



1

BOB OJOLICK

The practice of Architecture in small communities in Atlantic Canada evokes a melding of business and lifestyle. Small population centres offer a diversity of projects ranging from modest renovations to major community facilities. Both individuals and community groups rely upon the architect to provide trusted guidance in meeting personal and community objectives. This diversity of practice necessitates both dedication and adaptability on the part of the architect.

After receiving his Bachelor of Science degree at St. Francis Xavier University, **Bob Ojolick (B.Arch.65)**, studied Architecture at the Nova Scotia Technical College, and upon graduation set out for Vancouver where he worked for Thompson, Berwick & Pratt. Selected as Canada's recipient for a Swedish Government Travel Research Fellowship in 1966, Bob studied in Stockholm for a year with the architectural and planning firm of Hojer Jungquist. His exposure to Scandinavian principles in architecture and planning shaped his formative years and influenced his roles as a planner with the Province of Nova Scotia and as a founder and manager of a non-profit housing corporation in Halifax.

Bob returned to Cape Breton to establish his practice in architecture and planning in 1979. An early major commission, for which he received an award from the Canadian Housing Design Council, involved development and design of Nova Scotia's first continuing housing cooperative.

The complexity of projects within the practice has often challenged the firm to address competing issues: satisfying community aspirations for new facilities; managing the

limitations of available investment; and respecting the bounds to sustain operating costs. The approach to design has resulted in "hands on" involvement with client groups from concentrated exercises in facilities planning, through the design of structures incorporating local materials, to the formation of project management teams to carry out construction using local labour forces. Through this advocacy approach, the firm continues to promote active client participation in design and project development.

The Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre, now under construction, reflects this successful participation of a community client group with the development of a 97,000 square foot, multi-use cultural, administrative, and recreation complex for the town. The facility will be one of the 1st major centres in Nova Scotia to incorporate a geothermal energy system for heating, air conditioning and refrigeration. Respecting the principles of LEEDS, the building maximizes the use of natural light, including the use of Solera insulated glass around the perimeter of the ice arena. The project will benefit from projected energy savings approaching 55% of National Energy Code Guidelines.

Bob has served as Secretary/Treasurer and President of the Nova Scotia Association of Architects, and as a member of the editorial board for the RAIC Handbook of Practice. He is currently a member of the Board of Trustees of the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Gatineau and a member of the Building Committee for the new Canadian War Museum in Ottawa. He can be contacted at: ojolickarch@ns.aliantzinc.ca



2



3



4