

# 2009 ANNUAL REPORT

## *ARLIS/NA Canada Chapter*

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### **2008/2009 Chapter Officers**

- Liv Valmestad, Chair
- Marilyn Nasserdam, Past Chair
- Melinda Reinhart, Secretary/Treasurer
- Vacant, Atlantic Region Representative
- Kenlyn Collins, Prairie Region Representative
- Wolfgang Noethlichs, ARLIS/NA MOQ (Montréal -Ottawa-Québec) Chapter Representative
- Lesley Bell, ARLIS/NA Ontario Chapter Representative
- Paula Farrar, ARLIS/NA Northwest Chapter Representative
- James Rout, Webmaster

### **2009/2010 Chapter Officers**

- James Rout, Chair (incoming)
- Liv Valmestad, Chair
- Melinda Reinhardt, Secretary/Treasurer
- Tanja Harrison, Atlantic Region Representative
- Kenlyn Collins, Prairie Region Representative
- Peter Trepener, ARLIS/NA MOQ (Montréal-Ottawa-Québec) Chapter Representative
- Margaret English, ARLIS/NA Ontario Chapter Representative
- Paula Farrar, ARLIS/NA Northwest Chapter Representative
- James Rout, Webmaster

Chapter website: [www.arliscanada.ca](http://www.arliscanada.ca)

### **ARLIS/NA Canada Chapter Meeting:**

- Held at the ARLIS/NA 37th Annual Conference, Indianapolis, IN, April 19, 2009.
- Six Canadian members attended. Except for Jonathan Franklin (NGC) and me, all were from B.C.

- Reports were given by Paula Farrar, ARLIS/NA Northwest and Jonathan Franklin, ARLIS/NA (MOQ).
- Kenlyn Collins, Prairie Regional Rep, submitted a written report.

The Chair of ARLIS/NA Canada Liv Valmestad also attended:

- ARLIS/NA 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Indianapolis, IN (both Pre-Conference and Post-Conference Executive Board Meetings), April 15 – 21, 2009.
- ARLIS/NA Ontario Spring Meeting, Toronto, April 24, 2009. (discussion to give financial support to Cdn. Rep.)
- ARLIS/NA Montréal-Ottawa-Québec Chapter Spring Meeting, June 12, 2009. (discussion to give financial support to Cdn. Rep. This was supported and P. Trepanier was to contact the Ontario Chapter).
- ARLIS/NA Mid-Year Executive Board Meeting, New York, NY, September 23-24, 2009.(see action items below).
- ARLIS/NA NorthWest Fall Meeting, Virtual, November 17, 2009.

### **ARLIS/NA Canada Chapter Activities Summary:**

ARLIS/NA Board activities reported included:

- ARLIS/NA Ontario chapter continued to prepare for their hosting of the 2012 Annual conference.
- Canadian representation on the ARLIS/NA International Relations Committee and ARLIS/NA Public Policy Committee.
- The tri-lingual brochure is still under development. Money was budgeted for it at the Executive Board Mid-year meeting first in 2008 and again in 2009. The deadline for completion was Jan. 31, 2010. Is to be done for Boston, April 2010.
- The management firm TEI, is now hosting several committees and chapter web sites including IRC and ARLIS/NA Northwest Chapter.
- Received approval for complementary membership for Canadian member who is responsible for translating documents into French.
- Communicated via e-mail, chapter listservs, chapter meetings and ARLIS/NA Canada website.

### **2008/9 Melva J. Dwyer Award Winner:**

One interesting characteristic of the nominations this year, were that the strongest titles were in the area of architecture. This could be attributed to the change in Canada Council funding structure, where during the last 3 years, calls for grants have been made specifically for architectural projects. Honourable mentions go to: *Building New Brunswick: an Architectural History* by John Leroux, 2008 and *Insight and On site: the Architecture of Diamond and Schmitt*, by Jack Diamond, Don Gillmor, Donald Schmitt 2008.

The 2009 Melva J. Dwyer jury recognized *Winnipeg Modern: architecture 1945-1975*, University of Manitoba Press, 2006, edited by Dr. Serena Keshavjee and designed by Herb Enns.

Scholarly in approach, but accessible to anyone with an interest in urbanity and modern architecture in North America, *Winnipeg Modern: architecture 1945-1975* embodies the elegance and beauty of

the Modernist period. It includes critical and historical essays on the aesthetic and social project of Modernist architecture in Winnipeg, biographies of Manitoba architects and designers and a 23 page bibliography!

In addition to plans, drawings, and elevations, this book is lavishly illustrated with 300 photographs from provincial archives, and the private archives of architect Henry Kalen, and contemporary photographer Martin Tessler.

According to the designer Herb Enns, the design of the book, was strategically and fundamentally conceived as an homage to Dean John Russell, who built the Architecture Program at the University of Manitoba to national and international prominence. (See John A. Russell Building, designed by James Donahue, 1959) The horizontal gray motif of the book is an abstraction of the facade of the John A. Russell Building, a modernist gem on the Prairies. " I was trying to link the book with the building and with his legacy."

Beginning in the 1940s, Dean John A. Russell (previously from MIT), nurtured a strong tradition of Modernist design with close connections to architectural giants of the 20<sup>th</sup> century such as Mies van der Rohe and Walter Gropius. Under Russell's guidance, a generation of young architects, including James Donahue and David Thordarson, adapted the principles of European Modernism to the prairie geography. Other nationally renowned Winnipeg architects, such as Étienne Gaboury and Gustavo da Roza, also left a lasting Modernist mark on Winnipeg's skyline and private residences.

The jury members for the 2009 award were:

- Larissa Beringer, Librarian, Emily Carr University of Art + Design, Vancouver, BC
- Cyndie Campbell, Head of Archives, Documentation and Visual Resources, Library & Archives, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, ON
- Eva Revitt, Campus Librarian, Centre for the Arts and Communications Library, Grant MacEwan College, Edmonton, AB.

Liv Valmestad presented the award at the Convocation Ceremony at the ARLIS/NA 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, April , Indianapolis, IN.

Jury members for the 2010 Melva J. Dwyer Award were appointed in fall of 2009 by Chair, Liv Valmestad. The jury members for the 2010 award are:

- James Rout, Head of Library and Archives Services, the Banff Centre, Banff.
- Cyndie Campbell, Head of Archives, Documentation and Visual Resources, Library & Archives, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, ON
- Eva Revitt, Campus Librarian, Centre for the Arts and Communications Library, Grant MacEwan College, Edmonton, AB.

Calls for nominations for the 2010 Dwyer Award were made. The award will be announced and presented by Liv Valmestad during Convocation ceremonies at the annual ARLIS/NA Conference in Boston, April 23, 2010.