

## The new Saint-Laurent library wins a prestigious design prize

**Saint-Laurent, December 20, 2010** – **Christine St-Pierre**, minister of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women, **Helen Fotopulos**, responsible for culture, heritage, design and the status of women on Montréal's Executive Committee, and **Alan DeSousa**, mayor of Saint-Laurent and vice-chair of Montréal's Executive Committee, are pleased to announce that the new Saint-Laurent library has won a design prize awarded by the trade magazine *Canadian Architect*.

Montréal 

Culture,  
Communications et  
Condition féminine

Québec 

"I am delighted that the designers of the new Saint-Laurent library have been recognized for their work," said **Minister St-Pierre**. "Chosen within the framework of a juried architectural contest, the winning team successfully met the challenge of designing a place of learning and knowledge that combines a discovery of reading with an openness to culture. Congratulations for the excellence of this architectural endeavour, which contributes greatly to our network of public cultural institutions."

"I am very pleased that the project for a new library in the Borough of Saint-Laurent has already been honoured with an architectural award," stated **Helen Fotopulos**. "The future library's architectural design, noted for its outstanding quality, was made possible thanks to the renovation, expansion and construction program for public libraries in Montréal, UNESCO City of Design. This prestigious award is an encouragement to initiate other design competitions aimed at developing our library network."

"We were already aware of the building's design qualities, but to see them being recognized by a specialized jury makes us even prouder," said **Alan DeSousa**. "I congratulate the library's designing architect, **Éric Pelletier**, and the entire design team, as well as the team that is guiding the project in Saint-Laurent. Not only has their excellent work resulted in this prize, it means that our citizens will shortly be able to enjoy a new, high-quality facility."

*Canadian Architect* magazine gives out four awards of excellence each year to projects across Canada that are at the design stage. This year's jury consisted of Janna Levitte, of Toronto, James KM Cheng, of Vancouver, and Andrew King, of Toronto.

## **About the project**

The new library, which was officially named Bibliothèque du Boisé (Boisé Library) in November, began to take shape in 2009 when an architectural competition was held. The competition jury was chaired by Lise Bissonnette, and the winning architects were the firm Cardinal Hardy/Labonté Marcil/Éric Pelletier Architectes in consortium with SDK et associés inc./Leroux Beaudoin Hurens et associés inc.

The project is noted for its siting and the value it places on the existing natural environment. A true cultural crossroads, the LEED-Gold-certified building will include, in addition to the library, an exhibition centre and storage area for the reserve collection of the Musée des maîtres et artisans du Québec. The new public building's presence on boulevard Thimens will strengthen this artery's civic vocation and also help to enhance the value of the parc Marcel-Laurin woodland by providing a new point of entry. The library is scheduled to open in December 2012.

The project is receiving funding support from Quebec's ministry of culture, communications and the status of women and from the City of Montréal through its cultural development framework (*Entente sur le développement culturel de Montréal 2008-2011*).

– 30 –

Source:  
Geneviève Bouchard  
Communications Officer  
Ville de Montréal  
Borough of Saint-Laurent  
Tel.: 514-855-6000, ext. 4058