

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

George F. Dark Honoured with the 2018 Governor General's Medal in Landscape Architecture

Ottawa – August 22nd, 2018 - Today, the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA) is pleased to announce that **George F. Dark, OALA, FCSLA, FASLA** was selected by the jury as the 2018 recipient of the Governor General's Medal in Landscape Architecture.

The Governor General's Medal in Landscape Architecture (GGMLA) is the highest honour bestowed on a landscape architect by the CSLA. The medal is intended to honour exceptional landscape architects whose lifetime achievements and contributions to the profession have had a unique and lasting impact on Canadian society.

George F. Dark, Senior Design Partner at Urban Strategies, is an urban designer, landscape architect and member of both the College of Fellows of the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects and the Council of Fellows of the American Society of Landscape Architects. George has over 40 years of professional practice experience. Over the past 20 years George's has developed a focus on the strategic design direction of large scale urban regeneration projects putting him at the center of design decisions for some of the largest urban projects in Canada. George is very active in the charitable and not for profit sectors having served as Board Chair of the Evergreen Foundation of Canada for over 12 years while creating Brickworks, leading to his appointment as Chairman Emeritus of the organization. He is currently Chairman of the Social Innovation Foundation at the Centre for Social Innovation in Toronto and was appointed by the Province of Ontario as a Trustee of the McMichael Canadian Collection Gallery. George was founding chair of the Academic Advisory Council of the Willowbank School of Restoration Arts.

According to Nastaran Moradinejad, CSLA President and Chair of the 2018 Governor General's Medal in Landscape Architecture Jury:

We are pleased to award this honour to George F. Dark, who sees potential where others cannot, builds the foundations of glorious landscape architecture work, mentors the upcoming generation of landscape architects, contributes to the charitable and non-profit sector, and promotes the goals of the profession and society through his participation on Boards and design panels Mr. Dark's commitment to design excellence and to outcomes that address the needs of the public are what distinguish him.

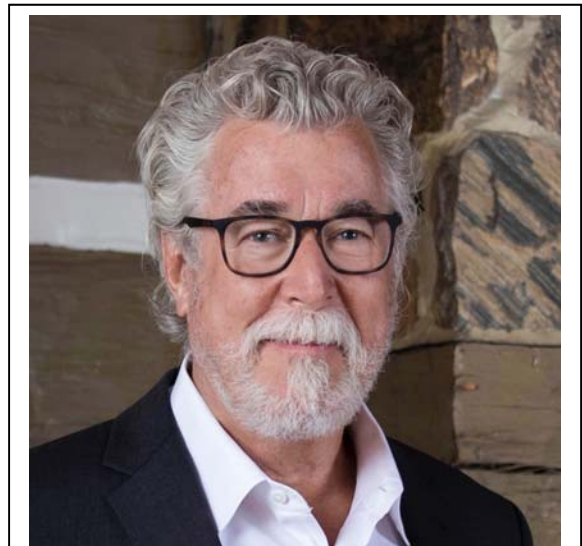


Photo: Courtesy of McMichael Canadian Gallery

Landscape architecture plays a significant and important role, not only in the execution of projects, but in the evolution of the policy and activities that will decide what kind of places, both urban and rural, we chose to create and protect in the future. - George F. Dark

Mr. Dark has led many of the most complex and controversial and large-scale works in Canada, the US and abroad, with a focus on city plans, university master plans and strategic plans concerned with the future of vast regional landscapes. He is one of the most effective communicators and strategists in our profession today and is equipped with a unique set of skills which allow him to see the potential in any landscape, build consensus with policy makers, stakeholders, collaborate with other disciplines and facilitate solutions for many of the most complicated and important projects facing the profession of landscape architecture.

Mr. Dark will receive his award at a ceremony to be held at Government House in Winnipeg on September 13th, 2018.

-30-

The **Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA)** is a professional organization with landscape architect members, associate (or intern) members and student of landscape architecture members. As the voice of the profession in Canada, the CSLA is an advocate for its members on issues such as urban design, urban renewal, sustainable development, climate change and cultural heritage.

The CSLA delivers programs and services for its members that:

- increase public awareness and promote the profession - the CSLA communication tools include the website, the membership directory, a monthly bulletin, social media sites and LANDSCAPES|PAYSAGES, the national magazine;
- provide opportunities for professional development - the CSLA holds an Annual General Meeting and Congress, provides information year-round to members about industry and professional learning opportunities and coordinates continuing education programs and opportunities nationally;
- recognize members and celebrate member achievements within the profession through the CSLA Awards of Excellence, the Recognition Awards Programs, the College of Fellows and by administering the Governor General's Medal in Landscape Architecture;
- support education and research through the accreditation of undergraduate and graduate landscape architecture programs, recognition of student achievement and provision of scholarships.

Landscape architects today are engaged in the design, planning and management of urban, rural and natural environments in all Canadian provinces and territories and in many countries worldwide. Canadian landscape architects are well-regarded for their vision, creativity, sensitivity and practicality in all aspects of professional practice, creating unique functional outdoor spaces for our citizens, as well as protecting and enhancing the environment. The CSLA is the organization that gives landscape architects a national voice, and, through its provincial component associations, regulates the profession of landscape architecture through licensing or certification of its members.

For more information:

Michelle Legault, Executive Director

Email: executive-director@csla-aapc.ca

Office: 866-781-9799

12 Forillon | Ottawa ON | K2M 2W5 www.csla-aapc.ca