



**NIAGARA BIENNIAL**  
A W A R D S

# **JURY REPORT**

## 2022

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

As we take a moment today to reflect on the importance of the land on which we gather, our provider and sustainer, we look to understand the history of the land. Niagara Region is situated on treaty land. These lands are steeped in the rich history of the First Nations such as the Hatiwendaronk, the Haudenosaunee, and the Anishinaabe, including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.

Intended to guide the relationship between the First Nations and Europeans, the Two Row Wampum is an important symbol of everlasting equality, peace, and friendship. It remains the foundation upon which Canada was built, and we recognize that this mutually respectful relationship between nations is essential for reconciliation today.

There are many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples from across Turtle Island that live and work in Niagara today. The Regional Municipality of Niagara stands with all Indigenous peoples, past and present, in promoting the wise stewardship of the lands on which we live. We recognize that we must do more to learn about the history and current situation of Indigenous peoples. This will help us better understand our roles and take responsibility towards reconciliation as treaty people, residents, and caretakers.



Niagara is home to more than 485,000 citizens and welcomes over 13 million visitors each year to enjoy Niagara's natural wonders and bounty. Niagara continues to be a great place to live, work, learn, and play within vibrant urban and rural communities.

The Region has a diverse landscape including two great lakes, rivers, waterfalls, wetlands, woodlands and the Niagara Escarpment. It also boasts some of the best agricultural lands and is especially known for its variety of wine making regions. The geography of Niagara plays an important role in shaping our many built environments and defining a sense of place. This Design Awards program celebrates the role of design in enriching and enhancing our unique and diverse communities.

As we came to realize during the recent pandemic, our rural places, hamlets, towns, and cities are vital to our fulfillment and to our sense of belonging. Through the pandemic, we came to value the look and feel of our parks, streets, and the buildings that surround us. Excellence in design of the built environment is critical to creating resilient communities with lasting value. High quality buildings, streets, and spaces are the building blocks of sustainable, balanced, and rewarding communities worth living in. Niagara Region is committed to promoting design excellence and acknowledges the significant contribution that designers and creators make towards a vibrant Niagara.

I would like to thank everyone involved in making this second instalment of the Niagara Biennial Design Awards a success. I want to acknowledge the hard work by staff of Niagara Region and our partner municipalities, and the esteemed jury. I also want to congratulate all of the project owners and the project teams that made entries to the awards program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Bradley". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "J".

Niagara Regional Chair, Jim Bradley

## INTRODUCTION

In 2020, Niagara Region launched the Niagara Biennial Design Awards. It replaced the former Niagara Community Design Awards, which wrapped up in 2016. 2022 marks the second instalment of the new bi-annual program, which is held every two years.

The Niagara Biennial was established to recognize and celebrate design excellence of the built environment throughout Niagara. The purpose is to promote a broad range of design fields and highlight the valuable contribution to Niagara's cultural capital that is made by designers and patrons alike. By sharing Niagara's design successes, the program promotes Niagara as a place that is synonymous with excellent design.

The awards program bestows recognition upon the designers, teams, and owners that contributed to the success of the submitted projects. The program includes evolving design categories that cover a wide cross-section of many facets relating to design of the built environment.

Out of the 35 entries the Jury evaluated, 11 projects received awards. This Jury report describes each of the winning entries and provides a statement by the Jury that reflects the degree of excellence achieved by each.

## DESIGN CATEGORIES

### VISIONARY DESIGN

- Unbuilt projects (plans, studies, etc.) that propose a development or redevelopment strategy for an urban area

### URBAN DESIGN

- Large-scale built projects providing places for people to live, work, play and learn. Includes multi-modal options and a diversity of land uses and built form
- Small-scale, outdoor projects that are temporary in nature. Located on public or private land, these projects are designed to improve an urban space or condition

### ARCHITECTURE

- New buildings plus their relationship to the surrounding context
- Additions/renovations to existing buildings plus their relationship to the existing built form

### INTERIOR PUBLIC SPACE

- Interior design project within an existing or newly constructed building, which is accessible to the public

### LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

- Outdoor landscape spaces on public lands
- Outdoor landscape spaces/structures on private lands, which are accessible to the public

### OUTDOOR ART\*

- Permanent or temporary outdoor art installations located on private or public lands, which are visible from the public realm

\* For the 2022 program, the Jury made a decision to introduce temporary installations into the Outdoor Art Category.

### STUDENT DESIGNS

- Student design projects that seek to provide a design solution specific to the Niagara context
- Project is part of course work from a Canadian university or college program

### ENDURING DESIGN

- Any built form or landscape project completed before Dec. 31, 2019
- Introduced by the 2020 Jury panel, this category highlights projects from Niagara's larger design history that continue to resonate and remain relevant

## ELIGIBILITY

The Niagara Biennial accepted entries which met the following requirements:

- Entries must be located within the municipal boundaries of the Niagara Region
- Entries must be completed between Jan. 1, 2020 and Sept. 16, 2022

Additional eligibility requirements relate to specific design categories:

### VISIONARY DESIGN

- Entries must be endorsed by the local municipality in which the project is located

### BUILDINGS, INTERIOR PUBLIC SPACE, AND LANDSCAPES

- Entries must be substantially complete (ready for use); building or site must be visually accessible to the public

### STUDENT PROJECTS

- A student attending a Canadian post-secondary institution as part of their curriculum must prepare entries. Design project must be located within Niagara Region

### ENDURING DESIGN

- Entries must be completed before Dec. 31, 2019

## JUDGING CRITERIA

Entries were evaluated by the Jury using the following judging criteria, which was applied based upon the relevance to the specific design category:

### COMPREHENSIVENESS

- Demonstrates a multi-layered approach to the evolution of the design, including best practices of the respective design discipline

### INNOVATION

- Highlights new ideas, approaches and technologies of the design discipline

### STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- Degree to which stakeholders were involved in shaping the project

### VIBRANCY

- Project evokes a sense of place and successfully invites people to enter and experience the space

### QUALITY OF EXECUTION

- Project exhibits design excellence through use of materials, composition and installation which enhances the surrounding built environment

### CONTEXTUAL RESPONSE

- Project is well-integrated into the surrounding context and contributes to the urban fabric

### SUSTAINABILITY

- Project includes features such as sustainable design elements, practices and green infrastructure

## AWARD LEVELS

### LEVEL 1:

#### GRAND PRIZE // 2

The best overall project that exceeded the judging criteria and, out of all the entries, represented an exceptional level of design excellence and the broadest impact to the community. For 2022, the Jury panel recognized two projects being worthy of a Grand Prize.

### LEVEL 2:

#### OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT // 7

A submission that exceeded the judging criteria.

### LEVEL 3:

#### AWARD OF EXCELLENCE // 2

A submission that met the judging criteria.

## ENTRIES BY DESIGN CATEGORY

08/

Visionary Design

09/

Landscape Architecture

12/

Architecture

02/

Outdoor Art

01/

Urban Design

02/

Student Design

01/

Interior Public Space

00/

Enduring Designs

11  
AWARDS  
OUT OF 35  
ENTRIES

### WERE LOCATED WITHIN 10 OF THE 12 MUNICIPALITIES:

- 04 / Fort Erie
- 03 / Grimsby
- 05 / Lincoln
- 03 / Niagara Falls
- 04 / Niagara-on-the-Lake
- 00 / Pelham
- 02 / Port Colborne
- 06 / St. Catharines
- 05 / Thorold
- 00 / Wainfleet
- 02 / Welland
- 01 / West Lincoln

PUBLIC SECTOR  
ENTRIES: 22 (63%)

PRIVATE SECTOR  
ENTRIES: 13 (37%)



# JURY STATEMENT

*“There’s a beautiful avalanche of ideas that are hitting us”.*

- A Juror’s impression of the Jury panel event



Jury members Linda Carreiro, Gordon Stratford, Eldon Theodore, Sheila Boudreau and Eric Turcotte

The Jury was honoured to review the entries for the 2022 program. They thank staff for their diligent preparation of the entries and their generous hospitality. The Jury was impressed by the range and quality of design happening in Niagara and are pleased to see projects spanning many design categories, scales, contexts and budgets.

There was a good level of competition within the categories. This made for interesting discussions amongst the Jurors regarding which projects would become award winners. Some projects excelled in several design categories, sparking conversation on how excellent design does not always fit into a specific category. The Jury moved some entries from one design category to another. The flexibility to shift projects between categories was helpful during Jury deliberation.

Many significant projects competed directly with one another, making the task of choosing the winners a worthy challenge. In reviewing the entries, the Jury felt strongly that the Grand Prize should be awarded to two projects that were unique given their purpose and scale, but equally powerful.

In the Architecture category, there were excellent examples of adaptive re-use, new buildings and building additions. Projects ranged from large-scale legacy buildings from the 2022 Canada Summer Games, to small-scale mixed-use developments.

In the Landscape Architecture category, the entries were quite diverse. Projects ranged from Community and District parks, Ecology & Restoration, Streetscapes & Placemaking, and Privately Owned Public Space (POPS). With respect to the POPS entry, the Jury remarked that it was the first of its kind in Niagara.

Many of the Landscape Architectural projects provided an amenity from a tactical point of view. The winning entries presented unique opportunities to the Jury who posed the question, “does this project sing in its poetry and the way that it is put together?”

For the Outdoor Art category, the Jury chose to refine the definition to accommodate temporary installations. Even though ephemeral in nature, a temporary art piece is still a valuable design contribution.

There were other categories where the Jury felt that there were no entries that made the leap to be award winners. These categories include Urban Design and Student Design.

With respect to the Port Colborne Marina Master Plan, the Jury liked the project, and suggested calling attention to this significant place in a more meaningful way. There is a unique opportunity to design an iconic building; perhaps through a design competition.

# REMARKS FOR FUTURE DESIGN AWARDS

The Jury wishes to provide additional observations on the design categories, submission criteria and other aspects of the program for staff to consider in future years.

## Submitted Materials

Require a more comprehensive package of design information including more detail about the context. With respect to architectural projects, drawings and photos of all sides of the building should be included.

## Visionary Design

Require these projects to provide more information. In addition, projects may benefit from a more tailored application form that will help with capturing the innovative thinking behind the project.

## Student Design

Connecting with student organizations and more information about the design program and the course for which the project relates is welcomed.

## Outdoor Art

Cast a broader net to receive more submissions, and consider greater outreach to professional visual arts organizations.

## Indigenous Engagement

Recommend that projects seek more participation with Indigenous communities. For public buildings, parks and streetscapes, owners and designers are encouraged to include Indigenous heritage, elements and creative voices in their projects.

## Site Visits

Encourage the program to include visiting built works. Experiencing the projects in person can assist with understanding the physical context and overall design vision.

# GRACE NOTES

The Jury acknowledged several entries that shone in one particular aspect of their design or execution. The Jury referred to these as “Grace Notes”.



WASHROOM FACILITY, SUNSET BEACH  
ARCHITECTURE

1 Lombardy Ave., St. Catharines

This new accessible washroom facility is centered upon a breezeway that provides physical access while framing a view to the beach. The design is extroverted and animated, with horizontal banding around the building harkening back to an old-fashioned bathing suit. The interiors were designed to a high quality, with thoughtful attention to the accessible needs of beach goers.



STRAIGHT SMILES ORTHODONTICS  
ARCHITECTURE

502 Ontario Street, St. Catharines

This small-scale mixed-use project integrates two basement apartments with an orthodontic clinic: a positive example of introducing gentle density. The clinic addresses the corner property, creating a sense of arrival. In a predominantly residential neighbourhood, a human scale was applied to the built form. By utilizing a residential design language, the building blends into the community.



## GRACE NOTES



### ALBERT STREET PARK

#### LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

56 Albert St., Fort Erie

The rejuvenation of this park represents a thoughtful civic investment in the neighbourhood. Using figure eight shaped pathways prolongs walks and provides viewpoints around play areas and activities. The park's enhancements appeal to all ages and abilities.



### KONKLE CREEK NATURALIZATION

#### LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Greenlane to Oakwood Ave., Beamsville, Lincoln

This drainage channel was naturalized into a bird and fish habitat while providing opportunities for passive recreation. There is potential to take this project further by creating an informative story about naturalization. The design could consider creating lookout areas to interact with the creek, combined with interpretive signage and placemaking elements along the trail.



### CASABLANCA WATERFRONT PARK MP

#### VISIONARY

420 North Service Rd., Grimsby

The Jury would like to see the design of this waterfront park go further by addressing the significance of the site and providing greater detail. This project could be re-submitted to a future awards program.

Based upon the location along the Lake, Indigenous engagement and sustainable design are encouraged. For the play elements and sculptures, the Jury encourages hiring local artists for design and fabrication.



### THE LOCKS

#### VISIONARY

11 Main St., 16 Lock St., 12 Lockport Rd., Port Dalhousie

This project is a clever urban design solution to a complex site. The design balances heritage, adaptive reuse, topography, narrow streetscapes, and access to the waterfront.

This project will evolve with the treatment of the ground floor and relationships to heritage structures.



### BROCK DISTRICT PLACEMAKING MANUAL

#### VISIONARY

Brock District (Thorold and St. Catharines)

Placemaking happens in many different ways with one being design of the public realm. The manual is quite complete and has design merit. The Jury encourages a higher level of sustainable design and potential for green infrastructure.



### ADULT OUTDOOR FITNESS DESIGN MANUAL

#### VISIONARY

Thorold

Municipalities are doing more with parks today. The pandemic has refocused attention towards providing new amenities, including an emphasis on outdoor fitness. The jury applauded the product research, having never seen a design manual such as this for outdoor adult fitness equipment.

GRACE NOTES



**"HEAVEN GREENHOUSE" AND "REWILD"**

**STUDENT DESIGN**

215 Garrison Rd., Fort Erie

Interior Design Students were tasked with re-imagining an aging motel into short-term housing units. "Heaven Greenhouse" invokes biophyllic design by placing a greenhouse over the motel, invoking a lush, tropical flavour to the space. "Rewild" presents a fascinating thesis that imagines a building where humans co-exist with wild animals.

Both interior design projects included accomplished visual communication of their design strategies. They creatively demonstrated innovative thinking that imaginatively pushes boundaries regarding adaptive reuse. Both projects are the start of great ideas that should continue to evolve.



**NIAGARA BIENNIAL**  
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**AWARD WINNERS**

- INTERIOR PUBLIC SPACE
- ARCHITECTURE
- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- OUTDOOR ART
- VISIONARY DESIGN



# GRAND PRIZE AWARD NIAGARA PARKS POWER STATION

**Project Address** 7005 Niagara River Pkwy, Niagara Falls  
**Project Owner** The Niagara Parks Commission  
**Project Team** +VG Architects, ELLIS Engineering Inc., FORREC, Lord Cultural Resources, Science North, Stantec, Thinkwell Montreal

## Project Description

The project adaptively re-uses a 115-year-old intact hydro power station. The interior showcases restored artifacts and interactive exhibits. Preservation of cultural heritage attributes were critical in the design process. Retail space, offices and washroom facilities were seamlessly integrated into the historical structure. The tail race tunnel brings guests down 55 metres in a glass-paneled elevator to a new observation deck at the river's edge.

The expansive generator hall with its gabled ceiling and exposed steel supports was maintained along with the generators. What began as an industrial-scale production of electricity at Niagara Falls has evolved into a multi-faceted visitor experience.



## Jury's Comments

This magnificent project received a Grand Prize for its approach to adaptive reuse. It is like no other project submitted and is beautifully executed. The project displays the archaeology of modern tools and is a cultural heritage artifact of the pioneering electrical era. The roots of Niagara's electrical power generation over the past century are skillfully captured in the design. It represents an incredible investment and the will of executing a project to such a high quality.



## GRAND PRIZE AWARD NEIL CAMPBELL ROWING CENTRE

**Project Address** 72 Henley Island Dr., St. Catharines  
**Project Owner** City of St. Catharines, Canadian Henley Rowing Corporation  
**Project Team** MJMA Architecture & Design, Raimondo + Associates Architects Inc.,  
 Blackwell Structural Engineers, Smith + Andersen, Upper Canada Consultants,  
 2022 Canada Summer Games



### Project Description

This rowing facility embodies the legacy of rowing in Niagara, carrying it into the future. Events were hosted for the 2022 Canada Summer Games. It is the social and performative heart of the Henley Island rowing community, supporting the history of competition since 1903.

The design continues the tradition of the 'glass house,' reimagined as a functional, social amenity. The form of the building is generated by the roof, designed with a mass timber system. It is held aloft by a light steel column structure. The building places the interior activities on display, while visually linking to the water and land. Steps to the watercourse physically connect to the water, creating a strong visual identity.



### Jury's Comments

This elegant project was awarded a Grand Prize for the best new building. The design is a master class in "less is so much more"; showing what can be achieved with the least amount of ornamentation to beautifully capture a space that connects to its surroundings.

The graceful simplicity and openness of the built form partly floats above the water; perfectly evoking the essence of the sport it serves. There is a stunning transparency through the building to the water and a beautiful glow at night.



## OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT WALKER SPORTS AND ABILITIES CENTRE

**Project Address** 2021 Canada Games Way, Thorold  
**Project Owner** Brock University, City of St. Catharines, City of Thorold, Niagara Region  
**Project Team** MJMA Architecture & Design, Raimondo + Associates Architects Inc., Blackwell Structural Engineers, PMA Landscape Architects Ltd., Smith + Anderson, Upper Canada Consultants, 2022 Canada Summer Games



### Project Description

The Centre hosted events for the 2022 Canada Summer Games, including athletics (track and field), beach and indoor volleyball, box lacrosse, and wrestling. The exterior space and park includes a cycling and storage pavilion. It is a vital centre that supports sport, ability and community.

The center of the plan provides spaces for various user groups over two stories, accessed from a central atrium stair with a skylight. The sports halls are arranged in a triangle. The roof collects the halls under a unified plane, revealing a green roof. The overhangs provide shaded covered porches at the entrances.

The building is clad with chamfered precast concrete panels, creating subtle shadowing. A ceremonial plaza and entrance is located at the street intersection.



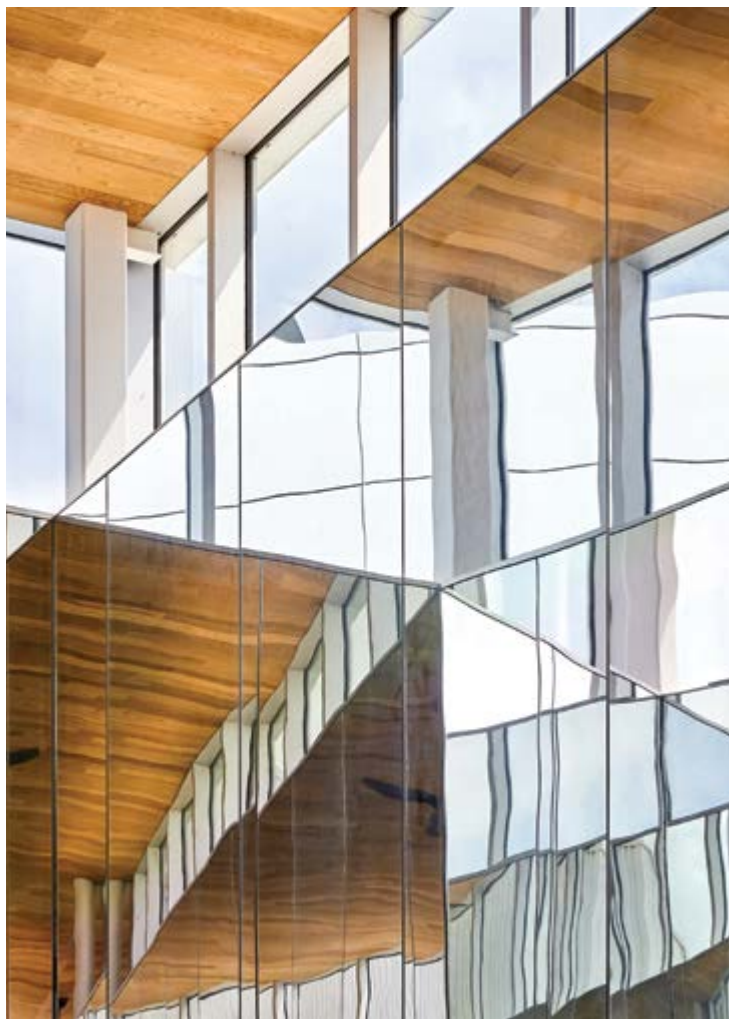
### Jury's Comments

The building and outdoor athletic facilities are brilliantly executed, resulting in a game changer for this underutilized corner of the Brock campus. The scale and program of this project is complex and was executed in such a skillfully thoughtful way. The facility redefines the area with its unique and sophisticated design identity, and its sense of openness and invitation presents a strong connection with the community it serves.



## OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT STUDENT COMMONS

**Project Address** 100 Niagara College Blvd., Welland  
**Project Owner** Niagara College  
**Project Team** Gow Hastings Architects, ENSO Systems, G.S. Wark Limited, MGM Engineering, Paula Hicks Foodservice Design, PMA Landscape Architects Ltd., Urban & Environmental Management Inc., WSP



### Project Description

This two-storey addition provides enhanced amenities and augments the College's 1970's era campus. The double-height volume includes new classrooms, a welcome centre, a food court, retail space, a student activity room and spaces for study and collaboration. The project includes a new, north-facing entrance, a wayfinding program, and extensive glazing that enables natural light and external views.

Above the food hall, a stream of clerestory mirrors reflect daylight into the corridor. Floor-to-ceiling curtain wall glazing draws daylight inside and creates views to the outdoors, while giving passersby glimpses of activity within. The lantern-like addition provides easy links to transit and student services.



### Jury's Comments

Although submitted in the architecture category, there is so much of this project that is about the seamless blurring of interior with exterior in this stunning design. A montage of perforated panel, mirrored surfaces, glass, abundant natural light and colour results in a welcoming and uplifting student commons, inside and out.

## AWARD OF EXCELLENCE SPIRIT IN NIAGARA DISTILLERY

**Project Address** 458 Lakeshore Rd., Niagara-on-the-Lake  
**Project Owner** Spirit in Niagara Distillery Corp.  
**Project Team** 2M Architects, McWilliam & Associates



### Project Description

The distillery was purposely built to process some of the 3,000 tonnes of over ripe tender fruit that are wasted annually in Niagara. The building includes a sustainable restaurant, retail and event spaces that features local farm products. It is surrounded by peach and nectarine orchards.

Distillery operations and production design includes geothermal and wetland waste disposal functions. The in-ground cistern system is large enough to provide potable water, onsite fire fighting resources with a geothermal cooling feature for water utilized in the distillation.

The retail building was designed to reflect architecture styles of an 18th century home in Niagara-on-the-Lake. The interior utilized the pine wood from a 150-year-old fruit-packing barn located on the property.



### Jury's Comments

The building has a beautiful presence. Its reflection on Niagara's architectural heritage creates a strong placemaking spirit on the site.

The consideration of many sustainable aspects of the design is admirable. The re-purposing of over-ripened fruit, wastewater, and 150-year-old barn wood into the design are commendable. This project is a beautiful example of sustainability and re-use that needs to be highlighted.



## OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT ROTARY PARK

**Project Address** 5020 Serena Dr., Beamsville, Lincoln  
**Project Owner** Town of Lincoln  
**Project Team** Landscape Planning Ltd., Creative Irrigation Solutions Inc., Lamarre Consulting Group Inc., MJS Consultants Inc., New Line Skateparks, Soil-Mat Engineers & Consultants Ltd., Stevensville Lawn Service Inc., Transitions Bike Parks Inc., Valdor Engineering, Rotary Club

### Project Description

Thoughtful design and programming that includes age-friendly and accessible amenities were of paramount importance for this destination park. There are also organized and non-programmed uses, best practices in beautification, environmental management and stewardship. These elements were carefully considered during the public engagement, planning and design processes.

The park includes the following features:

- Skate park and pump track
- Play areas, play structures and fitness equipment
- Shade structures with seating
- Site furniture and water bottle refill station
- Wayfinding and educational signage
- Outdoor learning area with a "Lending Library"
- Butterfly garden with public art
- Trees, planting beds and lawn areas



### Jury's Comments

As a community park, it is evident that a high level of creativity and technical expertise played a key role in the design. It results in a significant contribution to the surrounding community. It assembles the extensive program of amenities into an accessible and vibrant environment. The well-organized landscape plan enables a variety of animated and passive activities to take place concurrently and coexist without detriment to the enjoyment of all.

As the park's landscape grows and matures the outdoor rooms that the design has carefully seeded throughout the site will be fully realised. The addition of butterfly garden, public art, planting beds, and green areas add to the idea of stewardship, aesthetic appreciation, and preservation.



## OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT BRIDGE STREET ROUNDABOUT

**Project Address** 4799 Bridge St., Niagara Falls  
**Project Owner** Niagara Region  
**Project Team** City of Niagara Falls, GAMS, Lawns & More Inc., Rankin Construction Inc.

### Project Description

The roundabout is part the Thorold Stone Road extension project to Bridge Street and the GO Station. It includes conversion of a signalized intersection into a five-leg roundabout – the first of its kind in Niagara. It is an attractive gateway and arrival point for commuters and visitors.

The roundabout and medians are enhanced with design elements drawing upon railway heritage of the area. The centre island includes plant material arranged in a geometric pattern. This supports the aerial view, which depicts the shape of a train wheel. Illuminated metal lattice pillars reflect rail trestle bridges, while river rock is a nod to the stone ballasts along rail lines.



### Jury's Comments

This roundabout is unique in its large scale and presence in the urban landscape, resulting in a significant place maker in Niagara Falls. The design's imaginative highlighting of the City's rail heritage through form and materials results in a unique visual gateway. It serves as an example of placemaking and what is possible for innovative roundabout designs.



## OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT THE GARDENS AT PILLAR & POST INN

**Project Address** 526 Regent St., Niagara-on-the-Lake  
**Project Owner** Lais Hotel Properties Ltd.  
**Project Team** ACK Architects, Oakridge Landscape Contractors, Seferian Design Group



### Project Description

The gardens are a harmonious design of landscape architecture which is inspired by French impressionist artist Claude Monet and the gardens of his property. Water features, ponds, pedestrian bridges and archways are meticulously positioned throughout. The gardens include a reception hall and function building designed as a historical post and beam timber barn clad with reclaimed barn boards and curtain wall glazing.

Throughout the garden event spaces, seating and recreational activities are gracefully appointed providing group and individual experiences. The flexibility of the design provides creates a unique public-private realm experience.



### Jury's Comments

This large publicly accessible garden on private land is a primary example of a POPS (Privately Owned Public Space). It is a commendable civic gesture on behalf of the Inn. The design is a well-executed and well-cared for green space offering an array of active and passive settings for visitors and community residents alike. The design evokes both the hospitality culture of Niagara and the residential estate landscape heritage of Niagara-on-the-Lake.



# OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT POPPY PROJECT

**Project Address** 43 Castlereagh St., Niagara-on-the-Lake  
**Project Owner** Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum  
**Project Team** Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum Volunteers



## Project Description

Thousands of poppies are arranged from the roof to the grounds of the museum building, which was the former high school of the Town where many soldiers attended. The poppies cascade down the building, forming a path to the Canadian flag, with a 'garden' of poppies on the lawn.

The museum team joined a nation-wide project to create the temporary display for Remembrance day. Nearly 40 volunteers formed 'The Poppy Brigade'. They knitted, crocheted, and attached almost 3,000 poppies to netting.

The display was designed to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Poppy and bring attention to veterans and soldiers who died defending Canada.



## Jury's Comments

The Jury moved this entry from the Urban Design category to Outdoor Art. While the submission is a temporary installation, it's visually impressive design, with attention to lighting and spatial properties, prompted the Jury to consider it as an art piece.

The poppies are artful in the way that they flow as a vibrant red fabric down the building and across the lawn. They leave a lasting impression that is poignant. Adding to this work's importance is the remarkable community involvement of volunteers who created and wove together individually made poppies into a collective art piece. It evokes traditions of women gathering for craftmaking.



# AWARD OF EXCELLENCE DOWNTOWN BENCH ALLEY

<b>Project Address</b>	Between 4987 and 4985 King St., Beamsville, Lincoln
<b>Project Owner</b>	Downtown Bench Beamsville BIA
<b>Project Team</b>	Dan Kozina (Artist), Tom Konidas, Ken Hildebrand



## Project Description

The alley is located along King Street in the downtown core of Beamsville, connecting a municipal parking lot to the downtown shops. The Downtown Bench Beamsville BIA sought to beautify the downtown by activating the alley. The murals and lighting transform this heavily used pedestrian route into an attractive, bright thoroughway.

The murals are colourful and vibrant, creating an immersive experience. The artwork pays homage to the agriculture in the Town of Lincoln, depicting tender fruit and stone fruit crops. Christie's Dairy, our historical founder Jacob Beam, our craft beverage sector of craft beers and wines are also portrayed.



## Jury's Comments

An urban laneway has been transformed into an attractive, selfie-worthy pedestrian pathway in downtown Beamsville. The creative murals contribute a vibrant vitality to this space, while added lighting improves the safety of pedestrians. The result is a special place that encourages people to linger and enjoy the details of each image. As an added benefit, this is an exemplar of a repeatable project that can transform other forgotten spaces throughout Niagara's communities.



# OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT PORT ROBINSON ECOLOGICAL PARK MASTER PLAN

**Project Address** Near 51 River St., Thorold  
**Project Owner** City of Thorold  
**Project Team** R.J. Burnside & Associates Ltd.



## Project Description

This Master Plan seeks to provide sensory and educational experiences, while protecting and enhancing the natural heritage ecological system within the Welland River and Canal wetlands.

The bridge will be replaced with a “community-focused” pedestrian bridge, which has been a community hub since the 1930’s. It will support a variety of uses including picnics, fishing, wildlife observation and cycling.

Access to the river for kayaking and canoeing will be enhanced. Facilities include parking, a trail connection, and accessible launch ramp. Ecological and habitat enhancements include a barn swallow nesting structure, several turtle nesting beaches, bat boxes, and wetland features to support the ecosystem.



## Jury’s Comments

The Jury appreciated the blending of ecology focused design with the re-imagining of a cultural heritage landmark. As well, the efforts to design for species at risk while contributing community amenities is praised.

The potential to transform the bridge into a community space offers tremendous opportunity to create a sense of place. To develop this potential, the Jury encourages the City of Thorold to hold a design competition to consider innovative uses of the bridge to involve community.

# JUROR BIOGRAPHIES

**In the 2022 installment of the Niagara Biennial Awards, the Jury panel consisted of four celebrated design professionals and one facilitator. Each juror provided expertise in a variety of design fields. In addition to their work as design professionals, many jurors are also educators, presenters and sit on design review panels. Some of the jurors live and work within Niagara, while others are located in the Greater Toronto Area.**



## GORDON STRATFORD

Facilitator

Gordon was a Juror for the 2020 Niagara Biennial Awards. For 2022, he served as a facilitator for the Jury session. He brings in-depth experience as a design and facilitation expert and local knowledge as a resident of Niagara.

Gordon is an architect, urban designer, and product designer. He is a graduate of Waterloo and McGill Universities and is a licensed architect with the Ontario Association of Architects and fellow of the Royal Architects Institute of Canada.

Gordon led the creative vision of HOK Architects' Canadian design team from 1997 to 2017 as Senior Vice President and Design Principal. He is a Chair of the City of Toronto's Design Review Panel. He has also served on design juries in Toronto, Ottawa, Hamilton, and Edmonton. Gordon has been a guest design critic and presenter at Toronto Metropolitan University and University of Toronto. He is a mentor for the Ontario Association of Architect's Internship in Architecture Program, and the Vice-Chair of Niagara on-the-Lake's Urban Design Committee.



## ELDON THEODORE

Eldon is a Partner at MHBC, and a Professional Planner. He specializes in planning and urban design, having practiced for over 20 years. He holds an Honours Bachelor Degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Waterloo and a Masters in Urban Design Studies from the University of Toronto. Eldon is also trained under the National Charrette Institute System for facilitating community charrettes.

Eldon's experience includes a range of projects related to urban design, intensification, master planning, community design, architectural control guidelines, design concept development, visioning exercises, community engagement and public consultation.

Eldon is past Council Director for the Ontario Professional Planner's Institute and a current member of the Design Industry Association of Toronto. He has made numerous presentations on urban design issues at conferences and symposiums including the Ontario Professional Planners Institute, Canadian Institute of Planners, Congress for the New Urbanism, CityAge and various planning schools in Ontario. Eldon also sits on the design review panel for the City of Hamilton and the Town of Aurora.



## ERIC TURCOTTE

Eric is an Urban Designer, a planner and an architect. He is a partner at Urban Strategies Inc. and has over 27 years of experience in Canada, the United States and Europe. Eric has extensive redevelopment experience in Canada – notably in the Greater Toronto Area, Ottawa, the United States and Europe. As a partner, he has led numerous award-winning downtown revitalization plans, community design plans, transit-oriented developments, and large-scale master plans. He has recently completed the award-winning University of Ottawa Master Plan and is currently working on new mixed-use development of mall properties including CF Sherway Garden and CF Fairview. He is also leading the urban design and approvals on a number of major hospital projects including Toronto SickKids, CAMH and Mount Sinai.

Eric is an urban design industry leader and the President of the Council for Canadian Urbanism. He is a member of the Waterfront Toronto Design Review Panel and the chair of the Brampton Design Review Panel Project.





## LINDA CARREIRO

Linda is a text-based visual artist, writer and researcher. She is currently the Associate Dean of Fine & Performing Arts at the Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine & Performing Arts at Brock University. She is also a Professor in the Visual Art program.

Linda received a Bachelor of Fine Art (Honours) at the University of Manitoba, a Masters of Fine Art at the University of Alberta, and a PhD at the Cardiff School of Art & Design, Wales. In addition to teaching at the University of Calgary and OCAD University, she has worked in gallery education, artist-run governance, arts outreach and international development.

Linda's work has been exhibited nationally and internationally. This includes solo exhibitions at the Harcourt House Gallery (Edmonton), Truck Contemporary Art and Nickle Arts Museum (Calgary), Gallery 101 (Ottawa), Center for Books Arts (NYC), Mallin Gallery (Kansas City), Cuesta College Gallery (San Luis Obispo), and Limerick Printmakers Gallery (Ireland). She has also participated in group exhibitions across Canada, the United States, England, Scotland, Ireland and Korea.



## SHEILA BOUDREAU

Sheila is Principal Landscape Architect and Planner at SpruceLab Inc., a multi-disciplinary planning and landscape architecture firm and WBE Canada certified. She has over 27 years of experience with degrees in Landscape Architecture (University of Guelph), and Master of Arts in Planning (University of Waterloo). SpruceLab was founded in 2020 as a collaborative, nature-based firm with a community focus, and to prioritize Indigenous voices and honour her Mi'kmaq ancestors.

Professional experience includes Senior Landscape Architect (Toronto and Region Conservation Authority), Urban Designer (City of Toronto), Landscape Architect (DTAH), and Landscape Designer (City of Waterloo). She teaches about planning and design at Toronto Metropolitan University, and previously the University of Waterloo and University of Toronto.

Sheila sits on the Board of Directors for Landscape Architecture Canada Foundation, the Board of Advisors for TMU's Urban Water Research Centre, Ryerson Urban Farm Living Lab. She co-founded two paid training programs to introduce Indigenous Peoples to opportunities in the green infrastructure sector: Earth Tending and Nikibii Dawadinna Giigwag (for high school students).

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## PARTICIPATING MUNICIPALITIES

Fort Erie, Grimsby, Lincoln, Niagara Falls, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Pelham, St. Catharines, Thorold, Welland, West Lincoln

## PROJECT OWNERS AND PROJECT TEAMS

Thank-you to all of the project owners and teams who took the time to make a submission to the program

## TRADE ORGANIZATIONS

- Hamilton Halton Homebuilders Association
- Niagara Construction Association
- Niagara Home builders Association

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- ARIDO – Association of Registered Interior Designers of Ontario
- HBSA – Hamilton/Burlington Society of Architects
- NSoA - Niagara Society of Architects
- OAA – Ontario Association of Architects

- OALA – Ontario Association of Landscape Architects
- OPPI – Ontario Professional Planners Institute
- PEO – Professional Engineers of Ontario

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## SUBMISSION GALLERY



**Lincoln Museum and Cultural Centre**  
Architecture



**Neil Campbell Rowing Centre**  
Architecture



**Walker Sports and Abilities Centre at Canada Games Park**  
Architecture



**Niagara Parks Power Station**  
Interior Public Space



**Albert Street Park**  
Landscape Architecture



**Empire Sportsplex**  
Landscape Architecture



**Washroom Facility, Sunset Beach**  
Architecture



**The Village Apartments**  
Architecture



**Royal Port Condominiums**  
Architecture



**Konkle Creek Naturalization**  
Landscape Architecture



**Rotary Park**  
Landscape Architecture



**Smithville Square**  
Landscape Architecture



**Waterview Condominiums**  
Architecture



**Spirit in Niagara Distillery**  
Architecture



**Straight Smiles Orthodontics**  
Architecture



**Bridge Street Roundabout**  
Landscape Architecture



**Lundy's Lane Gateways**  
Landscape Architecture



**Sir Isaac Brock Way MUP and Brock District Gateways**  
Landscape Architecture



**Student Commons, Niagara College**  
Architecture



**Old Glenridge School Condominiums**  
Architecture



**A Room with a View**  
Architecture



**The Gardens at Pillar and Post Inn**  
Landscape Architecture



**Downtown Grimsby Parklet and Alley**  
Urban Design



**The Poppy Project**  
Outdoor Art



SUBMISSION GALLERY



Downtown Bench Alley  
Outdoor Art



Casablanca Waterfront  
Park MP  
Visionary Design



The Locks  
Visionary Design



Ontario Street Urban Design  
Vision and Streetscape MP  
Visionary Design



Marina District Revitalization  
Master Plan  
Visionary Design



Waterfront Centre Visioning  
Visionary Design



Port Robinson Ecological Park  
Master Plan  
Visionary Design



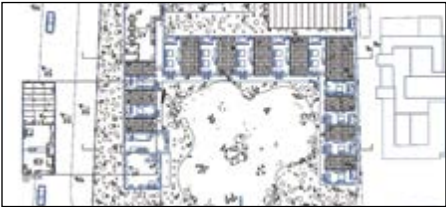
Brock District Placemaking  
Manual  
Visionary Design



Adult Fitness Design Manual  
Visionary Design



“Heaven Greenhouse”  
Student Design



“Rewild”  
Student Design



