

# GVSA

**Grand Valley Society of Architects**

## ANNUAL REPORT TO OAA COUNCIL

Jan 11, 2023



### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CHAIR	Yvonne Ip
CO-CHAIR	Ana Gascon Marco
VICE-CHAIR	Mike Trussell
TREASURER	Mark Buckley
SECRETARY	Mike Trussell

## OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

2022 continued to be impacted by COVID-19 restrictions. As such, in-person events were discouraged, and most of the events organized were held online.

Elections were held on October 26<sup>th</sup> 2022, and new officers were elected for Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Vice chair position is currently pending to be appointed.

In addition to the above, new members were elected as coordinators for several GVSA committees and initiatives. Below are the active GVSA committees:

Communications  
Web & Social Media  
Student Liaison  
Equity, Diversity and Inclusion  
Continuing Education  
Events  
OAA Council Liaison

## CONTINUING EDUCATION

### **Backyard Houses Talk**

March 7th

This event was moderated by the GVSA in response to a local competition held by the City of Kitchener for 'Backyard Homes'. City of Kitchener staff, along with the winners and honorable mentions of the professional category presented their designs, followed by a Q&A period.

The event was co-hosted by GVSA & Kitchener Public Library, and received an attendance of about 100 persons. The link to the event can be found below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YpWnfo08NUI&t=4379s>



## **Woodland Culture Centre Virtual Tour**

March 9th

A virtual tour of the former Mohawk Institute Residential School were provided by the Woodland Cultural Centre. The tour gave the history of the school from when it opened in 1831, until it closed in 1970. Participants saw different rooms in the school, from the meeting room, the girls' and boys' dorms, the third floor, cafeteria, and various rooms in the basement. After the presentation participants had the opportunity to ask questions or share comments with the Cultural Interpreter.

In addition to the tour, the GVSA provided further information to its members about the 'Save the Evidence' campaign, which aims to raise awareness and support for the restoration of the former Mohawk Institute Residential School, and to develop the building into an Interpreted Historic Site and Educational Resource.

## **Evolv1 Tour**

March 23rd (cancelled due to weather conditions)

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 evolv1 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.



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### **The Power of Digital Building Documentation by Mapply**

June 9, 2022

MAPPLY presentation circled around their Virtual Tour Technology, so users could have an unobstructed virtual access to project sites throughout the planning, design and construction process.

### **Waterloo Public Library Eastside Branch Tour**

October 26th

Local architectural firm John McDonald Architect, winner of the 2022 Ontario Library Association's New Building Award, provided a tour of the facility, with focus on energy conservation measures. In addition, they also mentioned what were the strategies employed for supporting truth & reconciliation, which in this case was thru a permanent art installation in the main entrance lobby.

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

November 16th

This course enabled the participants 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.

### **Antimicrobial Copper Alloy Solutions for High Contact Surfaces**

December 7th

Aereus Technologies Inc. presented their antimicrobial copper solutions and their applications, ideal for high touch surfaces across a broad range of sectors



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including, but not limited to, medical devices, public transportation, and public buildings. Our members toured their new facility, and all stations within.

**Writing Architecture Workshop**

Postponed (2023)

**OBC Amendments Webinar**

December 13

This seminar included a thorough review of the 2022 OBC amendments, with emphasis on the key changes and the impact on building design.

**ADDITIONAL EVENTS**

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

**Ontario Natural Building Coalition 2022 Conference & AGM**

May 3-7

**Toronto Wood Solutions Conference**

November 24<sup>th</sup>

**RFP OAA Landscape Design Competition**

November 2022

## PUBLIC EVENTS SPONSORSHIP

### **Culture Talks: Public City Architecture**

May 5<sup>th</sup>

Explore art, architecture and placemaking with Peter Sampson and Liz Wreford of Public City Architecture Culture Talks 2022 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 pacemakers.

### **Culture Talks: Paul Raff**

October 6<sup>th</sup>

Raff's presentation included temporary environmental installations and permanent sculptural works such as the new Regina Gateway commissioned by the City of Regina. In 2001. He also explained the rationale behind each of the following project among others: Cascade House, Arc of Memory (National Monument), Vaughan Metropolitan Station, Treetop Villas, Shoreline Commemorative and Mirage.

## STUDENT LIASON

### 2022 GVSA Student Award

April 2022

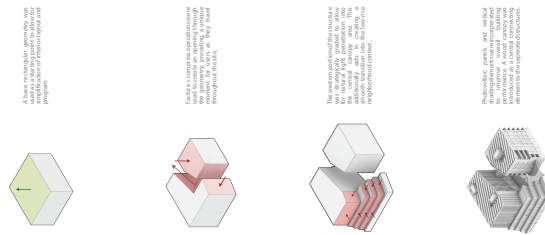
This award is open to students in their 3rd year enrolled at the following programs:

- . University of Waterloo School of Architecture
- . University of Waterloo Architectural Engineering
- . Conestoga College Architecture - Construction Engineering Technology

Submission content was based upon the student's design work completed in their 3rd year of studies.







University: University of Michigan  
Program: Architectural Engineering  
Fourth Year (L.A.)  
Partners: Edward Ruppert  
Nicola Corvini  
Stephen Barlow  
Majestic Springs and Co. LLC

## THE VALLEY

### MIXED-USE MID-RISE RESIDENTIAL PROPOSAL

132 Stanley Street, Kitchener, Waterloo



**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the primary goals of 132 Stanley Street was to create a building that would have a positive impact on the neighborhood. This was achieved through a variety of strategies, including the use of sustainable materials, energy-efficient systems, and a design that integrates with the surrounding environment.

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the primary goals of 132 Stanley Street was to create a building that would have a positive impact on the neighborhood. This was achieved through a variety of strategies, including the use of sustainable materials, energy-efficient systems, and a design that integrates with the surrounding environment.



## THE LIVING GATEWAY



Exterior Rendering of Site from Stanley Street

### PROJECT OBJECTIVES + DESIGN APPROACH

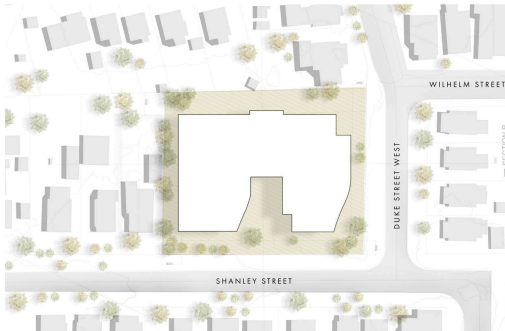
The objective of *The Living Gateway* was to design a building in Kitchener, ON that connects residents of the community through an integrated planning approach rather than a fragmented one. Amenities were sparse around the site, therefore providing easy access to retail spaces, social, and recreation areas were investigated in the programming to allow residents to travel less and be closer to amenities they need. The goal for the project was to also promote green transit by adding plenty of bicycle parking space for commuting to places such as the local GO station, nearby university campus buildings, or parks.

The aim with the project was to achieve LEED silver; therefore, schematic carbon accounting calculations were performed and LEED points were calculated based on criteria according to LEED v4 BD+C.

As architectural engineers we were required to analyze the building holistically starting with massing options based on functional programming requirements, as well as solar and wind studies to determine the building form. Once established, we determined our loads for our mass timber structure based on NBCC 2015 to calculate typical bay sizes for each tower. We discussed with structural engineers and explored various structural systems to finally select a long NLT deck, short beam system to optimize the floor sandwich depth of our building. This process helped us refine our grid and carbon accounting calculations of embodied carbon. For mechanical systems, we analyzed the distribution for each suite and the building as a whole to ensure an affordable, high performance building.

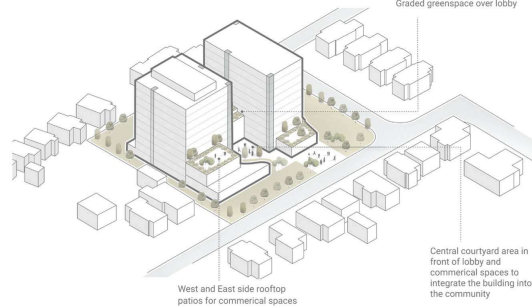
### SITE PLAN 1:500

The site is located at 152 Stanley Street in Kitchener, Ontario. It is near a few trails, universities, hospitals and transit stops, making it an ideal home for a range of tenants.



### MASSING AND FLOOR PLAN

The initial massing was inspired by the neighborhood and the notion of building a community within it, using the new development as a central hub. With the adoption of an integrated planning approach, shops and restaurants can be accessed right below the residential units, reducing the number of trips the tenants have to make to retail spaces. Green rooftops are placed over the commercial spaces on both towers to provide a calming, serene space for relaxing or social gatherings.



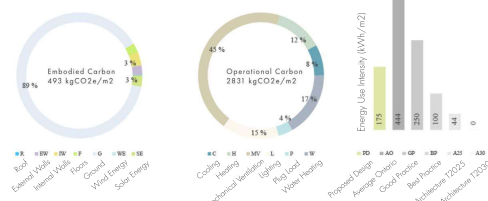
### CARBON ACCOUNTING AND LEED ASSESSMENT

Total Floor Area: 25356m<sup>2</sup>

Life Span: 100 years

Carbon Footprint: 3292 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e/m<sup>2</sup>

Energy Use Intensity: 175 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>



In designing the building one of the first aspects analyzed for these two highrises was their thermal zoning and compartmentalization. Each unit has its own dedicated ERV system to reduce the mechanical energy demand. Next, for the structural system mass timber was chosen to help lower the embodied carbon compared to conventional concrete systems. In terms of architectural massing, since the Northern side receives more diffused light, balconies were not accommodated, whereas the three remaining sides which would experience greater solar gains have balconies to compensate. This planning allowed for smaller openings on the North face to reduce heat losses particularly in the winter.



South Elevation, 1:500





## 85 Queen: Backyard Houses

DATE: March 7, 2022

TIME: 7:00 pm

REGISTRATION: [Register here](#)



## Evolv1 Building Tour

DATE: March 23, 2022

TIME: 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

REGISTRATION: [Register here](#)





## Mohawk Institute Residential School Virtual Tour

**DATE:** March 9, 2022

**TIME:** 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

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

*1.5 OAA Structured Hours*



## Culture Talks: Public City Architecture

**DATE:** May 5, 2022

**TIME:** 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

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



## The Power of Digital Building Documentation by Mapply

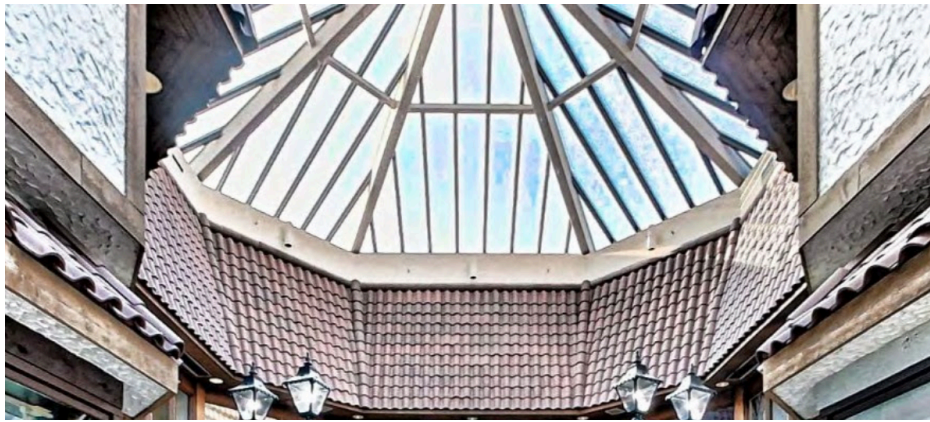
DATE: June 9, 2022

TIME: 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

LOCATION: Online

REGISTRATION: [Register here](#)

*1 Hour of Structured Learning is available for this webinar*



## KWAG Culture Talks: Paul Raff

DATE: October 6, 2022

TIME: 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

LOCATION: Walper Hotel, 20 Queen St S, Kitchener

REGISTRATION: [Register here](#)



### CULTURE TALKS

Art, Architecture and Placemaking

Architect  
Paul Raff

THURSDAY  
6 OCTOBER 2022

6 OCTOBER 2022 | 6:30-7:30 PM | WALPER HOTEL, 20 QUEEN ST. S., KITCHENER

The Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery and Perimeter Development Corporation invite you to the next event in our Culture Talks series, featuring award-winning architect Paul Raff.

Our 2022 Culture Talks series continues to shine a light on exemplary buildings and public art projects, exploring the role of artist and architects as cultural placemakers.

For tickets, please visit [kwag.ca/culturetalks](http://kwag.ca/culturetalks) or phone 519-579-5860 x100. \$20/person

KITCHENER-WATERLOO  
ART GALLERY [KWAG.CA](http://KWAG.CA)

PERIMETER

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## Oktoberfest Social

DATE: October 13, 2022

TIME: 6:00 pm - 12:00 am

LOCATION: Concordia Club, 429 Ottawa St S, Kitchener

REGISTRATION: [Register Now](#)



## WPL Eastside Branch Tour followed by **GVSA** Dinner and Executive Elections

DATE: October 26, 2022

TIME: 4:30 pm - 8:00 pm

LOCATION: WPL Eastside Branch/ Crowsfoot Smokehaus

REGISTRATION: [Register Now](#)





## Waterloo Public Library Eastside Branch Tour

By John MacDonald Architects

October 26th





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## GVSA Dinner & Elections

October 26th



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