

GROUP2 NEW PRINCIPAL AND ASSOCIATES

Douglas Ramsey is the new principal of Group2 Architecture's Edmonton Studio. He joined Group2 in 2007 with more than 20 years of experience in the design of public buildings in both the private and public sectors with a particular focus on educational facilities. During the past two years with Group2 he has continued to focus on collaborative institutional projects delivered with a commitment to client service.

Group2 also announced three new associates to the Red Deer and Calgary studios: Stacy Christensen and Ray Rogers (Calgary) and Jon Gulayets (Red Deer).

Barry Johns will continue to bring his knowledge and expertise to Group2 projects across the province as executive director of design. Group2 merged with Barry Johns (Architecture) Ltd. in 2007 at which time the Edmonton Studio became known as Johns Group2. Moving forward the Edmonton studio will be called Group2 Architecture Engineering Ltd.

THE ROLSTON

Construction of the 23-storey high rise, The Rolston, is slated to begin in summer 2010. It will offer smart and sustainable design, while revitalizing the neighbouring Yale Pub. The Rolston is a key component of the City of Vancouver's revitalization plans for the north end of the Granville Street Bridge, including changes to the current cloverleaf traffic configuration to allow for pedestrian friendly access to Granville Street, new parks, childcare facilities, and even the potential for a "Granville Island North" district.

All 185 residences will offer oversized view balconies. The glass and concrete tower will be built to LEED Gold equivalency standards. The project is designed by Vancouver's Cause + Affect, the multi-disciplinary studio headed by husband and wife duo of Steven and Jane Cox.

WORLD'S FIRST

Vancouver Convention Centre West has achieved LEED Platinum, making it the world's first convention centre to do so. The new 1.2 million square foot world class building is the west companion to the exiting facility, tripling the total square footage of convention centre space.

Designed by Seattle based LMN Architects in collaboration with Vancouver MCM and DA, the centre features a number of innovative sustainable design strategies including a six acre living roof (Canada's largest) and extensive use of local materials (Douglas fir and Hemlock).

CALL FOR ENTRIES

Canadian designers are encouraged to submit their projects for consideration for the Sustainable Building Challenge. The Challenge will form a key part of the Seventh World Sustainable Building Conference (SB11) to be held in Helsinki, Finland, from the 18th to 21st of October, 2011.

Commercial, institutional and multi-unit residential building types from either the public or private sector will all be considered for the Challenge, but eligibility is restricted to projects that demonstrate potential exemplary and balanced sustainability performance objectives as part of the design process. All projects must be of the highest architectural quality and projects submitted for consideration must have complete design documents and be under construction or completed prior to June 1st, 2010. The iiSBE Canada SB11 Team will select three building projects from those submitted for full evaluation and presentation at the Helsinki conference.

Further information and application forms are available from the Sustainable Building Challenge Website at: <http://www.iisbe.org/sbc11/canada/call>.

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LEED PLATINUM HOTEL

Parkside Victoria Resort & Spa, the new luxury resort hotel in Victoria, is targeting LEED platinum certification. It will be Canada's first LEED Platinum resort-hotel. Designed by The Hulbert Group, the 126 room resort is located at 810 Humboldt Street. Completed in 2009, the two phase project totals 176,000 square feet and will include 61,000 square feet of commercial space.

