

GOOD FOOTINGS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ONTARIO CHAPTER OF THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF HERITAGE PROFESSIONALS

PRESIDENT'S PEN FROM THE CAHP PRESIDENT



During this time of change in our profession I am heartened to see so much enthusiasm to meet the challenges and to come together in response. I am grateful to our community for providing comments and

expertise in preparing our response to Bill 23. If you haven't read it yet, you can access it here: <https://cahp-acecp.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/oahp-cahp-letter-bill-23-ero.pdf>

I am also grateful to our larger heritage community. Throughout preparation of our response to Bill 23, the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, ICOMOS Canada, Community Heritage Ontario, CAHP and Heritage Canada all worked together to exchange information and gather feedback. This interconnectedness will serve us well as we move forward as an industry.

As this goes to print we are facing yet more changes, this time through the changes to A Place to Grow and the Provincial Policy Statement. OAHP will again be preparing a response, and we encourage all members to provide comments and suggestions to assist with that response. We also encourage all members to review the materials and provide your own response. The current ERO listing can be found here: <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-6813>

I look forward to hearing from you and to continuing our discussion at the Ontario Heritage Conference in June!

Kayla Jonas Galvin
OAHP President
kayla.jonasgalvin@araheritage.ca

Having taken the role of CAHP President last October, this is my first contribution to the newsletter on behalf of CAHP. I'm happy to report that CAHP works very closely with OAHP and we've made positive advancements in bringing the two associations closer in the last year through various collaborative efforts such as chapter liaison meetings, training, resource sharing and joint responses to important topics. With over 70% of CAHP's membership in Ontario, strengthening this relationship is of great importance to CAHP.



Since the last newsletter was published, Ontario Bill 23 has been an important topic of conversation with significant impacts to the Ontario Heritage Act. The More Homes Built Faster Act, poses significant concerns to Ontario's heritage landscape and CAHP has co-signed with OAHP a letter stating our shared concerns in November 2022. Further, CAHP has also co-signed a letter in December 2022 to the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism along with National Trust, Indigenous Heritage Circle and ICOMOS Canada to share our grave concerns on the impacts of the Bill on the province's cultural heritage. This topic remains an important one that we will continue to discuss and advocate on behalf of Ontario's heritage.

As the culmination of hard work by CAHP's board of directors over the last few years, CAHP happily welcomed its first Executive Director in February of this year. Andrew Waldron brings more than 25 years of heritage experience into the role and we are extremely happy to see the progress we've already made in the last few weeks, improving our processes, finding efficiencies, making the entire association more cohesive with the target of implementing CAHP's strategic plan. We look forward to giving back more to our membership as we continue to better the association.

I wish everyone a beautiful spring and I'm looking forward to meeting some of you at upcoming events throughout the next few months.

Jean-Michel Carrière
CAHP President

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OAHP WANTS YOU!

BOARD MEMBERS

OAHP is looking for volunteers to serve on its Board of Directors (2023-24). We meet at least four times a year by teleconference. There are currently openings for various Board positions as well as for the Vice President. Incumbent and new Board Members will be confirmed at the OAHP AGM in London on 16 June 2023. Professional CAHP members who are interested, should email the Secretary, Sarah King Head at on@cahp-acecp.ca with a note about your interests in serving on the Board as well as a copy of your CV.

VOLUNTEERS

OAHP has several active committees that are looking for members including Communications, Government Liaison, Social and Education, and Governance. If you are interested, please email the Secretary, Sarah King Head at on@cahp-acecp.ca with a note about the committee(s) in which you are interested.

EVENTS IN THIS EDITION...

OAHP Annual General Meeting	3
2023 Ontario Heritage Conference	6
SSAC-SEAC Annual Conference	7
Indigenous History & Heritage Gathering	9

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Emails articles and photos us at:

on@cahp-acecp.ca

IN THIS EDITION...



ACO NextGen

PAGE 3



NEW HORIZONS

FOR

ADAPTIVE
REUSE

PAGE 4

OAKVILLE
COACH
HOUSE

PAGE 5

OAHP SPRING
SOCIAL

AT

ST. BRIGID'S

PAGE 7

SUSTAINABILITY &
ADAPTIVE
REUSE

PAGE 8

GBCA-ACO NEXTGEN JOB SHADOW PROGRAM AT MASSEY HALL, TORONTO

Amanda Sherrington GBCA Architects

For more than a decade, the heritage consultancy GBCA (Goldsmith Borgal & Company Ltd) has had the pleasure of supporting the ACO (Architectural Conservancy of Ontario)'s NextGen annual Job Shadow Program. The program encourages architectural and engineering firms, government bodies and diverse non-profits to meet with students or emerging professionals to discuss the firm's experience, what they do, their career progressions, opportunities in the field, and their industries as a whole.

During this year's Heritage Week in February 2023, GBCA Principal and Conservation Specialist Carlos Morell hosted the Job Shadow participants and young conservation enthusiasts for a day of heritage-focused discussions. He provided a general outline of the Ontario Heritage Act (OHA) and authorities that govern heritage work in Ontario, before lifting the curtain and walking the participants through the behind-the-scenes details of GBCA's heritage consulting work on Toronto's beloved music venue and designated National Historic Site of Canada: Massey Hall.

The participants had a 'deep dive' view of the documents that provide the framework for the conservation strategy and scope of heritage-related work that informs the revitalization work of a designated heritage building like Massey Hall that has been designated under Part IV of the OHA, including Heritage Impact Assessments (HIA) and Conservation Plans (CP). After a high-level explanation of the documents, details about the implementation of the conservation strategy were shared. Work on the project ranged from masonry replacement, stained glass conservation and repair, and extensive plasterwork to details such as careful conservation of the fire hoses. This served as an overview of the processes of heritage conservation, the complexity of the scope of conservation at Massey Hall, and the continued importance of collaboration across disciplines during all phases of heritage conservation projects.

PARTICIPANT IMPRESSIONS

'This project served as a reminder of the amount of collaboration from architect, engineers and other professionals required for a project to thrive,' explained Ehidiamen Iyamabo (BA Hons, Art & Architectural History, Carleton University).

'One of the critical lessons I learned from the day was the importance of heritage conservation and how it must be treated with the utmost sensitivity. I was also

struck by the level of detail and practicality that goes into the revitalization projects,' said Michael Ricci (MA candidate, Urban Planning and TA, University of Waterloo).

Julia Hodgson, a conservation student in the Willowbank Heritage Conservation Diploma program noted: 'Carlos emphasized the importance of facilitating a collaborative environment for all disciples from start to finish to ensure a positive outcome.'



ACO NextGen job shadow students Julia Hodgson and Ehidiamen Iyamabo discuss Massey Hall with Carlos Morell - Justin Torres, GBCA

ABOUT THE JOB SHADOW HOST

GBCA is an architectural firm specializing in heritage and technical consulting, adaptive reuse design, and restoration architecture.

Carlos Morell, Principal at GBCA, oversees the technical aspects of heritage consulting, including masonry rehabilitation, building-envelope analysis, integration of new systems into heritage fabric, and contract administration. He has more than 20 years of experience in conservation and historic restoration. Born in Cuba, he trained as an architect at the Havana University/ISPJAE (1985). In 2003, he received his MA in Conservation and Rehabilitation of Cultural Heritage from the University of Cuba and the University of La Laguna, Canary Islands, Spain.

SAVE THE DATE!
OAHP AGM: FRIDAY JUNE 16TH

The OAHP AGM will be held during the Ontario Heritage Conference on Friday 16 June 2023 at 5 p.m. at the Double Tree by Hilton in London.

For information, please contact oa@cahp-acecp.ca

RETROFITS AND REIMAGININGS

TWO FRESH ANGLES ON ADAPTING HERITAGE BUILDINGS

Alessandro Tersigni ERA Architects

Both the Tower Renewal Partnership and the Bombardier Centre for Aerospace and Aviation adaptive reuse projects recently won the Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award for Excellence in Conservation.

More than 15 years ago, ERA Architects initiated Tower Renewal as a private-public partnership that has since impacted more than 2,000 mid-century modern residential towers in Toronto's uniquely dense suburbs and throughout Canada. The initiative harmonizes sustainability, social equity, housing affordability, and heritage conservation at a broad scale.



Looking south over Thorncliffe Park, East York, and Flemingdon Park, North York, in 1970 - courtesy Archives of Lockwood Survey Corporation Limited.

Tower Renewal's cost-effective, sustainable retrofits equip 50 to 60 year old residential towers for a further lifespan of healthy and affordable living. Key additions include innovative direct suite ventilation that minimizes hot and cool air loss, triple glazed fibreglass windows, and on-site bioretention rainwater collection gardens. Together, these improvements and others can reduce a tower's greenhouse gas emissions by 94 percent and save 200 years of embodied carbon by retrofitting rather than rebuilding.

Conserving purpose-built rental towers is particularly effective in Toronto for several reasons including the fact that residential towers are distributed evenly across its geography, sharply contrasting American cities like Chicago where similar buildings are overwhelmingly confined to downtown cores. Eighty percent of these mid-century residential towers in Toronto are also privately owned, providing the opportunity for different ownership innovations. Importantly, preservation of these towers provides hundreds of thousands of affordable homes that are key to the stability of Toronto's housing system. Critical work to date has been a result of public sector leadership, with private owners (particularly large pension funds) well-positioned to follow suit. With Toronto targeting net zero for all public buildings by 2040 – and all buildings by 2050 – the time for retrofit is now.



Bombardier Centre for Aerospace and Aviation, Centennial College, Downsview, Toronto.

ERA also worked with MJMA to preserve and transform a former 1937 centre of aviation manufacturing and design built in Downsview Park into Centennial College's aviation studies building. The project's contribution to expanding and revitalizing the former de Havilland aircraft factory renews a long, place-based lineage of Canadian flight technology and research. The opportunity to redevelop a site untouched by 60 years of residential sprawl – in this case made possible by the existence of Downsview Airport and CFB Toronto – offered an unusual opportunity to adapt large existing buildings into educational facilities.

ERA views both ventures as contributing to and progressing discourses about heritage in the twenty-first century: the Bombardier Centre is proof that adaptive reuse can go beyond simply repurposing heritage buildings by creating a throughline between an industry's past and its future; and by retrofitting so-called 'everyday modern' buildings – modern-style buildings generally considered vernacular rather than prestigious by architectural critics – Tower Renewal also demonstrates that they have legitimate, although untraditional, heritage value.

At a moment when the definition of heritage is being critically re-examined, ERA is honoured that these two unique approaches to conserving architecture have been recognized by the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario.



Bombardier Centre for Aerospace and Aviation, Centennial College, Downsview, Toronto

OAKVILLE COACH HOUSE

David Lasker +VG Architects

The official opening of the picturesque, Shingle Style Oakville Coach House last year marked the completion by +VG Architects (The Ventin Group Ltd.) of the adaptive reuse of the Erchless Estate, a cultural heritage property designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act as an intact surviving example of an estate developed by a wealthy settler family at 8 Navy St. in Oakville, Ontario.

This ensemble of historic buildings on an elevated natural embankment overlooking Lake Ontario, the mouth of Oakville Harbour and Sixteen Mile Creek, comprises the Custom House (1856); the Italianate-style residence (1858) in which several generations of the town's founding Chisholm family lived and was restored as the Oakville Museum by +VG in 1991; the Post Office (1835); and the Coach House (1901).

They repose on 1.6 hectares of landscaped grounds maintained by the Town Parks and Open Space Department, including an alpine rock garden that survives as a rare example of this early twentieth-century landscape design feature. Walkways on the site link to the waterfront parkland east of Navy Street.

The Corporation of the Town of Oakville commissioned +VG in September 2019, construction began in March 2021, and the Oakville Museum Coach House Restoration Project officially opened on May 14, 2022.

The most elegant building on the site, the 5,150-square-foot Coach House was designed by the Toronto-based architectural firm Dick and Wickson around 1899. Their other built work includes the Royal Canadian Yacht Club and (under the name of Wickson and Gregg), Timothy Eaton Memorial Church, and Ardwood, the (demolished) mansion for Sir John Craig Eaton.

The building comprises three-parts: horse stables and tack area, a coach storage with hayloft extending across both; and a two-storey gardener's cottage. The exterior charms the eye with eclectic features such as the steeply pitched cross-gable roof and its irregular slopes, eyebrow dormers, bell-cast and bowed projections, shingled cupola, and bay window and mullioned windows.

The project mandate was to create a new programming venue for the museum and restore the gardener's cottage; strengthen links and enhance visual access to the Coach House; enhance the indoor and outdoor connection and presence of the Coach House in the Oakville Museum campus;

Continued on p.6...



The Coach House from the southeast with the gardener's cottage in the foreground.



Living room of the gardener's cottage and the stairway to the second storey.



Close-up from the south of the steeply pitched, cross gable roof clad in wood shingles (L)
Close-up of the corbeled oriel window on the south façade of the second storey of the gardener's cottage (R).



The south façade's barn doors added during a 1997 renovation were replaced with a new operable glass wall panel system with a film graphic depicting horses.

Oakville from p.5...

harmonize the landscape design with the larger Erchless campus and broader park, river, lake and road settings; integrate path systems, wayfinding and visual accessibility from within and outside the museum campus; protect the archaeological and cultural heritage significance of the Coach House and surrounding grounds; and changing the building's use from storage to assembly occupancy. Bringing the building up to current accessibility standards necessitated interior renovations such as door and washroom access improvements.



In the stable area, the original ladder to the hayloft and its trapdoor, and their patina, were conserved.

Our alterations and additions conform to all applicable Parks Canada's Standards and Guidelines, following the accepted heritage practice of restore first, repair next, replace last. Replacement was in-kind, and compatible, distinguishable, based on sufficient physical evidence, and documented.



The ornamental wooden gate at King Street, a significant landscape feature, leads to the Coach House's east entrance. A barrier-free entrance was created by rebuilding the existing porch 46-cm higher with the entrance preceded by a gently sloping path over an archaeological zone that brings the visitor to the level of the door threshold.

A barrier-free entrance was created on the east side by rebuilding the existing porch 46-cm higher with the entrance preceded by a gently sloping path over an archaeological zone that brings the visitor to the level of the door threshold.

The other modern adaptation to improve accessibility is at the south façade, where the existing barn doors (added during a 1997 renovation) were replaced with a new operable glass wall panel system that slides into a side pocket, providing visual access from the multi-use space (formerly the carriage storage area) to the gardens and estate beyond. A film graphic on the glass panels depicts horses, reflecting the structure's initial use while deterring bird strikes.

Our work on the Coach House has created a much-anticipated addition to the Oakville Museum's cultural and heritage programming capacity, and a welcoming feature on the publicly accessible cultural heritage landscape.

All photos courtesy David Lasker Photography.

ONTARIO HERITAGE CONFERENCE 2023

After a two-year respite, the OHC was hosted by Heritage Elizabethtown-Kitley from 16–18 June 2022 in Brockville. It was a resounding success, showcasing the beautiful Leeds and Grenville County.

The 2023 conference is being held in London from Thursday June 15, 2023 to Saturday June 17, 2023. The programme for the conference is firming up; for more information go to: <https://ontarioheritageconference.ca>



We will provide more information about the OAHP session at the conference when details are available.

OHC 2023 is sponsored by Community Heritage Ontario, ACO and OAHP.

OTTAWA SOCIAL

Andrew Waldron CAHP Executive Director

OAHP hosted a Spring Social gathering of heritage professionals in late March at the recently reopened Saint Brigid's church on Cumberland Street in downtown Ottawa.

Built in 1890, the church received heritage designation for its Romanesque Revival architecture and interior features (including its murals) in 1981. A key landmark within the Lowertown-West Heritage Conservation District, the church has a notable and rich local history.

Although damaged by a fire in 1978, the church was restored and was able to continue serving the community until it was deconsecrated in 2006. In 2007, it became the National Irish Canadian Cultural Centre and has been used for concerts, art shows, conferences, weddings, film sets and community meetings. During the pandemic in 2022, however, members of the infamous trucker convoy attempted to purchase the building – but were evicted for rental arrears late last year.

In March, members of the Ontario chapter of CAHP, the local chapter of the Association of Preservation Technologists, the International Council on Monuments and Sites, and the Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada gathered with Ottawa's heritage community and local residents in the church and discussed



OAHP's Spring Social at St. Brigid's Church, Ottawa - courtesy Andrew Waldron.

the history and potential future uses of the former church. More than 55 professionals considered the church's heritage integrity and explored how best to conserve one of Ottawa's oldest buildings and adapt it for sustainable future uses.

St Brigid's future remains precarious and requires considerable investment – but there is hope. Events like the Spring Social underlined the depth of local support for its preservation: from politicians and the City of Ottawa's heritage planning team (some of whom are CAHP members) to residents and the Lowertown Community Association's heritage committee. One such initiative has already seen the opening of Brigid's Well, where visitors can enjoy a pint in an Irish-themed pub.

Heritage conservation is about building communities; and the preservation of a building like St Brigid's church is doing just that.

SSAC-SEAC 48th Annual Conference, 31 May – 1 June 2023, University of Calgary

Save the date! The Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada will be hosting its 48th Annual Conference under the theme *Cast in Place* at the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape, University of Calgary, in Calgary, Alberta, from May 31 to June 3, 2023. The conference will feature an opening reception evening on Wednesday, paper sessions on Thursday and Friday, tours, a coach excursion on Saturday, and a concluding banquet.

Stay tuned for registration and accommodation details:

<https://canada-architecture.org/this-years-conference/>



ADAPTIVE REUSE FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Taylor Quibell, Dana Mastrangelo, and Melissa Lengies

This article showcases a research partnership on quality in the built environment that brings together 14 universities, 70 researchers, and 68 public and private organizations at the municipal, provincial and national levels. Funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) until 2027, the partnership 'Quality in Canada's Built Environment: Roadmaps to Equity, Social Value and Sustainability' involves a major research project to encourage dialogue among those active in considering and creating the built environment across Canada can contribute to a redefinition of quality that moves us to heightened equity, more social value, and greater sustainability at a critical moment for our societies and our planet.

Coordinated, from the University of Montreal, by the Canada Research Chair in Architecture, Competitions and Mediations of Excellence (CRC-ACME), the partnership addresses the diversity of public environments that impact the everyday life of millions of Canadians in urban spaces, buildings, and landscapes.

The program has three aims:

1. Analyzing the current limitations of environmental norms and sustainability models to bring us closer to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
2. Co-designing new paths to equity, diversity and inclusion in the built environment.
3. Defining new frameworks for defining quality to enhance the social value of the built environment through roadmaps to quality.

To achieve these objectives, the partnership methodologically brings together four groups of stakeholders concerned with the use, scientific study, planning, design, construction, and management of built environments:

- » Citizens (representatives of communities including minorities and underrepresented populations).
- » Cities (national, provincial and municipal actors in the public procurement of built environments).
- » Organizations assessing quality (professional associations, award granting institutions, councils, cities).
- » Universities (interdisciplinary research teams).¹

¹ Cook, M. (2022, July 11). SSHRC grants 2.5M\$ to a partnership on quality in the built environment. Azrieli School of Architecture and Urbanism. Retrieved March 13, 2023, from <https://architecture.carleton.ca/archives/22811>

As one of the 14 universities involved in this research, Carleton is exploring the definition, prevalence, and impacts of adaptive reuse as it pertains to quality in the built environment. The upsurge in vacant and underutilized buildings due to the decline of certain building typologies, paired with our 'throw-away' culture, has led to trends of demolition and new construction, resulting in significant environmental impacts alongside the loss of character and social cohesion in neighbourhoods. This research seeks to determine the potential benefits of building reuse over new construction and assesses how to achieve them through 'quality' design. In other words, how can existing buildings be adapted to new typologies while sustaining socio-cultural and economic relevance and heritage values while also avoiding the waste of vast amounts of materials and embodied energy.

Each year, Carleton will analyze adaptive reuse case studies through the lens of a different building typology. With a growing number of office building vacancies only exacerbated by new work-from-home trends since the Pandemic, Year 1 focuses on the conversion of both historic and modern office buildings. Key questions involved in this research include, but are not limited to:

1. What is 'quality' in adaptive reuse?
2. How are adaptive reuse projects awarded?
3. What are the barriers and drivers to reuse?
4. What policies and incentives directly or indirectly impact reuse projects?
5. What synergies does adaptive reuse provide to socially, culturally and environmentally sustainable practices?
6. How can we further incentivize not just adaptive reuse but 'quality' adaptive reuse?

Please note that the Carleton research team is being coordinated by Prof. Marianna Esponda. The university's involvement in the partnership is through Prof. Federica Goffi (Steering as well as Dissemination and Outreach committees) and Prof. Mario Santana (Governance Board).



To learn more about the SSHRC Quality in the Built Environment Grant and the current research, visit:

<https://livingatlasofquality.ca/home>

To contact the Carleton research team, email Professor Mariana Esponda:

Mariana.Esponda@Carleton.ca



INDIGENOUS HISTORY & HERITAGE GATHERING

Led by First Nations, Inuit and Métis thought leaders, a three-day gathering to understand, promote and share Indigenous histories.

June 5-7, 2023
Shaw Centre
Ottawa, ON

Unceded and Unsurrendered
Algonquin Anishinaabe Territory

The Indigenous History and Heritage Gathering will attract Indigenous community members developing history and heritage projects, and anyone working in the field of Indigenous History, including museum professionals, historians, legal counsel, engagement specialists, and culture and language professionals.

Speakers include keynotes by Tanya Talaga, Author, Journalist, and President of Makwa Creative and Kim Murray, Special Interlocutor on Missing Children and Unmarked Burials. We invite all interested in amplifying the distinct stories of Indigenous Peoples across Turtle Island to register now.

Knowledge Sharing Streams:

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Language and Culture

Keynote Speakers:

Kimberly Murray

BA, LL.B, IPC

*Independent Special Interlocutor
for Missing Children and
Unmarked Graves and Burial
Sites associated with Indian
Residential Schools*



Tanya Talaga

*Author, Journalist,
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