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Saint-Laurent Sports Complex

The Saucier + Perrotte Architectes – Hugues Condon Marler Architects / SNC Lavalin team wins the architecture competition

Saint-Laurent, March 7, 2011 – The Borough of Saint-Laurent today announced the winning project of the Québec-wide architecture competition for its future sports complex. Of the four concept proposed, the jury chose the one submitted by the team Saucier + Perrotte Architectes – Hugues Condon Marler Architects/SNC Lavalin.

“The new building will meet needs that have long been voiced by our residents and the many volunteers working with the clubs and associations that offer sports activities to our community. We are very excited at the prospect of having this new facility, which, along with a new library, will further strengthen the civic vocation of Boulevard Thimens. I congratulate the competition’s winning team, and in passing, salute all the finalists, as well as the members of the jury and the technical committee,” explained the mayor of Saint-Laurent and vice-chair of the Ville de Montréal Executive Committee, Mr. Alan DeSousa.

The winning team’s proposal distinguished itself from the others by the quality of its architectural gesture, the simplicity of the concept, the creation of a distinctively urban branding image and wayfinding strategy, its adherence to the surface areas of the facilities, the effectiveness of its sustainable development strategies and its potential for change.

“By its very nature, an architecture competition sparks creativity and innovation. The four finalist teams responded brilliantly to the challenge we launched by submitting exceptionally high-calibre concepts. We selected the project that in our view best meets our specific functional and technical needs and that blends in most harmoniously with the environment. The large structural volumes of the proposed new sports complex create a powerful visual and physical link between the site’s natural and functional elements. Measured against these criteria, the winning team’s proposal was in a class of its own,” commented Mr. Richard Garneau, sports journalist and jury chair.

The announcement was made in the presence of Jean-Marc Fournier, MNA for Saint-Laurent, Minister of Justice and Government House Leader; Christine St-Pierre, MNA for Acadie, and the Minister of Culture, Communications and the Status of Women; the Honourable Stéphane Dion, MP for Saint-Laurent–Cartierville; Mr. Gérald Tremblay, the Mayor of Montréal; and the council members of Saint-Laurent.

Mr. Jean-Marc Fournier expressed his satisfaction with the concept selected: “Today we are taking another crucial step forward in the realization of this important project for our community. The residents of Saint-Laurent will soon be able to enjoy the benefits of a sports centre, thanks in part to the Building Canada Fund – Québec. Once completed, this project will encourage our young people to take part in physical activities, while boosting the economy of the Borough of Saint-Laurent during the construction phase.”

“I wish to offer my sincerest congratulations to the winning team. Creating a building dedicated entirely to sports is a technical feat in itself, but on top of that, making the building attractive and appealing, a focal point that fits well into the environment and serves as a hub for community life, is the hallmark of a truly successful design. The sports complex will undoubtedly serve as an exceptional venue where residents can meet and interact,” emphasized Ms. St-Pierre.

During his speech, Mayor Tremblay confirmed that “this sports complex represents one of the various initiatives we are taking to support families by offering them neighbourhood facilities. It is our wish to provide them with a living environment that promotes a healthy, active lifestyle. This design competition will give Saint-Laurent residents a sports complex that combines innovation with sustainable development.”

The building, which will have a surface area of approximately 14,500 square metres, will be located on the Boulevard Thimens municipal axis and linked to the Émile-Legault pavilion of École secondaire Saint-Laurent, part of the Commission scolaire Marguerite-Bourgeoys. It will house, among other facilities, an indoor soccer field, a 25-metre swimming pool and a leisure pool, a gymnasium, a fitness room and several other spaces, including a multi-purpose room. In compliance with Montréal’s policy on sustainable development for municipal buildings, the Borough will require that the new facility obtain LEED Gold certification (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design).

Building Canada Fund – Quebec

In September 2009, the governments of Canada and Québec, together with the Ville de Montréal, announced the awarding of the funds needed to build the sports complex, under the Building Canada Fund – Québec program. The tripartite investment is worth a total of \$35 million.

Building Montréal UNESCO City of Design

In closing, it should be noted that the architecture competition is supported by the Building Montréal UNESCO City of Design program, an initiative of Ville de Montréal’s Bureau du design and the Université de Montréal’s UNESCO Chair in Landscape and Environmental Design. This initiative is funded in equal part by the Ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine, the Ministère des Affaires municipales, des Régions et de l’Occupation du territoire, la Conférence régionale des élus de Montréal and the Ville de Montréal.

Drawings of the winning project can be viewed on Réalisons Montréal website at: <http://www.realisonsmontreal.com/en/project/105>.

Source: Division des communications et des relations avec les citoyens
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