this year, the NSAA Continuing Education Program officially became Mandatory and compliance a condition of membership (MCEP). For the first time members were required to submit their MCEP transcript along with their Application for Renewal. All transcripts were reviewed by the committee for general compliance with the requirements of the MCEP.

120 members, or 78.4% of our members, have submitted transcripts and of the 21.6% who did not, many have cited their planned retirement as the reason for not submitting. 90.8% of the transcripts submitted were compliant with the MCEP requirements.

To acknowledge the proclamation of the act part way through the 2008/2009 cycle, the original requirement of the 2008-2009 cycle of 20 Core hours and 80 Self Directed hours was prorated to 15 Core Hours and 55 Self Directed Hours. Members who exceeded these prorated requirements can carry over excess hours up to a maximum of 8 Core hours (over and above the prorated requirement of 15 Core Hours) and a maximum of 27 Self Directed Hours (over and above the prorated requirement of 55 Self Directed Hours).

The committee organized 2 half day (3 Hours each) Core education presentations by Brian Watkinson. The Saturday lectures '*Design Your Practice for Success and Profit*' and '*Going beyond Mastering the Business of Architecture*' were well attended by members.

As with past years the Con Ed committee activities in 2009 included reviewing and sanctioning Core learning opportunities and listing them on the drop down menu of the NSAA tracking site to make it easier for members to record their Con Ed efforts.

Starting with the present 1 year cycle (01 January, 2010 – 31 December, 2010), the Con Ed Committee is no longer providing a pull down menu of approved Core learning opportunities. There is a large number and variety of learning opportunities available to members and the committee cannot review them all. Members are now required to record their continuing education as Core or Self Directed based on the Quality Assurance document available on the RAIC Web Site. There is a helpful guide to recording hours on the RAIC website. Usernames and passwords have been distributed to all members. Members are reminded that any continuing education events approved as Core by any Provincial or Territorial Architectural Association is automatically accepted as Core by the NSAA.

Although we have had 2-Year cycles in the past, the NSAA has decided to switch to a 1-Year cycle this year. This will facilitate the objective of a continuous emphasis on education and ease of management of the program. This decision will be reevaluated after 2 cycles.

Members will again be required to submit their transcript along with their Application for Renewal by the close of the cycle – December 31st, 2010. All transcripts will be reviewed for general compliance with the requirements of the MCEP. A random audit may be conducted in order to ensure accuracy of reporting and relevance of reported activities. Members must maintain supporting documentation for all educational activities completed during the Cycle for a period of two years after the end of the Cycle. Members may be required to submit such documentation to the NSAA upon request.

Respectfully submitted

Dan O'Reilly committee chair

Nova Scotia Building Advisory Committee Report

Robert McLaren

The Nova Scotia Building Advisory Committee, established by the NS Building Code Regulations, under the Building Code Act of 1989, has the following functions:

- to provide the Minister with advice and assistance concerning the Act and Regulations;
- to provide liaison between the Minister and the NRC or other bodies concerned with construction standards;
- to hear appeals respecting technical requirements of the NS Building Code;
- to respond to matters referred to it by a judge; and
- to perform other duties and functions referred to it by the Minister.

Members of the Committee represent the various Associations and groups that are involved in the building and construction sector, including APENS, the Interior Designers of Nova Scotia, the NS Home Designers Association, the Disabled Persons Commission, the Union of NS Municipalities, UDI, CANS, and the NS Building Officials Association. Meetings of the full Committee are held monthly, with ad hoc working groups meeting as special needs require.

The most consistent role of the Committee is the review and coordination of revisions and errata to the National Building Code and National Plumbing Code. These national initiatives are integrated into the Nova Scotia Building Code Regulations.

Over the past year, the majority of the activities of the Committee established energy guidelines for Part Nine buildings. The next several years, in conjunction with National efforts to re-examine the Model National Energy Codes, will develop energy guidelines for Part Three buildings.

Other topics that will be reviewed through the next period will include;

- Professionalization of the residential construction industry through the mandatory licensing of residential construction contractors.
- Adding a Letter of Undertaking for Interior Designers to those currently required by the NS Building Code for architects and engineers.
- One of the more controversial barrier-free issues recently adopted was the requirement for multi-unit residential buildings of more than three units to provide fully barrier-free units in the ratio of 1 in 20. Concerns have been expressed to eliminate or

modify this requirement as being onerous for developers and ineffective in achieving greater housing opportunities for the physically challenged public. More review and discussion would follow the normal procedures for recommending revisions to the Code.

- Another issue that will impact our profession will be the outcomes from a recent study into the problems encountered by owners of new condominium units. The problems are noted to include envelope failure and resulting water penetration. Corrective measures are proposed to include the following:
 - improvements to licensing of trades,
 - registration of builders/developers, requiring the Architectural and Engineering professions to strengthen their requirements in the Letters of Undertaking and, as self-policing bodies, to report compliance failures to Provincial Authorities,
 - to introduce mandatory inspections of the building envelope by a suitably qualified specialist working at arms length from the developer using a separate Letter of Undertaking.
 - To require a mandatory warranty for water penetration protection for at least 5 years

The Committee continues to conduct hearings requested by the public as an appeal to decisions made by the Authority Having Jurisdiction.

If you have comments or concerns you wish to express about these or other Code issues, please do forward them to me or to:

Mr. Ted Ross, Building Code Coordinator
NS Environment and Labour
phone: 424-8046
fax: 424-3239
e-mail: rosstg@gov.ns.ca

Respectfully submitted,

Rob McLaren, NSAA representative to the Committee

Nova Scotia Building Code Training and Certification Board

The Nova Scotia Building Code Training and Certification Board was established in 2008 to meet the requirements of the Building Code Act and Regulations that requires municipalities to employ only qualified persons as municipal building officials. There are twelve board members representing Municipal Government Organizations and the Design and Construction Industry of Nova Scotia which includes the NSAA. The first annual meeting of the Board was held last June.

The Board is responsible for:

- Establishing minimum requirements to become a building official in Nova Scotia;
- Accrediting training courses, organizations, institutions and facilitators;
- Establishing the minimum education, training, and internship requirements for various levels of qualified building officials in Nova Scotia;
- Issuing diplomas and certificates.

The Review Committee continued the practice of reviewing applicants for qualification and certification. Twenty-one applicants for Diplomas of Qualification were approved; of these applicants five received Level 1 Diplomas and sixteen received Level 2 Diplomas.

The Board has made progress on challenges reported last year:

- Interprovincial agreements and course alignments have been established to facilitate the transfer of qualifications between provinces and territories. This includes building officials certified nationally by the Alliance of Building Officials Association.
- A policy and procedure to permit challenge exams of individual courses and qualifications is to be proposed for board approval. This will address persons who believe they are qualified and challenge for Level 2 recognition; non-Canadians with no reciprocal agreement and Canadian building officials that have qualifications that do not align with Nova Scotia Requirements.
- Building officials have been appointed from other provinces as well as within the province to fill existing vacancies.

The Board is committed to continuing education for all building officials and has worked with their training body to assure municipal officials have complied with the Nova Scotia Building Officials Association requirements to maintain their membership in good standing by taking Code Change training. The Board is also carrying out a preliminary investigation to implement mandatory mentorship and field experience.

Respectfully submitted,

John Thomson
NSAA Representative and Review Committee Member

2010 RAIC Representative Report



The Royal Architectural Institute of Canada
Atlantic Regional Director
120 – 1061 Marginal Road, Halifax, NS B3J 3Z3
pfrank@jdaarchitects.ca

I would like to take this opportunity to report on some of the activities that the RAIC has accomplished over the past year on behalf of architects and architecture. This may serve as a reminder or possibly to inform you for the first time about some of the important programs of the RAIC.

1. Practice Support

I am pleased to announce the recent addition of a practice specialist at RAIC national office. Graham Murfitt, MRAIC, joined the staff over the summer with some 30 years of experience. He is to act as a resource to the membership and bring another architect's perspective to the RAIC. Graham will be coordinating practice support services, updating and developing contract documents and other practice support material; as well as answering enquiries from the profession.

His input will be invaluable as the RAIC continues to maintain standard contract documents, such as RAIC Document Six: Canadian Standard Form of Contract Between Client and Architect, which are easy to use, customize and download. New Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) clauses were added in 2008.

Also in 2008 the RAIC revised the old Document Five and created an electronic **Guideline for Conducting Architectural Competitions** – you can find it on our website in the "*Architecture and Architects*" section. We also continue to support the development of various CCDC documents, and appoint three members to the Canadian Construction Documents Committee.

Through the website, RAIC continues to sell the electronic version of the National Master Specification at a discount to members.

We have two very exciting new documents - the **Guide to Determine Appropriate Fees for the Services of an Architect**. We launched this document during the Festival of Architecture and Forum this past June in Montreal and it is intended for use by both clients and architects. It includes updated recommendations for percentage-based fees. Best of all it is free for download to all RAIC members and the **revised Canadian Handbook of Practice for Architects, Second Edition** is now available online in PDF format and will later this year be available on CD-ROM and in print.

In 1997, the RAIC and the provincial architects' associations produced the popular three-binder manual known as CHOP. Over the years there have been various supplements to this first edition, but over time it became clear that a total update of the contents and the creation of a digital version were needed. **The *Second Edition* is a totally new edition that replaces the existing CHOP.**

Interns – pay special attention - The ExAC is based on this totally new edition of the CHOP.

This updated edition is important to ensure architects in Canada have the latest information on best practices at their fingertips. It contains more than 50 checklists (many of them new), updated references and current practice advice. It also ensures the latest internet technologies are used to ensure widespread use and application.

A PDF version is currently available **at discounted prices for Canadian Architects, Canadian Interns and Intern Architects, and Students in a professional degree (Master's) program at an accredited Canadian School of Architecture through RAIC for only \$75.**

2. Advocacy

The RAIC continues to produce a magazine – *Architecture, a magazine for public and institutional administrators*. So far an issue has already been mailed in 2009 to client groups explaining the virtues of design excellence, sustainable design and qualifications-based selection of architects. The upcoming issue – already underway - due out in November - will focus on excellence in justice architecture.

The RAIC also continues to make briefs and to write to government officials regarding issues of importance to the profession. We sent letters to the Prime Minister and to all leaders of the opposition parties about the importance of including buildings in any infrastructure funding and the need for infrastructure funding tied to energy efficiency.

Our two key advocacy messages, “Architecture Matters” and “Every Building Has an Architect” continue to be promoted in a variety of ways. Our growing membership is helping add to this voice.

3. Professional Development

A core activity of the RAIC is the development and delivery of leading-edge Continuing Education courses for architects.

This past fall we offered two courses:

SDCB 325: Integrating Sustainability: Selecting and Designing for Low-Energy Comfort Systems (or getting mechanical engineers back to designing, rather than simply sizing, building systems) – a full-day course worth 7 core hours – it is about how to achieve human comfort in buildings using natural ventilation and energy-efficient mechanical systems and includes several case studies and a group exercise.

Our second course was developed by the Canadian Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute and the Cement Association of Canada and is aptly called **Concrete Thinking** For 7 *Core credits* participants look at how to be really sustainable, communities have to be a delight to live and work in, and how concrete can be used to produce beautiful, sustainable buildings that can be the foundation for many types of projects.

RAIC also has a very special course which is open only to a select group of RAIC members. Each year a call for applications goes out and the Board meticulously chooses a scant few recipients – a difficult task I must say. This year we were lucky to receive even more support and we are sending six architects to attend the much sought after week-long course on Stone and Marble at Marmomacc in Verona, Italy.

4. Honours and Awards

To recognize and encourage excellence in architecture, the RAIC administers several awards programs. Last year we distributed the RAIC Awards of Excellence and this year we are already in the process of arranging for two significant awards:

The **National Urban Design awards** and the **Governor General's Medals in Architecture**.

From the Honours side RAIC was pleased to elevate over 33 architects to Fellowship – two as Honorary Fellows at the annual convocation of the College of Fellows held in Montreal during the Festival of Architecture and Forum. This year we will be in Saskatoon so I hope you will all make plans to be with us.

5. Member Benefits

The RAIC works to ensure that members have access to great resources and services by offering a growing number of member benefits. In 2009 we were very pleased to offer to all RAIC members residing in Canada a free subscription to Canadian Architect, in addition to other professional journals such as Award magazine and SAB magazine.

One recent addition, our advanced job placement and recruiting service– Archistaff – may well be of interest to some of you. You can find the archistaff.ca link through RAIC's website if you have not yet used it.

6. Other

Finally it is important to note that the RAIC was able to secure funding from Human Resources Skills Development Canada to advance several projects of importance to the profession in Canada. Several of these projects help to assist admissions and regulatory initiatives by the Canadian Architectural Licensing Authorities These projects include:

- Course development for the new RAIC Centre of Architecture at Athabasca University (the current RAIC Syllabus program);
- Revisions and updating to the Canadian Education Standard ;
- The development of a licensing process for the Broadly Experience Foreign Architect
- The creation of a website to assist foreign architects when coming to Canada to better integrate into the profession.

In closing, I invite you all to come to Saskatoon June 22 to 26 to see for yourself what the RAIC has been doing. You won't want to miss this conference tagged "**Sounds like Architecture!**" Not only will it give you a chance to network with your colleagues in the profession – it just happens to coincide with Saskatoon's Jazz Festival. I hope to see you there.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul E. Frank, NSAA, FRAIC
Atlantic Regional Director

NSAA Nominating Committee Report

The following names are being put forward to serve on Council of the Nova Scotia Association of Architects for the ensuing year:

President:	Ron Burdock	
Councillors:	Harry Jost	(2 nd year)
	Stacey Hughes	(2 nd year)
	Stephen Outerbridge	(2 nd year)
	Mark Atwood	(1 st year)
	Leif Fuchs	(1 st year)
	Barbara MacDonald	(1 st year)

This Council represents the first year of transition from the previous Councils which had remained in effect while the new Act was initiated. The positions of “Senior Councillor” and “Junior Councillor” no longer apply under the new Act. A total of six Councillors are required for two year terms, of which three shall retire from Council upon the completion of their term and three new Councillors shall be elected.

In accordance with our Act, a Public Representative was appointed by Council in 2009. The NSAA undertook a process of advertising for the position, reviewing applications and interviewing candidates. As a result of that process, Council unanimously appointed Linda Garber to serve a three year term on Council as the Public Representative.

The Committee wishes to thank and acknowledge the dedication to Council of Therese LeBlanc, outgoing President as well as Steven Mannell, Susan Fitzgerald and Talbot Sweetapple who have retired their positions from Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Eugene Pieczonka, Chair
Paul Frank, Committee Member
Don Lohnes, Committee Member

NSAA wishes to thank the following sponsors for
their contribution to the
78th Annual General meeting:



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