

February 3, 2010

## **Professional Advisor to the Design Competition**

Peter Berton O.A.A., M.R.A.I.C., architect and partner-in-charge of The Ventin Group, Toronto, has been retained by the City to act as the Professional Advisor to jointly administer the St. Lawrence Market North Design Competition. To this role, Mr. Berton brings expertise in the areas of architectural design, heritage preservation and courts design, along with previous experience as an advisor on competitions and Jury processes.

### **Peter Berton**

Peter Berton, B.Arch., O.A.A., M.R.A.I.C., C.A.H.P., is a partner in The Ventin Group Architects (+VG) in Toronto. Mr. Berton is a leading expert in the design of courthouses, heritage restoration projects, education facilities, leisure and residential projects.

After graduating from Carleton University in 1979, Mr. Berton joined the practice of renowned Canadian architect Ron Thom in Toronto. There he learned an organic approach to design, creating buildings sympathetic to their natural surroundings that are environmentally conscious. During his time there Mr. Berton worked on the winning design for the Trinity Square Park in Toronto, the third prize in the Mississauga City Hall competition, and the firm's invited entry to the National Gallery of Canada Competition. He became a partner in 1985.

After joining The Ventin Group in 1993 as Partner-In-Charge of the Toronto office he carried out a series of projects in the historical restoration, justice, municipal, education and residential fields.

These include the adaptive reuse and restoration of the County of Lennox and Addington Courthouse which won an award for Architectural Excellence in 1995 from the Ontario Association of Architects, the Toronto Old City Hall which won two awards from the Toronto Historical Board in 1996 and 2000. Since 1993, Mr. Berton has been Partner-in-Charge of the restoration of the Historic Legislative Assembly at Queen's Park, and is currently restoring the copper roof at Toronto's Union Station.

He has recently completed the Queen's University School of Business in Kingston, Ontario, an adaptive reuse and addition to an 1892 historic elementary school and the restoration and recipient of three awards for excellence in adaptive reuse of heritage building. The \$26 M Phase II of the Queen's School of Business is now underway.

Mr. Berton is currently acting as Professional Advisor to the City of Vaughan on the Design Competition for the new Vaughan Civic Centre (Completion 2010), and recently to The Art Gallery of Alberta (formerly The Edmonton Art Gallery) New Vision Competition. The Art Gallery of Alberta opened on January 30, 2010. He served as jury chair for the Peace Bride Authority "Gateway to Canada" competition, as well as on the Jury for the City of London Urban Design Awards in 2006.

Visit [toronto.ca/stlawrence\\_market/design](http://toronto.ca/stlawrence_market/design) for more information.

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