

# La Société pour l'étude de l'architecture au Canada



## The Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada

Dear Member of the Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada,

I hope this letter finds you and your families healthy and well.

As President of the SSAC-SÉAC, and on behalf of my fellow Officers, I am writing to provide an important update regarding the Society's response to COVID-19.

On March 25, 2020, the SSAC-SÉAC Officers held a meeting and have decided to take the following steps in response to the current COVID-19 world pandemic:

First, I regret to announce the decision to postpone the SSAC 2020 Conference, *From Revival to Renewal*, which was scheduled to be held in Montreal, Quebec from May 20-23, 2020 by one year. The conference organizers have contacted all 2020 session chairs and presenters in hopes that they will consider moving their sessions and presentations to 2021. Additional sessions and presentations will also be welcome in 2021.

Secondly, after careful consideration, the Officers feel that, since the conference is being moved to 2021, the AGM should be postponed until the 2021 conference. While we did consider virtual options for the meeting, logistically we felt this could present many difficulties and, therefore, feel postponement is the best option.

Finally, as you know, last year we did not award a Martin Eli-Weil Prize. In order to compensate for this, we have two prizes available this year. We ask that submissions be emailed to our Vice-President of Prizes, Luc Noppen ([noppen.luc@icloud.com](mailto:noppen.luc@icloud.com)) by May 3, 2020. Luc and I will notify the recipients by the end of the summer and they will receive their prize at that time. Their presentations, however, will be given at the 2021 conference in Montreal.

I realize that this is not an ideal situation, but the health and safety of our members is of paramount importance. As such, the decision to postpone this year's conference, AGM, and Martin Eli-Weil Prize presentations seems to be the most reasonable and responsible thing to do at this time. Please know that this decision was not made lightly.

While the cancellation of the conference is likely a great disappointment for many of you, I truly hope that you will maintain your membership with the SSAC-SÉAC. The Society is only as strong as its members; without our members, we do not have a society. I am looking to you to support this decision, to maintain your membership, and to understand that the

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Officers, myself included, are working very hard to not only maintain the regular operation of the society, but to bring you the same high-quality journal that you are accustomed to and plan for next year's conference during these exceptional circumstances.

On behalf of the Officers, I would like to sincerely thank you for your understanding and support.

Stay well.

Sincerely,

Candace Iron

President – Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada

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