

Niagara Society of Architects Report: Events and Activities - 2023

Meetings and Events

January 26: NSA meeting at St.Catharines Club. This was a major evening meeting, dealing with recent changes to the Provincial development frameworks (including Bill 23). Speakers included, a lawyer active in planning matters in Niagara, the senior Regional planner, a senior St.Catharines city planner, a local developer and a member of the NSA, who has participated on the St.Catharines Committee of Adjustment.

May 4: NSA meeting at Dalhousie Yacht Club: Four presentations on Cultural Design Sources. Matthew Schmid, who has set up a new practice in Niagara spoke on his previous work. Jimmy Caporicci did his required-by-scholarship talk on his student thesis project (he has now graduated and joined a Niagara architectural practice), and Brock University Professor Angus Smith spoke on what can be learned about architecture and city planning from the Minoan city he has been excavating.

Sept 14: NSA meeting at Dalhousie Yacht Club: Presentation by Brock University lecturer in geography, Jayson Childs, dealing with climate change.

Nov 16: NSA meeting at Imperial Vets. Discussion about NSA directions, together with a presentation from Kone elevators covering existing and emerging elevator technologies.

Numbers of committee meetings have been held with respect to the films, Niagara Falls tour brochure, NSA meetings and general administration.

Films:

In co-operating with the St.Catharines Performing Arts Centre, the Architecture+Design Film Series has continued. With each film, a member of the NSA introduces the film and conducts a discussion / Q+A session after the film. The audiences participated vigorously.

May 17: My Architect

June 14: Architecture of Infinity

July 19: There Goes Our Neighbourhood

Aug 16: Outside In

Sept 20: Relics of the Future: This was a special event as the director and photographer attended the showing and responded to questions afterwards. The audience was invited to a reception at a café across the street, where the discussions continued.

Oct 18: Venice Elsewhere

Nov 15: Design Canada

The film series for 2024 is currently being developed, and additional promotional activities are planned.

Scholarships:

The Michael Zuberec Scholarship scholarship programme was run again, and only one application was received. The numbers vary from year to year – the 2023 application had submitted before (in 2020 - a year with a number of applications), and included a substantial

amount of work that the committee found exemplary. In this case, Arden Hamilton, the applicant, had completed her programme at Carleton University, and had been accepted to do graduate studies at Cornell University. .

'Walking' Tour Project:

In conjunction with the proposed (pre-covid) OAA conference to be held in Niagara Falls, and the upcoming 2024 conference, continued with the development of the paper version of the architectural 'walking tour' brochure (although many of the sites are beyond walking distance from the conference venue. Although the 2020 conference was cancelled, the project was developed as an on-line version, and has been available on the NSoA website for over a year. t the current time, some of the sketches have become available:

Website:

The NSoA website has been kept active, with ongoing contributions to the 'Ideas' section and other elements. On a typical day, the system records 25 pageviews for elements in 'Ideas' and 200 to 400 pageviews overall. Some members have reported that they have obtained business from people considering various firms from their information on the website.

Other Activities

A NSA member continues to work with the St.Catharines Museum at Lock 3, assisting in the curating of their drawing collection.

Niagara Society of Architects

Income and Expenses: January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023

Income:

OAA funding	4,670.00
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Expenses:

Niagara Falls Tour Brochure	2,712.00
Scholarship	1,200.00
Architecture+Design Movie Program	152.38
Website Maintenance	339.00
Meeting Costs	<u>1,676.62</u>
Total Expenses	<u>6,080.00</u>

Surplus / Loss (-)	- 1,410.00
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