

# GVSA

**Grand Valley Society of Architects**

## ANNUAL REPORT TO OAA COUNCIL

Feb 9, 2024



### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

<b>CHAIR</b>	Ana Gascon Marco
<b>VICE-CHAIR</b>	Morgan Wright
<b>TREASURER</b>	Mike Trussell
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Greg Piccini

## OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

2023 was a year where in-person events started to become a new normal again. Several continuing education events, paired with social gatherings, occurred throughout the year. The GVSA monthly meeting also started to happen in-person, which allowed for additional fluidity when having conversations and making decisions.

This year, our focus is to start bridging the gap and establish open communications with other organizations and associations in our community, to help grow our network and expand our reach. We are also working on organizing networking events for both newcomers and 'old-timers', to make room for conversations that would hopefully lead to grow the architectural community in our communities.

Several changes have occurred within the executive this year. The previous Events Coordinator has taken the role of Secretary. Both the Events Coordinator and Vice Chair positions have been filled with the current Student Liaison Coordinator.

The Web & Social Media coordinators have been working for the past several months in a new website. With the new website we want to show case the work of our members, so the public can better relate to what architecture is. Elections will be conducted later on this year for selecting a new chair for the upcoming 2024-25 season. Below are the current active GVSA committees:

**Communications**, Brian Torrens

**Web & Social Media**, Dobrina Encheva & Sara Radcliffe

**Student Liaison**, Morgan Wright

**Equity, Diversity and Inclusion**, Sulaf Alhusaini & Rubina Khan

**Continuing Education**, Yvonne Ip

**Events**, Morgan Wright

**OAA Conference**, David Thompson

**OAA Council Liaison**, Bill Birdsell

## CONTINUING EDUCATION

### **Writing Architecture**

February 9<sup>th</sup>

With the help and encouragement of the OAA and the RAIC, The Right Angle Journal has designed a 45-minute seminar on the subject of architectural writing. Writing Architecture, is based on the presentation delivered at the RAIC Conference in May 2022, but is much expanded, and more collaborative.

Writing Architecture covers most forms of writing that architects may have occasion to create, from job applications, to professional correspondence, to thought leadership pieces. The main focus of the seminar is encouraging architects to write - better, more often, more effectively, and with more confidence - turning architectural skills into writing skills.

### **Trusscore: Designing with High-Performance PVC Wall & Ceiling Systems**

March 28<sup>th</sup>

#### **Trusscore: Designing with High-Performance PVC Wall and Ceiling Systems**

**DATE:** Tuesday March 28, 2023

**TIME:** 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

**LOCATION:** Trusscore Experience Showroom, 111 Weber St W, Kitchener

**REGISTRATION:** [Register Now](#)

**1.0 Hours Structured Learning**



By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Understand the benefits and applications of high-performance polymer wall and ceiling systems to improve the health, safety, and well-being of occupants.
- Define the advantages of using polymer wall and ceiling systems vs. alternatives like FRP and drywall.
- Discuss the types of polymer wall and ceiling systems available and how to use them to meet the required design and performance criteria.
- Understand the environmental benefits of using polymer wall and ceiling systems.

## **RWDI Guelph Facility Tour**

October 18<sup>th</sup>

### **RWDI Guelph Facility Tour**

**DATE:** Wednesday October 18, 2023

**TIME:** 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**LOCATION:** [RWDI Guelph](#)

[Register here](#)

**1.0 Structured Learning Hours**



RWDI is a wind and environmental engineering consulting firm founded in Guelph, Ontario. The firm's facilities include offices around the globe; they operate five boundary-layer wind tunnels, and other testing facilities that have been involved in some of the world's tallest skyscrapers and landmark structures. The tour will include a tour of the Guelph wind testing facility as well as the model shop.

## **evolv1 Building Tour & Dinner**

November 1<sup>st</sup>

### **evolv1 Building Tour & Dinner**

**DATE:** Wednesday November 1, 2023

**TIME:** 5:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

**LOCATION:** [evolv1, 420 Wes Graham Way, Waterloo ON](#)

[Register Here](#)

***1.0 Structured Learning Hours***



Evolv1 had been certified as the first Zero-Carbon Building-Design project and has achieved Zero-Carbon Performance through CaGBC. The tour of evolv1 was to be led by Adrian Conrad (C.O.O of The Cora Group), Thor Neumann (Sr. Project Manager of The Cora Group) and Tova Davidson (Sustainable Waterloo Region's Executive Director).

Attendees would have toured the LEED Platinum-certified building and learnt

about the sustainable features of evol1 including: High performance building envelope, the solar wall, HVAC system, Geothermal system, 3 storey living wall, solar array, rain water harvesting and EV charging stations.

## ADDITIONAL EVENTS

In addition to all the courses and seminars mentioned above, the GVSA shared with its members information about the following events:

### **Ontario WoodWorks: Delivering Mid-Rise Housing Solutions**

February 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>

### **TSA Technical Series: Life Cycle Assessment Workshop**

April 4<sup>th</sup>

### **Ontario WoodWorks!: Understanding the New EMTC Provisions in the OBC**

April 27<sup>th</sup>

### **Ontario WoodWorks!: Mass Timber Construction at Canadian Nuclear Laboratories**

May 10<sup>th</sup>

### **RAIC Volunteer Opportunities**

September 3<sup>rd</sup>

### **Commuting Communities Exhibition Opening**

September 15<sup>th</sup>

### **OAA's President Visit**

October 24<sup>th</sup>

### **Highlights of Sudbury: An OAA Virtual Special Event**

October 26<sup>th</sup>

## Ontario Wood WORKS!: Mass Timber Construction at Canadian Nuclear Laboratories

**DATE:** Wednesday May 10, 2023

**TIME:** 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

**LOCATION:** Online

**REGISTRATION:** [Register Now](#)



### Mass Timber Construction at Canadian Nuclear Laboratories

Webinar Wednesday May 10, 2023  
12:00 - 2:00pm EST

## Commuting Communities Exhibition Opening

**DATE:** Friday September 15, 2023

**TIME:** 6:30pm - 7:30pm

**LOCATION:** 15 Main St, Cambridge ON

Join us on Friday, September 15, 2023, at 6:30pm at 15 Main St Cambridge for the opening reception of "Commuting Communities", an exhibition of undergraduate student projects from the Winter 2023 semester showing visions for increasing housing densities at future ION stations in Cambridge that are inclusive, affordable, and safe, while beautifully strengthening a sense of community. The focus of the studio was to consider what it would take to achieve Equitable Transit-Oriented Development (ETOD) around each station, including planning and financing strategies that could lead to more inclusive neighbourhoods, factoring in important issues like affordability, reconciliation, and biased gentrification.

This event is FREE and open to the public, so we look forward to seeing you there!

The exhibition runs from September 15th-29th, 2023, 4:30-7:30pm daily.

## Project Management for Architects

Toronto Session: October 2023

Vancouver Session: November 2023



## PUBLIC EVENTS SPONSORSHIPS

### **Boots on the Ground (BOG) Guelph**

March 8<sup>th</sup>

This year the GVSA was a silver sponsor for the Boots on the Ground (BOG) Guelph event. This is a free event that promotes high-performance building, and includes a mini-trade show, three short presentations and networking opportunities.

### **High Performance Design Meets Boots on the Ground Guelph**

**DATE:** Wednesday March 8, 2023

**TIME:** 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

**REGISTRATION:** [Request an Invite](#)

*Passive Buildings Canada*, in partnership with *Evolve Builders Group* and *The Architect Builders Collaborative*, are bringing "Boots on the Ground" to Guelph.

#### **Presentations will include:**

- Domestic Scale Constructed Wetlands For Wastewater Treatment- by Andrew Hellebust & Garrett Johnson
- Rural Life in a Straw-bale Home- by Steve Tedesco
- Is more always better? - by Ana Gascon Marco & Kim Degenkolb

## Homer Watson House & Gallery: Mother's Day Garden Party Sponsorship

March 30<sup>th</sup> & November 2<sup>nd</sup>

Homer Watson  
House & Gallery

MOTHER'S DAY  
**Garden**  
*Party*

**SATURDAY MAY 13, 12 - 4PM**  
1754 OLD MILL ROAD, KITCHENER, ON

**ACTIVITIES | REFRESHMENTS | MUSIC | POP-UP SHOP**

Purchase tickets at [homerwatson.on.ca](http://homerwatson.on.ca)  
519.748.4377 | [marketing@homerwatson.on.ca](mailto:marketing@homerwatson.on.ca)

**Lady Glaze**  
DOUGHNUTS

**COOL AUNT**  
CREATIVES

## Culture Talks

March 30<sup>th</sup> & November 2<sup>nd</sup>

Culture Talks 2023 continues conversations between artists, architects, designers, city builders, and urbanists, shining a light on exemplary buildings and public art projects, and exploring the future role of artists and architects as cultural placemakers.

Culture Talks are presented in partnership with Perimeter Development Corporation, with support from the Grand Valley Society of Architects.

## Culture Talks: Peter Soland

**DATE:** Thursday November 2, 2023

**TIME:** 6:30 p.m.

**LOCATION:** The Walper Hotel

*1.0 Structured Learning Hours*



## KWAG Culture Talks: Lisa Rapoport

**DATE:** Thursday March 30, 2023

**TIME:** 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

**LOCATION:** Walper Hotel, 20 Queen St S, Kitchener

**REGISTRATION:** [Register here](#)



## CULTURE TALKS

Art, Architecture and the Public Realm

Lisa Rapoport from  
PLANT Architect, Inc.

**THURSDAY 30 MARCH  
6:30 PM**

The Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery and Perimeter Development Corporation invite you to the next event in our Culture Talks series, featuring architect Lisa Rapoport, founding partner of PLANT Architect Inc.

Our 2023 Culture Talks series continues to shine a light on the exemplary role that artists, architects and urban designers make as cultural placemakers.

**THURSDAY 30 MARCH | 6:30 PM | WALPER HOTEL, 20 QUEEN ST. S, KITCHENER**

Tickets for Culture Talks are \$20+HST and are available at [kwag.ca](#) or by calling **519.579.5860 x216**.

KITCHENER-WATERLOO  
ART GALLERY [KWAG.CA](#)

THE WALPER HOTEL

PERIMETER

GVSA  
Grand Valley Society of Architects

## GVSA STUDENT AWARD

April 2023



The GVSA is supporting its **third annual student awards program** with cash prizes for students in the field of architecture studying at local post-secondary schools. The awards program is intended as a way to strengthen engagement between the GVSA and the next generation of architects, designers, and technologists within our community.

This award is open to students in their 3rd year enrolled at the following programs:

- . University of Waterloo School of Architecture
- . University of Waterloo Architectural Engineering
- . Conestoga College Architecture - Construction Engineering Technology
- . Conestoga College Architecture - Project and Facility Management

The amount of entries for the award this year was more than four times the previous year (23 submissions total). This year, the jury was composed of several local architects which reviewed the projects based on the quality of the Submission Content and the adherence to the Technical Requirements.

Submission were split into two categories: 1 category for university applicants, and one for college applicants, and each category received

- . 1 main prize (\$1,000) and,
- . 1 honorable mention (\$500)

GVSA  
Grand Valley Society of Architects  
STUDENT AWARD



2021-2022 TOP PRIZE

**KEYSTONE RESIDENCE - CONESTOGA COLLEGE (A-CET)**

Nisreen Al-Halimi  
Tamara Bell  
Tom Cai  
Addy Katerberg  
Harley Potter



2021-2022 TOP PRIZE

**THE VALLEY - UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO (ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING)**

Ethan Paquette

Nicolas Gomes

Stefan Fankovic

Mapendo Ngilinga de Carvalho



2021-2022 TOP PRIZE

**THE VALLEY - UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO (ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING)**

Ethan Paquette  
Nicolas Gomes  
Stefan Fankovic  
Mapendo Ngilinga de Carvalho



2021-2022 HONORABLE MENTION

**THE LIVING GATEWAY - UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO (ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING)**

Rose Tabassi  
Alexa Quattrociochi  
Sharuja Mathanamohan  
Maria Luisa Delorenzis

## SOCIAL & NETWORKING EVENTS

### **Spring Fling: GVSA Networking and Social Event**

**DATE:** Tuesday March 21, 2023

**TIME:** 6:30 pm

**LOCATION:** AOK Craft Beer + Arcade, **165 King St W Unit B03, Kitchener**

**REGISTRATION:** [Register Now](#)

# Spring Fling

GVSA NETWORKING AND SOCIAL EVENT

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

@ 6:30PM

AOK CRAFT BEER + ARCADE

165 KING ST W UNIT B03, KITCHENER

**PLEASE RSVP IF YOU PLAN ON ATTENDING  
@ [GVSARCHITECTS.COM/UPCOMING-EVENTS](https://gvsarchitects.com/upcoming-events)**

☺ MEET OTHER ARCHITECTS, INTERN ARCHITECTS (IAP)  
AND INTERNATIONALLY TRAINED PROFESSIONALS (ITP)

☺ FIND AN OAA MENTOR

☺ MEET YOUR 2023 GVSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

## CSC Grand Valley Chapter and GVSA Golf Social

**DATE:** Tuesday July 18, 2023

**LOCATION:** Dundee Country Club, 1801 Queen St, New Dundee ON

**REGISTRATION:** [Register Now](#)

**Registration Closes Tuesday July 11**



**CSC**  
Grand Valley Chapter



**GVSA**  
Grand Valley Society of Architects

### 2023 GOLF SOCIAL

Tuesday July 18<sup>th</sup>

<p><b>Location:</b> Dundee Country Club 1801 Queen St, New Dundee ON N0B 2E0</p> <p><b>Schedule:</b> 10:30 AM - Registration 12:00 PM - TEE OFF (Shotgun) Lunch on Course 4:00 PM - Reception 5:00 PM - Dinner</p>	<p><b>Registration:</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">Member</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Non-Member</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Individuals*</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$200.00</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$225.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Foursome*</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$750.00</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$850.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dinner Only</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$75.00</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$75.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>*Includes Golf, Lunch, Dinner &amp; Wine</p> <p>Lots of Door Prizes to be won!</p>		Member	Non-Member	Individuals*	\$200.00	\$225.00	Foursome*	\$750.00	\$850.00	Dinner Only	\$75.00	\$75.00	
	Member	Non-Member												
Individuals*	\$200.00	\$225.00												
Foursome*	\$750.00	\$850.00												
Dinner Only	\$75.00	\$75.00												

**Sponsorship:**

Tournament Sponsor	\$1,500.00	Introduction @ Dinner, Signage @ registration, Logo on all media + 2 Door Prizes valued @ \$500 each.
Dinner Sponsor	\$1,000.00	Introduction @ Dinner, Logo on tables & media + 1 Door Prize valued @ \$500.
Lunch Sponsor	\$500.00	Logo at lunch & media + 1 Door Prize valued @ \$200.
Wine Sponsor	\$500.00	Logo at table & media + 1 Door Prize valued @ \$200.

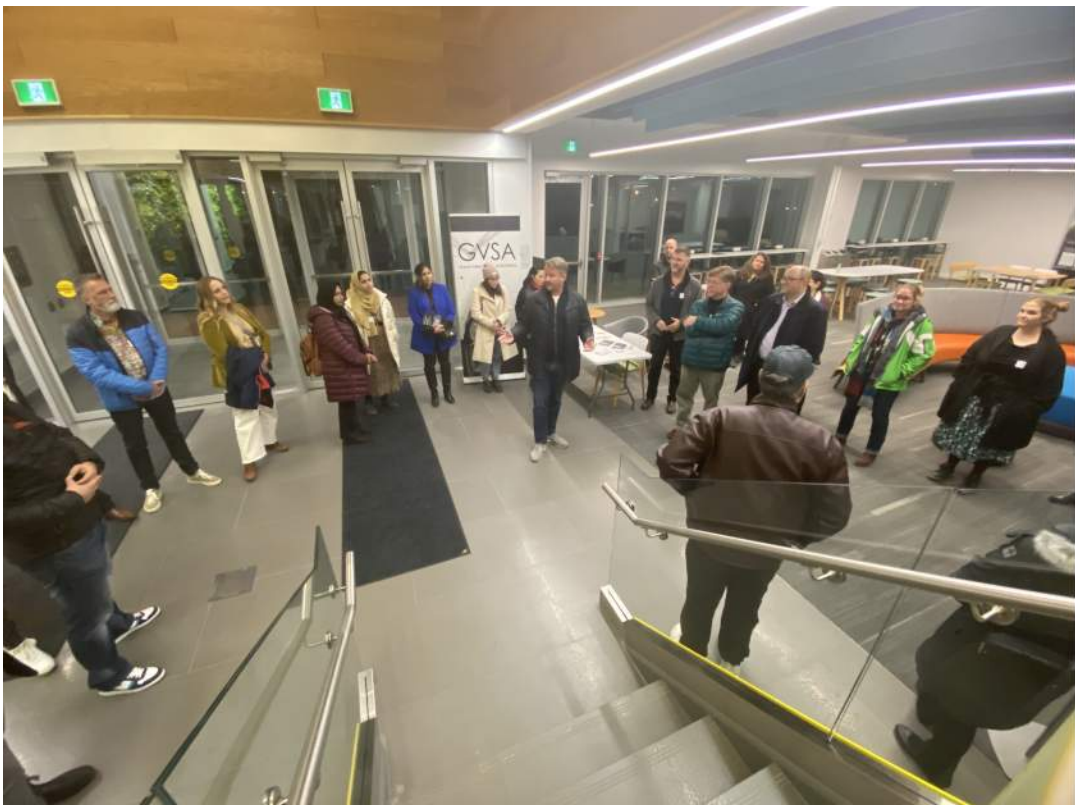
**Competition Sponsors:**

Mens Longest Drive	\$250.00 EA	Sign at Tee box
Womens Longest Drive		\$100 Gift Provided to winners.
Mens Closest to the Pin		
Womens Closest to the Pin		
Closest to the Line/Target		



## **evolv1 Tour** November 1<sup>st</sup>





## Boots on the Ground (BOG) Guelph March 8<sup>th</sup>



**Culture Talks: Peter Soland**  
November 2<sup>nd</sup>



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**Ana Gascon Marco** OAA, RAIC, CPHD  
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