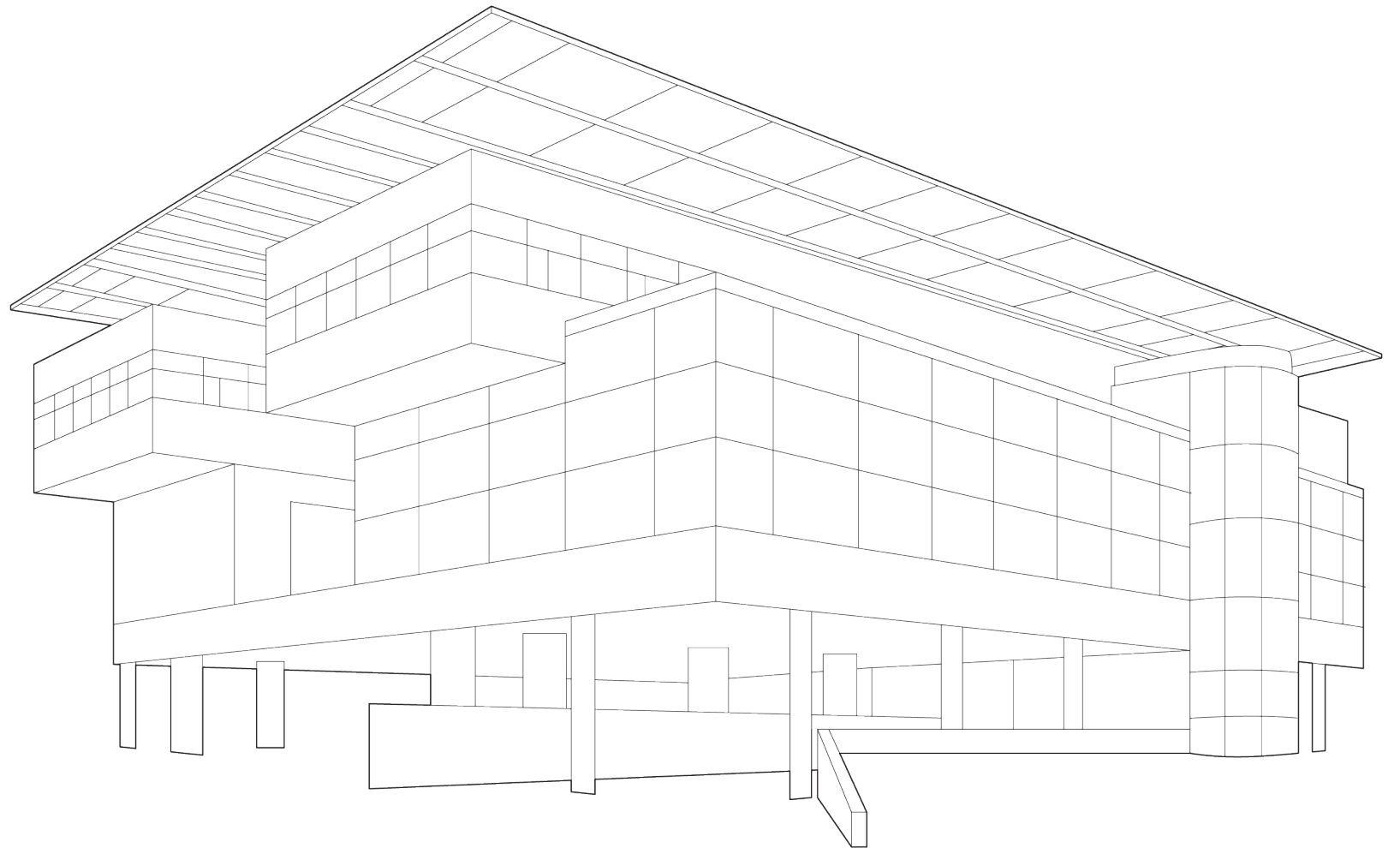


# Annual Report

Ontario Association of Architects

# 2023



**Dedicated to  
serving  
and protecting  
the public  
interest.**

Submitted to the  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL

Date: MAY 16, 2024

# Contents

|    |                                |
|----|--------------------------------|
| 02 | About the OAA                  |
| 03 | The Profession                 |
| 04 | President's Message            |
| 05 | Executive Director's Report    |
| 06 | Snapshot                       |
| 08 | Action Plan                    |
| 09 | Registrar's Report             |
| 10 | Regulatory Leadership          |
| 14 | Governance & Operations        |
| 16 | Member Competency              |
| 19 | Public Education               |
| 22 | Scholarships, Funding & Awards |
| 25 | In Memoriam                    |
| 26 | SHIFT & Award Winners          |
| 27 | Financial Summary              |
| 29 | Council & Committees           |
| 31 | Staff Team                     |

Photographer: Tabitha Rees



# About the Ontario Association of Architects

The [Ontario Association of Architects \(OAA\)](#) is a self-regulating organization governed by the [Architects Act](#), a statute of the Government of Ontario. Dedicated to serving and protecting the public interest, the OAA administers the Act while promoting and increasing the knowledge, skill, and proficiency of its members.

To meet its mandate to serve the public interest and support the architectural profession, the Association:

- establishes qualification standards for admission into the profession, including education, experience, and examination
- establishes standards of skill and proficiency of member
- maintains professional ethics standards
- provides professional liability insurance through Pro-Demnity Insurance Company
- promotes architecture and the built environment for the benefit of Ontarians
- supports members in meeting the standards of the architectural profession

The OAA is governed by a [Council](#) of 15 Architects who have been elected by the membership, as well as four members of the public chosen by the Province of Ontario (Lieutenant Governor in Council Appointees [LGICs]). The work of OAA Council is assisted by more than 200 volunteers working on diverse [Committees and Task Groups](#), 14 regional [Local Architectural Societies](#) throughout Ontario, and an [Association staff](#) of 36.

## Vision

An Ontario in which architects are valued contributors to society, by creating a safe and healthy built environment that performs at the highest levels and elevates the human spirit.

## Mandate

To regulate and govern the practice of architecture in Ontario in the service and protection of the public interest in accordance with the *Architects Act*, its Regulations and Bylaws; to develop and uphold standards of skill, knowledge, qualification, practice, and professional ethics among architects; and to promote the appreciation of architecture within the broader society.

## Values



Professional



Accountable



Transparent



Ethical

# The Profession in Ontario 2023

**4924**  
Architects

**1961**  
Practices

**1991** Intern Architects

**624** Student Associates

**416** Life Members

**236** Retired Members

**38** Honorary Members

**41** Architects Long Standing

**67** Temporary Licences

Project: The Springdale Library and Komagata Maru Park, Brampton, ON  
Architect: RDH Architects Inc.  
Photographer: NIC LEHOUX



It has been an honour to help lead the OAA's governing Council in 2023. Over the year, we remained committed to advancing performance in the pillars outlined in our [five-year Strategic Plan](#)—**Regulatory Leadership, Governance and Operations, Member Competency, and Public Education**. I am proud to say we also continued to ensure all OAA actions were viewed through the lenses of our two themes: **Climate Action** and **Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI)**, from developing programming to planning our Conference, Designing for Dignity. We have also continued to be mindful of Indigenous Reconciliation in our approach to internal projects and public-facing events.

All this work remains firmly within the context of the OAA's mandate to regulate the practice of architecture in our province to protect the public interest. While we all recognize a robust profession is very much in this public interest, the Association's role is always first to represent the public it serves.

This year, we worked to strengthen the integral role our 14 Local Architectural Societies play in the OAA's mission. These "chapters" are deeply embedded in their communities across Ontario, providing insight into the diverse needs and challenges faced by our members and the broader public. They have been invaluable in supporting and furthering the OAA's secondary object to promote public appreciation of architecture.

Through collaborative efforts and dialogues with these Societies, as well as work by our Committees and Advisory Groups, we've identified key priorities when it comes to education and outreach. This led to initiatives like the TEUI calculators—critical tools in our commitment to sustainability. Such energy metrics have become a mandatory requirement for our Design Excellence awards, and thoughtful climate-related approaches were also found in the responses to our SHIFT2023 Health and Architecture Challenge.

# President's Message



Speaking of SHIFT2023, I was so pleased to see it launch at our Conference, held in Sudbury in June. It was the OAA's first time hosting the annual event in Northern Ontario, and offered unique experiential learning opportunities, coupled with a very strong Indigenous focus.

Meanwhile, the annual Queen's Park Picks program, an OAA celebration of local architecture that happens with the support of MPPs of all political stripes, served as a vital tool for connecting with both the public and the provincial government; it led to significant amount of individual one-on-one meetings with MPPs across the province. The OAA also supported the government's continued mandate to remove barriers to foreign-trained professionals in creating alternative means for assessment in the province, while upholding the rigorous licensing requirements for architects. Further, this year's successful launch of the OAA's new podcast, *Architecturally Speaking*, promises exciting opportunities to advance the public discussion the impact of architecture on daily life.

This Annual Report, newly redesigned and condensed, offers only a quick glimpse of the OAA's activities during 2023. From updated regulatory administration ensuring the path to licensure meets changing requirements to the development of new tools and resources for the profession, I encourage you to learn more about continued work being done by Council, Committees, and Association staff.

There were also challenges this year, of course. A court order paused our OAA Technology Program and critically impacted those who held Lic.Tech.OAA licences. However, as I write this, I am excited to note a bill was passed by the Province to update the *Architects Act*. The Association has begun the work to change its Regulation to offer limited licences and relaunch the OAA Technology Program. Building on the accomplishments of the past year, the OAA is well-positioned to face emerging challenges and opportunities in 2024. Our ongoing commitment to addressing climate change, fostering inclusivity, and supporting professional development remain resolute. We are poised to shape a future where architecture not only reflects societal well-being, but also actively contributes to a sustainable and inclusive built environment.

*S. T. Vilardi*

Settimo Vilardi, Architect  
M.Arch, OAA, FRAIC  
President 2023

If this year’s Annual Report looks a little different, it’s because it has been further streamlined with supporting graphics to reflect our more effective and efficient approach to operations. As with many initiatives in recent years—from our logo, website, and emails to our headquarters building itself—we have refined and improved it to bring greater clarity and focus to our work. Like the profession, the OAA is small but mighty.

Since its adoption in mid-2022, the Association’s five-year Strategic Plan has proven to be an important framework to support and further the mandate of the OAA. With the strategic groundwork laid, 2023 marked the first full calendar year of implementation and it began with a firm commitment to stay the course.

We jumpstarted the year with realigned Committees, updated Terms of Reference, and formal work plans. Work then began with our governing Council and Committees, as they moved ahead with tremendous focus to accomplish a lot!

On the operations and administration front, we made great strides in addressing a number of key matters including succession planning, policy review and updates, equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) and leadership training for staff, a review of organizational IT needs, and implementation of governance reforms. In the fall, we entered ‘Year 3’ of the Strategic Plan to deliver on 39 key recommendations stemming from the OAA’s 2021 Operational Review. Throughout 2023, progress was steady and remained on track, with 56.1% completion at the end of December.

# Executive Director’s Report



Through thoughtful insight and collaboration with the Finance & Audit Committee, a three-year plan to address the minimum requirements of the OAA Reserve Fund Policies was approved. The OAA continues to hold its strong financial position, with solid financial management and prudent budgeting.

Our ongoing efforts to expand awareness of our role as a unique self-regulator also seem to be gaining ground, with noticeable improvements in understanding among our internal and external stakeholders. This is a welcome shift given the current regulatory landscape and increased scrutiny of self-regulating professions. Regulatory compliance coupled with heightened attention to governance has continued to be of great importance for the OAA and Council over the past year.

The year was not without its challenges of course, but I look ahead with optimism as we continue to prioritize and advance the necessary legislative amendments that will enable the reinstatement of the OAA Technology Program. We are also poised to launch an exciting landscape design competition at our Toronto headquarters to expand our contributions to the conversation around what is possible in sustainable and inclusive design.

I continue to be grateful for this opportunity to lead the day-to-day operation and administration of the Association and to support the Council in governing effectively. The success of the OAA is directly attributable to its key strength—our Council, staff, and volunteer base. I want to recognize all for their collective dedication to fulfilling the Association’s goals and objectives.

My sincere thanks!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristi Doyle".

Kristi Doyle  
Executive Director





**261** New Licences



**154** Certificates of Practice

### ExAC

627 / 851 (73.6%) interns  
passed all of the sections  
for which they were eligible.

S1 - 85.2%   S2 - 85.4%  
S3 - 85.2%   S4 - 85.1%  
Overall success rate 85.2 %



### NCARB's ARE

20 / 41 interns passed  
the six ARE 5.0 exams  
Success rate of ARE 5.0  
is 48.7%



**\$148,200** distributed to support  
architecture awareness



**700+** Visitors to OAA Headquarters to learn  
about net-zero design



Top 5 public webpages:

1. Employment Opportunities
2. OAA Directory
3. Careers + Opportunities
4. Conference page
5. Intern Architects page

Top 5 member webpages:

1. CSA Standards Access page
2. Mentor Directory
3. Intern Architect Page
4. Management of the Project: Code Data Matrix Tools
5. Continuing Education Program page

# 2023 Snapshot



14.8k LinkedIn followers



7.9k Instagram followers

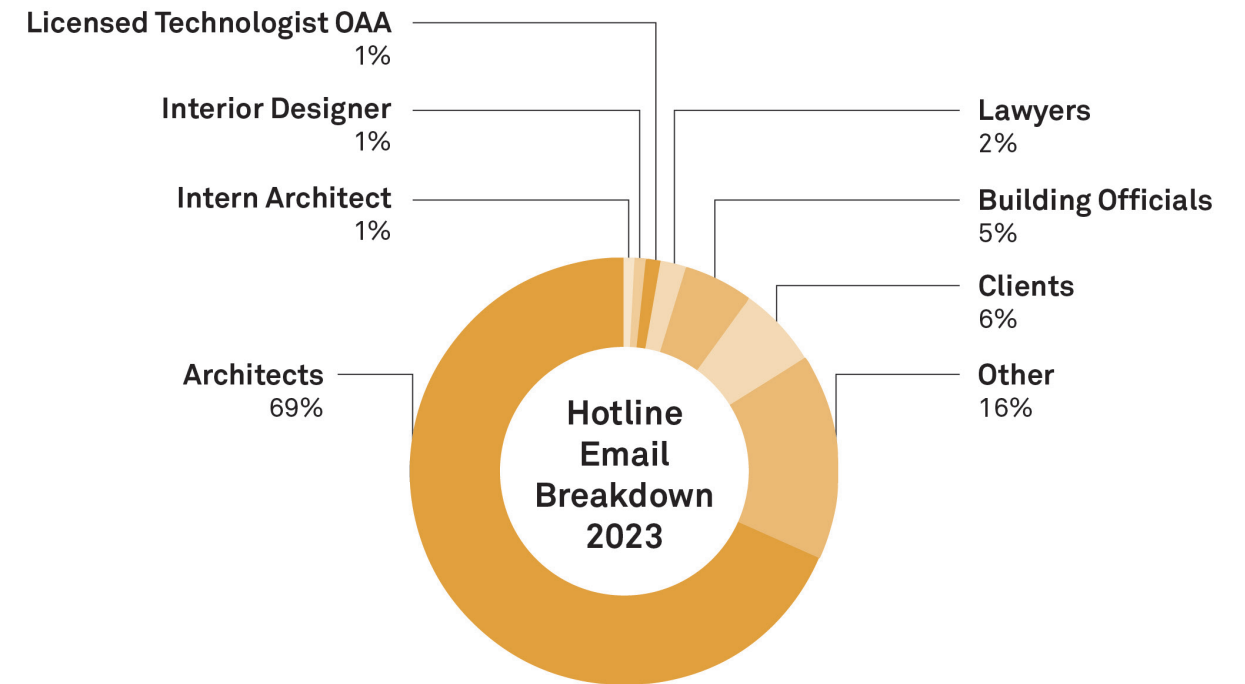
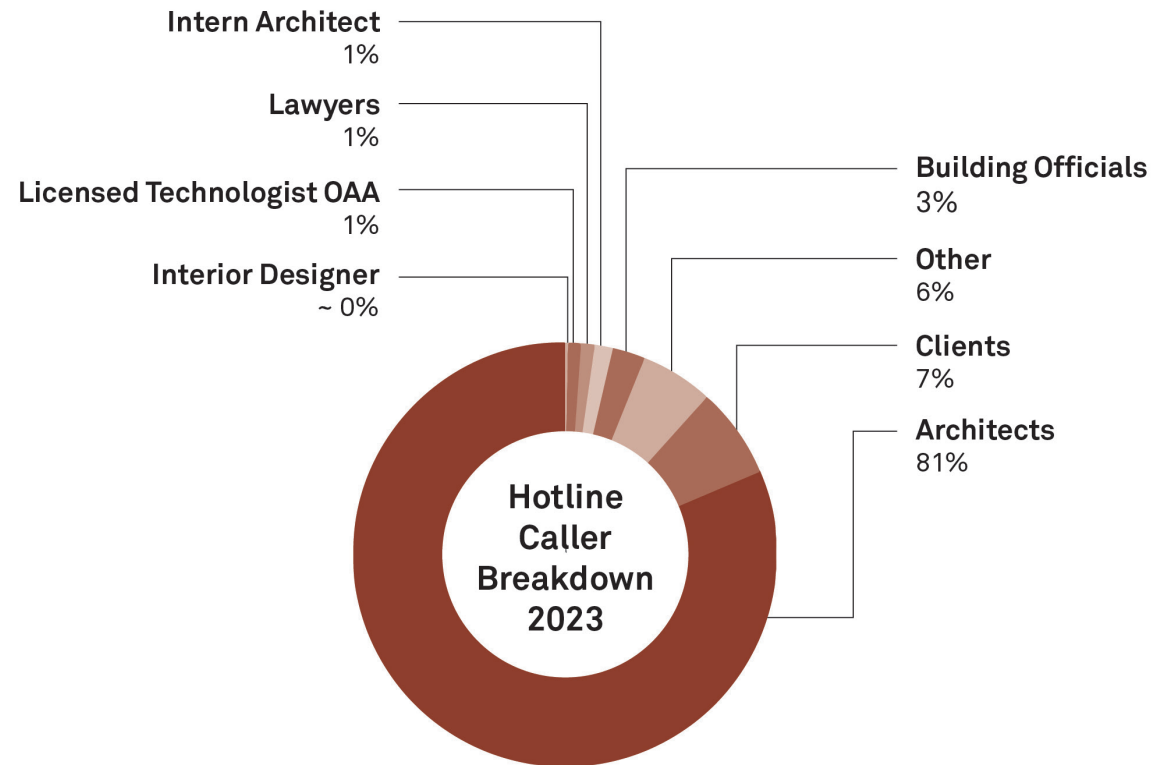


2.7k Facebook followers



7.9k X/Twitter followers

 **1900+**  
Calls + Emails



The free OAA Practice Hotline connects you with one of our experienced Practice Advisors who can provide information and guidance on a range of issues related to the profession and practice of architecture.

# OAA Practice Hotline



In 2022, the OAA undertook a strategic planning process to establish priorities and themes under a [Five-Year Strategic Plan](#) that would guide the Association's actions and initiatives.

In early 2023, Council reconfirmed its commitment to the values, themes, and priorities of the Strategic Plan, with a clear focus on the primary objective of the OAA as a professional regulator—a mandate legislated by the Ontario government for provincial regulators like the OAA that comes directly from the *Architects Act*.

The two guiding themes of Climate Action and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion remain key foci and underpin the Association's work across all strategic priorities, as demonstrated throughout this report.



Climate Action



Equity, Diversity,  
and Inclusion

# Themes



Regulatory Leadership



Governance and  
Operations



Member Competency



Public Education

# Strategic Priorities

# Putting Plans into Action

The Office of the Registrar is responsible for the Association’s regulatory obligations as required by the [Architects Act](#). Reviewing the milestones that have shaped the OAA over this last year within the context of its 130+ year history, it is apparent this is an organization with a legacy of public interest work and one that continues to respond judiciously to the changing needs of the public and the profession in Ontario.

Within the OAA’s obligation to regulate the practice of architecture in Ontario, the aim is to develop policies and processes that make a genuine difference. Guided by an overarching [Strategic Plan](#), the Association seeks to ensure the profession is adequately equipped to address emerging and existing challenges. For example, with [Climate Action](#) as a key lens, sustainability has been embedded not only into members’ Continuing Education requirements, but also into the experience expectations for those on the path to licensure—creating skills and knowledge that can be implemented in practice to benefit the public we serve.

In the delivery of the OAA’s strategic priorities, it is essential that, like any regulator, the processes are robust and fair. As such, important [changes in registration processes](#) were developed throughout 2023 in response to amendments to the *Fair Access to Regulated Professions and Compulsory Trades Act* (FARPACTA).

In alignment with the Association’s focus on [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion](#), the proposed new procedures are intended to create a more accessible profession, offering competency-based routes to anyone who aspires to become an architect. The FARPACTA amendments compel affected regulators to make the necessary operational and policy changes to ensure greater inclusion in their professions, and the OAA is forging ahead with Regulation amendments to achieve compliance.

# Registrar’s Report



I cannot hope to list here the full scope of work accomplished in 2023 by our dedicated team. Nevertheless, notable progress was made on a number of key projects overseen by the Office of the Registrar. The launch of the online [Mentor Directory](#) alongside the development and implementation of the new in-house online Canadian Experience Record Book (CERB) portal were important milestones to augment support to Interns on the path to licensure.

The amalgamation of the Continuing Education program into the Office of the Registrar team structure was also a significant organizational shift that has improved the Office’s oversight over this essential aspect of ongoing professional competency. Other projects that saw marked gains include the implementation of our updated complaints procedures, the development of a modernization proposal for the handling of Continuing Education Program non-compliance, an efficacy review of Act enforcement procedures, and compliance with the [Office of the Fairness Commissioner](#) (OFC) annual audit.

The statistical data captured throughout this Annual Report is testament to the continuous work undertaken by the OAA team. This collective effort is essential to meeting the Association’s legislative mandate to regulate the practice of architecture and govern its members in order that the public interest may be served and protected.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Mills'.

Christie Mills, Architect  
B. Com., B. Arch., OAA  
Registrar





Strategic Priority

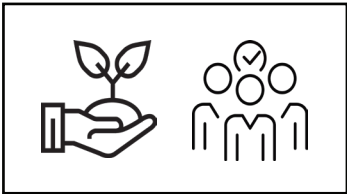
# Regulatory Leadership

Photographer: Tabitha Rees



***Bring the OAA’s regulatory framework into alignment with current legal principles for professional regulators and modernize our legislative and governing documents to ensure the public interest continues to be served and protected.***

A major focus for 2023 was reviewing outdated approaches and actively developing better ways to meet our regulatory mandate in a changing world. The OAA also continued to solidify its role as a thought leader, offering subject matter expertise to policy experts, government decision-makers, client groups, and allied industry professionals on a range of issues relevant to the profession and the public interest.



In 2023, the OAA:

- Increased transparency, currency, and navigation of regulatory information on the OAA Website
- [Responded swiftly](#) to court-imposed changes to the OAA Technology Program and Licensed Technologist OAA member type
- Advanced conversations with the Ministry of the Attorney General regarding [legislative changes](#) and modernization of the *Architects Act* to include limited licenses
- Updated applications for student associates and intern architects including a [new online](#) Canadian Experience Record Book (CERB)
- Attended the provincial government’s first Housing Forum and positioned itself as a key stakeholder and resource for government in addressing the housing crisis
- Continued to meet with government to advance removal of professional exemptions for architects in the *Employment Standards Act*
- Continued to advance the position that an adjustment in the wording of Schedule G in the *Condominiums Act* is required to account for building conversions
- Collaborated on a national deep-dive review and modernization of the Examination for Architects in Canada (ExAC) initiated by the Regulatory Organizations of Architecture in Canada (ROAC), offering administrative support and expertise to update processes and procedures.

- Participated in four consultations on the harmonization of the Ontario Building Code with its National Code counterparts, with focus on elements related to climate
- **Continued to engage Ministry of Long-Term Care** staff to seek opportunities to advance long-term care design guidelines





The **Office of the Registrar** oversees a number of regulatory functions, which include licensing, authorizing practices, Act enforcement, investigations, complaints and discipline, elections, and the Internship in Architecture Program (IAP), in addition to working with the regulatory committees. Beyond its mandate-driven activities, the Office of the Registrar also works alongside the OAA Executive Director on initiatives with the Regulatory Organizations of Architecture in Canada (ROAC), the Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB), Examination for Architects in Canada (ExAC), the Office of Fairness Commissioner, the Ministry of the Attorney General, other professional regulators and organizations, and schools of architecture across the country.

## 287 Investigations in 2023

|     |                           |
|-----|---------------------------|
| 234 | Resolved by the OAA       |
| 0   | Resolved by Legal Counsel |
| 52  | Ongoing Investigations    |
| 0   | Unable to Locate          |
| 78  | No breach found           |
| 1   | Injunctions               |

- 270 Licence applications processed
- 158 Certificate of Practice applications processed
- 185 OAA Seals issued
- 516 Intern Architect applications received
- 281 Student Associate applications received
- 1482 IAP experience submissions reviewed for the Canadian Experience Record Book (CERB)
- 4 Experience Requirements Committee assessment interviews

Highest volume of inquiries to OAA Hotline are related to Act and Regulations.

# Act Enforcement



## Registration Committee Statistics

When the Registrar proposes to refuse an application for licence, Certificate of Practice or Temporary Licence; proposes to suspend or revoke a Certificate of Practice or Temporary Licence; or, proposes to issue a licence, Certificate of Practice or Temporary Licence with terms, conditions, and limitations, the applicant may request a hearing before the [Registration Committee](#). The Committee hears the matter and makes a determination as to the proposal by the Registrar.

- **37** hearings requested
- **1** hearing completed
- **4** applications under discussion

## Discipline Committee Statistics

The [Discipline Committee](#) Members make up the formal tribunals that hears allegations of professional misconduct against a member of the Association, holder of a Certificate of Practice, or a holder of a Temporary Licence. Referral can be made from the Complaints Committee or Council.

- **2** hearings complete
- **1** case ongoing
- **2** cases to be scheduled
- **1** ongoing appeal

## Complaints Committee Statistics

The [Complaints Committee](#) investigates complaints made by members of the public or members of the Association regarding the conduct or actions of any member of the Association or holder of a Certificate of Practice or a Temporary Licence.

- **73** Total Inquiries
- **50** Total Complaints
- **13** Held in abeyance
- **42** Preliminary Review Stage
- **24** Active
- Closed
  - **11** Not referred (dismissed)
  - **1** Not referred (withdrawn)
  - **4** Not referred (caution)
  - **8** Referred to Discipline
- **7** Registrar’s Investigations
- **14** Good Character Investigation
- 2021-2022 ConEd Non-Compliance Matters
  - **5** Referred to Discipline
  - **148** Received Caution
  - **78** Resolved





Strategic Priority

# Governance & Operations



***Enhance our governance and operational practices to ensure an effective, inclusive, resilient, and transparent organization.***

On the heels of a thorough review of the organization’s processes, policies, and procedures, the OAA continues to meet key recommendations. Across service areas, new and better ways of working are being explored and deployed at all levels of operations. Council, staff, and volunteers remain committed and focused on ensuring the Association performs its regulatory work to the highest standard to safeguard the public’s enjoyment of a safe and sustainable built environment.

In 2023, the OAA:

- Added new [staff](#) across service areas to fill all staffing gaps identified in the 2021-2022 Operational Review
- Introduced weekly peer to peer learning, enhanced professional
- Development opportunities for staff, and strengthened training at all levels of the organization
- Launched new brand guidelines and document template suite (including best practices for accessibility, equity, diversity and inclusion )
- Developed briefing notes and backgrounders on key issues to ensure consistency in messaging across the Association
- Introduced an updated *Hybrid Work Policy*
- Introduced a multi-year road map for staff structure and succession planning
- Streamlined service areas and introduced new processes at all levels of the organization to increase efficiency and improve responsiveness to external change
- Introduced a digital visitor management system at OAA reception
- Engaged a consultant to initiate the organization-wide transition to cloud-based work systems and processes
- Upgraded cyber and digital security systems



- Reports prepared by the National Research Council (NRC) re. *Energy Monitoring of Ontario Association of Architects Headquarters Building and Occupancy Evaluations – Ontario Association of Architects (OAA) case study* show near net-zero building performance and increased occupant satisfaction
- Reduced printing needs across the organization and upgraded to more energy-efficient products
- Provided accessibility training to staff, council, and volunteers
- Completed an Internal Accessibility Standards Audit and began corrective actions





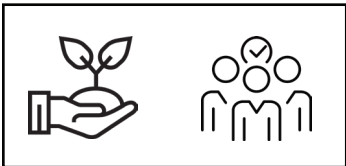
Strategic Priority

# Member Competency



***Ensure the continued professional competency and currency of OAA licensed members in order that they maintain their leadership role in the built environment accountable to the public interest.***

The OAA continues to keep its view to key societal issues and trends to be sure its programs and services equip architects to be highly-skilled and dependable members of their communities. A key focus for this year was modernizing the methods for reaching OAA members in order to share information in an efficient, relevant, and timely manner.



In 2023, the OAA:

- Modernized and streamlined member-focused e-communications using updated services and platforms
- Increased use and engagement on [LinkedIn](#) to provide key information to members such as Continuing Education offerings
- Renegotiated the agreement to give free viewing [access to relevant CSA Standards](#) for all OAA members and provided education to members on how to best leverage the program
- Launched an online [Mentor Directory](#) to match experienced members with those entering the profession
- Presented a special webinar series to members about the [OAA Contract suite](#)
- Created two new [Practice Tips](#)
- Hosted [SHIFT2023 Health and Architecture Challenge](#) lecture at OAA Headquarters with guest speakers representing the juried selections

- [Mandatory Continuing Education on Climate Action](#) until 2024
- Featured numerous speakers offering EDI content at annual **Conference**
- [TEUI/TEDI 2.0](#) Calculator launched and can be used by members to determine compliance with various municipal green standards
- Directly supported the inclusion of Sustainable Design Literacy as a new theme in the Examination for Architects in Canada (ExAC)
- Hosted a Roundtable with firms focused on EDI Best Practices, the final of 40 recommendations stemming from the Truth & Reconciliation/EDI Working Group
- [Conducted 2023 OAA Membership Demographic Survey](#)
- Completed the French-language translation of OAA600: [OAO600-2021 AR](#)
- Began providing closed-captioning in French on [ConEd webinars](#)
- Expanded online Continuing Education content to YouTube to increase accessibility

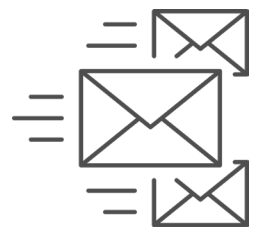




# Member Engagement at a Glance

Photographer: Andrew Grinton

|                                                              |                                                                                                                                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11                                                           | Conference Bulletins                                                                                                                       |
| 30+                                                          | Special News/Regulatory Notice emails                                                                                                      |
| 2                                                            | RFP Alerts                                                                                                                                 |
| 6                                                            | Practice Advisory Newsletters                                                                                                              |
| Open rate for Practice Advisory Newsletter remains near 70%. |                                                                                                                                            |
| 72                                                           | enrolments for <a href="#">Fundamentals of Running an Architectural Practice</a> (FRAP)                                                    |
| 293                                                          | enrolments for <a href="#">Online Admission Course</a>                                                                                     |
| 2,213                                                        | <a href="#">OAA Webinar Series</a> enrolments                                                                                              |
| 192                                                          | enrolments for <a href="#">Self-study Learning Series</a>                                                                                  |
| 370                                                          | attendees at <i>Designing for Dignity Conference</i> in Sudbury and nearly 270 guests to the follow up online <i>Highlights of Sudbury</i> |







Strategic Priority

# Public Education

2023 OAA Annual Report

Photographer: Tabitha Rees



## ***Advance the public’s understanding and recognition that architecture is integral to the quality of life and well-being of our society as experienced through a sustainable, resilient, and durable built environment.***

A well-informed public ensures that the built environment reflects the values and priorities of the community, while likewise ensuring projects are overseen by appropriately qualified professionals through fair and reasonable business relationships. It also supports the health and resilience of the profession by attracting new generations to enter the field. This year, the OAA focused on reviewing its existing public education work and developing a strategic approach to expand its reach and impact.



In 2023, the OAA:

- Introduced a new [Communications and Public Education Committee](#) as well as created a Public Outreach Specialist role to steward public education and outreach
- Conducted a Public Education and Outreach Audit and developed a subsequent multi-year Public Education and Outreach Plan
- Received record engagement with elected officials to annual [Queen’s Park Picks](#) event, with 50 nominations by 44 MPPs across parties and regions
- Worked closely with the [Local Architectural Societies](#) to develop a Resource Toolkit to support Society engagement with their communities
- Launched a five-episode pilot season of [Architecturally Speaking](#), a public-facing podcast about architecture
- Expanded communications regarding the path to licensure with a focus on [internationally trained professionals](#)
- Teamed up with the [Toronto Society of Architects](#) to host a K-12 “Big Think” to understand the current landscape of extracurricular education about architecture
- Created a [backgrounder and executive summary](#) for government about long-term care (LTC) research that the OAA co-sponsored with Jacobs Canada
- Added a growing [resource webpage](#) dedicated to K-12 students, teachers, and parents on the OAA Website
- Hosted the Annual General Meeting of the Construction and Design Alliance Ontario (CDAO) at the OAA Headquarters, with key OAA representatives in attendance
- Expanded outreach to procurement professionals and other allied industry and client groups

- Welcomed hundreds of visitors to tour OAA Headquarters—including visitors to [Doors Open Toronto](#) and Architecture Students from Toronto Metropolitan University—to learn about [its net-zero retrofit](#)
- Launched a [Case Study](#) page on the OAA website to feature exemplary sustainable building designs
- Built new relationships with government-funded entities supporting internationally trained professionals and their families



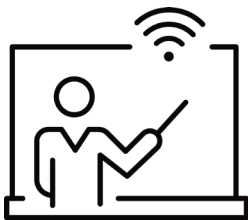
Distributed **\$59,700** in [Public Awareness Sponsorships](#) to community organizations and **\$88,500** in [Special Project Funding](#) to Local Architectural Societies



**14** meetings with MPPs on key issues relevant to architecture in Ontario



**2** publications, **7** presentations, and **5** meetings targeting allied industry professionals, client groups, and prospective members



Project: University College Revitalization, Toronto, ON  
Architect: Kohn Shnier Architects and E.R.A. Architects Inc. in association  
Photographer: Doublespace Photography

The Association oversees [scholarship](#), [funding](#), and [awards programs](#) to recognize and celebrate leadership among those making outstanding contributions.

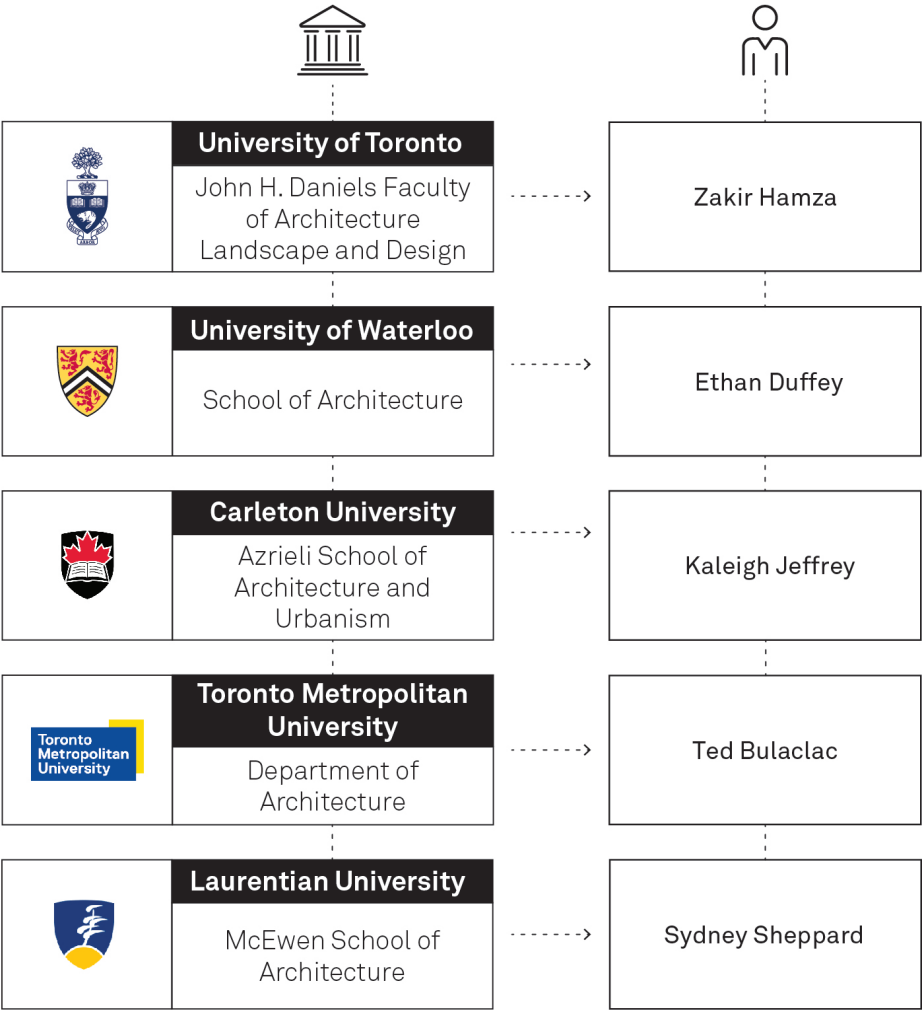
Funding is available for eligible groups to carry out special projects or events that promote public appreciation of architecture and the allied arts and sciences.

# Scholarships, Funding, and Awards

Project: University College Revitalization, Toronto, ON  
Architect: Kohn Shnier Architects and E.R.A. Architects Inc. in association  
Photographer: Doublespace Photography

## Architectural Guild Prize

Medals awarded annually to graduating students from each of the five Ontario schools of architecture who demonstrate exceptional leadership through design excellence combined with innovative approaches to sustainability in an assignment or project.



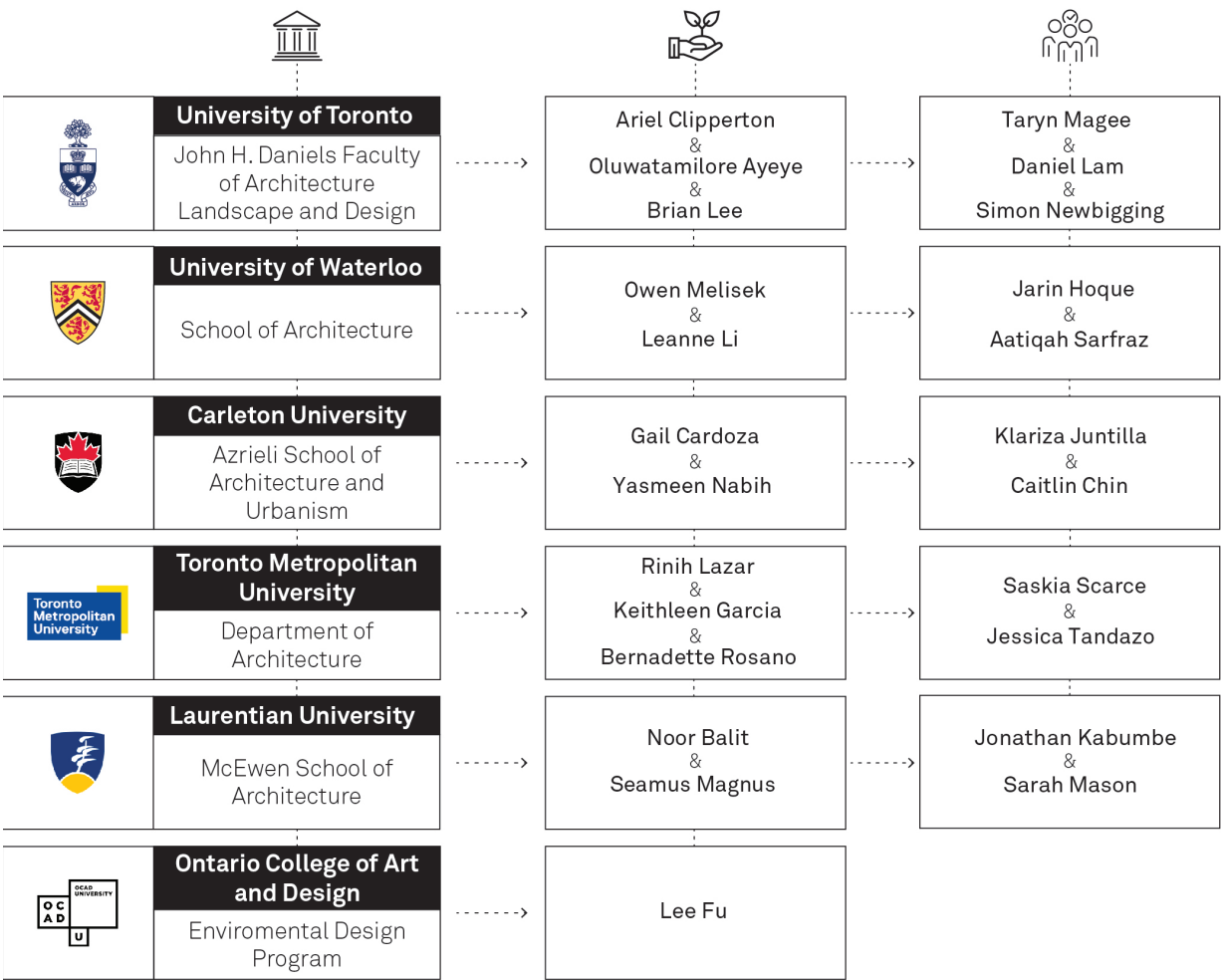


# OAA Exceptional Leadership Through Design Excellence Scholarships

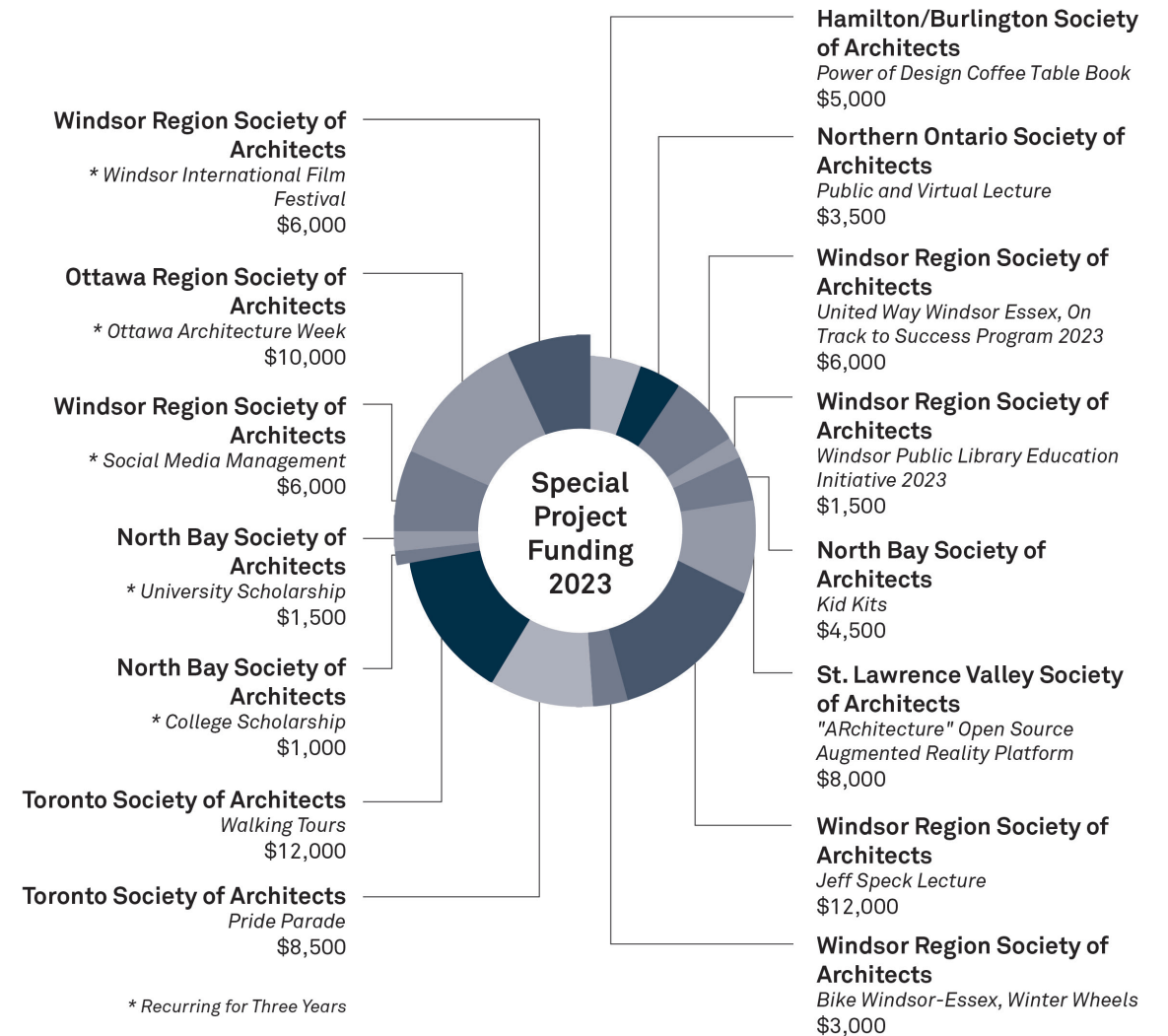
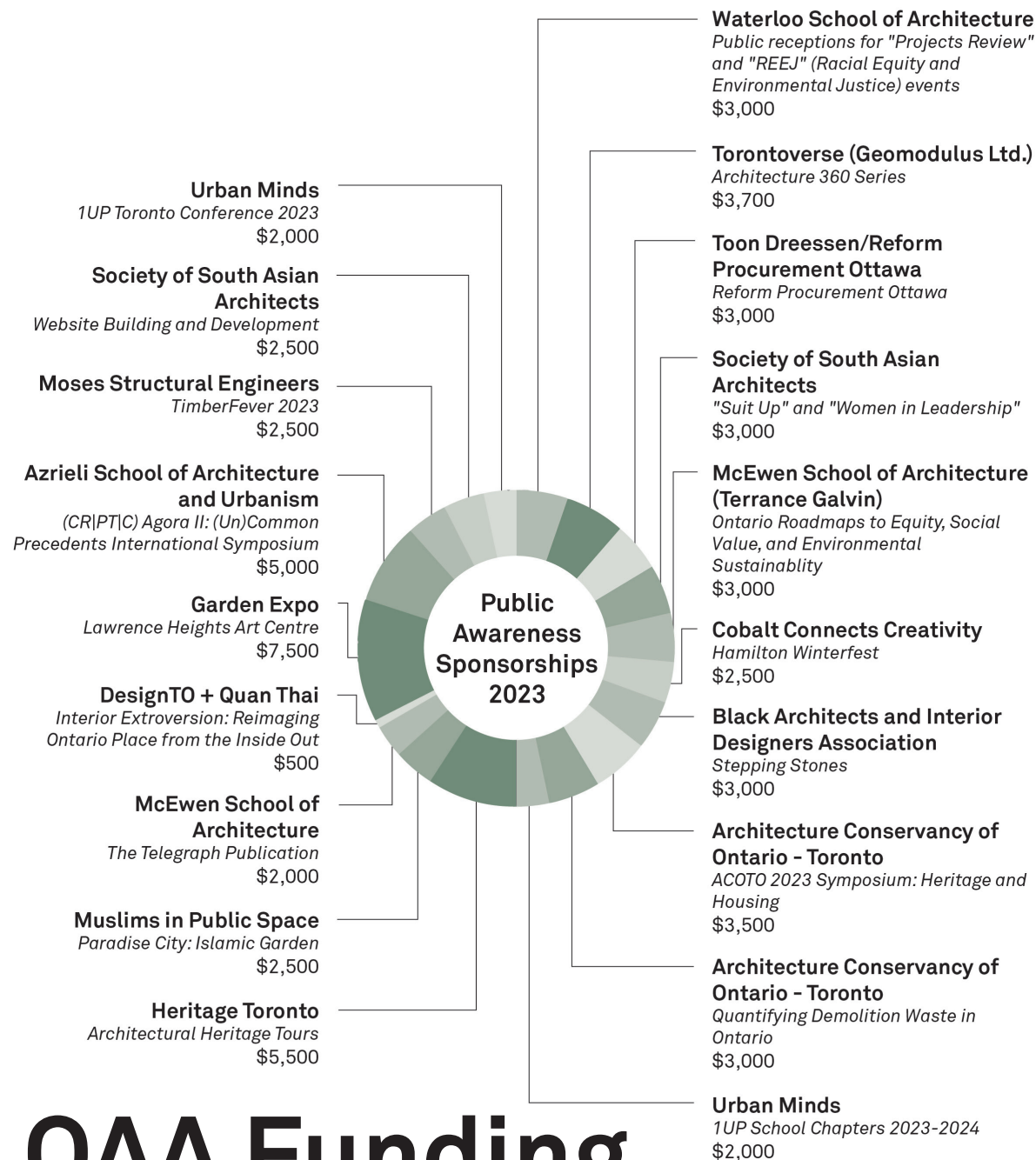
Valued at \$2500, these scholarships are provided to the five Ontario Schools of Architecture and OCAD University. Administered at the discretion of the schools, scholarships are awarded up to four individual students in any year of the undergraduate or graduate program at each university who best demonstrate design excellence and exemplary responses to the scholarship topics in a project or assignment.

The **Exceptional Leadership Through Design Excellence: Sustainability Scholarship** is awarded annually to two students at each school who best demonstrate design excellence and exemplary responses to the need for [Climate Action](#) in a project or assignment.

The **Exceptional Leadership Through Design Excellence: Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) and Truth & Reconciliation Scholarship** is also awarded to two students at each school for their work as related to either [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion](#) or [Truth and Reconciliation](#).



# OAA Funding Program





# *In Memoriam*

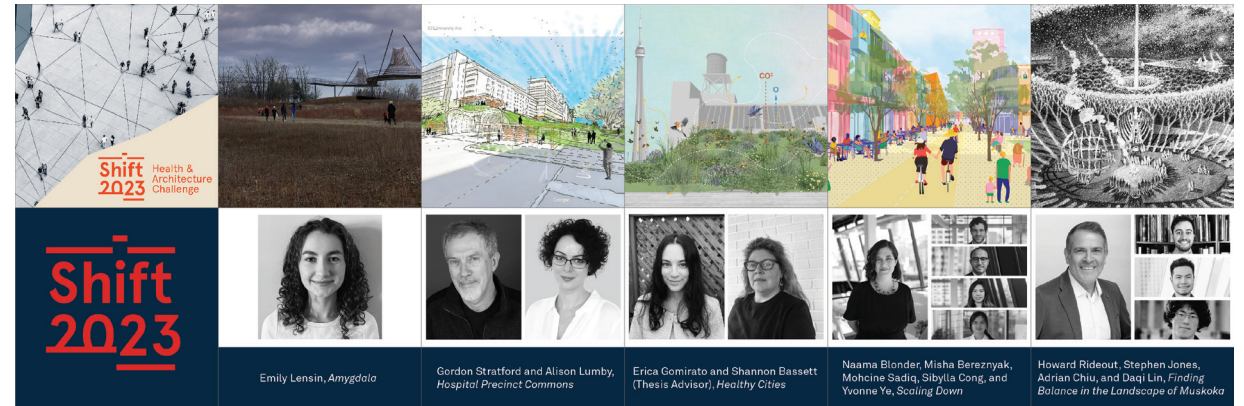
It is with deep sorrow that the Association learned of the passing of these members in 2023:

- Taymoore Balbaa
- George Baird
- George Edward Beml
- Andrew Scott Bruce
- Phyllis Clasby
- Pamela Jean Cluff
- Lucien P. Delean
- Stanford Paul Downey
- William Newton Greer
- Mark W. Hall
- Ladislav Kratky
- Richard Arthur Limmert
- Keith Loffler
- Jerome Markson
- Raymond Moriyama
- Lazlo I. Nemeth
- Martin M. Poizner
- Richard L. Stevens
- David M. Thom
- Michael Joseph Torsney
- Don Vetere
- Donald A. Voisey



# SHIFT & Award Winners

The [SHIFT2023 Challenge](#) selections explored the Theme of “**Health and Architecture**”. From community-based solutions that prioritize mental health to rethinking transit-oriented neighbourhoods, these honourees were selected by [a jury of architects and health experts](#) for showcasing the power of architectural thinking.



More information available at [shiftchallenge.ca](https://shiftchallenge.ca).

## 2023 Service Awards Winners

**2023 Honorary Members**  
for distinguished service to the  
architecture profession.

- MP Brian Masse
- Blaine Nicholls

**G. Randy Roberts Service Award**  
for extraordinary dedication and  
action in service of the membership.

**Dr. Ian Ellingham**





# Financial Summary

**TOTAL MEMBERS' EQUITY      \$61,863,314**  
(\$9,658,974 growth over 2022)

**Comprising Investment in:**

**\$48,137,966** Pro-Demnity Insurance Company

**\$1,576,226** Major Capital Reserve Fund (\$326,000 redirected from revenue surplus at the close of 2023)

**\$1,358,127** Operating Reserve (\$210,000 redirected from revenue surplus at the close of 2023)

**\$285,500** Legal Reserve (\$83,000 redirected from revenue surplus at the close of 2023)

**\$6,975,630** Property and Equipment

**\$3,529,865** Unrestricted

The [OAA's Financial Statements](#) for the fiscal year ending November 30, 2023, including the Independent Auditor's Report, are available on the OAA Website. The [OAA Finance & Audit Committee](#) reviewed the Financial Statements and Auditor's Report on February 22, 2024 and recommended OAA Council approve them on March 7, 2024.

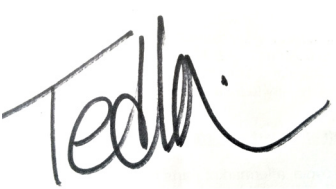
The primary goal of the OAA financial management plan in 2023 was to continue to focus on internal organizational efficiencies to maximize the value derived from fee revenue. As a result, the Association's Finance & Audit Committee, in collaboration with OAA staff, created the OAA Reserve Fund Three-Year Plan. This outlines the policies surrounding the four classes of OAA Reserves to ensure sufficient resources are maintained to fund approved expenditures and minimum balance requirements, including the recommendations from the 2022 Building Reserve Study. The use of these funds is restricted by the Association's Reserve Fund Policies. The value of these funds – including amounts transferred in 2023–can be viewed in the adjoining Financial Summary.

In addition to these restricted amounts, a further **\$3,529,865** remains as unrestricted Members' Equity, which can be used as an additional contingency to offset shortfalls resulting from unbudgeted expenditures or unanticipated revenue

fluctuations. It is generally accepted that not-for-profit organizations such as the OAA may accumulate surplus funds for operating purposes up to the equivalent of one year's operating expenses without jeopardizing their not-for-profit status.

As such, the OAA exited the 2023 fiscal year with total Members' Equity at **\$61,863,314**. Of this total amount, **\$48,137,966** is related to the OAA's investment in Pro-Demnity Insurance Co. The remainder of Members' Equity is made up of the three dedicated reserve funds, the depreciated value of capital assets, and the unrestricted accumulated surplus.

Thanks to prudent and careful management strategies, I am pleased to report that the Association continues to occupy a strong and stable financial position.



Ted Wilson, Architect  
OAA, LEED AP  
Senior Vice President and Treasurer 2023

# Senior Vice President & Treasurer's Message







# Council & Committees

**Settimo Vilardi**  
President  
Western Ontario

**William (Ted) Wilson**  
Senior Vice President & Treasurer  
Northern Ontario

**Susan Spiegel**  
Immediate Past President  
City of Toronto

**Christina Karney**  
Vice President  
Province of Ontario

**Kristiana Schuhmann**  
Vice President  
City of Toronto

**Farida Abu-Bakare**  
City of Toronto

**Loloa Alkasawat**  
Central Ontario

**Ida Badre** (until June 2023)  
Intern Architect Representative

**J. William Birdsell**  
Province of Ontario

**Jim Butticci** (From Aug. 2023)  
LGIC

**Kimberly Fawcett-Smith**  
LGIC

**Jennifer King** (until May 2023)  
Lic. Tech. OAA Representative

**Natasha Krickhan**  
Province of Ontario

**Michelle Longlade**  
LGIC

**Lara McKendrick**  
Eastern Ontario

**Elaine Mintz**  
LGIC

**Deo Paquette**  
Province of Ontario

**Clayton Payer** (Oct. 2023)  
Eastern Ontario

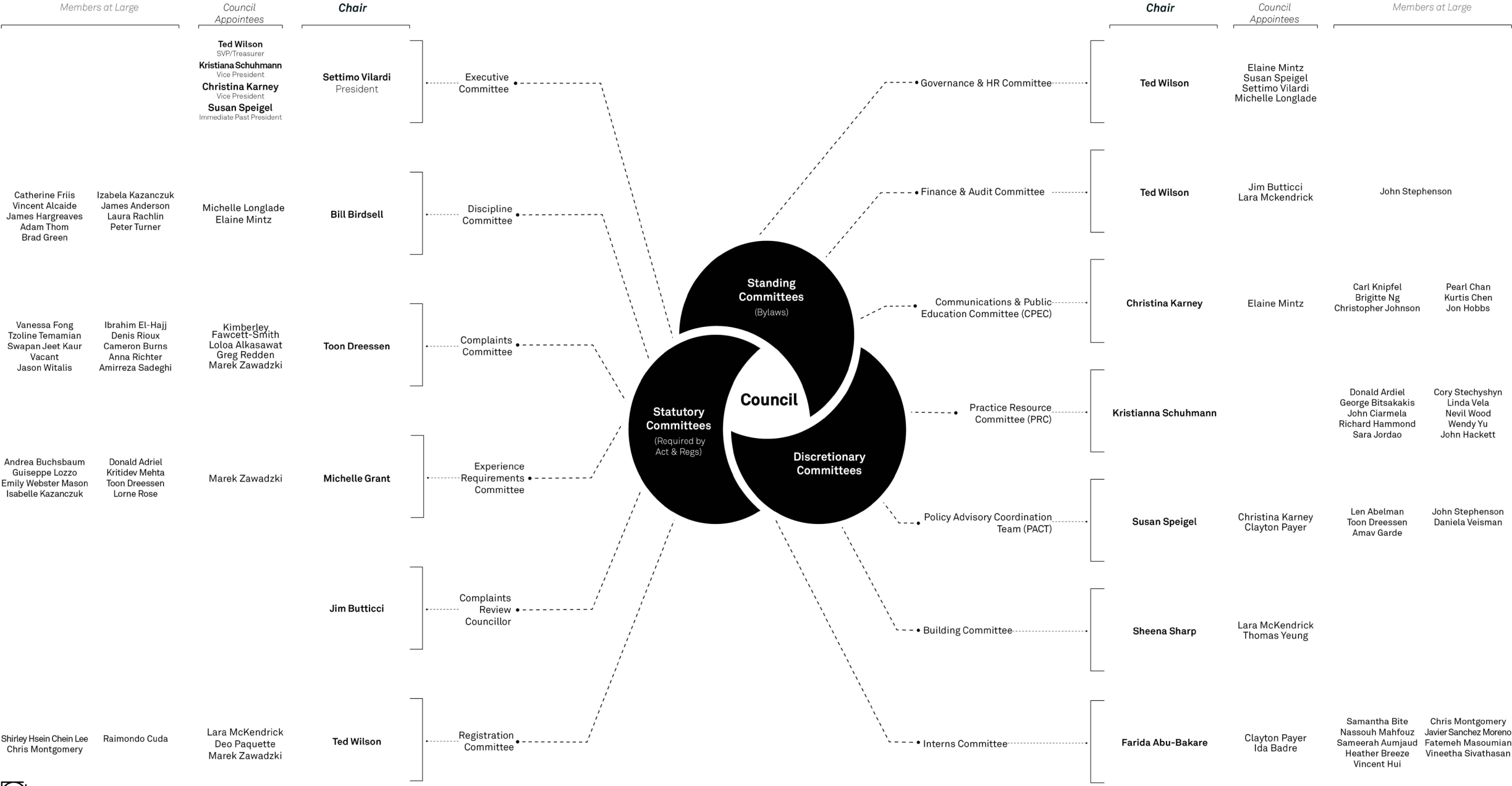
**Greg Redden**  
Western Ontario

**Thomas K.K. Yeung**  
Central Ontario

**Marek Zawadzki**  
City of Toronto

[Learn More](#)

OAA Committee







# Staff Team

**Daniele Alcinii**  
Communications Specialist

**Kathy Armbrust**  
Manager, Human Resources

**Mélisa Audet**  
Manager, Practice Advisory Services

**Camelia Bostan**  
Administrator, Licensing & Registration

**Camille Cabrera**  
Administrative Assistant, Internship in  
Architecture Program (IAP)

**Tina Carfa**  
Executive Assistant, Executive Services

**Donna-Mae Chapman**  
Receptionist & Administrative Assistant

**Abhishek Chaudhary**  
Information Technology Manager

**Mei Chen**  
Administrator, Finance

**Jon Clark**  
National ExAC Co-Administrator

**Kristi Doyle**  
Executive Director

**Claire Hepburn**  
Deputy Registrar

**Allen Humphries**  
Practice Advisor

**Kathryn Hunks**  
Architectural Graduate

**Tamara King**  
Administrator, WebSite & Communications

**Perna Kohok**  
Database Analyst

**Kristina Lam**  
Administrative Assistant, Registration

**Tina Leong**  
Experience Review Architect & Practice  
Advisor

**Violet Magowan**  
Administrative Assistant, Continuing  
Education

**Samantha Marshall**  
HR Assistant

**Christie Mills**  
Registrar

**Erik Missio**  
Communications Manager

**Cynthia Mykytyshyn**  
Public Outreach Specialist

**Chantelle Ng**  
Administrator, Digital Communications &  
Social Media

**Lashmi Ollivierre**  
Administrator, Internship in Architecture  
Program

**Wendy Ortega**  
Administrative Assistant, Finance

**Rex Shettlewood**  
Project Coordinator, Practice Advisory  
Services

**Ria Soriano**  
Administrator, Office of the Registrar

**Stephen Taylor**  
Practice Advisor

**John Thomas**  
Building Operator

**Sara Trotta**  
Manager, Policy & Government Relations

**Elizabeth Walsh**  
Policy Analyst

**Melanie Walsh**  
Manager, Finance

**Ashley Ward**  
Coordinator Development, Continuing  
Education

**Kimberly Wright**  
Office Assistant

**Felix Woehler**  
Webinar Coordinator, Continuing Education





ONTARIO ASSOCIATION  
OF ARCHITECTS

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