

16 January 2024

Rockcliffe Park Foundation  
By email

Dear Colleague,

Throughout Canada's history, many important landscape architecture masterpieces have been commissioned and executed. In this context, the CSLA believes that Humphrey Carver's Centennial Garden in Rockcliffe Park is a clear demonstration of cutting-edge landscape architecture work and an important community contribution.

*The Centennial Garden is of great historical and cultural significance. It was a communal endeavour created by the residents of Rockcliffe Park Village to mark the 100th anniversary of the founding of Canada. The Garden was designed by internationally acclaimed architect, planner, author, and social activist Humphrey Carver, CC. The design of the Garden reflects the geopolitical shape of Canada in 1967 and lies at the heart of an Ontario designated Heritage Community.*

Landscape architecture is the profession concerned with the design, planning, management and stewardship of the land. The work of landscape architects touches all aspects of the design of outdoor public areas, landmarks and structures. The Centennial Garden is an example of how landscape architects shape cultural landscapes. Designed by exceptional practitioners Humphrey Carver and Donald W. Graham, it has served the local community for over 50 years, celebrates one of Canada's milestones, and represents a pre-eminent example of thoughtful design.

**The CSLA enthusiastically supports the conservation of the Centennial Garden to protect this culturally significant site.**

The Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA) is a professional organization with over 3,600 landscape architects as 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. We count among our members world renowned specialists committed to the conservation of cultural landscapes, many of them based in the Ottawa region.

The CSLA believes that the Centennial Garden is a worthy example of public and publicly accessible landscape architecture and a work of art in its own right. The CSLA supports you in this process and welcomes further discussion on this subject. More importantly, the continued care and rehabilitation of this site is of great importance and will ensure the viability and enjoyment of a culturally significant place for this and for future generations.

Sincerely yours,



Bob Somers, MALA, SALA, OALA, FCSLA  
CSLA President



John Zvonar, OALA, FCSLA  
Chair, Cultural Landscapes and Legacy Committee