

## RAIC joins world's architectural associations pledging to help reduce carbon emissions

**OTTAWA June 30, 2005**—Royal Architectural Institute of Canada President **Yves Gosselin, FIRAC** represented one of 16 of the world's architectural institutions in the recent signing of the Las Vegas Declaration. The declaration recognizes the great responsibility placed on the architecture profession to do all it can to achieve a major reduction in the level of carbon emissions that result from the creation and life-cycle of the built environment.

"With 30 to 40 per cent of all energy being consumed by buildings, it is natural that Architects with their understanding of energy-efficient building design and also the issues surrounding urban sprawl that results in greater energy consumption and thereby increased emissions, be in a key position to offer creative solutions," said **Gosselin**. "This declaration is an affirmation of our commitment to do all we can to reduce emissions."

George Ferguson, President of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), took the lead in drafting a statement that was agreed to by all the presidents.

The agreement in its entirety is attached along with the full names of the leaders who signed it.

The declaration was signed during The International Presidents' Forum, a meeting held annually during the AIA National Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The RAIC is a voluntary national association established in 1907 as the voice for architecture and its practice in Canada. Representing more than 3,200 architects, the RAIC provides the national framework for the development and recognition of architectural excellence.

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## **The Las Vegas Declaration**

We the undersigned, Presidents of our respective national architectural institutes, agree to give priority to the vital issue of climate change. We recognize the great responsibility that we have as a profession to do all we can to influence a major reduction in the level of carbon emissions from the built environment.

We commit ourselves to setting an example through the careful management of resources within our own organizations and encouraging our members and clients to do so in respect to their projects. We also agree to engage with our respective governments to help influence relevant legislation and fiscal measures to radically reduce the pollution of the earth's atmosphere and the consequent threat to life and the natural environment.

Douglas L Steidl, FAIA  
President, The American Institute of Architects

Yolanda D. Reyes  
Chairman, Architects Regional Council of Asia (ARCASIA)

José Manuel Reachi Mora  
Federacion de Colegios de Arquitectos de la Republica Mexicana (FCARM)

Gabriel Durand-Hollis, FAIA  
President, Panamerican Federation of Architects Associations (FPAA)

Francisco Méndez Ugalde  
President, Costa Rica Institute of Architects (CACR)

Yoshiaki Ogura  
President, Japan Institute of Architects (JIA)

Seok Woo Yoon  
President, Korean Institute of Architects (KIA)

Yael Kinsky, AIA  
President, The Israeli Association of Independent Architects (IAIA)

Robert Nation, FRAIA  
President, Royal Australian Institute of Architects (RAIA)

Yves Gosselin, FRAIC  
President, Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC)

George Ferguson  
President, Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA)

Endorsed by:

Jose Luis Cortes  
Vice President Region III, The Americas, International Union of Architects (UIA)

Louise Cox, LFRAIA  
Vice President Region IV, Asia and Oceania, International Union of Architects (UIA)

Frank M. Guillot, AIA  
President, National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB)

Robert A. Odermatt, FAIA  
President, National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB)

Rafael Longoria  
President, Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA)