

RAIC Research & Innovation in Architecture Award Terms of Reference

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1. Purpose

This award recognizes an architect, architectural practice and/or academic researcher who has demonstrated excellence in research and/or innovation in architectural practice, technology, or pedagogy. It celebrates initiatives that advance professional practice and/or disciplinary knowledge, and considers exemplary approaches to sustainability, as well as the support and advancement of equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Innovations may encompass a range of endeavours, including, but not limited to: building details and technologies, spatial strategies, ways of structuring practices, or design or construction processes that make significant improvements to the practice of architecture in Canada and/or more broadly. The submissions may range from a whole building, to a detail, to a description of a business-related initiative.

Research within the profession or the academic environment may encompass submissions including, but not limited to: academic papers or reports documenting significant research, course syllabi and portfolios of student work showing influential contributions to teaching, or new academic programs and training that enhance learning in the profession of architecture.

2. Eligibility

All RAIC members in good standing are eligible to submit for this award.

3. Submission Materials

The following items must be completed or provided:

1. Completed submission form;
2. Submission entry fee;
3. A maximum five-page report outlining the submission's objectives and significance, and demonstrating how it achieves excellence in research and/or innovation in practice, technology, or pedagogy. The report should make a clear case for how the project contributes to the advancement of the design of, or discourse on, architecture within the profession.
4. A maximum 200-word abstract summarizing the submission, provided in French and/or English;

5. A project credit sheet, if applicable. In the case of collaborations, the submission must include a clear description of the role of each individual;

6. A signed declaration form.

For project-based submissions:

7. Up to ten (10) images (optional);

8. A completed image index, providing captions and full credit information for each image, if applicable.

For research-based, and other, submissions:

9. Supporting material, not to exceed 20 minutes in length (for audio or video), or 20 pages (for written material);

10. Links to websites and webpages (optional).

4. Selection Process

The RAIC Awards Advisory Committee will appoint a jury each year. The judging process, led by a professional advisor, shall reflect the RAIC's values throughout. The number of jurors may vary from year to year.

5. Number of Awards

A maximum of three (3) awards may be conferred. At its discretion, the jury may elect not to confer an award.

6. Frequency

The award(s) are to be offered every year.

7. Public Presentation

The presentation of the award(s) will be made at a public event, if feasible.