



2025
TORONTO URBAN DESIGN AWARDS
JURY REPORT

FOREWORD

Toronto is a beautiful city. Indigenous peoples have inhabited and been stewards of this land since time immemorial, and the city itself carries this history in its name. Toronto derives from Tkaronto, a Mohawk word meaning “where there are trees standing in the water,” and the name of the lake on which we are situated, Lake Ontario, derives from the Iroquois languages, likely Huron-Wendat, meaning either “great lake” or “sparkling water.” Grounded in this rich Indigenous history, our skyline and our streetscapes tell the story of rapid growth and transformation that has celebrated our architectural history, embraced bold and ambitious design, and created vibrant and beloved public spaces. The quality of design and architecture in our buildings, parks, public spaces and public art truly defines us as a great city for residents and visitors alike. As our city grows, the need for inclusive, sustainable, and inspiring places has never been greater. We honour and acknowledge all those who are striving for, and achieving, design excellence while building our great city.

This year, we proudly celebrate the 35th anniversary of the Toronto Urban Design Awards—a milestone that speaks to decades of collaboration and commitment to design excellence. For over three decades, this program has recognized the projects and people shaping Toronto into a city that reflects creativity, resilience, and beauty.

The 2025 Awards shine a spotlight on important themes: sustainability, equity, and cultural expression. As cities worldwide face the challenges of climate change, Toronto must lead by example—through buildings and public spaces that deliver on climate action and achieve resilience through energy performance, green infrastructure, and active transportation, while fostering equity and inclusion. This year also marks the introduction of Public Art as a stand-alone category, acknowledging its unique role in creating meaning, identity, and delight in our shared spaces.

We received 104 submissions across eight categories, representing the breadth of talent and vision driving city building in Toronto. In June, the Jury of esteemed professionals met to review and deliberate on these submissions and visited an extensive shortlist before selecting the award recipients. Their choices include Special Jury Awards, Awards of Excellence, and Awards of Merit, each celebrating innovation, quality, and contribution to the public realm.

The Toronto Urban Design Awards are possible because of the passion and dedication of many. We thank the design and development community for their outstanding submissions, our Jury for their time and expertise, our generous sponsors without whom the awards and recognition would not be possible, City Council for its long-standing support, and the City staff team who work to deliver this program year after year.

Congratulations to all the 2025 award recipients! Your work enhances the fabric of our city and inspires us to continue striving for a Toronto that is sustainable, inclusive, and exceptional—today and for generations to come.

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Chief Planner & Executive Director

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September 2025

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AWARD CATEGORIES

The City of Toronto accepted entries for the 2025 Urban Design Awards in the following categories:

PUBLIC ART

The Public Art category, which had been captured under the Elements category in the previous years, is now introduced as a standalone category in the 2025 Toronto Urban Design Awards. This change highlights the importance of public art in shaping Toronto’s urban landscape and cultural identity. This category celebrates artistic works that enrich Toronto’s cultural fabric by transforming publicly accessible spaces into environments that inspire connection, dialogue, and reflection. These site-specific works, whether permanent or temporary, are designed to engage the public, integrate seamlessly into their surroundings, and enhance the city’s identity and quality of life.

Submissions may include, but are not limited to: sculptures, murals, digital or interactive installations, integrated artistic features, and other creative works designed to engage and inspire the public. These site-specific works of art must be designed for publicly accessible spaces, such as parks, community centers, bridges, underpasses, laneways, or privately owned public spaces (POPS). Both permanent installations and temporary projects with a significant impact on the public realm are welcome.

ELEMENTS

A stand-alone object, landscape element or small-scale piece of a building which contributes significantly to the quality of the public realm. Submissions may include, but are not limited to: benches, doorways, signage, canopies, porches or colonnades, gateways, light fixtures, walkways, stairways, barrier-free access and fences.



Toronto Public Library - Albert Campbell District Branch, Photo credit: Doublespace Photography

PRIVATE BUILDINGS IN CONTEXT

An individual building or a composition of buildings, that achieve(s) urban design excellence and is precedent-setting for a project of its type through its relationship to the public realm, pedestrian amenity, detailing and massing and the natural environment. Submissions should document and highlight how the project contributes to successful city building through its contextual relationship, design quality and measures of sustainable design. All types of buildings are eligible whether “landmark” or “background,” new construction or a restoration/transformation. Projects in both urban and suburban contexts will be considered. The Private Buildings in Context category consists of three subcategories that reflect a range of scales:

A. LOW-SCALE

A low-scale project is four storeys or less, notwithstanding its land use. Submissions may include, but are not limited to: multi-family residential uses such as low-rise apartments and townhouse developments; and retail, office, mixed-use or industrial facilities on main streets and arterials. Single-family dwellings (e.g. houses) are not eligible for entry.

B. MID-RISE

A mid-rise building is generally taller than four storeys, but no taller than the width of the adjacent street right-of-way (i.e. typically between five and 11 storeys). Submissions may include, but are not limited to: mixed-use “Avenue” buildings, small apartment/condo buildings, commercial and industrial buildings.

C. TALL

A tall building is generally taller than the width of the adjacent street right-of-way. A building that has both tall and mid-rise components should be entered in this category. Submissions may include, but are not limited to: residential or commercial buildings.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS IN CONTEXT

An individual building or a composition of buildings, with a primary function to serve the public and/or is largely accessible to the public. Public buildings are focal points for communities of various sizes, from small neighbourhoods to a national body. Submissions should demonstrate urban design and architectural excellence through a relationship to the public realm, pedestrian amenity, detailing and massing, the natural environment and sustainable design. In this category, all building scales are eligible (low-scale, mid-rise and tall), as well as new construction and restoration/transformation. Buildings in both urban and suburban contexts will be considered. Submissions may include, but are not limited to: education, health care, recreation, cultural, community and civic buildings.

AWARD CATEGORIES

■ SMALL OPEN SPACES

A small open space, generally related to and defined by adjacent buildings or natural/built elements, which provides an extension and addition to the public realm in an exemplary way. The small open space need not be publicly owned, but must be publicly accessible. Submissions may include, but are not limited to: courtyards, plazas, forecourts, gardens, trails, mews and small neighbourhood parks.

■ LARGE PLACES AND/OR NEIGHBOURHOOD DESIGNS

A design plan for a new or renovated large-scale area of the city. The project must be completed to such extent to allow the jury to clearly understand and evaluate the plan. The submissions in this category should state the existing conditions and demonstrate how City objectives for establishing a clear public structure of streets, parks, open spaces and building sites are met. The submission should also highlight major areas of innovation, particularly those related to infrastructure, environmental management and sustainable design, as well as provide evidence of community involvement and acceptance. Submissions may include, but are not limited to: large parks, area/ district plans, neighbourhood plans, subdivisions, industrial parks, campus plans and streetscapes. Both urban and suburban contexts will be considered.

■ VISIONS AND MASTER PLANS

Unexecuted visions for the city, studies and master plans of high inspirational value with the potential for significant impact on Toronto’s development. Submissions in this category may include but are not limited to: theoretical and visionary projects, as well as any project fitting the description of Large Places and/or Neighbourhood Designs that are unbuilt.

■ STUDENT PROJECTS

Students in urban design, architecture, landscape architecture and other design programs are invited to submit theoretical or studio projects set in, or relating to Toronto.

■ SPECIAL JURY AWARD

Special Jury Award for Integrated Approach
Special Jury Award for Community Incubator

Note: The Jury reserves the right not to present awards in every category. The Jury also reserves the right to reallocate submissions into categories which they deem to be most appropriate.



Leslie Lookout Park, Photo credit: Courtesy of CreateTO

JURY STATEMENT

Urban design is crucial to creating functional, appealing and sustainable cities, an ongoing, incremental process that involves the shaping of the physical environment where buildings, streets, and public spaces play a vital role in promoting equity, walkability, social interaction and a strong sense of community. As a practice that composes the fundamental building blocks of improving quality of life for all, urban design excellence is realized through the effective combination of the disciplines of architecture, landscape and public art, and indeed, many of the projects submitted to this year's Toronto Urban Design Awards are exemplars in their own right in these stated disciplines.

As a Jury, it was important for us to create a special award category, recognizing adjacent projects or projects within the same site, that combine to create an impact that is greater than the sum of the individual parts. We created 2 Special Jury Awards featuring projects for their intentionally "Integrated Approach".

We are also pleased to see projects that have been either community initiated or deeply informed by community engagement, speaking to the power of an urbanism that clearly and distinctly addresses our greatest needs. These needs can vary broadly from the quality and type of spaces we occupy, such as accessible spaces for arts programming delivered by the Clark Centre for the Arts in Scarborough — a special Jury award winner in the "Community Incubator" category — to the fundamental power to be heard in a manner that raises awareness and informs action, such as Red Embers, a project of grief and healing that demonstrates how public art that is temporary in nature can produce a powerfully resonant emotional impact.

Design has a central role to play in addressing some of the biggest issues our society faces, whether this is through innovation in new housing typologies, development of a design language to assert and reclaim an Indigenous presence in the urban fabric, or working through unprecedented models of collaboration to deliver much-needed social infrastructure. The leadership in environmentally sustainable initiatives is evident in the excellent submissions received and this speaks to the City of Toronto's commitment to meeting the climate challenge that is indeed so critical. What is also critical, is a socially sustainable society, one that isn't just equitable, but is also vibrant and playful, promoting and delivering an improved quality of life for all. It is refreshing to see entries that serve the needs in our neighbourhoods in order to build a more equitable society, where we support the most vulnerable and lift up communities and individuals where it is so desperately needed. As a Jury, we encourage more projects that seek a more socially just and equitable future to be submitted in future Toronto Urban Design Awards programs.

Housing was a significant winner in this year's awards. The Jury acknowledges the variety of approaches in terms of ownership models, developers, and scales; an assortment of solutions to address our complex and ever-increasing need for homes within the city. That said, the projects are unified in their dignified treatment of their inhabitants, sensitive relationships to their physical contexts, and contributions to the public's experience of the city day-to-day.

We also want to pay special attention to the notion that not all projects worthy of a Toronto Urban Design Awards need be large, tall or well financed. In fact, we could argue that it is just as, if not more vital, to spotlight the all important fabric buildings and spaces that represent the majority of urban design conditions and contribute most to our experience as we navigate the city day to day.

As a Jury, it has been an honour to serve in reviewing, seeing, deliberating and ultimately making the decisions on this year's Toronto Urban Design Awards. The conversation between members was thoughtful and nuanced, reflecting on the recent past, current trajectories, and the future possibilities of the city as it continues to grow and evolve. The process has been truly inspiring for all of us, and we hope that the showcasing of these winners can indeed inspire the future vision of this great city.





AWARD OF EXCELLENCE



Red Embers, Photo credit: Lisa Rochon

RED EMBERS

Toronto City Hall Lobby,
Allan Gardens (Temporary Installation),
Ashbridges Bay (Temporary Installation)

Project Team

Architect: Smoke Architecture

Indigenous Artist: Hannah Claus; Sarah Biscarra Dilley; Rosalie Favell; Rolande Souliere; Louise Solomon; Lido Pimienta; Eladia Smoke, Larissa Roque; Annie Beach; Kristy Auger, Adrienne Greyeyes; Lindsey Lickers, Tash Naveau; Catherine Tàmmaro, NWRCT community members

Artist: Lisa Rochon; Larissa Roque (Smoke Architecture); Tiffany Creyke

Engineer: Arup (Structural)

Other: Regent Park Sewing Studio (Banner Fabricator); Elder Jacque (Jacqueline) Lavalley

Developer/Owner/Client

Native Women's Resource Centre of Toronto

General Contractor

Anex Works

Photographer

Lisa Rochon



■ Jury Comment

This stirring, sacred memorial to Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, Trans, and Two-Spirited Indigenous Peoples was the result of Indigenous designers in partnership with Native Women's Resource Centre and guidance by an Elder. Financially supported by a very modest Park People grant, this project reflects a profound commitment by the all-women team of designers and Indigenous artist and community members.

Red Embers is not only the charred eastern cedar gates with hand-painted banners. Beyond the physical, crafted components, this piece also consisted of the ceremonial sacred fire, Indigenous and non-Indigenous speakers, hand drummers, traditional inclusive dancers, guided tours, and the ritual of weekly gatherings that were ignited as result of the temporary installation.

The ceremonial procession through the 20' tall gates considered the experience experiential aspect of passing under the blood-red banners and through the Eastern Cedar poles, creating moments of awareness, healing, and connection for the broader community.

The Jury celebrates the community-based endeavours of this grassroots project that honours the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQIA.



Red Embers, Photo credit: Lisa Rochon



Port Lands Bridges, Photo credit: Jonathan Bacolor

PORT LANDS BRIDGES

Cherry Street North - Cherry Street South - Commissioners Street

Project Team

Architect: Grimshaw Architects

Landscape Architect: Quinn Design Associates Inc.

Engineer: Entuitive (Structural & Bridge Engineering); Mulvey & Banani (Electrical)

Artist: Mulvey & Banani Lighting (Lighting Design)

Other: sbp schlaich bergemann partner (Preliminary Bridge Design)

Developer/Owner/Client

Waterfront Toronto

General Contractor

EllisDon

Photographer

Jonathan Bacolor

Olu Joseph

 [@mulveyandbanani](https://www.instagram.com/mulveyandbanani)

■ Jury Comment

The Port Lands Bridges embody the vision, expectation and aspirations of Toronto's emerging, revitalized waterfront. Merging public infrastructure needs with strong place-making, the character setting vision of the bridges stand as exemplary public infrastructure and art form elements. The bridges are the embodiment of the promise of a resilient new community and are therefore commended for their excellence in design as elements and as community building icons.



Port Lands Bridges, Photo credit: Olu Joseph



Dunn House, Photo credit: Doublespace Photography

DUNN HOUSE – SOCIAL MEDICINE HOUSING 90 Dunn Avenue

Project Team

Architect: Montgomery Sisam Architects

Landscape Architect: Baker Turner Inc.

Engineer: Design Works Engineering (Civil, Structural, Mechanical, Electrical)

Other: NRB Modular Solutions (Modular Manufacturer); Vortex Fire (Code); Nextrans Consulting Engineers (Transportation)

Developer/Owner/Client

University Health Network (UHN) Foundation

General Contractor

City of Toronto

Photographer

Doublespace Photography

 [@montgomerysisam](https://www.instagram.com/montgomerysisam)

■ Jury Comment

Dunn House was created through a rare and commendable collaboration between healthcare, social service and public sector partners, delivering an innovative model that breaks through silos to address homelessness holistically. This project is ambitious on every front, including the use of prefabrication towards achieving a high-performing, all-electric building. The coherent articulation and integration of indoor and outdoor spaces on the ground plane makes this a successful urban intervention. The programming here delivers critical social and health services while also providing spaces for gathering, fostering cohesion and community. The project responds boldly to the challenge of embedding deeply affordable housing within the established fabric of a residential neighbourhood. In particular, the front and back porches that provide spaces for tenants form visual thresholds, provoking broader questions about what spatial provisions for the unhoused could look like, if we were to re-imagine our city in a more humane and compassionate light.



Dunn House, Photo credit: Doublespace Photography



Maple House at Canary Landing, Photo credit: Adrian Ozimek

MAPLE HOUSE AT CANARY LANDING 131 Mill Street

Project Team

Architect: architects—Alliance; Cobe Architects

Landscape Architect: CCxA

Engineer: Thornton Tomasetti (Structural); M.V. SHORE ASSOCIATES (1993)
LIMITED (Mechanical); M.V. SHORE ASSOCIATES (1993) (Electrical)

Developer/Owner/Client

Dream Unlimited Corp.; Kilmer Group; Tricon Residential

General Contractor

EllisDon

Photographer

Adrian Ozimek

Francisco Tirado



■ Jury Comment

One of the most striking features of this project from the Jury's site tour is the way in which the built form and new spaces nestle comfortably into the existing context. Whether it be how the live-work units engage the extension of the lane from the Distillery District and the streetcar loop or how the spaces between the podiums gently draw pedestrians onto Mill Street. The project successfully extends the pedestrian dominated environment from the west and through the site whilst also creating its own distinct sense of place, characterized by the careful programming of the street with the quality and complementary nature of the landscape design. The depth, colour, finish and texture of the building façades is a reminder of the importance of an elevation's contribution to the public realm and the urban landscape not just at the human scale but also at the scale of the city.



Maple House at Canary Landing, Photo credit: Francisco Tirado



Union Station Revitalization, Photo credit: Doublespace Photography

UNION STATION REVITALIZATION 65 Front Street West

Project Team

Architect: NORR Architects & Engineers Limited

Engineer: Giffels Associates Limited / IBI Group (Civil); NORR Architects & Engineers Limited (Structural, Mechanical, Electrical)
Other: EVOQ Architecture (Heritage Architect); BA Consulting Group Ltd. (Traffic and Loading Consultant); Entro (Signage Consultant)

Developer/Owner/Client

City of Toronto

General Contractor

Carillion Canada Inc. Stage 1, Bondfield Construction Company Limited Stage 2, EllisDon Completion

Photographer

Doublespace Photography



■ Jury Comment

The Jury acknowledges that the Union Station revitalization project stands in a league of its own. Its immense scale, complexity, and civic significance made it challenging to compare to other submissions, yet its impact is undeniable.

The Jury offers high praise to the vast consultant team and intergovernmental client group who delivered this transformative, decade-plus undertaking. The project's contribution to Toronto's economy and livability, and its role in reducing carbon emissions by making mass transit more accessible, functional, and appealing to tens of millions of annual commuters, cannot be overstated.

The Jury commends the team for not only enhancing the station's capacity and long-term functionality but also for delivering a series of high-quality interior public spaces. This is exemplified by the centering of the meticulously restored Great Hall, and by the integration of mixed uses, thoughtful design, wayfinding and durable finishes—collectively making Union Station a more convenient, usable, and engaging place to pass through and to dwell within.

The Jury suggests that improvements could be made to exterior plaza spaces along Front Street — perhaps through the installation of additional and more robust bollards — to allow the removal of the unfortunate concrete Jersey barriers, ensuring that the exterior public realm matches the quality and elegance of the station itself.



Union Station Revitalization, Photo credit: Doublespace Photography



Toronto Public Library - Albert Campbell District Branch, Photo credit: Doublespace Photography

TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY - ALBERT CAMPBELL DISTRICT BRANCH 496 Birchmount Road

Project Team

Architect: LGA Architectural Partners

Landscape Architect: Aboud & Associates

Engineer: EMC Group Limited (Civil); Blackwell Structural Engineers (Structural);

Enso Systems Inc. (Mechanical, Electrical)

Artist: Red Urban Nation Artist Collective (Mural Wall)

Other: Trina Moyan (Bell & Bernard Limited) (Indigenous Consultant); Miinikaan

Innovation and Design (Indigenous Garden Design and Installation)

Developer/Owner/Client

Toronto Public Library

General Contractor

Harbridge + Cross Limited

Photographer

Doublespace Photography



■ Jury Comment

The Albert Campbell District Library exemplifies innovative adaptive reuse of an entire site. From the outside, the most obvious intervention is the relocation of the original second-floor entrance to the ground floor, achieved by gently opening up the landscape terrain from the sidewalk, creating a playful meandering approach to the new main entrance that is accessible to all.

Entering the library, the first impression is the quality of the acoustics. Once through reception your eyes are naturally drawn to and up the cascading steps that span the voids created from tactically opening up the existing floor to allow for an abundance of natural light deep into the space.

The undulating geometry of the timber soffit throughout creates a gentle complexity in scales of spaces that are well suited to the varying programmatic needs of a modern library, with the roof garden offering a special surprise moment from the inside; a welcoming elevated gesture back to the main street.



Toronto Public Library - Albert Campbell District Branch, Photo credit: Doublespace Photography



Anishnawbe Health Toronto - Indigenous Community Health Centre, Photo credit: James Brittain

ANISHNAWBE HEALTH TORONTO - INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE 425 Cherry Street

Project Team

Architect: Stantec Architecture Ltd.; Two Row Architect
Landscape Architect: Stantec Consulting Ltd.
Engineer: Stantec Consulting Ltd. (Civil, Structural, Mechanical, Electrical)
Other: Urban Strategies Inc.; Prism - AHT Project Manager

Developer/Owner/Client

Anishnawbe Health Toronto

General Contractor

Harbridge and Cross

Photographer

James Brittain



■ Jury Comment

There are few, if any, precedents for a purpose-built, Indigenous-led buildings in downtown Toronto that also visibly celebrate cultural heritage. Through its architectural expression, the Anishnawbe Health Toronto is both impactful and precedent-setting while also fulfilling an important social need, by providing access to health services for Indigenous communities. The effect of the “Fancy Dancer Shawl” façade is subtle but evocative. Through the skillful use of materials and slightly undulating form, the architecture is distinct, but somehow also feels at home in its urban context.

As a clinical building, the Health Centre has been designed to carefully modulate between varying degrees of privacy through its façade. The result is that the central atrium, where the building opens itself up to the public, is a moment in the streetscape that feels instinctively inviting and inclusive. This space animates the street through active social programming, including spaces like the Community Kitchen and Traditional Healer space.



Anishnawbe Health Toronto - Indigenous Community Health Centre, Photo credit: James Brittain



Ziibiing, Photo credit: Tom Arban Photography

ZIIBIING 27 King's College Circle

Project Team

Architect: Brook McIlroy

Landscape Architect: Brook McIlroy

Engineer: TYLin Group (Civil); Blackwell Structural Engineers (Structural)

Other: Creative Irrigation Solutions Inc. (Irrigation); RC Engineering (Light pole footing); Creator's Garden (Indigenous Plant Expert); Cohen & Master Tree and Shrub Services (Arborist)

Developer/Owner/Client

University of Toronto - Office of Indigenous Initiatives

General Contractor

EllisDon

Photographer

Tom Arban Photography



■ Jury Comment

Ziibiing is rich in terms of the layers of storytelling and the ways one can experience this small landscape. Generous in character, it is already a much-loved space that is always occupied by students. On another level, this project imparts a powerful message about the endurance of Indigenous Peoples while carving out space for the representation of diverse Indigenous cultures. It's a space one wants to visit again and again, learning something new or gaining a different insight with each experience.

The Jury appreciates the meaningful integration of engagement into the design process. Through a skillful orchestration of many voices, each aspect, in the end, feels like an essential part of the whole, from the integration of Indigenous plant medicine, the use of reclaimed old growth oak trees for the benches, to the interpretive patterns in the bronze soffit, to the cultural markers. The project approaches sustainability from first principles, guided through a respect for the existing landscape and in turn, fostering this appreciation in others.



Ziibiing, Photo credit: Tom Arban Photography



The Spirit Garden, Photo credit: Tom Arban Photography

THE SPIRIT GARDEN 100 Queen Street West

Project Team

Architect: Gow Hastings Architects (Prime); Two Row Architect (Indigenous Consultant)

Landscape Architect: PMA Landscape Architects Ltd.

Engineer: MTE Consultants (Civil); Entuitive (Structural); H.H. Angus and Associates Ltd. (Mechanical, Electrical)

Artist: Solomon King (Anishinaabe Artist - Turtle Sculpture); Tannis Nielsen (Métis/ Anishinaabe Artist - Spirit Canoe); Henry Kudluk (Inuit Artist - Inukshuk); Raymond R. Skye (Haudenosaunee Artist - Three Sisters); John Keeshig, Anishinaabe Midewiwin Knowledge Keeper (Teaching Lodge)
Other: The Waterworx Co. (Water Features); Goldsmith Borgal & Company Architects (Heritage)

Developer/Owner/Client

Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre, City of Toronto

General Contractor

Buttcon Limited

Photographer

Tom Arban Photography



■ Jury Comment

The Jury was delighted by the distinctive sense of place created on this very challenging site, adjacent to Nathan Phillips Square and parking infrastructure. The Spirit Garden is a contemplative and educational space in its own right.

The symbolic Indigenous elements are successfully integrated into a unified whole through the use of the Seven Directions. The cardinal directions, sky, underworld, and our hearts are subtly expressed in the ground plane and organize the orientation and articulation of the many elements.

Further, each element is carefully considered and executed in its own right. Culturally significant plants were sourced from a First Nations-owned and operated nursery. The Teaching Lodge is a contemplative space for the gathering of Indigenous Peoples and beyond. The Turtle Sculpture, Spirit Canoe, Inuksuk, and Three Sisters artworks are beautifully executed by Indigenous artists. In all, this space is reflective of a design process that meaningfully integrated the input of Indigenous community members - architects, a Knowledge-Keeper, artists, and more.

The Jury saw people interacting with various elements on the site. These designed and intentional moments of engagement bring us closer to truth and reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.



The Spirit Garden, Photo credit: Tom Arban Photography



Leslie Lookout Park, Photo credit: gh3*

LESLIE LOOKOUT PARK 12 A Leslie Street

Project Team

Architect: gh3*

Landscape Architect: CCxA

Engineer: Arup

Artist: Dani Kastelein-Longlade (Brook McIlroy)

Other: Dougan Ecology (Ecology); Kayanase Greenhouse (Planting);

Bob Goulais, Nbsiing Consulting Inc. (Indigenous Engagement)

Developer/Owner/Client

CreateTO

General Contractor

UCC Group Inc.

Photographer

gh3*

CreateTO



■ Jury Comment

The Jury commends Leslie Lookout Park for its clarity and simplicity in structure, circulation, and formal elements, creating a legible public landscape that invites exploration, lingering, and discovery.

The project also demonstrates a sophisticated integration of sustainability and climate resilience strategies, through the use of porous asphalt and the planting of a Miyawaki forest—an approach the Jury hopes will serve as a precedent for future park design in Toronto.

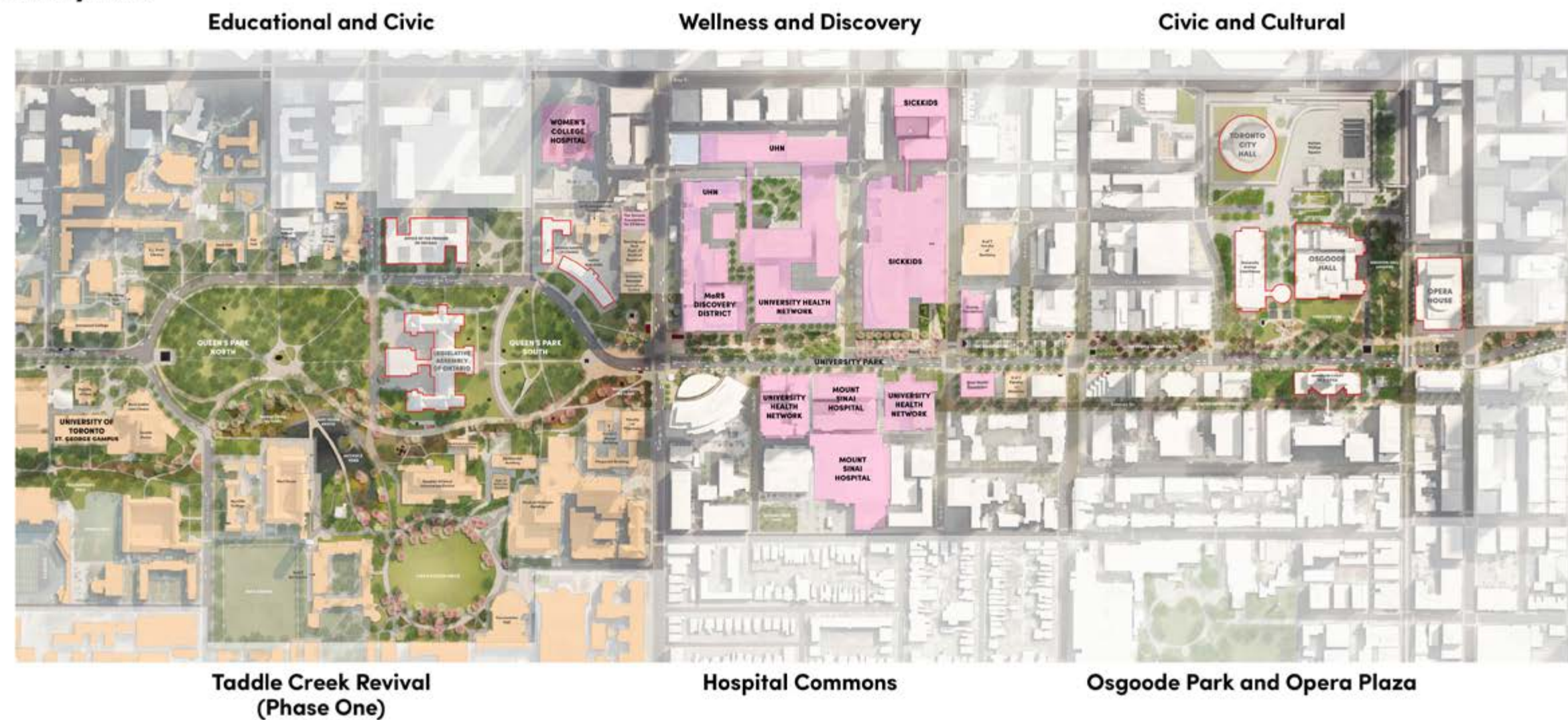
The Jury also recognizes the meaningful collaboration with Indigenous Rights Holders in the design of the lookout tower. Loosely referencing the nearby Portlands silos, the tower's form is humanized through gestures drawn from the natural world and our relationship to it.

The Jury further applauds the involvement of the Six Nations of the Grand River in the implementation and ongoing stewardship of the Miyawaki forest, and looks forward to seeing the forest mature and the park evolve alongside the redeveloping neighbourhood.



Leslie Lookout Park, Photo credit: CreateTO

Corridor Vision University Park



University Park, Image credit: PUBLIC WORK

UNIVERSITY PARK University Avenue between Bloor and King

Project Team

Landscape Architect: PUBLIC WORK
 Engineer: Stantec (Civil, Costing); Blackwell Structural Engineers (Structural); BA Consulting Group Ltd. (Transportation, Mobility)
 Other: Ken Greenberg (Project Representative for Matthews Family Foundation); Nina Pesavento (Project Representative for The Michael Young Family Foundation)

Developer/Owner/Client

The Michael Young Family Foundation; The Judy and Wilmot Matthews Foundation; The University of Toronto; and the City of Toronto

Image Credits

PUBLIC WORK

Jury Comment

The Jury believes the visionary University Park proposal has the potential to profoundly enhance the livability, vitality, economy, sustainability, and resiliency of a major section of Toronto's downtown core. The Jury is particularly impressed by the project's clever simplicity and its deep connection to the historical fabric of the city.

While its execution would be inherently complex and disruptive, this proposal stands apart from other large-scale urban improvement visions by offering a relatively straightforward and balanced rethinking of existing street infrastructure and promises compounding returns over time.

Its alignment along a corridor of major civic, democratic, healthcare, research, and educational institutions positions the project to spark new creative synergies on top of delivering the everyday benefits of expanded and improved green space.

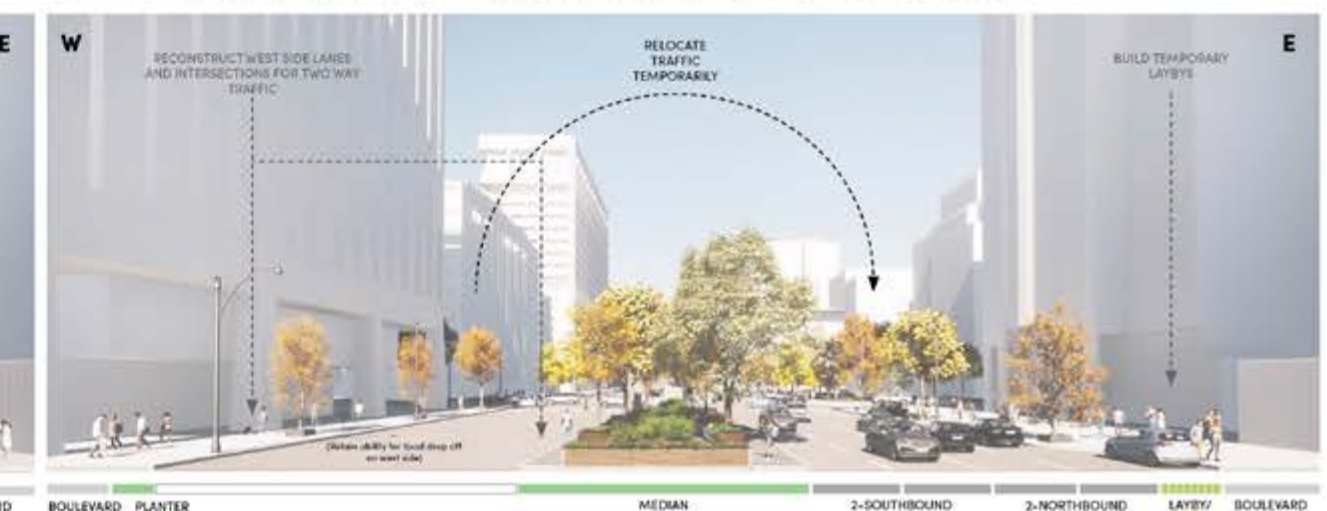
Although focused on a key precinct, the vision for University Park should serve as a precedent for smaller-scale street transformations across the city—interventions that, in aggregate, will strengthen Toronto's long-term resiliency and quality of life.

Corridor Vision Implementation Strategy

1. Existing University Avenue



2. Relocate southbound traffic; modify west side lanes



3. Relocate traffic to west side; construct University Park



4. University Park



University Park, Image credit: PUBLIC WORK



Parkdale People's Palace, Image credit: Matthew Dlugosz

PARKDALE PEOPLE'S PALACE 240-250 Dunn Avenue

Project Team
Matthew Dlugosz (University of Waterloo)

■ Jury Comment

This well-resolved and relevant student project reimagines the church as a non-secular site of social infrastructure. Parkdale People's Palace takes the Bonar-Parkdale Presbyterian Church and adapts it into a community food hub, a much-needed resource in Parkdale.

A variety of programmatic elements - kitchen, gathering space, food co-op, and plaza for food markets and events - are the result of a thorough analysis of Parkdale People's Economy report that outlined a vision for social amenities, cultural development and food security reflective of the community.

Churches represent a significant landholder within the city, and this proposal reimagines ways in which the institution and their spaces can adapt while maintaining their community-oriented mandate.



Parkdale People's Palace, Image credit: Matthew Dlugosz



AWARD OF MERIT



Canada Malting Silos, Photo credit: Adrien Williams

CANADA MALTING SILOS 9 Eireann Quay

Project Team

Architect: ERA Architects
Engineer: Moon-Matz Ltd.
Other: BEST Painting Ltd.

Developer/Owner/Client

City of Toronto

General Contractor

Brook Restoration Ltd. (Construction Manager)

Photographer

Adrien Williams
ERA Architects



■ Jury Comment

The Jury values the restoration of this civic scale industrial infrastructure from the 1920s and 1940s. Keeping and restoring these landmark elements means that the massive, embodied carbon held within the concrete is maintained on site and that demolition waste escapes the landfill.

This restoration project involves the adaptive reuse of the exterior facades into tableaux for large-scale artistic projections and activations, creating opportunities for cultural expression to be experienced up close, or at a distance.

Most notably, this project contributes to a series of improvements to the public realm of Bathurst Quay. Integrating the monuments of Ireland Park, and linking to the handsome new Bathurst Quay sun decks, this project brings closer to fruition the long held vision of a continuous pedestrian pathway along the waterfront, and offers unique views towards the lake, islands, and skyline.

An east-west pedestrian connection at the midpoint of the structure links the waterfront promenade to a new flexible plaza space west of the Silos, which is visually buffered from the adjacent airport taxi drop off by an edge that integrates seating (for viewing the Silos), a planted berm, and a metal screen.

It is understood that opportunities for the interiors of the silos are being investigated, and the Jury looks forward to experiencing the unique spaces that are possible within them.



Canada Malting Silos, Photo credit: ERA Architects



The Brunswick Lofts, Photo credit: Michael Peart

THE BRUNSWICK LOFTS 225 Brunswick Avenue

Project Team

Architect: Suulin Architects
Landscape Architect: Suulin Architects
Engineer: WSP; Blackwell Structural Engineers
Other: Michael McClelland (Heritage Consultant)

Developer/Owner/Client

Kopas Developments Ltd.

General Contractor

Oben Build

Photographer

Michael Peart
Kopas developments Ltd.

■ Jury Comment

As one of the core sustainability tenets, adaptive reuse immensely contributes to the evolution of our cities.

At 225 Brunswick Avenue, the opportunity to adapt an existing community heritage building into 7 residential units showcases cultural preservation, waste reduction, urban revitalization, economic stimulation and innovative design. In addition to the design merits of this transformation, the Brunswick Lofts addressed broader, pressing and varied housing needs by contributing gentle housing intensification to the neighbourhood.

The Jury commends the efforts afforded to ensure the design celebrated the building's heritage, addressed the surrounding neighbourhood context, accommodated for modern living needs, introduced additional housing, and contributed to the vibrancy of the public realm.



The Brunswick Lofts, Photo credit: Kopas developments Ltd.



Ulster House, Photo credit: Doublespace Photography

ULSTER HOUSE 84 Ulster Street

Project Team

Architect: LGA Architectural Partners

Landscape Architect: Lorraine Johnson (Native Plant Consultant)

Engineer: Blue Grove Engineering Group Inc. (Civil); Blackwell

Structural Engineers (Structural); RDZ Engineers Limited

(Mechanical); RDZ Engineers Limited (Electrical)

Other: RDH (Building Science)

Developer/Owner/Client

Janna Levitt and Dean Goodman

General Contractor

Desar Construction Studio

Photographer

Doublespace Photography



■ Jury Comment

As a pioneer in infill housing, Ulster House represents new possibilities in the densification of low-rise neighbourhoods, challenging the perception that single-family homes should be the prevalent housing model in the yellow belt. By placing the homeowner into the role of the developer, the project invites broader change through replication of this “missing middle” housing model from the ground up. This is a project that will generate impact far beyond its own site boundaries. Through a first principles approach, Ulster House achieves an exemplary level of sustainability performance. Through thoughtful massing and sensitive materiality, the house sits respectfully within the existing fabric of the street even with its additional height. The Jury feels a stronger contribution to the life of the street would have been an opportunity to push the project further. A re-imagining of what a “front porch” could be on a multiplex would add another layer to enhance both the project and its urban context.



Ulster House, Photo credit: Doublespace Photography



Deeply Affordable Housing at 1120 Ossington, Photo credit: Doublespace Photography

DEEPLY AFFORDABLE HOUSING AT 1120 OSSINGTON

1120 Ossington Avenue

Project Team

Architect: Smart Density (Site Plan Architect); mcCallumSather (Architects of Record)

Landscape Architect: Quinn Design Associates Inc.

Engineer: Partners Engineering and Science Inc. (Civil); ASPECT

Structural Engineers (Structural); Hammerschlag & Joffe (Mechanical); Birnie (Electrical)

Artist: Leo Krukowski

Other: Element5 (CLT); mcCallumSather (AOR); The Contract Framing Group Inc. (Erection)

Developer/Owner/Client

Assembly Corp. (Developer); St. Clare's Housing (Owner/Client)

General Contractor

Loftin Management

Photographer

Doublespace Photography

Leo Krukowski

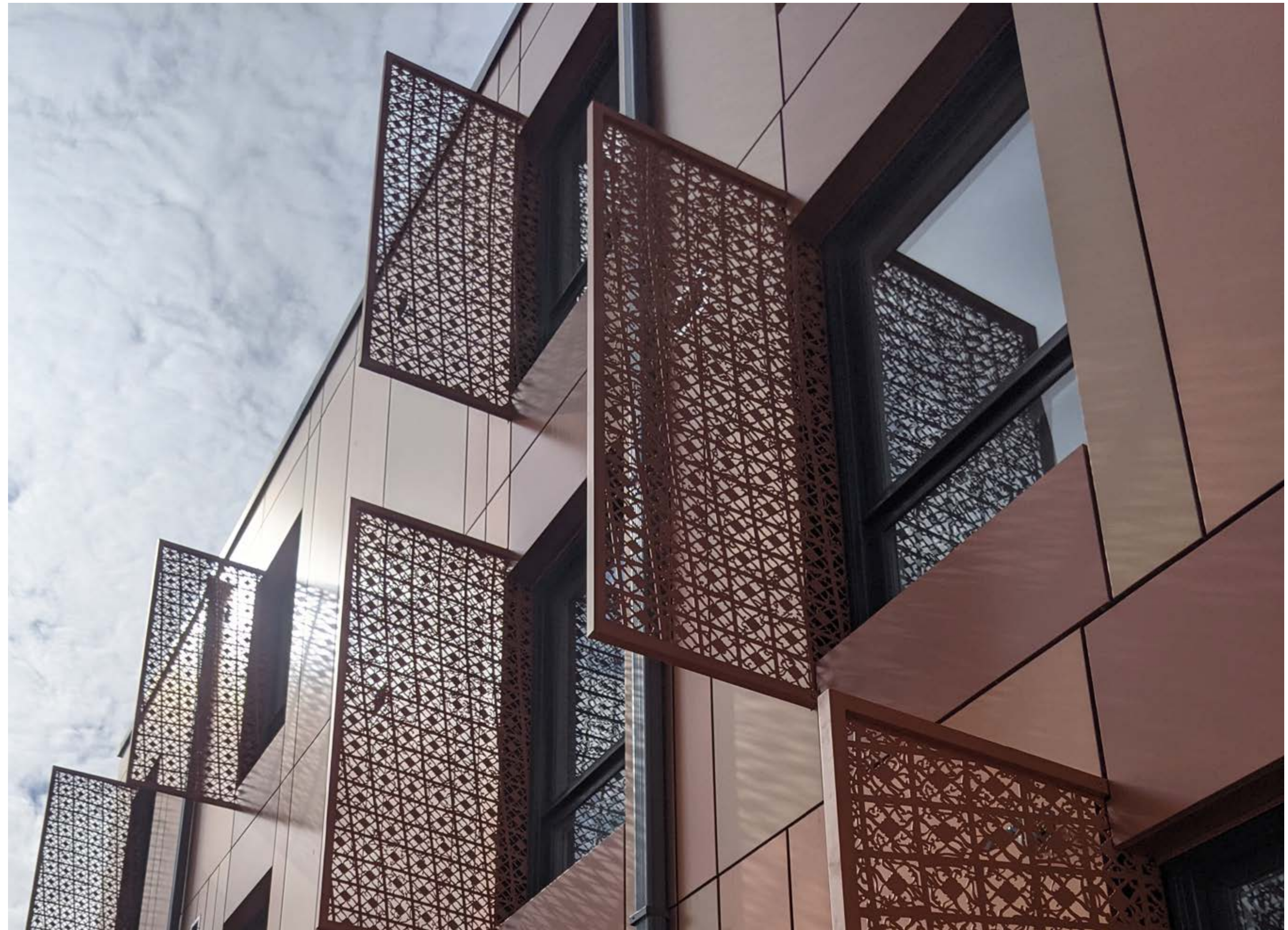
 [@st-clare's-multifaith-housing-society](https://www.instagram.com/st-clare-s-multifaith-housing-society)

■ Jury Comment

Few examples exist in the city that destigmatize deeply affordable housing with 1120 Ossington Avenue being an example of how design can help integrate this typology into the urban fabric. The Jury commends the St. Clare's Housing and all levels of government that made this building a reality through an innovative collaborative funding model designed to serve those excluded from the housing system.

The 3 storey, 25 unit supportive housing building showcases many attributes such as a sensitive approach to design within context, a building program designed to ease existing homelessness, green and modular building standards and an integrated art component.

The Jury highly commends the thoughtful design strategy implemented to deliver much needed dignified housing.



Deeply Affordable Housing at 1120 Ossington, Photo credit: Leo Krukowski



SickKids Patient Support Centre (PSC), Photo credit: Tom Arban Photography (Left); A-Frame Photography (Right)

SICKKIDS PATIENT SUPPORT CENTRE (PSC) 175 Elizabeth Street

Project Team

Architect: B+H Architects

Landscape Architect: B+H Architects

Engineer: R.V. Anderson Associates Limited (Civil); Entuitive (Structural and Envelope); TMP / Mulvey & Banani (MEP)

Artist: Dennis Lin

Other: LMDG (Code Consultant); Footprint (Sustainability Consultant); RWDI (Environmental and Acoustic Consultant)

Developer/Owner/Client

The Hospital for Sick Children

General Contractor

PCL Construction

Photographer

Tom Arban Photography

A-Frame Photography

 [@b-h-architects](#)

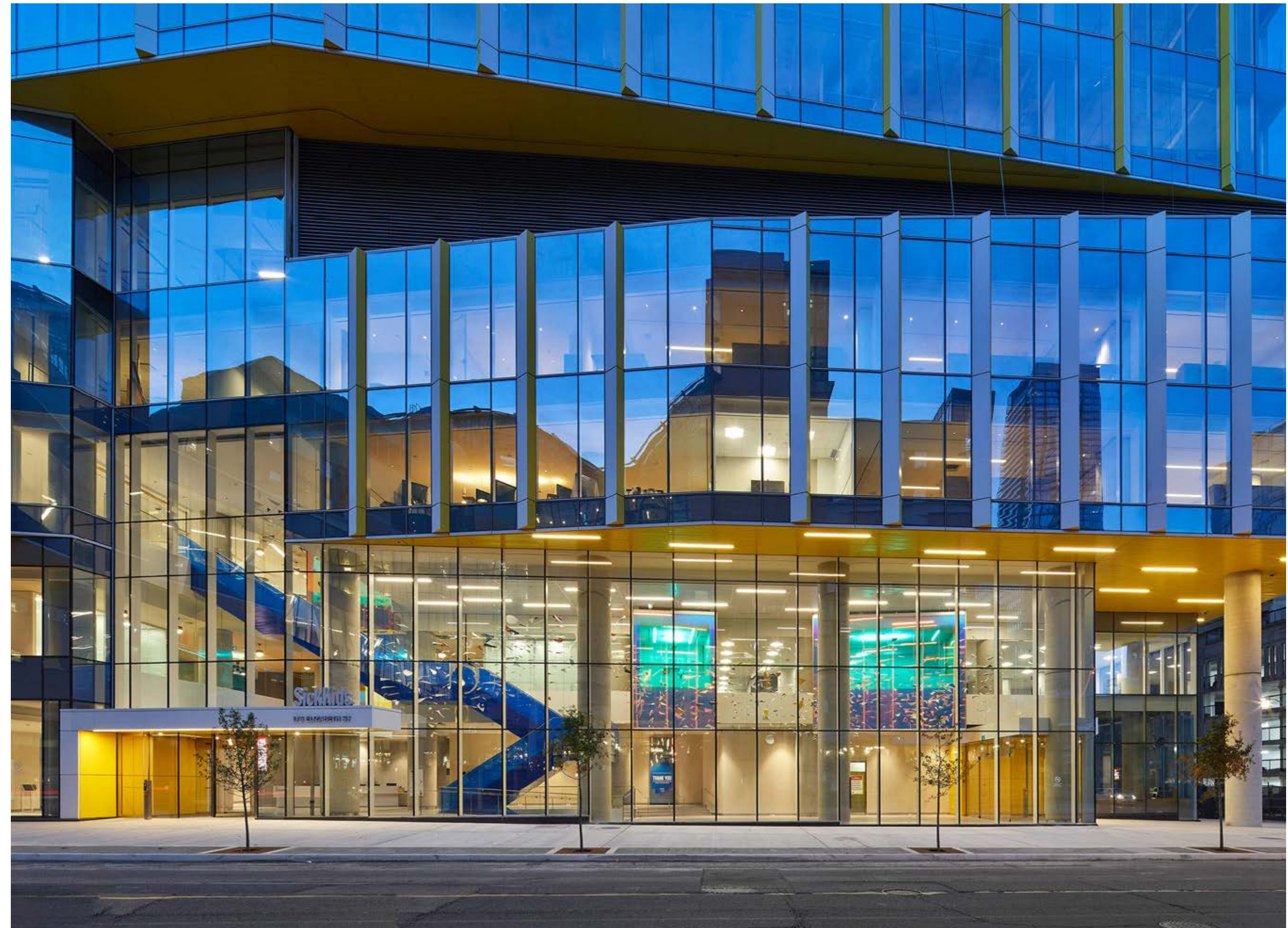
 [@BH_Architects](#)

■ Jury Comment

This is a complex tall project that demonstrates a multi-faceted approach to design that addresses the technical constraints of research facilities, input from long-term patients, sustainability as the first smart-building on SickKids' campus and Tier 2 Toronto Green Standards, and a dedication to equity, diversity, and inclusion.

At grade, there is a multi-storey atrium with a brightly coloured staircase further animated by suspended artwork. The transparency of the entry and generous sidewalk areas make the building approachable for all and set the stage for a facility that includes supports for the well-being of its many staff members.

Sick Kids PSC does this while creating a dynamic and playful building form that responds to City Hall's view cone restrictions. Further, it takes the relationship of colour to wellness and expands it beyond the building's interior through delightful and colourful facade treatments that bring moments of joy to the city's skyline.



SickKids Patient Support Centre (PSC), Photo credit: Tom Arban Photography



The Well, Photo credit: Doublespace Photography

THE WELL 486 Front Street West

Project Team

Architect: Hariri Pontarini Architects (Masterplan and Office); Adamson Associates Architects (Executive Architect); BDP (Retail, Canopy, Landscape Architect); Giannone Petricone Associates (Wellington Market); Wallman Architects (Residential Midrisers); architects—Alliance (Residential Highrisers); Urban Strategies Inc. (Urban Design and Planning)

Landscape Architect: CCxA

Engineer: The Odan/Detech Group Inc. (Civil); RJC Engineers (Structural); Jablonsky, Ast and Partners (Structural Residential); The Mitchell Partnership Inc. (Mechanical); Mulvey & Banani (Electrical); BA Group Ltd. (Transportation)

Artist: Catherine Tàmmaro and Jah Qube (The Spirit of the Woods); Dustin Yellin (Emergence); Michel Goulet (Draper Park Chairs); Vanessa Spizzirri (A Neighbourhood Stroll)

Other: EQ Building Performance (Sustainability); Albert Mondor (Planting); Isaac Crosby (Indigenous Horticulture Advisor)

Developer/Owner/Client

RioCan REIT; Allied Properties REIT

General Contractor

UCC Group Inc.

EllisDon, Deltera, Knightbridge Development Corp. (Construction Managers)

Photographer

Doublespace Photography

Hariri Pontarini Architects

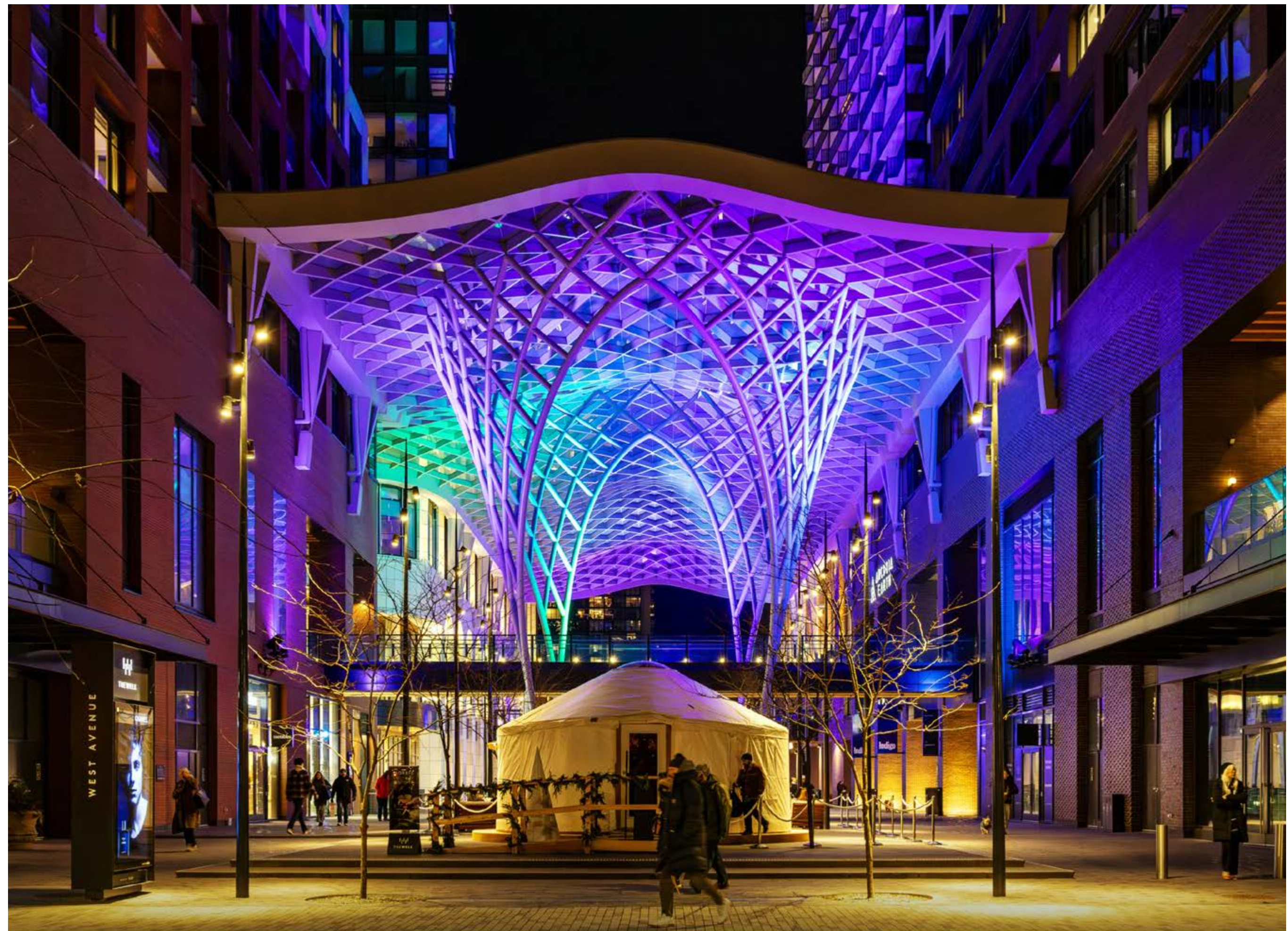
 [@hariripontariniarchitects](https://www.instagram.com/hariripontariniarchitects)

■ Jury Comment

The Jury commends the transformation of a central parcel at the west edge of Toronto's Financial District. The complexities of undertaking the design and development of three million square feet of mixed use development that could have easily derailed are not lost to the Jury.

The Well exemplifies quality of design from the ground up through exceptional urban design that carefully responds to the physical and historical context of the site.

The Well's multiple internal pedestrian access points, including its angled approach at Spadina Avenue and Front Street West, its scale, massing and transition on all of its edges, integration of historic contextual public realm visions (such as the revival of the historic promenade linking Victoria Memorial Square to Clarence Square), and its integration of sustainable building practices amongst other elements sets a high quality benchmark in the development of large inner city parcels.



The Well, Photo credit: Hariri Pontarini Architects



Landscape of Landmark Quality, Photo credit: Salina Kassam

LANDSCAPE OF LANDMARK QUALITY, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

University of Toronto Front Campus

Project Team

Architect: KPMB Architects; ERA Architects
Landscape Architect: Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates Inc.
Engineer: SCS Consulting Group Ltd. (Civil); RJC Engineers (Structural); Crossey Engineering Ltd. (Mechanical); Mulvey & Banani (Electrical); BA Group (Transportation and traffic)
Other: Infrastructure Ontario (Project Manager); Tillotson Design Associates (Lighting design); Harakawa Inc. DBA Two Twelve (Wayfinding and signage); Turner & Townsend (Quantity surveyors); SPH Planning & Consulting (Accessibility)

Developer/Owner/Client

University of Toronto

Image Credits

Salina Kassam



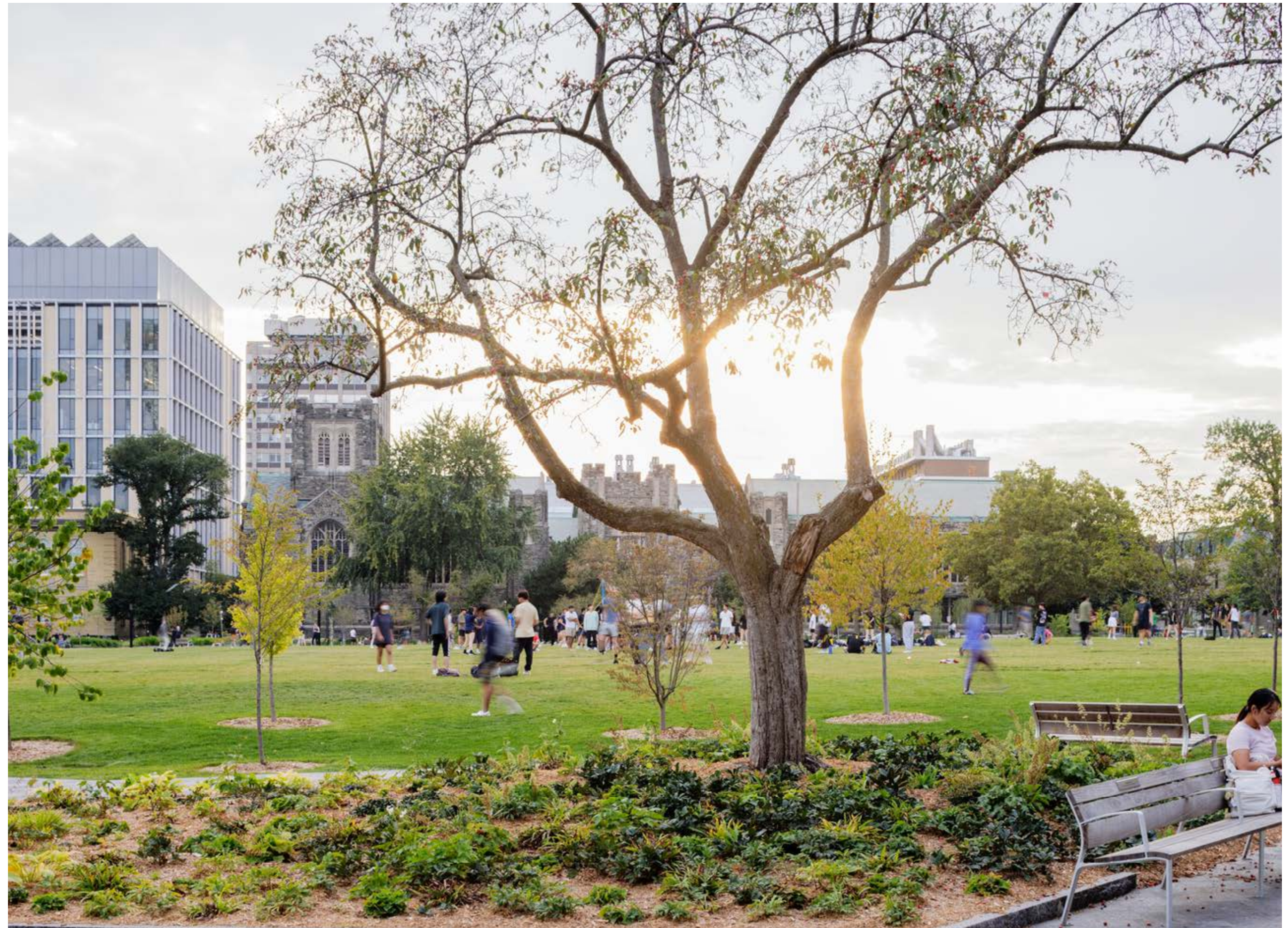
■ Jury Comment

The Jury applauds the scale and ambition of this project, and its demonstration of the profound role landscape can play in enhancing the human experience, ecological resilience, and the overall functionality of a complex precinct at the heart of the city.

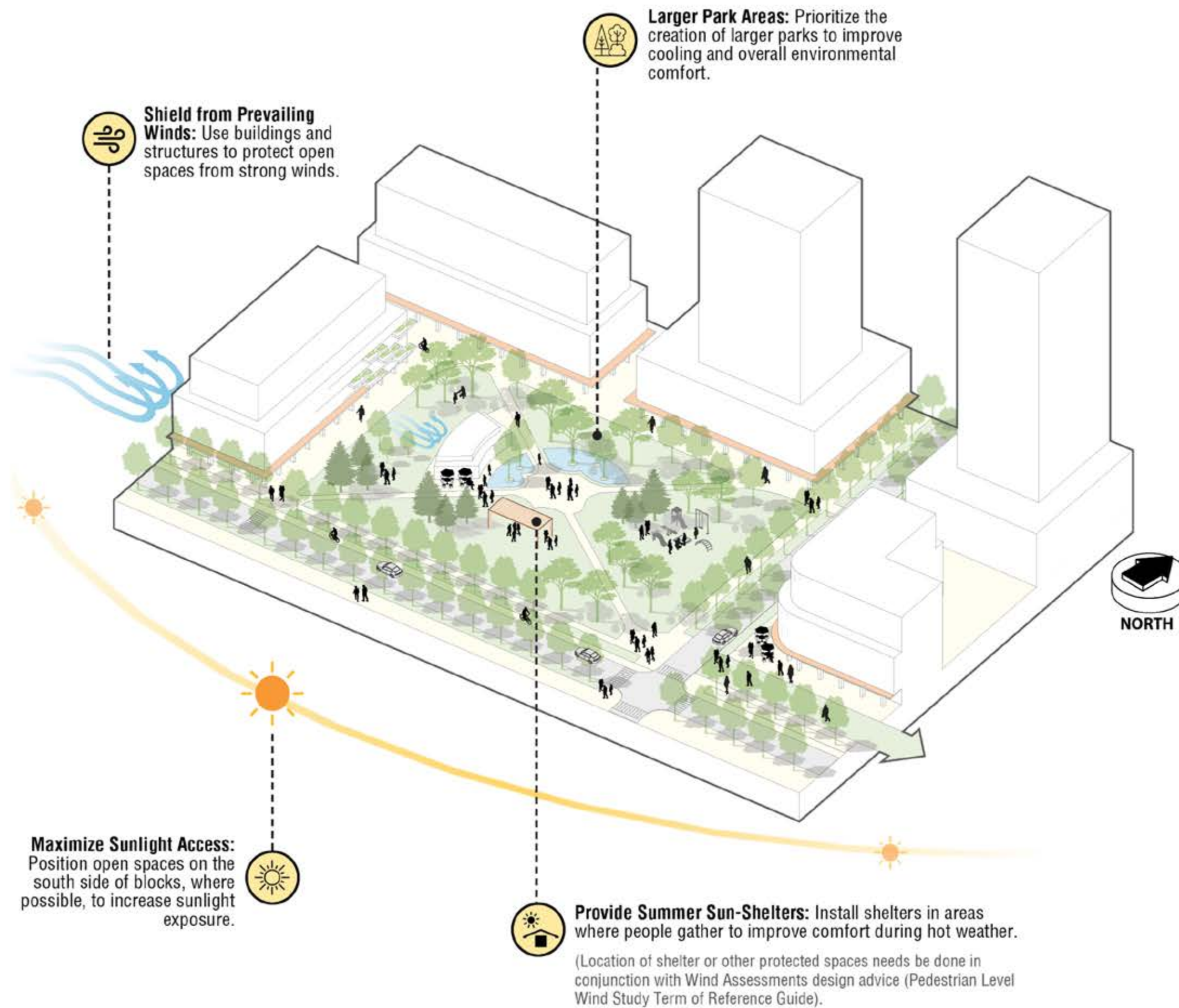
The project skillfully balances a wide range of practical considerations—including servicing, accessibility, and the integration of a sophisticated geothermal exchange system—while simultaneously enriching the sensory and experiential dimensions of the campus landscape.

The result is a transformed public realm that feels quieter, safer, more beautiful and inhabitable, for both people and wildlife. The Jury commends the quality of materials and construction throughout, as well as the diversity and complexity of the planting design which will serve as inspiration for future planting in the public realm city-wide.

The Jury is, however, critical of the investment in a buried parking garage that seems to encourage car-dependency at this transit-rich, downtown location.



Landscape of Landmark Quality, Photo credit: Salina Kassam



CITY OF TORONTO THERMAL COMFORT GUIDELINES City of Toronto

Project Team
 Urban Designer: DIALOG
 Engineer: Buro Happold
Developer/Owner/Client
 City of Toronto
Image Credits
 DIALOG

 [@dialogdesign](https://www.instagram.com/dialogdesign)

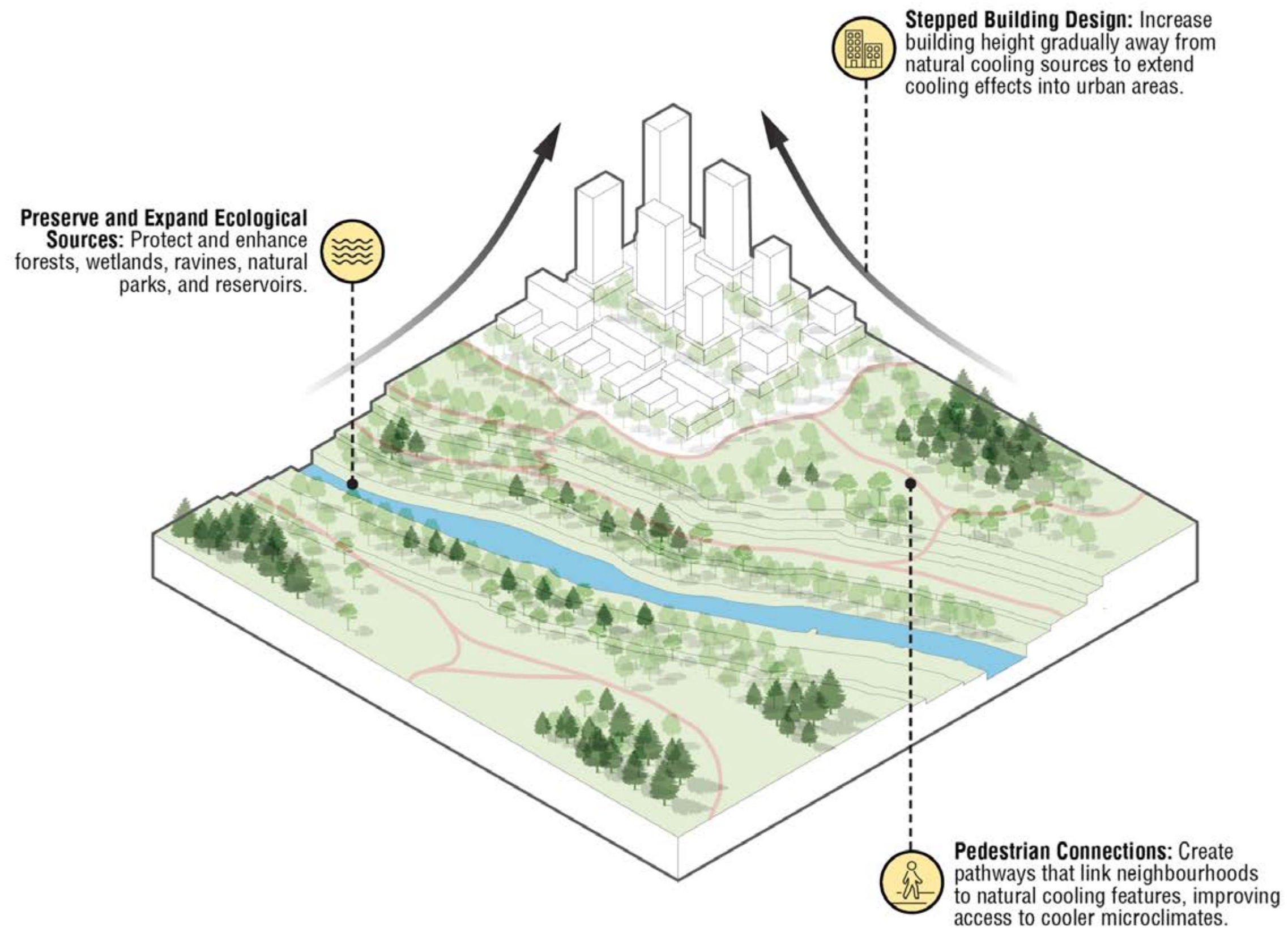
Thermal Comfort Guidelines, Image credit: DIALOG

Jury Comment

The Jury acknowledges the incredible set of submissions under the Visions and Master Plans category. It quickly became evident that, visions with the potential for a city-wide impact merited special consideration because of their scope and reach in time. The Jury believes the City of Toronto's Thermal Comfort Guidelines are a timely, important, and practical guide that will enhance the quality of life of all citizens, ensuring the city's public spaces are comfortable and welcoming all year round.

Faced with a climate emergency, the Guidelines provide a methodology, targets and a design toolbox that harmonizes with several City sustainability initiatives to address climate adaptation comprehensively. Moreover, through an equity lens and extensive engagement, the Guidelines can potentially prioritize our most vulnerable populations and underserved neighbourhoods.

The Jury highly commends the integration of Indigenous life-centric perspectives that honour all living beings, and the guidelines could not have been as impactful without this foundational shift.



Thermal Comfort Guidelines, Image credit: DIALOG

Queer Arrival Park

A Place of Queer Visibility and Belonging



QUEER ARRIVAL PARK

33 Isabella Street

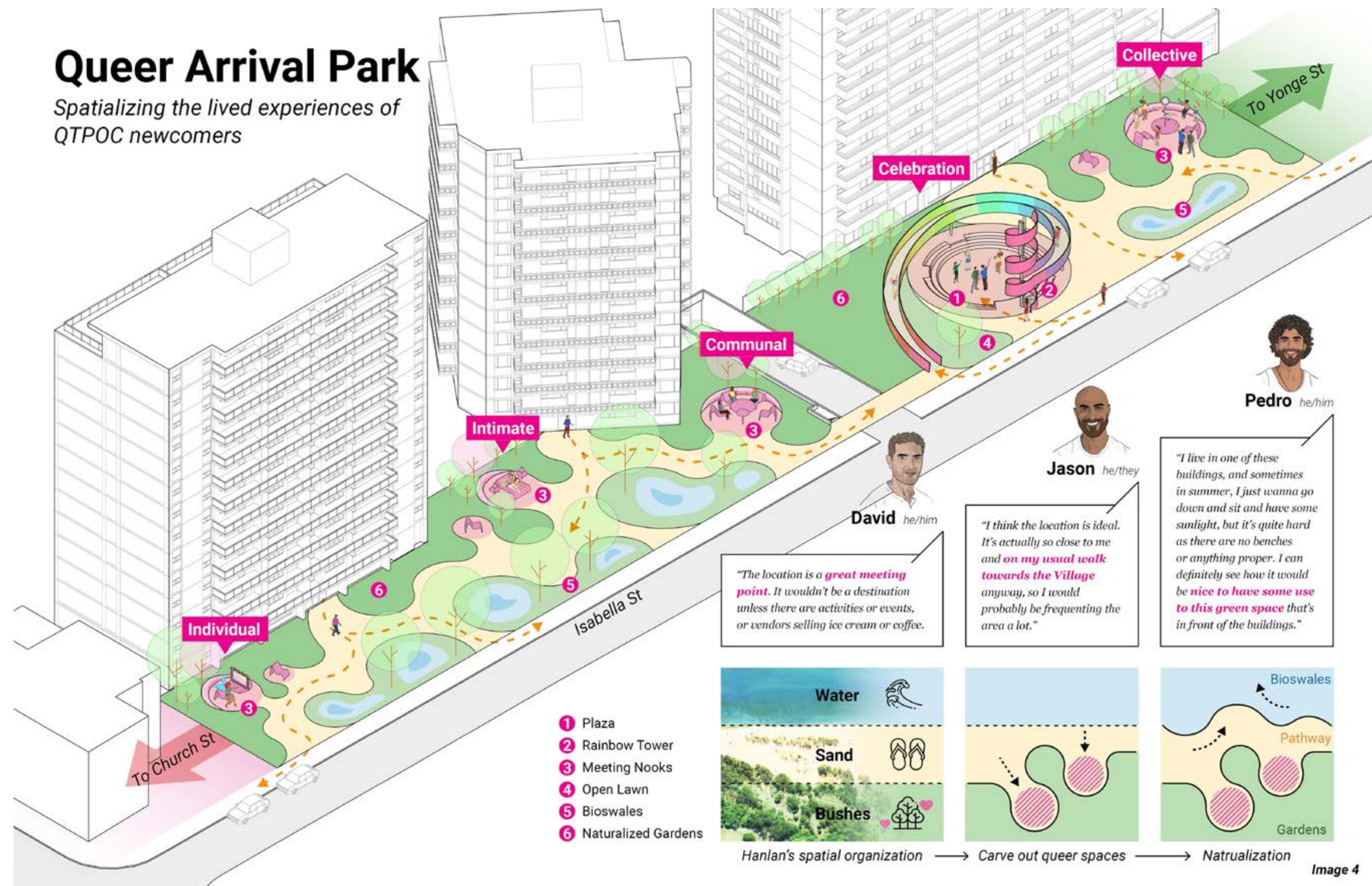
Project Team
Simon Liao (University of Waterloo)

Queer Arrival Park, Image credit: Simon Liao

Jury Comment

The Jury was impressed by the thorough Participatory Action Research methodology of surveys, in-depth interviews, and focus groups that serve as the foundation of the design proposal for Queer Arrival Park, which celebrates the presence of the QTPOC newcomer communities as well as address the barriers that they face feeling a sense of belonging and connection. The project represents a rare integration of social science research methods into the design process, resulting in a very nuanced understanding of community needs and desires.

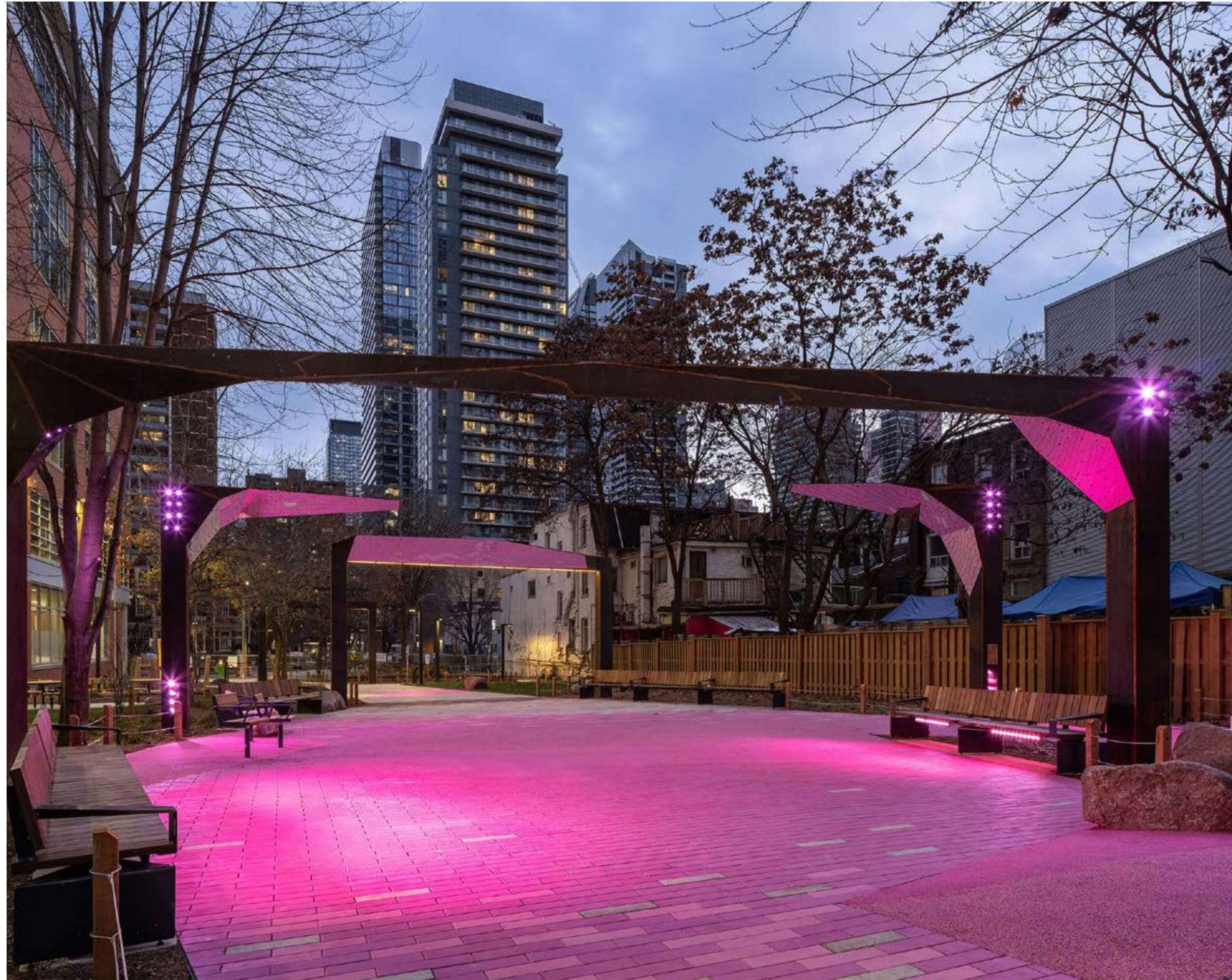
The playful graphics integrate both the design proposal and findings of the research, and also speak to the broader opportunity of re-imagining and expanding the public benefits of the privately owned forecourts of modern tower-in-the park apartment towers.



Queer Arrival Park, Image credit: Simon Liao



| SPECIAL JURY AWARD FOR
INTEGRATED APPROACH



Dance South, Photo credit: Scott Norsworthy Photography

THE DANCE 20 Isabella Street (George Hislop Park)

Project Team

Landscape Architect: PMA Landscape Architects Ltd.

Engineer: Blackwell Structural Engineers

Artist: Uoai | Stanislav Jurković

Other: Marcel Dion Lighting Design (Lighting Design); Punchclock Metalworks (Fabrication)

Developer/Owner/Client

City of Toronto

General Contractor

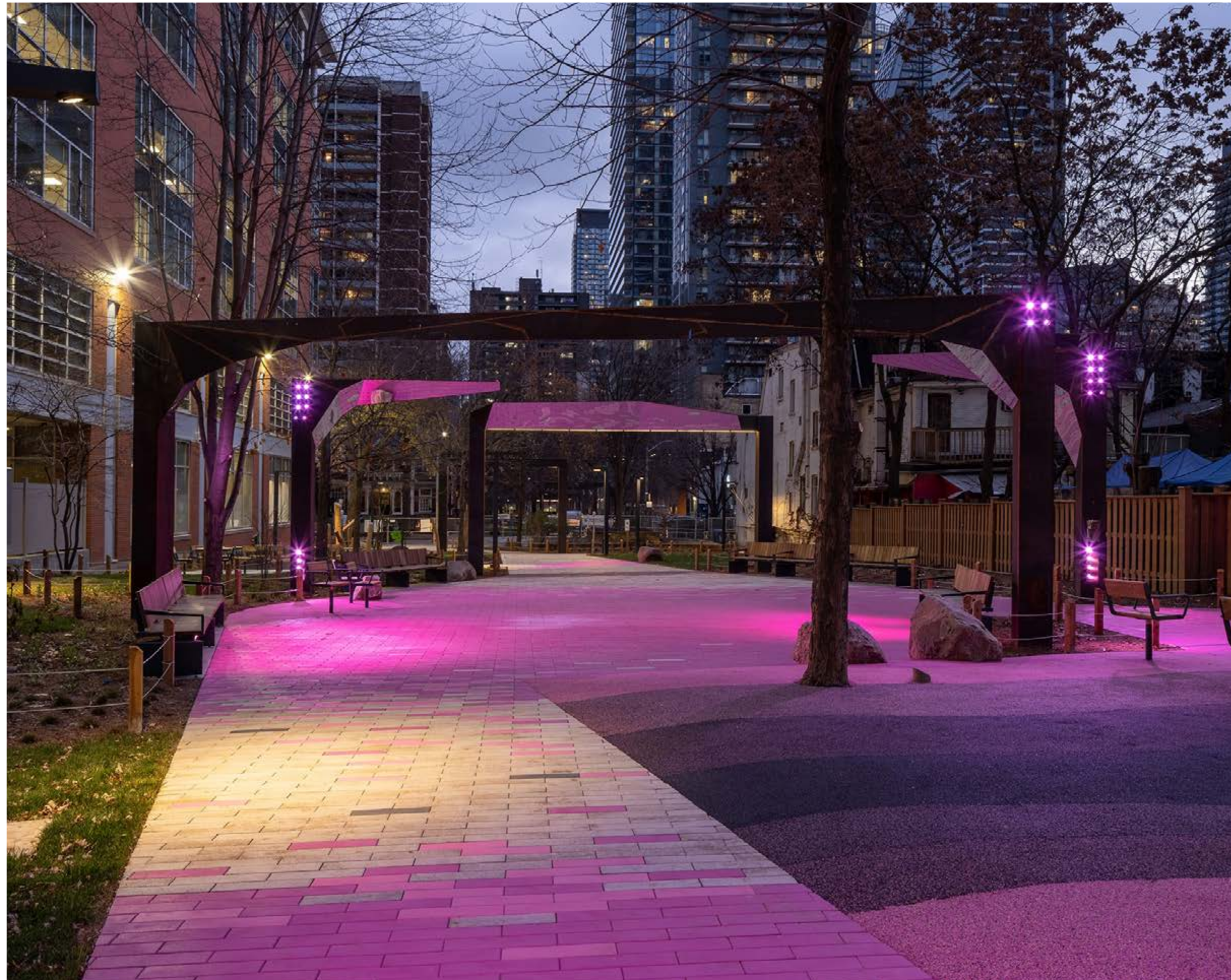
Somerville Construction

Photographer

Scott Norsworthy Photography

[in @uoai_architects](#)

[@uoai_studio](#)



Yonge Street Linear Parks, Photo credit: Scott Norsworthy Photography

YONGE STREET LINEAR PARKS

20 Isabella Street
13 Isabella Street

Project Team

Landscape Architect: PMA Landscape Architects Ltd. (Prime Consultant)

Artist: Stanislav Jurković (Uoai); Catherine Tàmmaro (TÀMMARO ART/Design)

Other: Marcel Dion Lighting Design; The Waterworx Co.
Additional consultants: Department of Words & Deeds;
Blackwell Structural Engineers; Husson Ltd.; MJS Consultants;
GPY+ Associates Engineering Inc.; SMART Watering Systems

Developer/Owner/Client

City of Toronto, Parks and Recreation

General Contractor

Somerville Construction

Photographer

Scott Norsworthy Photography



■ Jury Comment

The Jury engaged in significant discussion about the success of The Dance and Yonge Street Linear Parks ultimately concluding that its greatest strength lies in the seamless integration of public art and landscape design. Though efforts were made to evaluate each project individually, it became clear that their impact derives from their symbiotic relationship.

The result is a unique and nuanced urban space—both a linear park and a place to linger; a site that is meaningfully coded with 2SLGBTQ+ references while remaining inclusive and playful for the broader public.

The Jury was particularly impressed by the complete spatial experience: the vibrant horizontal ground plane and reflective overhead elements are beautifully complemented by the softness and seasonal variation of the planting. In recognition of this deeply integrated and collaborative approach, the Jury is pleased to bestow a special award and hopes The Dance and Yonge Street Linear Parks will inspire future partnerships between artists and landscape architects in the reimagining of public space across the city.



Approaching the Dance, Photo credit: Scott Norsworthy Photography



Waterworks, Photo credit: Michael Leckman

WATERWORKS 505 Richmond Street West

Project Team

Architect: Diamond Schmitt

Landscape Architect: Janet Rosenberg & Studio

Engineer: Jablonsky, Ast and Partners (Structural); Smith + Andersen (Mechanical, Electrical)

Food Hall Interior Artist: Andre Kan; Boris Biberdžić; Cam Miller; Courtney Wotherspoon; Grier Drummond; Jacquie Comrie; Jimmy Chiale; Kelcy Timmons Chan; Kellen Hatanaka; Michèle Bérard; Priscilla Yu; Thomarya Fergus; Zephyr

Other: ERA Architects (Heritage); Marcel Dion Lighting Design (Exterior Lighting)

Developer/Owner/Client

MOD Developments Inc.; Woodcliffe Landmark Properties

General Contractor

Bluescape Construction Management Inc.

Photographer

Michael Leckman

Lisa Logan Photography

 [@diamondschmittarchitects](https://www.instagram.com/diamondschmittarchitects)



St. Andrew's Playground Park, Photo credit: Scott Norsworthy Photography

ST. ANDREW'S PLAYGROUND PARK 450 Adelaide Street West

Project Team

Landscape Architect: DTAH
Engineer: Ainley Group (Civil); IRC Building Sciences Group
(Structural); DPM energy (Electrical and Lighting)
Other: LURA Consulting (Public Consultation); Smart Watering
Systems (Irrigation)

Developer/Owner/Client

City of Toronto

General Contractor

LocPave Construction

Photographer

Scott Norsworthy Photography



■ Jury Comment

As a Jury we were unanimous that these two projects together are an exemplar of how public space and building programming should interface and in so doing create so much more than the sum of its individual parts; for the betterment of all who work, live and visit this newly revitalized pocket of the city.

St. Andrew's Playground Park is small but mighty; the layout of the park contributes positively at the civic scale with informal desire lines that traverse the open space, creating intentional moments to pause, connection and play. The Waterworks in return offers mixed income housing with a densely packed social program that engages and animates the street and the park with a food hall and the YMCA. It is an excellent example of how a project that is mostly private in nature, can be strategically programmed at grade in tandem with high quality landscape design, to create an urban environment full of delight.



Waterworks, Photo credit: Lisa Logan Photography



| SPECIAL JURY AWARD FOR
COMMUNITY INCUBATOR



Clark Centre for the Arts, Photo credit: Tom Arban Photography

CLARK CENTRE FOR THE ARTS 191 Guildwood Parkway

Project Team

Architect: Taylor Hazell Architects

Landscape Architect: PMA Landscape Architects Ltd.; Arborist Amy Turner Landscape

Engineer: RJC Engineers; Jain Consultants (Mechanical, Electrical, Civil Consultant)

Other: Arborist; Azimuth Environmental Consulting Inc. (Environmental Consultant); BA Group (Transportation Planning)

Developer/Owner/Client

City of Toronto

General Contractor

Atlas Constructors Inc.

Photographer

Tom Arban Photography

Taylor Hazell Architects



■ Jury Comment

This elegant and relatively modest project delivers an outsized impact. While it stands as a strong example of a public building carefully situated within its landscape context, what truly distinguishes the Clark Centre for the Arts is its deep sensitivity to local place, community needs, and aspirations.

The Jury was particularly moved by the project's story—born of sustained community advocacy and engagement for the revitalization of Guild Park and Gardens and the creation of arts spaces and programming on site.

In recognition of its social and cultural importance, the Jury is pleased to honour the project with a Special Jury's Award in the Community Incubator category. The design takes a light-touch approach to the existing building, enhancing its presence through a graceful new foyer and a beautifully integrated forecourt garden that incorporates salvaged architectural fragments.

The Jury hopes this project will inspire similarly sensitive, community-rooted arts and culture initiatives across Toronto's diverse neighbourhoods.



Clark Centre for the Arts, Image credit: Taylor Hazell Architects

2025 JURY MEMBERS



■ **Osemelu (Ossie) Airewele, BA (Hons), DipArch ARB**
Senior Associate, BDP Quadrangle

Ossie is an internationally accomplished architect whose passion lies in socially responsible and inclusive design. With a deep commitment to equity and innovation, he is a prominent thought leader at BDP Quadrangle in the field of architecture and urbanism, where he actively encourages meaningful conversations about the future of inclusive design, adaptive re-use, mass timber and modern methods of construction. In Ossie's 25 years of professional practice, he has developed an extensive range of experience in leading complex projects across the UK and in the last six years has continued to lead key projects in Toronto and across North America.

His role as Chair of the ULI Toronto's Curtner Urban Leadership (mid-career) Program, a member of Lambda Alpha International and a board member of the Black Planners and Urbanists Association reflects his dedication to urban development. He continuously demonstrates excellence in conceptualization, design and execution. Ossie is a strong believer that the ability to demonstrate a clear understanding of social, environmental, physical and historical context is foundational to successful design, programming of buildings and public spaces.



■ **Olivia Keung, B.E.S., M.Arch, OAA, MRAIC, CPHD**
Associate and Director of sustainability, Moriyama Teshima

Olivia is an architect with a deep commitment to building a regenerative, low carbon future, and to integrating sustainability into projects that provide critical social infrastructure. As Director of Sustainability at Moriyama Teshima Architects, her role is to work closely with project teams to ensure their sustainability vision is broad and regenerative in its scope, while also establishing concrete and measurable performance goals. At MTA, Olivia is currently the Project Architect for Science North, a project that comprises two science centres in Northern Ontario, both targeting Zero Carbon certification. She played a key role on the Limberlost Place, a tall, mass timber, operational zero carbon building that transforms George Brown College's Waterfront Campus. She is experienced in the development of green building policy, as an integral part of the team that authored Waterfront Toronto's Green Building Requirements. The GBRs are part of a larger, holistic vision to build urban communities that are resilient, affordable and inclusive.

Olivia is active in numerous advocacy roles that enable her to push for broader climate action and environmental justice. Since 2022 she has acted as a Sustainability Advisor on the City of Toronto's Design Review Panel. She is the Co-Chair of the RAIC's Working Committee on Equity and Justice, serving also as their liaison to the Committee on Regenerative Environments. She is a frequent speaker on low carbon design and high performing buildings, including recent lectures at the CaGBC's Innovation Series, the RAIC's Congress on Architecture, the University of Toronto and George Brown College.



■ **Christine Leu, B.E.S., M.Arch, OAA**
Co-founder, LeuWebb Projects / Lecturer, Toronto Metropolitan University

Christine Leu is an architect, artist, and educator based in Toronto, Canada. She holds a Bachelor of Environmental Studies and Master of Architecture from the University of Waterloo and is a licensed architect with a certificate of practice under the Ontario Association of Architects.

LeuWebb Projects is a creative studio weaving art, advocacy, education, and design to activate and enrich the public realm. As co-founder with Alan Webb, she has created site-specific artworks across the globe, ranging from ephemeral, technology-driven installations to robust and permanent city fixtures. With each venture, the studio mines its artistic and architectural expertise to unearth how each site's qualities can serve as metaphors for storytelling and critical discourse. Combining their expertise with their shared core interests, LeuWebb Projects operates in the interstitial tissue of art and design, always imagining how the intersection of the two can tangibly evoke past, present, and future narratives for a richer experience of place. The work has garnered Christine several awards and honours, including, most notably, the 2017 RAIC Allied Arts Medal.

Alongside her work at LeuWebb, Christine has taught architecture and interior design at post-secondary institutions since 2005. She has further contributed to architectural education through departmental and public talks, conference presentations, mentorships, and portfolio reviews. In acknowledgement of her contributions to the field, she was inducted as a Fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada in 2020.

2025 JURY MEMBERS



■ **Ute Maya-Giambattista, B. ARCH, M.Pl., RPP, MCIP, LEED AP**
Principal, O2

As a principal with O2, Ute manages the firm’s Toronto Urban Design Studio. As an urban designer and planner, Ute approaches her work with the understanding that design can be a vehicle for creating healthy places and communities while being aware of the complexities of urban spaces and the potential of infrastructure and overall urban systems to transform the vitality of a place. Integral to all her management and design work is her commitment to the integration of social, economic, and environmentally sustainable practices from the early stages of the process.

With more than 20 years of practice Ute’s experience in Canada, the United States, Russia and China include planning studies and master plan designs for a wide range of urban scales.

Ute is the President of the Council for Canadian Urbanism a thinktank focused on urbanism matters across the country, a member of the City of Vaughan Design Review Panel, a member of the Province of Ontario provincially appointed AODA Design of Public Spaces Standards Development committee, the President of the Toronto Design Industry Advisory Committee, a past member of the Planning Issues Strategic Group at Ontario Professional Planning Institute and the past chair of the Women’s Leadership Initiative Allies in Action sub-committee at the Urban Land Institute. Ute is a member of the Ontario Professional Planners Institute and the Canadian Institute of Planners.



■ **Brendan Stewart, OALA, CSLA, CAHP**
Associate professor, University of Guelph / Landscape Collaborator, ERA

Brendan Stewart, Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture at the University of Guelph, is a landscape architect whose teaching and creative practice focus on cultural landscapes, public space, community design, and social infrastructure. He holds a BLA from Guelph and an MLA from UC Berkeley.

Prior to joining the university, he led the landscape practice at ERA Architects in Toronto, an interdisciplinary firm focused on heritage conservation, design, and planning, and he continues to collaborate with the firm.

Throughout his career, Brendan has been actively engaged in the academic, professional, and community spheres. He is a regular invited critic in the architecture, landscape architecture, and planning programs at the University of Toronto, University of Waterloo, and Toronto Metropolitan University, and he is a director of the Friends of Allan Gardens ([opens in new window](#)) (FOAG) and the Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation (AHLP).

Brendan has collaborated with landscape architects, architects, artists, urban designers and planners on public space projects across Canada and abroad, and in 2015, he was involved in organizing and participating in ‘Leading with Landscape’, a conference in Toronto hosted by the Washington DC based Cultural Landscape Foundation, and he assisted in the creation of an associated guidebook to Toronto’s designed landscapes.

Brendan co-founded and co-leads plazaPOPS ([opens in new window](#)) with artist and urban geographer Daniel Rotsztain, a public space initiative tailored to the conditions of Toronto’s “strip mall main streets”. This award-winning project, funded through federal and municipal economic development and research grants, and developed in close collaboration with the City of Toronto, has created 12 pop up installations since 2019, and informed the creation of a temporary use zoning by-law pilot, a policy change that enables parking spaces to be traded for people places more easily. plazaPOPS will be the subject of an upcoming exhibition at the Urban Space Gallery at 401 Richmond in September 2025.

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