

# URBAN DESIGN AWARDS 2025 JURY REPORT HALIFAX

#### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Halifax Regional Municipality is located in Mikmaw'ki, the ancestral and traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq people. The Municipality acknowlesges the Peace & Friendship Treaties signed in this Territory and recognizes that we are all Treaty People.

"In great cities, spaces as well as places are designed and built: walking, witnessing, being in public, are as much part of the design and purpose as is being inside to eat, sleep, make shoes or love or music. The word citizen has to do with cities, and the ideal city is organized around citizenship – around participation in public life."

Rebecca Solnit, Wanderlust: A History of Walking



# FORWARD FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

The Urban Design Awards are a testament to the thoughtful work being done within the region. I am impressed with this awards season as it received the highest number of submissions since the inception of the program. The high number of submissions means that each category winner should be very proud of their work as each award selection faced competition.

The awards are a celebration of projects that improve and enhance the public realm. When urban design is done well it improves quality of life, accessibility, social interaction, cultural identity and creates a range of other benefits. The projects submitted for this year's awards are what drive the design of our communities and influence how people interact with their surroundings. It has been heartening to see a desire to bring high quality design to the Municipality by everyone involved.

From myself, and the Department of Planning & Development, thank you to each person that had a hand in the projects submitted. All projects require teamwork, and success should be celebrated by everyone that came together to get a project to the finish line. To every team who submitted a project, thank you. Your effort, consideration and ability to create high quality and memorable projects within the region will always be appreciated. You are all directly making the Municipality a better place to live and enjoy.

The Urban Design Awards would not be possible without the jury panel. A special thank you is needed for Antonio Gómez-Palacio, Camille Mitchell, Sarah Anderson and Nathan MacLeod. The time you have set aside to review, visit and judge each project is paramount to the awards. Your contributions are directly seen with the success of this program. To the event organizers and vendors, thank you for putting together a successful 2025 awards programs. The event is important and requires a high level of organization to make sure it runs smoothly. Your efforts are noticed and appreciated.



#### **Jacqueline Hamilton**

Executive Director
Planning & Development
Halifax Regional Municipality

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#### INTRODUCTION

The Halifax Regional Municipality is one of the largest municipalities in Canada by area. Residents of the Municipality have access to a strong urban core, vast natural open space, rich historical features and beautiful coastlines that support recreation and commerce. The Urban Design Awards look to honour and acknowledge highly executed developments and projects that have highlighted, improved and benefited the community through their design, impact on the public realm, and community participation.

Since the last Urban Design Awards ceremony 2 years ago, the population has grown substantially. With growth comes both opportunities and challenges, but thoughtful urban design projects that consider the public's experience, sustainability, and impact ensure Halifax will continue to be a special place to live and visit.

Behind each development several different actors have played a role in bringing a concept to life. The awards highlight individuals, organizations, design firms, professionals, communities and development firms that operate both in the private and public sector.

Since the Urban Design Awards returned in 2018, the Municipality has relied on the design community, industry professionals, volunteers and national affiliates to ensure the program is successful. A number of award categories correspond with the National Urban Design Awards hosted by the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC). Winners of the Halifax

Urban Design Awards may qualify for the national award program and a fee waiver.

The 2025 Urban Design Awards would not be possible without sponsorship from the Nova Scotia Association of Architects, the Atlantic Provinces Association of Landscape Architects, Licensed Professional Planners Association of Nova Scotia and Dalhousie University – Faculty of Architecture and Planning. The support of these organizations has allowed for the awards program to grow, including the addition of new categoriese. The Municipality would like to thank each organization for their continued support and partnership.

For a history of the Urban Design Awards and to see previous year awardees, you can visit the website:

https://www.halifax.ca/about-halifax/regional-community-planning/urbandesign-awards

#### 2025 URBAN DESIGN AWARDS CEREMONY

The Halifax Urban Design Award ceremony was held on May 26, 2025, in the Paul O'Regan Hall of the Halifax Central Library. The ceremony was free, required no registration and was open to the public. The ceremony was organized by Planning & Development to recognize and celebrate excellence in urban design projects completed in the last five years.

Mayor Andy Fillmore, Councilor Laura White, Councilor David Hendsbee, Chief Administrative Officer Cathie O'Toole, architects, planners, students, professionals, the public and many others were in attendance for the ceremony.

The ceremony was opened by Mayor Fillmore and closed with comments from the Executive Director, Jacqueline Hamilton. The history both speakers have with the region and urban design provided for grounded comments that tied personal reflection against the changes happening through development. Each speakers comments provided encouragement to improving the public realm and to create memorable experiences for residents and persons within the region.

The master of ceremonies and jury chair, Antonio Gómez-Palacio, was a catalyst to an engaged and excited crowd. Each award winner received loud ovations and cheers, following announcement. The pianist, Harry Bentham, provided music for every award winner called to the stage. The crowd was electric and exactly what is needed for a true celebration. The atmosphere and mood made for a very fun evening.









#### **URBAN DESIGN AWARDS TROPHY DESIGN**



The award design from 2018 has become the symbol of the awards ceremony and winning submissions. The design was created in 2018 with a request from the Municipality to the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (NSCAD) students. The goal was to create a visually appealing award that encompasses the heart of the Urban Design Awards. The winning design was created by Sasan Moradian, a fourth-year interdisciplinary student at the time.

The street grid is a prominent feature visible in the award. The grid highlights the relationship between lot fabric, streets and public space. The relationship between a person and their interactions and experience within a space is what drives great urban design.



# URBAN DESIGN AWARDS 2025 JURY REPORT HALIFAX

#### **2025 JURY STATEMENT**

Through the Urban Design Award process 8 Awards of Excellence, 3 Awards of Merit and 5 Honourable Mentions were selected across all categories. The volume of submissions this year made the awards highly competitive, especially within the category of Housing Solutions, Student Projects, and Community Connections and Initiatives.

The 2025 submissions daylighted a significant culture of design in the Municipality. Highlighted across the numerous submissions was the respect given to community, collaboration, and working with affected people and groups. The consideration and sensitivity directed to involving the people that live, play, work and interact in the places each project is in highlights how working together leads to projects reaching their highest aspirations. As these projects exist within the public realm, many of them have sought to involve communities in the design process and the life of the project. It was encouraging to see among the student submissions a particular

attention paid to creating spaces that address accessibility, from a wide variety of perspectives.

For future submissions, we encourage further elaboration of aspects of sustainability – environmental, economic, social, and cultural – as part of the design approach.

It has been a pleasure being involved with the awards and working to highlight the projects that have come to life within the region. Thank you to each and every party involved with a project submission. The quality and caliber of the projects show respect to the local context and creativity in creating features and places that will be enjoyed by many. Your efforts towards excellence in urban design do not go unnoticed. Be proud of your work and know that these types of projects are improving the public realm and making Halifax a better place to live.



Jury panel members from left to right: Nathan MacLeod Sarah Anderson Camille Mitchell Antonio Gómez-Palacio

#### THE JURY PANEL

#### **Antonio Gómez-Palacio**

MES, Arq, RPP, FCIP, FRAIC Chair, DIALOG – Toronto, Ontario Jury Chair



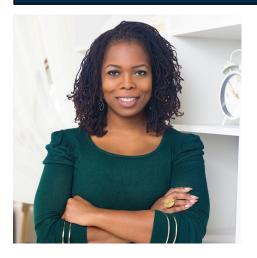
Antonio is internationally recognized for transforming cities into vibrant urban places that respond to their social, economic, and environmental context. As DIALOG Chair, his mission is to deliver design solutions to the many challenges we face globally. He is frequently called upon to lead conversations on how the built environment can contribute to community wellbeing. Antonio inspires leaders to achieve meaningful impact through various topics: housing affordability, city livability, climate adaptation, social equity and wellbeing, heritage, and sustainability. He became a Fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada College in 2018 and Fellow of the Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP) in 2024, recognized for his outstanding contributions to the design community.

#### Sarah Anderson

RPP, MCIP
Manager of Development Planning –
Moncton, New Brunswick

Sarah's breadth of experience ranges from planning and place-making in a rural municipal context, to conservation planning and regional policy analysis at the provincial level, and development planning in a rapidly urbanizing city. Sarah's current position with the City of Moncton focuses on ensuring that decisions on new growth and development respect the priorities of environmental sustainability, a safe and vibrant public realm, meeting the housing need, and maintaining community integrity. Sarah is a member of the Canadian Institute of Planners, sits as a Board of Director with the Council for Canadian Urbanism, and she sits as a juror for the Atlantic Planners Institute Planning Excellence Awards.





Camille Mitchell
OAA, FRAIC
Architect, SvN Architects + Planners – Toronto, Ontario

Camille Mitchell is an Architect at SvN Architects +
Planners in Toronto and a passionate advocate for
equity in architecture. As a founder of Building Equality
in Architecture Toronto and the Black Architects and
Interior Designers Association, she promotes mentorship,
networking, and leadership opportunities for women and
underrepresented groups in the profession. She is also

a member of the Urban Land Institute's Women in Leadership Initiative Championship Team, working to advance women in real estate and construction.

In addition to her professional contributions, Camille is a sessional lecturer at the Creative School at Toronto Metropolitan University and serves on the Advisory Board for the University of Waterloo School of Architecture's Racial Equity and Environmental Justice program. In these roles, she helps shape inclusive curricula and drive meaningful change. Camille's impactful efforts underscore her dedication to fostering opportunity and equity within the built environment and beyond.

#### **Nathan MacLeod**

APALA, CSLA, LPP, MCIP Landscape Architect, UPLAND Planning + Design Studio – Halifax, Nova Scotia

Nathan has a genuine interest in the people and places around him. This natural curiosity led him to study community design at Dalhousie University and also landscape architecture at the University of Manitoba. With this multidisciplinary background, Nathan is a well-rounded individual who is comfortable discusing design at all scales, from the region to the site. He is a firm believer



in the value of the participatory design process, believing that the best designs are only possible when end users are meaningfully involved throughout the design process. As well as being a full member of the Atlantic Provinces Association of Landscape Architects, Nathan is also a Licensed Professional Planner. His education in planning and landscape architecture has been supplemented by over a decade of experience in municipal and consulting roles working on projects throughout the Atlantic Provinces. Nathan is part of the passionate team that composes UPLAND Planning + Design Studio.

#### **AWARD CRITERIA**

The 2025 Urban Design Awards were open to projects completed on or following January 1, 2020. Submissions could be made for projects completed within any area of the Halifax Regional Municipality. If a project was submitted to a prior Urban Design Awards, it was not eligible to be considered again. The submission period for projects opened in the fall of 2024 and closed on February 10, 2025. Student project submission was closed onl April 20, 2025, in consideration of the 2024/2025 academic school year.

All award-winning projects must meet the Urban Design Goals; showing design that:

- is human scaled
- reflects community context
- · inspires civic awareness and participation
- intentionally addresses accessibility, diversity and inclusion

Each category has individual eligibility requirements and a set of primary assessment criteria. Along with the urban design goals, the primary assessment criteria were used by the judges when reviewing project submissions.

The primary assessment criteria are included at the end of each award category description in the following pages.



#### **AWARD CATEGORIES**



#### **Community Connections and Initiatives**

This category is for any built project, however modest, initiated and implemented by a community-based organization that enhances the public realm in the Halifax Regional Municipality. Examples include, but are not limited to street improvement plans, public art, commemorative or interpretive installations, and environmental initiatives.

Primary criteria for assessing the merit of a project under this category is:

- Broad community involvement demonstration of how the community-at-large was involved and supported the improvements
- Positive contribution to the public realm
- Conceptual clarity and execution of the improvement
- Innovation and uniqueness of the built project
- Clarity of presentation: understandable, readable and well-illustrated graphically



#### Heritage Adaptive Re-use Projects

This category is for heritage adaptive re-use projects where a heritage resource has been thoughtfully and expertly adapted for a new use while maintaining the integrity and important character elements of the resource. Heritage resources include but are not limited to buildings or urban elements located within the Halifax Regional Municipality.

- Technical and design excellence of heritage re-use
- Optimization of integration between heritage elements and contemporary additions and the surrounding fabric
- Clarity of presentation: understandable, readable and well-illustrated graphically



#### **Heritage Restoration Projects**

This category is for heritage restoration projects in which an important heritage resource or group of resources have been carefully and expertly returned to their original beauty and quality (interior and exterior) while contributing to the successful urban design of the community. A heritage resource can include but is not limited to buildings or urban elements located within the Halifax Regional Municipality.

Primary criteria for assessing the merit of a project under this category is:

- Architectural and technical excellence of restoration
- Positive contribution to the public realm
- Demonstration of the value of heritage restoration and urban design
- Clarity of presentation: understandable, readable and well-illustrated graphically



## Landscape Architecture and Civic Design Projects

This category is for civic improvement projects such as parks, public space, civil engineering or environmental infrastructure, streetscape design, etc., which have been implemented because of a larger urban design plan or initiative and that make a positive contribution to environmental and climate change goals of the Municipality.

- · Compatibility with the urban plan
- Positive contribution to the public realm
- Design excellence
- Demonstration of the value of urban design how the urban design plan/initiative directed and influenced the space or the objects.
- Clarity of presentation: understandable, readable and well-illustrated graphically



#### **Student Projects**

The category includes urban design projects from individual students or groups of students enrolled in a university located within the Halifax Regional Municipality. Projects must address local context.

Primary criteria for assessing the merit of a project under this category is:

- · Community involvement
- · Positive contribution to the public realm
- Conceptual clarity and design excellence additions and the surrounding fabric
- Innovation and uniqueness
- Clarity of presentation: understandable, readable and well-illustrated graphically



#### **Urban Architecture**

This category is for a building (or group of buildings) of high architectural standards which achieves urban design excellence through its relationship with its immediate surroundings because of its site, massing, and pedestrian amenities or green building design. The building will also contribute to defining a special relationship with the neighbouring urban fabric.

- · Compatibility with the urban initiative
- Positive contribution to the public realm
- Architectural excellence
- Demonstration of the value of urban design how the urban design plan directed and influenced the building
- Clarity of presentation: understandable, readable and well-illustrated graphically



#### **Urban Elements**

This category is for single, small-scale pieces of a building or landscape that contribute significantly to the quality of the public realm in the Halifax Regional Municipality. The category includes small and modest elements such as street furniture, lighting elements, interpretation media, memorials, public art or other forms of intervention that contribute to the beautification, sustainability, enjoyment, and appreciation of the urban environment. Projects can be of a temporary (but not ephemeral) or permanent nature.

Primary criteria for assessing the merit of a project under this category is:

- · Positive contribution to the public realm
- Design excellence
- Innovation and uniqueness
- Clarity of presentation: understandable, readable and well-illustrated graphically



#### **Housing Solutions**

This category is for any community builder who has built or has advanced plans for a project that delivers housing in a creative way. Priority is given to infill projects or plans that prioritize affordability and groups that face greater housing challenges. Examples include but are not limited to: secondary and backyard suites, shared housing, housing plans, supportive housing projects, cluster housing and other low-rise and "missing middle" housing forms.

- Affordability of the project for tenants
- Prioritization of groups who face greater housing challenges
- · Innovation or creativity of the housing project or plan
- Positive contribution to the public realm
- Addresses housing with a low-rise and "missing middle" solution
- Clarity of presentation: understandable, readable and well-illustrated graphically

#### **SUBMISSION SITE VISITS**











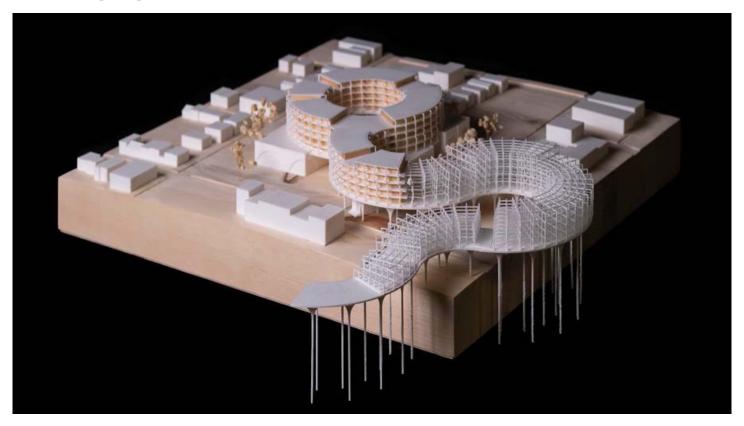




# STUDENT PROJECTS

#### **HONOURABLE MENTION IN STUDENT PROJECTS**

#### **Housing Agonism**



STUDENT LEAD
Jackson Senner
YEAR COMPLETED
2025





#### **AWARD OF MERIT IN STUDENT PROJECTS**

## Access City: Enhancing Urban Accessibility Design with 3D Visualization



# STUDENT LEAD Layth Abou Ezzeddine YEAR COMPLETED 2025







The idea recognizes the significant importance of accessibility within the public realm and what improvements may look like. Using 3D visualization enables public engagement by providing an opportunity to present various scenarios and changes through the public realm. The project was well articulated and presented an important topic.

#### **AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT PROJECTS**

#### **Shape/Light/Material**



#### STUDENT LEAD

Dalhousie Architecture Students Association (DASA)

#### PROJECT ASSOCIATES

Blake Klotz

Jacob MacDougall

Jeremy Matulin

Riaz Oozeer

James Smith

John Lau

Liam Brown

Calum Molitor-Dyer

Purvangi Patel

YEAR COMPLETED

2024

Shape/Light/Material is a thoughtful example of experimenting and building something new within the public realm. Engagement with students and the interaction of the structure with the public attest to a collaborative, creative and context-sensitive approach to place-making. While modest in design, the impact and interaction of the project was notable.







#### HONOURABLE MENTION IN URBAN ELEMENTS

## In Conversation, Public Art for the QEII Summer Street Parkade

#### LEAD FIRM

Andrea Tsang Jackon 3rd Story Workshop

#### OWNER/AGENCY/ ORGANIZATION

Province of Nova Scotia (Stephanie Nowe-Morris)

**Build Nova Scotia** 

#### PROJECT ASSOCIATES

WalterFedy

Fathom Studio

Lindsay Construction

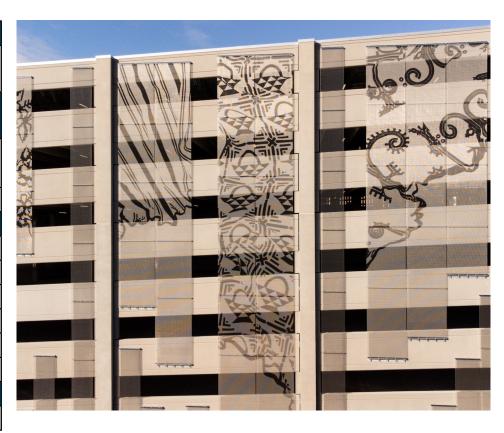
**DRKR Architects** 

Cambridge Architectural

Deborah Wong

#### YEAR COMPLETED

2022









#### AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN URBAN ELEMENTS

#### **Blooming Seating: Granville Mall Activation**



#### **LEAD FIRM**

OSO planning + design

#### OWNER/AGENCY/ ORGANIZATION

Downtown Halifax Business Commision (Paul MacKinnon)

#### **PROJECT ASSOCIATES**

Sal Lovink McKinnell

Jen Frail

Dakota Burpee

**Andrew Gilmour** 

Joyce Liu

(Lumi Studis Halifax)

YEAR COMPLETED

2022

The project is playful, amusing, and a receptacle for memory and storytelling. As an interactive piece, it attracts users to engage with the public realm in a new and different way. Through a compelling design, materials, and colour, the piece attracts attention and invites curiosity. The project is as much of an installation as it is temporal and functional. The piece activates space and pulls people of all ages in to enjoy a moment that is memorable and distinctive.







# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS AND INITIATIVES

## HONOURABLE MENTION IN COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS AND INITIATIVES

#### **Shape This Space**



#### **LEAD FIRM**

Every One Every Day Kjipuktuk/Halifax

#### PROJECT ASSOCIATES

OSO planning + design

Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre

#### YEAR COMPLETED

2024





## HONOURABLE MENTION IN COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS AND INITIATIVE

#### **Squaretown Courts**

#### **LEAD FIRM**

**Buckets & Borders** 

#### **PROJECT ASSOCIATES**

Canada Basketball

Art Pays Me

Place of Work

Matthew McKay-Lyons

**BA** Creative

Halifax Regional Municipality

#### YEAR COMPLETED

2024







#### AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS AND INITIATIVES

**Ride With Me: Street Murals** 



# Ride With Me: Street Murals

#### **LEAD FIRM**

Halifax Regional Municipality: Parks & Recreation

#### PROJECT ASSOCIATES

**Lindsay Cory** 

Mookie Magloir

Elyse Moire

Vanessa Thomas

Anders Turim

Holly Carr

Kate Moon

Shawna Shirley

YEAR COMPLETED

2024



The mural transforms the day-to-day experiences of pedestrians at street intersections and the interaction with users of the street. The work was completed with extensive collaboration from the community, specifically children from the area. This project creates pride within the community, improves street safety and builds a feeling of ownership of the area, anchored in the collaboration process and thoughtful community inclusion. Ride With Me: Street Murals transforms standard infrastructure improvements by making a fun, enjoyable and safe space that creates a rare moment in the public realm.



# HERITAGE ADAPTIVE RE-USE

#### AWARD OF MERIT IN HERITAGE ADAPTIVE RE-USE

#### **Green Lantern Building**





The Green Lantern has sought to capture a sense of history and place along an important street in . The adaptive reuse of the building has sought to recycle existing fabric, while new components have sought to harmonize with the context. Aspects of the design are engaging, respectful, and inviting when considering the history of the location and structure.

#### **LEAD FIRM**

Grafton Developments Inc.

#### **PROJECT ASSOCIATES**

Jason Ghosn

Jordan Ghosn

YEAR COMPLETED

2022





#### AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN HERITAGE ADAPTIVE RE-USE

#### **The Hilroy**

The effort put into the project is exemplified by the marriage of the restoration work and the new addition. A high level of detail was placed on sensitive design for heritage conservation. The materials, colours, and aesthetics that are used and achieved through the structure are alluring and captivating. The building is an anchor for its location as it finishes the city block with its corner location. The building is noticeable, memorable, and adaptively used, while highlighting the history of the context and structure.

#### **LEAD FIRM**

**Lydon Lynch Architects** 

OWNER/AGENCY/ ORGANIZATION

Starfish Properties

#### PROJECT ASSOCIATES

Julian Parkinson (Photographer)

YEAR COMPLETED

2024









# HERITAGE RESTORATION

#### AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN HERITAGE RESTORATION

#### **Benjamin Weir House Restoration**

#### **LEAD FIRM**

Killam Apartment REIT

#### PROJECT ASSOCIATES

Coastal Restoration & Masonry

Michael Williams

(BRK Engineering)

Janet Kimber

(Photographer)

Erin Legare

(Photographer)

#### YEAR COMPLETED

2024

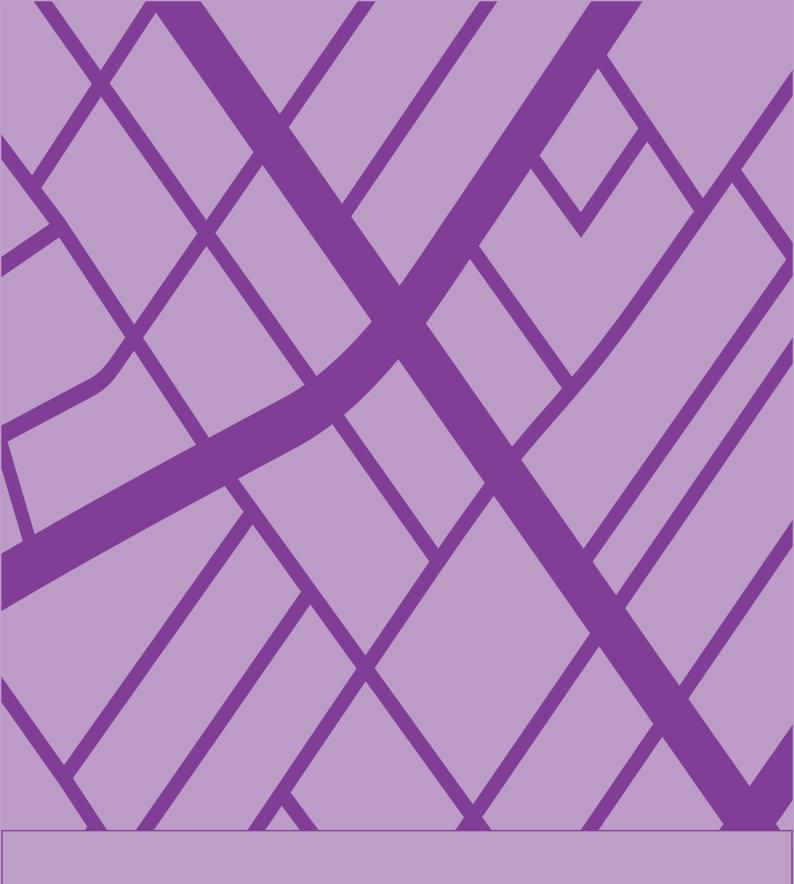




The work undergone during the restoration of the building was exhaustive. The attention to detail at each stage is notable. Examples of effort are shown in the rosettes, procurement of limestone from the original quarry and integration of modern sprinklers within delicate ceiling details and other features. The work completed through the project ensures the Benjamin Weir House remains a local gem within the community for many decades to come.







# URBAN ARCHITECTURE

#### HONOURABLE MENTION IN URBAN ARCHITECTURE

#### **Pool Pavilion on the Halifax Common**







# LEAD FIRM Abbott Brown Architects PROJECT ASSOCIATES

MJMA Architecture and Planning

Brackish Design Studio

Marco Group

Smith and Anderson

Aqua Plans

DesignPoint Engineering & Surveying Ltd.

Blackwell Structural Engineers

YEAR COMPLETED

2023



#### AWARD OF MERIT IN URBAN ARCHITECTURE

#### **Cunard Street Live / Work / Grow**



Cunard Street Live / Work / Grow is a commendable example of a respectful development that considers both the day-to-day experience of people within the building and of those that are outside, along the urban realm. The form of the structure, windows, timber and other materials are interesting, inviting and engaging from the street. The visuals of the building in the day and night create fascination and unique moments from the surrounding area. The design is elegant, measured, and builds on a foundation of sustainability and thoughtfulness.



#### **LEAD FIRM**

Fowler Bauld & Mitchell Ltd. (FBM)

#### PROJECT ASSOCIATES

Campbell Comeau Engineering

Aitchison Fitzgerald Builders

Timber Systems Ltd.

Servant Dunbrack

McKenzie & MacDonald Ltd. (SDMM)

CBCL Ltd.

Doublespace

Photography

(Younes Bounhar)

Kickstand BIM Design Support (Greg Hanlon)

YEAR COMPLETED

2024



#### AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN URBAN ARCHITECTURE

#### **Graham's Grove**



#### **LEAD FIRM**

RHAD Architects

#### OWNER/AGENCY/ ORGANIZATION

Halifax Regional Municipality (Shauna Blundon)

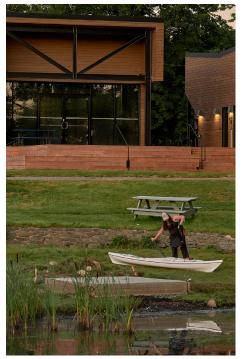
#### **PROJECT ASSOCIATES**

Julian Parkinson (Photographer)

#### YEAR COMPLETED

2023





The project sits comfortably within the park setting. Pathways and framed views of the building and through the buildings enable the seamless integration of indoor and outdoor activities. Access to the public facilities is easy and space between the main rooms allows for movement in, around and between the structure. The 360 attention to design detail, materiality, and seasonality of use, makes the building and surrounding terraces and landscapes a compelling amenity and public space.



# LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AND CIVIC DESIGN

## AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AND CIVIC DESIGN

#### **Imagine Spring Garden**



#### **LEAD FIRM**

Haligax Regional Municipality

#### **PROJECT ASSOCIATES**

Fathom Studio

**WSP** 

**Brycon Construction** 

Spring Garden Area

**Business Association** 

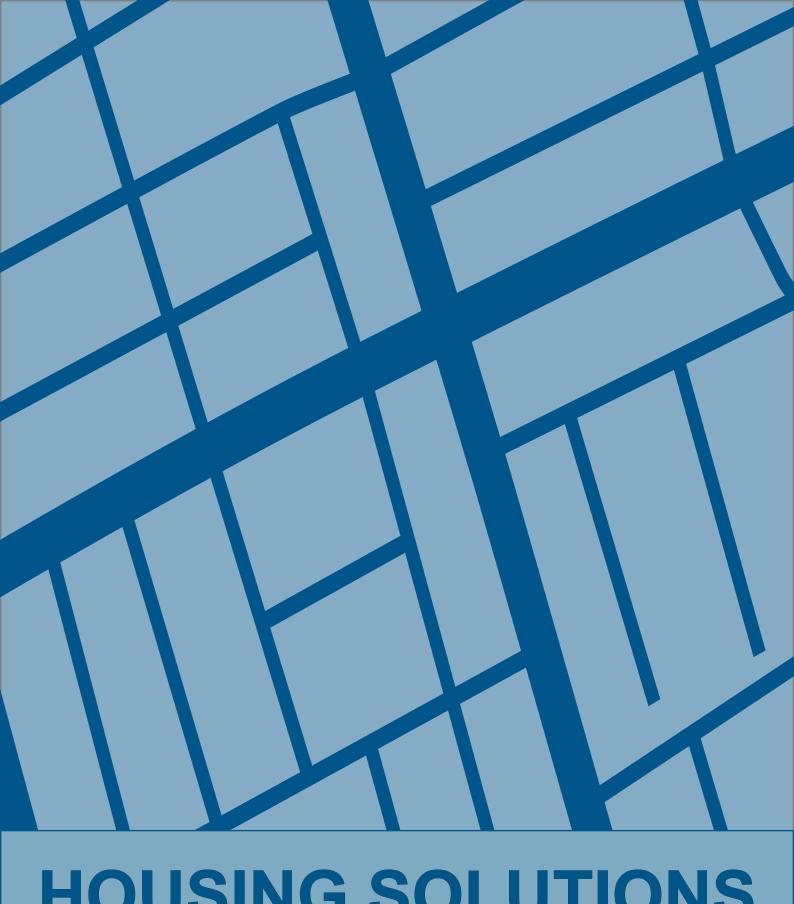
YEAR COMPLETED

2022

The project demonstrates a design approach that is sensitive to context, attentive to place-making, and attuned to bespoke needs and conditions along the streetscape. The streetscape allows for multiple meeting points, improved pedestrian access between and through the space, resting points, and the ability to slow down and enjoy the features of Spring Garden Road. The space feels comfortable and safe for users. The sidewalk widths, seating, bump outs and art pieces are sensitive to the streetscape.







# HOUSING SOLUTIONS

#### AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN HOUSING SOLUTIONS

#### **True North Crescent Housing**



This project is a community-building insertion in the urban context. Easily identified within the project is the sense of place created through the new and existing homes, yards, design features, and streets. The space allows kids to play across locations and move between buildings easily, including a pathway directly to a school. The materials selected for each building are unique, of quality, and create a noticeable articulation of units that nurture the feeling of ownership and self. Structures are integrated into the existing community with height, mass, and volume.



#### **LEAD FIRM**

Molly Merriman Architects Inc.

#### OWNER/AGENCY/ ORGANIZATION

Affordable Housing Association of Nova Scotia (AHANS)

#### **PROJECT ASSOCIATES**

Passive Design Solutions

Dora Construction Ltd.

Servant Dunbrack McKenzie & MacDonald Ltd. (SDMM)

LMMW Group Ltd.

Andrea Doncaster Enginerring Ltd.

Gordon Ratcliffe
Landscape Architects

#### YEAR COMPLETED

2025



#### 2025 URBAN DESIGN AWARD SPONSORS







FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING



Licensed Professional Planners Association of Nova Scotia

The sponsorship provided from APALA, NSSA, LPPANS and the Dalhousie University Faculty of Architecture and Planning are integral to a successful awards program.

The support provided by these groups allows for the awards ceremony to be aspirational. The program has grown each bi-annual award season in the number of submissions received and in ceremony attendance.

Additionally, these organizations contribute through education, publication, professional standards and other influences that shape urban design.

Sincerely, we appreciate the sponsorship provided by each group and their partnership in celebrating urban design within the region.

Thank you.



# URBAN DESIGN AWARDS 2025 JURY REPORT HALIFAX