



RAIC | IRAC

Royal Architectural Institute of Canada
Institut royal d'architecture du Canada

The Royal Architectural Institute of Canada & Canada Green Building Council
Green Building Award of Excellence

Draft: Terms of Reference
Updated: May 29, 2020

1. Purpose

This award is to recognize outstanding achievements of high-performance architecture in Canada for buildings that are environmentally advanced, and healthy places to live, work, learn, heal and play. The award recognizes excellence in building design that significantly reduce or eliminate the negative impact of buildings on the environment, enhance occupant and community health and wellbeing, provide for ecological restoration or regeneration. Seven core areas will be considered:

- Location and transportation measures
- Sustainable site planning
- Safeguarding water and water efficiency
- Operational & embodied carbon and energy efficiency
- Health and environmental impact of materials and resources
- Indoor environmental quality
- Design excellence and innovation

Although more difficult to assess and measure at this time, additional consideration should be given to innovative project designs incorporating resiliency and adaptation, circularity and regeneration, social equity and accessibility as co-benefits of a broader application of holistic sustainability principles.

This award is open to building projects - either new construction or major renovations - completed after January 1, 2020.

2. Eligibility

The building construction, renovation or interior project must be a LEED Gold, Platinum, LEED Zero certified project; or a Zero Carbon Building – Design and/or Operational certified project, certified by the Canada Green Building Council, Green Business Certification Inc. Canada or partner organizations. Only Members of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC) or the Canada Green Building Council (CAGBC) are eligible for this award.

These designations distinguish building projects that have demonstrated a commitment to sustainability by meeting the highest standards and design excellence in environmental performance (including carbon reduction) and socio-economic benefits.

The official submission for the award in any given year must be no later than three years after the initial certification.



RAIC | IRAC

Royal Architectural Institute of Canada
Institut royal d'architecture du Canada

3. Submission Materials

Submissions will be completed using the NEW online submission platform.
The following items must be completed or provided:

1. A submission form;
2. Submission entry fee;
3. A project credit sheet;
4. Confirmation of LEED or Zero Carbon – Design certification by the Canada Green Building Council is required.
5. A 500-word project description outlining the objectives and significance of the project. This text should be conceived to be accessible to the general public.
6. A 100-word media statement crafted for website postings and media campaign requirements.
7. The proponents shall include any information necessary to fully describe the solutions related to the sustainability of their project.
8. A numerical index listing all photos and providing full credit information;
9. A maximum of 12 to 15 digital images including drawings necessary to describe the environmental and socio-economic attributes of the project;
10. In the case of collaborations, the submission must include a clear description of the role of each individual;
11. A signed declaration by the RAIC or CAGBC member.

4. Selection Process

The RAIC and the CAGBC will appoint a jury of three (3) persons who will meet via teleconference or face-to-face to make their determinations as to the conference of the award. The jury shall include at least one CAGBC member and one RAIC Member and one expert in sustainable design. RAIC and CaGBC shall identify an expert architect from a specific province to provide the jury with insight to the context of the submitted project. A technical expert should also be assigned to contribute to the understanding of the submitted projects where needed. The President of the RAIC, the Chair of the CAGBC or designate shall jointly bestow the award.

5. Number of Awards

One award will be conferred biennially at the jury's discretion. ***If there are more than 10 submissions, two awards will be conferred to recognize both interior and building submissions.*** Winning entries will be kept by both the RAIC and the CAGBC for publication, exhibition and archival purposes. Unsuccessful entries will **not** be returned to entrants.

At its discretion the jury may elect not to confer an award.

The award shall be a medal with the RAIC emblem and inscribed on the reverse:



RAIC | IRAC

Royal Architectural Institute of Canada
Institut royal d'architecture du Canada

RAIC – CAGBC Green Building Award of Excellence

Name of Project

(insert year)

6. Frequency

The award is to be offered **biennially**.

7. Public Presentation

The presentation of the *RAIC & CAGBC Green Building Award* will be made at the Annual RAIC Conference on Architecture or other suitable ceremony organized by the RAIC or CaGBC.