



Northern Ontario Society of Architects

NOSA | Northern Ontario Society of Architects 2019 Activities Report

January 6, 2019

NOSA Chair: Amber Salach

Number of Current Members: 29 Members

Student Members: 10 from the McEwen School of Architecture

Membership includes: Licensed Architects, Intern Architects, Student Associates and Retired Architects.

In 2019 NOSA continued to focus on engagement and promotion of our local society initiatives. It was an eventful year for NOSA. We stepped back from our usual involvement with designing and constructing architectural installations for a local Sudbury Cultural Festival, UpHere and focused our efforts within our membership. Our executive team reached out to our members and to the community through continuing education, lectures, advocacy and practice discourse.

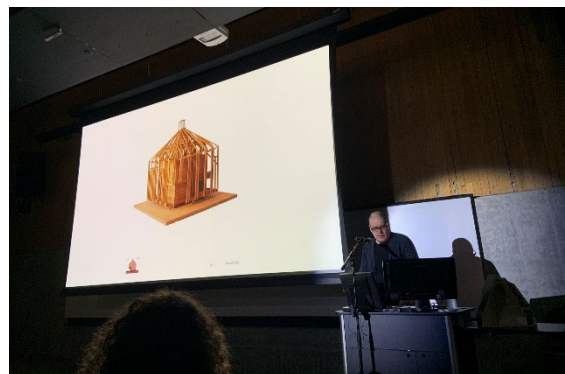
Public Lectures as part of the McEwen School of Architecture Lecture Series: OAA Special Funding

- Key sponsor and organizer of one public lecture with the McEwen School of Architecture Lecture Series.
 - o NOSA hosted architect, Anssi Lassila founder and director of OOPEAA Office for Peripheral Architecture from Helsinki, Finland on October 1st, 2019.

Anssi Lassila - Architect, Founder and director of OOPEAA - Office for Peripheral Architecture.

Anssi Lassila is the founder and director of Office for Peripheral Architecture in Helsinki, Finland. Lassila's architecture displays his interest in combining a sculptural form with traditional materials and innovative techniques. His work explores a wide range of projects on varying scales from churches and daycare centers, an art museum, office buildings, housing, private houses, town planning, and renovations to historically valuable landmarks. His office has received numerous international design awards for their buildings, specifically recognizing excellence in wood design.

Attendance at the event qualified for 2 Hours of OAA Structured Learning.





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NOSA 2019 Spring Social Event

On June 5th, 2019 NOSA hosted a social event to gather together and discuss two NOSA events; the first bi-annual architectural building tours and a potential outreach event (has not occurred yet) focused on building design culture with local ICI clients.

NOSA Social

The Social will present an opportunity for discussion regarding two upcoming NOSA events. The first of a bi-annual Architectural Building Tour uniting local architects with the public, as well as an Outreach event focused on Building a Design Culture with local ICI clientele. Feedback regarding both events is encouraged and greatly appreciated.

Drinks and food will be provided.
Please RSVP by Friday May 31st.

5PM - 7PM
June 5th, 2019
La Fromagerie
80 Elgin Street



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McEwen School of Architecture Endowment Fund/Bursary and Student Award

In 2014, NOSA approved a motion to contribute towards the newly opened McEwen School of Architecture at Laurentian University. An agreement was signed with LU and NOSA provided \$9,000 that was put towards a student bursary fund. In 2015, it was agreed upon to continue to contribute to this bursary, by providing LU an additional \$1000 per year moving forward. We have pledged this amount for the next four years.

This year the endowment was valued at \$400.00 and the Northern Ontario Architects Award for the 2018-2019 academic year was given to MSOA student, Holly Sutton.

ENDOWMENT SUMMARY 8011171 Opening Balance: \$11,151.73

New Contributions: \$1000.00

Closing Balance: \$12,151.73

AWARD SUMMARY Opening balance: \$6.07

Interest (4%): \$406.07

Additional contributions: \$0.00

NOSA Scholarship awarded 2018-2019: (\$400.00)

Closing balance: \$6.07

Nuit Blanche at the McEwen School of Architecture

NOSA monetarily sponsored an evening of architectural installations called Nuit Blanche at the McEwen School of Architecture. An event put on by the architecture students for the community at large. We helped to promote the event to our members, and many attended the event. NOSA sponsored \$2500.00 for the event.

Saturday, January	•	Samedi, Janvier le
26, 2019	•	26, 2019
7pm - 1am	•	19h - 1h
McEwen School of	•	École d'architecture
Architecture	•	McEwen
85 Elm Street	•	85 Rue Elm
Downtown Sudbury	•	Le Centre-ville de
	•	Sudbury

[@mcewennuitblanche](#)



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Membership Continuing Education

In 2019 NOSA organized and promoted a few continuing education seminars in Sudbury, where members came together as a group for these sessions at the McEwen School of Architecture.

On November 13, 2019 NOSA hosted a Pro-Demnity Loss Prevention Event.

The Program focused on:

What is most likely to draw your practice into a professional liability claim? How does “what tends to go wrong”, “who complains” and “who else is implicated” vary with building type? What can you do to lower your risks? A recent review for Pro-Demnity Insurance Company has revealed interesting patterns among the claims made against Ontario Architects. The “Claims Experience Workbook” (published jointly by the OAA and Pro-Demnity in 2017) highlights numerous strategies that architects can take to manage their risks.

This Workshop will be “hands-on”. Using a life-like scenario inspired by the claims history, you will use the Workbook during the session. As a result, you should leave better-prepared to apply the Workbook, and related resources, to a current project in your office.

The event was well attended with 11 architects in attendance. Attendance at the event qualified for 3 Hours of OAA Structured Learning.





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Monthly Meetings and Get Togethers

Ongoing dialogue is important to keep up the momentum within NOSA. A group of committed members get together once a month to work on our priorities, steps moving forward and most recently have worked on the Special Funding Applications and the Local Society Chairs Workshop. We are also engaged in collaborating with the Sudbury Design Society as we move forward into 2020.

Annual OAA President's Luncheon

On October 17th, 2019 NOSA hosted OAA President Kathleen Kurtin and OAA Executive Director Kristi Doyle at the McEwen School of Architecture. 12 NOSA members were in attendance.

The discussion included the following topics:

- 2019 priorities (The Education Continuum; Membership Engagement; and Inclusivity & Equity Throughout the Profession)
- Interest in the OAA Elections
- Construction (Lien) Act
- OAA Conference in Sudbury 2023
- Ongoing work with the Architecture Policy for Canada

MMAH - Transforming and modernizing the delivery of Ontario's Building Code Services

On November 22, 2019 NOSA submitted a letter to the Ministry of Municipal Housing and Affairs, Building Services Transformation Branch to communicate from all our members concern with the proposed transformation of how Building Code Services may be transformed.

See attached letter.

NOSA 2019 Fall Architecture Tour

“What I've learned is that architects listen, listen and listen.”

~ comment from a Fall Architecture Tour attendee

On October 5th, 2019 NOSA hosted its first public architecture tour in Sudbury ON. The event had two primary objectives. The first was to provide members of the general public an opportunity to meet and speak to the architects that had designed significant buildings in their community and, in doing so, remove the mystery of the design process and who is involved. The second objective was to identify design excellence within our community and to articulate this in a public forum.

Accordingly, NOSA invited local architects to lead a tour through a building that they had designed. The event was promoted through social media and local event listings. The itinerary included four buildings, on three different sites, each designed by a different architect and firm, as follows:

- Chris Perry, Architect OAA, Perry + Perry Architects --- All Nations Church
- Louis Bélanger, Architect OAA, YBSA --- Paroisse Ste-Anne Des Pin
- Jeff Laberge, Architect OAA, J.L. Richards --- Adanac Skill Lodge
- Angele Dymtruk, Architect OAA, 3rd Line Studio --- Adanac Ski Patrol + Rental Facility

To further encourage dialogue between the profession and the public (and reduce our carbon footprint) guests were invited to travel between sites on a chartered bus. Twenty-six people participated in the tour, encompassing a range of ages, backgrounds and vocations. NOSA received very positive feedback from both participants and our members.



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Having an architect lead the tour was an incredibly valuable asset. They provided rich and diverse perspectives on their respective buildings and this allowed for a depth and breadth of conversation that would not have been possible otherwise. The question and answer periods were often as long as the actual 'tour', further demonstrating the level of engagement and interest of those in attendance.

NOSA hosted a social event at a local downtown pub after the tour.





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Tribute Email to recognize the passing of local architect, Oryst Sawchuk

As many of you know, *Oryst Sawchuk passed away on May 2, 2019*. If you didn't know, I am sending this email out to NOSA members to inform you. Oryst was a well-known architect in Sudbury for many many years.

I thought his article written by his friend was fitting to send.



By Narasim Katary

His long-time friend, Narasim Katary, wrote a touching tribute to his character and his contributions for this edition of The Soapbox. (Supplied)

The crossing over of Oryst Sawchuk leaves a large void in the social fabric of Sudbury. The multi-talented, multi-contributor was a Community Builder in the truest sense of the expression. This is a good time to recapitulate his contributions in order to appreciate the dimensions of the void he has left behind. Sawchuk was a professional architect by training. In addition, he was also an artist, a musician, a businessperson, and a contributor to community advancement through his indefatigable volunteer work with the Sudbury Chamber of Commerce, the Art Gallery of Sudbury, and the Sudbury Arts Council. His lasting legacy to the City of Greater Sudbury and beyond includes the following major achievements.

As an architect, he designed several landmark buildings and some are considered by his peers as making a statement to both reflect and project the built form of Sudbury in a creative fashion.

Three signature buildings that have influenced the physical form are worth mentioning. They are: the Grace Hartman Amphitheatre, the Sudbury Transit Centre, and the Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School. It hardly needs mentioning that the Greek-style Amphitheatre inspired a group of young people to start the longest running bilingual music festival, the Northern Lights Festival Boreal a few years later. ...

End of NOSA 2019 Annual Report



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Building Services Transformation Branch
777 Bay Street, 16th floor
Toronto, ON
M5G 2E5
Canada

[Sent via email]

To Whom It May Concern,

Please accept the Northern Ontario Society of Architects' response to the MMAH consultation on *Transforming and modernizing the delivery of Ontario's Building Code services*.

As members of the Ontario Association of Architects, we appreciate the Ministry seeking ways to continually improve the building sector. While many initiatives were discussed in this consultation, we want to respond specifically to the Ministry's plan to interfere with the practice of architecture.

NOSA has recently learned that the Ministry is proposing to implement a Certified Professional Model, similar to that of British Columbia. As architects we have signed a solemn declaration to adhere to all applicable laws and by-laws including the *Building Code Act* and the Ontario Building Code. Ontario architects also agree to the Act and the Code when we fill out the required permit forms for the Authority Having Jurisdiction, in effect duplicating our commitment to be bound.

The regulations governing the practice of architecture requirements are well known by all architects, and we all take our professional obligations very seriously. Not doing so could result in a situation where we are held guilty of professional misconduct and subsequently have our licenses revoked. Knowing this, why does the Ministry want to create extra layers of approvals that add significant levels of red tape and bureaucracy to a process that already exists, and already works?

The Elliot Lake Commission recommended formalizing a Prime Consultant / Coordinating Professional on building projects. I encourage the Ministry to work with the OAA and the Professional Engineers of Ontario to finalize this important public protection piece.

We cannot support the addition of more red tape that only encumbers the profession without adding any public protection beyond what already exists.

Sincerely,

Amber Salach, B.A.S., M.Arch., OAA., MRAIC
Chair
Northern Ontario Society of Architects