

ARIDO celebrates 75th anniversary representing Ontario's interior design professionals Northern Ontario members have major role

PENNY TOMLIN, MANAGER, COMMUNICATIONS
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The Association of Registered Interior Designers of Ontario (ARIDO) is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year. ARIDO is the only self-regulatory professional organization for interior designers in Ontario. Since its inception in 1934, it has played a vital role in the interior design industry of the province. The association currently has a membership



of more than 1,800 Registered and Intern interior designers. These members represent all areas of specialty including corporate, residential, retail, hospitality, health-care and institutional.

Another 1,500 educators and students bring ARIDO's membership to 3,300. The association also partners with Industry Allies and Affiliates, who represent individuals or companies engaged in the manufacture or supply of furnishings and materials, as well as businesses that offer related services to the interior design industry.

ARIDO's mandate is to represent the interior design profession to the general public, as well as at the municipal and provincial levels of governments. ARIDO protects the rights of interior designers to practise, promotes the benefits of working with an interior designer, and educates the public about interior design.

In 1999, the province granted ARIDO a Titles Act, which allows only Registered ARIDO members to call themselves interior designers. The Act is intended to protect the public from misrepresentation by non-accredited interior design-

ers. This is necessary since a considerable amount of education, knowledge and experience are required to become an accredited interior designer.

In order to qualify as Registered members of ARIDO, interior designers must complete a combination of seven years of education and practical experience. They must graduate from a recognized three- or four-year post-secondary interior design program and complete three or four years of practice, during which time these members are identified as ARIDO interns. Upon successful completion of an international examination, these interns are eligible to become Registered ARIDO members. Once they become Registered members, they must participate in regular continuing education programs in order to remain current with industry trends and requirements.

These highly qualified professionals will take the hassle out of your construction or renovation projects. They will work through all stages of a project, from concept to completion, to ensure it is completed on time and within budget. This is important for every project, and particularly so in these tough economic times.

When asked, "How can you afford an interior designer?"

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Paisley Park INC. INTERIOR DESIGN STUDIO

Paisley Park Inc. is a full service interior design studio dedicated to finding and implementing creative and responsible solutions for each client and project. We work hand in hand with our clients to create a uniform vision complete with extra

ordinary attention to detail and an unsurpassed level of professional service. We approach design as an integration of buildings with their surroundings to create clearly defined and harmonious indoor and outdoor spaces.



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NOC CHAPTER MEMBERS:

Bracebridge:
Sandra SellensRegistered

North Bay:
Kristen AndersonStudent
Terry BrownRegistered
Lori BurnsRegistered
Clinton Hummel . .Registered
Cynthia Payne . . .Registered
Robin PurcellRegistered

Sault Ste Marie:
David EllisRegistered
Andrea NiroIntern
Dorothy Fabbri . . .Registered
Paul Scornaieni . .Registered
Sheri TuckRegistered
Samantha Humphrys .Student
Miranda PorcoIntern

Sudbury:
Denis ComtoisRegistered
Kristina LalondeIntern
Robert Martel . . .Registered
Eliisa Petersen . . .Registered
Andrea TannRegistered

Thunder Bay:
Jennifer Foulds . .Registered
Brenda Parhiala . . .Intern
Shana-Rae Price . . .Intern
Lisa Sandham . . .Registered
Jenna-Marie Miller . .Student

Timmins:
Kivani Maharaj-Seegobin Intern

Washago:
Cheryl GibsonIntern



ARIDO

Association
of Registered
Interior Designers
of Ontario

MAKE SPACE FOR GOOD DESIGN.

Paul Scornaienchi, a Registered ARIDO member in Sault Ste. Marie, expresses the sentiment of his fellow professionals and that of every satisfied customer when he responds, "How can you *not* afford to hire an interior designer?"

Deborah Rutherford, ARIDO's president, agrees. "Retaining an interior designer is one of the best investments you can make. These professionals have the education and training that will add value and minimize risks on a project, while keeping costs down."

The Association has established a web-based, user-friendly search system on its website to help individuals and companies seeking the services of an interior designer. DesignFIND provides access to comprehensive profiles of interior design firms across the province. So, when you are looking for an interior designer for your next project in northern Ontario, go to arido.ca and review the profiles on DesignFIND to find the individual or firm with the experience and expertise you are seeking.

Scornaienchi has been an ARIDO member since 2005. He currently serves on the editorial committee for the association's publications and is a member of the Northern Ontario Chapter. The association, the

largest of its kind in Canada, has six chapters: Greater Toronto Area, Eastern Ontario, Southern Ontario, Grand Valley, Western Ontario and Northern Ontario.

The Northern Ontario Chapter has 23 Registered and Intern ARIDO members. (See sidebar on page 6 for complete list.) The chapter covers an area that spans from North Bay west to the Manitoba border. Naturally it faces the same problems as other associations and businesses in northwestern Ontario, namely a relatively small population within a large geographic region. Long distances make frequent get-togethers of chapter members impossible. Still, for those who are committed to ARIDO, there are opportunities to serve the association at both the chapter and provincial levels.

Clinton Hummel of North Bay currently serves as the association's vice president of finance. Hummel has been a very active member and avid supporter of the association since joining in 1996. "I believe it is important not simply to belong to my professional association, but to serve it as well. That's always been my philosophy and I have found it to be very rewarding."

Hummel has noticed many positive developments during his 13 years with ARIDO. Membership has grown and public awareness has increased, as the association works to promote the profession. One way the association promotes interior design is through its annual ARIDO Awards Program, which celebrates the accomplishments of ARIDO's Registered members.

One of the most highly regarded honours

in the industry, the ARIDO Awards showcase excellence, innovation and originality in interior design. The awards recognize projects in 11 different categories: residential; retail spaces; workplaces; health-care facilities; marketing centres; public and in-



stitutional spaces; condominiums, hotels and recreational spaces; restaurants, bars and clubs; restoration and adaptive reuse; sustainable design; and specialty elements.

ARIDO's awards ceremony takes place during IDEX/NeoCon Canada, the country's largest trade-only design exposition

and conference, held every September in Toronto. This year marks the 25th anniversary of IDEX/NeoCon Canada, the most comprehensive exposition and conference for the design, construction, and management of the built environment in Canada.

IDEX/NeoCon Canada's mandate is to serve the interests of the interior design, architectural, facility management, real estate development, and business communities through an annual trade show and conference. The exposition and conference provides a national forum to facilitate the exchange of ideas, while enabling attendees to network with suppliers, participate in industry social events and attend a multi-disciplinary world-class conference program.

Founded in 1984 by ARIDO, and contracted to Merchandise Mart Properties Inc. (MMPI) since 1998 to manage and produce, IDEX/NeoCon Canada has become the annual national trade show and conference to attend. The show now boasts more than 400 exhibitors and an attendance of more than 16,000 individuals involved in the design and management of the built environment.

With ARIDO's 75th anniversary and IDEX/NeoCon Canada's 25th anniversary this year, the association has much to celebrate in 2009. "It's a very exciting time for ARIDO," says Rutherford. "Our members in the Northern Ontario Chapter continue to play an important role in the success of our association."