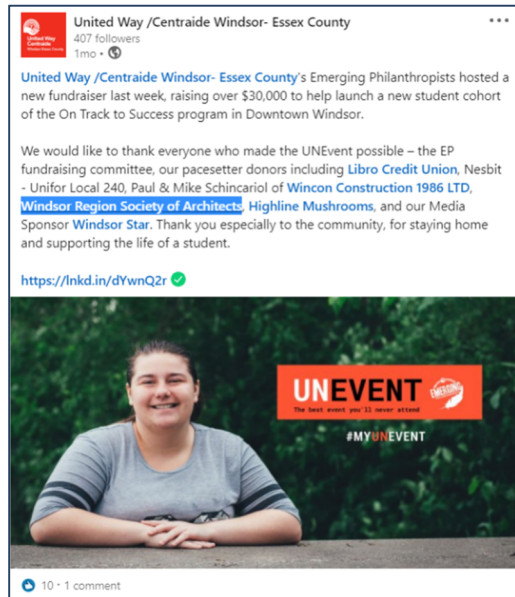


## 2020 Annual Report

The WRSA is proud of their efforts this year in continuing to engage members and the community, especially given the challenging year. We played an important role in our community, providing outreach, community involvement and support, and, once again, important commentary into continued architectural issues facing our community. We have once again been successful in expanding on our three primary mandates of outreach, activism, and awareness.

Our outreach this year began by contributing to the Windsor-Essex United Way’s COVID-19 Community Response and Recovery Fund, which went to help support those in the community who already face barriers such as poverty, homelessness, and social isolation – issues that were further affected by this global pandemic. We



garnered the support of various member firms and were able to collectively contribute monetarily to the endeavour. Later in the year, we continued our support of the United Way’s efforts by contributing to their ‘On Track To Success’ program which is a career-building initiative that helps kids graduate high school and go on to post-secondary education. This program currently includes several architecture students. Other outreach included supporting various events held by the local construction association.



Our community awareness this year was highlighted primarily by our continued support of the Windsor International Film Festival (WIFF), thanks to the OAA’s Special Project Funding received in January 2020. With Covid-19, WIFF was a very different event this year, and became a summer drive-in movie event ‘WIFF Under The Stars’, held downtown along Windsor’s riverfront. Support of this festival was held only for the areas most prominent donors, for which we are proud that the WRSA was included in on, given our long-standing relationship with WIFF’s executive director. We are proud to have been able to participate in such a positive event in the core of the city.





Our support of the Our Lady of Assumption Church, founded in 1728 and the oldest parish in Canada, West of Montreal, continued this year by working with church representatives to organize an event in 2021 related to the church, the site, its heritage and its indigenous ties. This event is in the planning stages for execution in Fall 2021 as part of Doors Open Windsor, and as funded by the OAA's 2<sup>nd</sup> round of Special Project Funding, so preparation work is ongoing.

This year also brought discussions with the City of Windsor and the Windsor Construction Association, in relation to the development of a new vendor relationship management policy. We also continued our support of a responsible site for Windsor-Essex's new Mega Hospital by providing a written submission to the Mayor and City Council before voting whether to support its construction at the selected rural ex-urban site.

In the interest of promoting awareness of the field of architecture, this year we founded a new Education Subcommittee, and have begun to develop a prioritized outline of initiatives for this subcommittee with a variety of interest groups and audiences, including primary and secondary school children, post-secondary, interns, and continuing education for working professionals. We are proud of this initiative, and look forward to developing it further in the coming year.

We have also added a Vice-Chair to our Executive Committee, Aaron Ashley, who is a Licensed Technologist with the OAA bringing benefit to the society as we navigate the continuing evolution and diversification of our members and their designations.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Suzanne Stiers'.

Suzanne Stiers, M.Arch., OAA,  
Architect  
Chair, Windsor Region Society of Architects