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# Media Release

For Immediate Release

October 23, 2024

## OAA Announces MPPs' Favourite Housing-Related Architecture at Queen's Park

**Toronto, ON** – The [Ontario Association of Architects](#) (OAA), which regulates architecture in the province, has unveiled this year's nine [Queen's Park Picks](#) (QPP) projects. This initiative invites Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs) to highlight their favourite architectural gems from their ridings, showcasing exceptional buildings and structures in celebration of architecture in Ontario.

This year's theme for nominees was "Housing," with MPPs from across all political parties suggesting exemplary places in which Ontarians live, thrive, heal, or find comfort. The theme not only echoes the [2024 OAA Conference](#) focus on housing, but also reflects the Association's outreach efforts in regulating the architecture profession to protect the public interest. Whether heritage projects or more recent construction, these buildings represent a design philosophy that prioritizes long-term sustainability over short-term gain, offering Ontarians a place to call home.

Earlier this year, the OAA invited all Ontario MPPs to reflect on the province's unique architectural legacy and nominate a favourite building within their riding. Thirty-two submissions were received from 29 MPPs representing regions across the province, as well as all political parties. Of these, the following nine projects have been selected by a jury of architects to comprise the 2024 QP Picks:

- [Bain Apartments Co-Operative](#) (formerly Riverdale Courts) in Toronto  
Architects: Eden Smith and Sons (1913), F.H. Marani (1923)  
Nominated by MPP Peter Tabuns (Toronto—Danforth)
- [Carlington Community Health Centre](#) in Ottawa  
Architect: CSV Consultants Inc. Architects  
Renovation Architect: James Edwards Architect and Frank Fentiman Architect (1992)  
Nominated by MPP Joel Harden (Ottawa Centre) & MPP Chandra Pasma (Ottawa West—Nepean)
- [Casey House](#) in Toronto  
Architect: Hariri Pontarini Architects  
Nominated by MPP Kristyn Wong-Tam (Toronto Centre)
- [Harvey Woods Lofts](#) in Woodstock  
Architects: Invizij Architects Inc.  
Nominated by MPP Ernie Hardeman (Oxford)
- [The Kensington Apartments](#) in Kingston  
Architect: John Power and Sons (1876)  
Architects of Renovation: Shoalts and Zaback Architects Ltd. (2017)  
Nominated by MPP Ted Hsu (Kingston and the Islands)
- [Mikinàk Ottawa Community Housing](#) in Ottawa  
Architect: Arcadis Architects (Canada) Inc.  
Nominated by MPP Lucille Collard (Ottawa—Vanier)

- [Sagatay](#) in Toronto  
Architect: Hilditch Architect Inc.  
Nominated by MPP Jill Andrew (Toronto—St. Paul’s)
- [Suswin Village](#) in North Bay  
Architect: Larocque Elder Architects, Architectes Inc.  
Nominated by the Hon. Victor Fedeli (Nipissing)
- [Ulster House](#) in Toronto  
Architect: LGA Architectural Partners Ltd.  
Nominated by MPP Jessica Bell (University—Rosedale)

Now in its ninth year, the Queen’s Park Picks program serves as a vibrant platform to honour and promote outstanding architectural achievements within the province. By inviting MPPs to share architectural gems from their riding, the program fosters a deeper appreciation for the vital role that architecture plays in shaping Ontario's communities and enhancing the quality of life for its residents.

The OAA’s Policy Advisory Coordination Team (PACT) reviewed all nominations to create a shortlist of outstanding projects, all exemplifying thoughtful design philosophies that prioritize long-term sustainability and community place-making.

"Each year, the Queen's Park Picks program reaffirms the transformative power of architecture in Ontario," says Settimo Vilardi, president of the OAA’s governing Council. "This year's focus on housing underscores our commitment to sustainability and community-centric design. It is inspiring to witness MPPs across all parties recognizing buildings that not only blend form and function but also nurture thriving communities. Our collaboration with provincial leaders continues to spotlight the pivotal role architecture plays in enriching the lives of Ontarians and shaping resilient, vibrant communities for future generations."

For more on the buildings chosen this year, as well as to see previous selections, visit [oaa.on.ca/QPP](http://oaa.on.ca/QPP) or follow the OAA at @oaarchitects on [Twitter/X](#) and [Instagram](#).

## Further Information

OAA President Settimo Vilardi and others may be available for phone or email interviews. Additional information and high-resolution photos are also available. Contact [Daniele Alcinij](#), OAA Communications Specialist, at 416-449-6898, ext. 306.

## About the Ontario Association of Architects

The Ontario Association of Architects is a self-regulating organization under the *Architects Act*, a statute of the Government of Ontario. It is dedicated to promoting and increasing the knowledge, skill, and proficiency of its members, and administering the Act, to serve and protect the public interest. Recently, the OAA defined a five-year [Strategic Plan](#) to guide the Association’s actions and initiatives. Visit [www.oaa.on.ca](http://www.oaa.on.ca) to learn more.