Connectivity

RAINBOW GARDEN

APPRECIATING THE NORTH: CO-OP EDUCATION

TRAVEL STUDY: SWEDEN

CARBUNCLE

WAREHOUSE JOURNAL

DITCHBALL 2017

OODLES-OF-DOODLES
In June 2017, a ribbon cutting ceremony officially opened the Rainbow Gardens Architecture and Engineering initiative at the University of Manitoba.

The Rainbow Gardens community garden on the University of Manitoba campus supports immigrant families from the Central Park area of the city. These gardens help community members to grow their own food, share in their native culinary traditions, and to establish a meaningful social network among other immigrant and local community members. The project is the result of a year-long partnership of these two faculties at the University of Manitoba, working with the Immigrant Integration and Farming Community Co-op (IIFCC, a.k.a. The Rainbow Gardens community) to design and build several urgently needed structures.

In 2016, architecture students, led by Dr. Dimos Polyzois, co-designed and built five innovative passive design structures for the gardens. These include:
- Shelter for community event gathering
- Passive water catchment and retention system
- Tool storage for the Rainbow Gardens community and UMSU
- Summer kitchen facility to support community feasts and harvest celebrations
- Public washroom facility (with a compost toilet)
- Remote structures to provide shaded rest areas and tool storage

**Hands-on experience for students**

The project has benefited architecture and engineering students who have been able to apply theoretical concepts to a real-world situation, and learn the value of their profession in relation to working with other trades and clients. In addition, in order to situate the work carefully in the context of the garden and surrounding landscape, Professor Brenda Brown and her landscape architecture students provided insight and consultation on the proposal.

Following the design and pre-fabrication phase of the project in the fall, C.A.S.T. Coordinator Liane Veness led the construction and installation work with her students in the spring of 2017.

“There is a need for more opportunities for students to work on actual building projects,” says Veness. “Projects such as the Rainbow Gardens bridge the gap between academic, in-studio work and practical applications. They allow students to apply their knowledge to solve tangible problems, working with realtime constraints and coordinating trades so that everything comes together on schedule.”
“Most importantly, in the case of the Rainbow Gardens, students were able to see first-hand the result of work within their own community, and that their work matters beyond the borders of their classroom or studio,” she adds.

Raymond Ngarboui is the Community Development Coordinator for Community Education Development Association (CEDA) in Winnipeg, working with the CEDA-Pathway Student Post-Secondary Project.

Significant Impact
“The gardens at the University of Manitoba have made a huge impact on participants,” he explains. "We had 154 families with at least five members last year, and 212 families from 31 different nationalities in this 2017 growing season at our U of M garden site.”

“These gardens contribute to newcomers’ and refugee families’ healthy living through providing an exercise alternative for women and senior new immigrants who do not or cannot go to the gym,” he adds. “The gardens contribute to healthy eating and food security for new immigrants who otherwise cannot afford nutritious organic food and would otherwise go to stores for fast or junk foods. And this in turn facilitates community engagement and participation and community building within new immigrant populations in Winnipeg.”

Ngarboui says new immigrant and refugee families and single mothers with several children find the U of M garden site an ideal place and spend many hours there almost every day, away from their inner city neighbourhoods. The site has green space for children to play with their peers while their parents are working on their family plots, or interacting with adults and other parent gardeners.

Seniors with no English who would otherwise remain isolated in their homes find it a place where they can meet others from their own countries of origin, speaking their own languages, and spend time together chatting. Most participants share that their stresses disappear when they come to the garden, but that the stresses come back on rainy days when they cannot go to the garden.

Benefiting families
“Almost all gardeners on the U of M Fort Garry campus site are lower income families,” Ngarboui notes. “They save money by growing their own vegetables, especially those from their home countries that are not readily available in Canada. These might be available here, but they are usually imported and frozen with low taste and quality, and sold at high costs in local ethnic grocery stores. What’s more, beyond growing their own nutritious foods to eat throughout the growing season and saving money, gardeners often sell extra produce to local farmers’ markets to supplement their incomes, and preserve some veggies to eat throughout the winter.”

Crops grown at the Rainbow Gardens at the U of M include local vegetables but also more exotic crops such as okra, Hibiscus sabdariffa, molokhia, sweet potato leaves, sorghum, black eye peas, Bhutanese mustard leaves, and Japanese cabbage.

The Rainbow Gardens were established in 2008 and have now spread to three locations throughout Winnipeg, including the site on the University of Manitoba campus at Chancellor Matheson and Pembina Highway.

Ngarboui has much praise for the U of M gardens, although he notes that the distance from the Inner City is an issue for some gardeners to travel with their families.

“Single parents with children or families with many members can find the cost of travel prohibitive, although some walk or bike all the way,” he says. “We used to receive assistance in travel funds, but these sources have dried up and we are seeking help in this area.”

On the topic of “drying up,” Ngarboui sadly notes that their number one challenge at the site is water. Despite the water reclamation system, the supply of water needed for maintaining the crops is not sufficient.

“Most of the first seedlings that were planted at the end of May died because of a lack of water supply and no rain. And the garden continues to dry out under the burning sun,” he says.

Ngarboui notes that assistance from the public for transportation to and from the site is much needed, as are donations of used gardening tools.

“And water, of course,” he says.

The Rainbow Gardens infrastructure was created through partnerships with several generous university and industrial partners to help make the project possible. These include:
- Canadian Institute of Steel Construction (CISC)
- Sperling Industries
- Shopost Steel
- Assiniboine Credit Union
- Barkman Concrete
- Westman Steel
- The Home Depot
- Office of the Dean, Faculty of Architecture, Faculty of Engineering, Friends of Engineering (Manitoba) Inc., Faculty of Architecture Partners Program and many other U of M departments and institutes.
Appreciating the North
Halley Sveinson

Since January 2017, ED4 student Halley Sveinson has been living in Iqaluit, working with the Government of Nunavut as a Facility Planner. Halley is the Faculty of Architecture’s first Co-op student. In her words, the experience has been “extremely positive.” Indeed, it has been going so well that she and her employer have extended the work placement from four months to a full year. Halley will return to complete her Bachelor of Environmental Design degree in winter 2018. According to Halley, “it’s well worth the year extension of my education.”

This opportunity came to the Faculty of Architecture in fall 2016 via the Co-operative Education and Industrial Internship Program (Co-op/IIP) in the Faculty of Engineering, which has over 400 students in work placements. The Government of Nunavut has a long-standing relationship with the University of Manitoba Faculty of Engineering, having successfully placed engineering students in work placements for several successive years. However, this particular opportunity was for a student with architectural design experience and AutoCad skills. Carolyn Geddert, the Co-op/IIP Program Director in the Faculty of Engineering passed the opportunity over to the Faculty of Architecture. We seized it gladly! Of the students expressing interest in the placement, Halley Sveinson secured the job.

Over the summer, Lisa Landrum, Associate Professor in the Department of Architecture, Associate Dean (Research) and Academic Liaison for the Faculty of Architecture’s developing Co-operative Education/Integrated Work program, caught up with Halley to ask her some questions about her experience.

Tell us about Iqaluit.
I was warned that the geographic environment would be challenging. I love the challenge! I arrived in Iqaluit on January 22nd. I arrived at noon and within three hours experienced the darkness that comes with the Arctic winter. Since then I have been able to experience the change of seasons. After seven months I have only been given a hint of what Nunavut has to offer. I have found it enlightening to work for the Nunavummiut (people from Nunavut).
and to visit communities throughout the territory. This has allowed me to gain exposure to the Inuit culture, and notice similarities between their way of life and my own.

**What do you do at work?**
My office is responsible for developing and maintaining infrastructure throughout Nunavut. I work on the early facility planning phase of projects. This involves meeting with clients and stakeholders to determine requirements; assessing and documenting existing buildings and sites; formulating feasibility studies in relation to standards and criteria; considering life cycle costs; completing preliminary environmental and site assessments; and working with consultants to gather technical and legal surveys necessary for design and construction to proceed. I’ve done a lot of work on schools.

I worked on the design brief submitted for a Request for Proposal by a design/build team in the Kugaaruk School Replacement project. Kugaaruk means “a river flowing through.” It is a Hamlet of 930 people, on the Simpson Peninsula. The community lost their only school due to a fire at the end of February this year. I have performed technical reviews of drawings submitted by architects and consultants for an addition to the Nunavut Arctic College. I prepared drawings for an interior renovation of the Inukshuk High School, which required consideration of barrier free design, lighting, air supply, and finish specifications. I have also been working on a gymnasium and high school classroom addition to the Ecole des Trois-Soliel, the only francophone school in Iqaluit. The steep topography is influencing the design. Over the past few months I have also been working on Fire Halls for communities throughout the territory and the Hamlet of Kimmirut’s new Hamlet Office and Community Hall, which is currently in the site selection phase. Like all the projects in Nunavut, energy efficiency and long-term maintenance costs are important design considerations.

**What’s the most exciting part of the position?**
Discovering how much responsibility I am entrusted with. I am happily surprised by the amount of confidence the Government of Nunavut has in students and how open they are to different perspectives. It’s also thrilling to have the opportunity to travel throughout the region to perform building assessments in different communities. For instance, I accompanied the Department of Education, Community and Government Services to the Hamlet of Cape Dorset to meet with teachers and inspect classrooms. On the same trip, I visited the Dorset fine arts studio of traditional printmakers. I also had the pleasure of joining the Community Infrastructure Division throughout the North Baffin Region to talk with Hamlet Officials about infrastructure priorities and observe the assessments of their civil infrastructure. The trip included a stop in Grise Fiord, North America’s most Northern populated community. Recently I took a side trip to hike through Auyuittuq National Park.

**What’s the most challenging part of the experience?**
Confronting quality of life issues that can arise in Nunavut. Living in Iqaluit and visiting other communities in the territory has opened my eyes to some unsettling residential conditions. The people and place are beautiful, but there are limitations I was not used to. I am still learning the history of this territory and the amazing culture of the communities. My experience so far has taught me that design work should be compassionate and responsive to people’s needs. All this has only reinforced my initial drive to contribute to the quality of the built environment in this area.

**How is the experience building on academic skills?**
This experience is giving me a larger perspective on design. I knew from projects in school that construction components are important, but now I’m seeing how they all go together in a building and learning all the logistical considerations. In school we always talk about the importance of inhabitants and functionality of space, now I’m interacting with the people who actually live, learn and work in the spaces. I’m realizing how important it is to listen carefully to people, instead of assuming or generalizing user needs.

**How is the experience preparing you for your career?**
I am developing skills in design and gaining more knowledge about building structures. I am exchanging ideas with colleagues and receiving feedback from professionals. I have opportunities for public speaking and engagement with communities. These skills, together with a whole new perspective on the role of designers in remote regions, are giving me a more cohesive education. This will help me move forward in a positive direction with confidence.

**How is the experience affecting your plans on what to do with your degree?**
This experience has reaffirmed my desire to work within the field of design in architecture. My expectations for this work placement were to learn technical skills of cold climate design, and to gain experience in responding to environmental and societal conditions of northern communities. I’m accomplishing this, while also gaining a more sensitive understanding of the role of cultural identity in design.
Emily Sinclair  | In January 2017 I was given the opportunity to travel and study in Malmo, Sweden. Malmo, known by many who have visited Sweden and few who haven’t, is the country’s third largest city with a population of nearly 350,000 people. While studying and living in Malmo, I had the opportunity to learn first hand, the importance of travelling while learning. There are many benefits to travelling which include, the chance to learn a new language, or the opportunity to learn about a culture different from your own. Travelling gives us a unique insight into worlds we would not be exposed to otherwise. However, living in another country for a semester revealed many more layers which can be taken of this kind of experience.

Living in a place like Sweden, rather than just visiting, was characterized by the daily activities. The first thing I noticed was a tendency to take time for oneself. Whether it was a coffee break (‘fika’), a picnic in the park, or even the class schedules, which revolved around free evenings and weekends, the residents of Malmo certainly knew how to rest. By living in a city, rather than just visiting, I was exposed to this pattern of daily activities that wouldn’t have revealed itself if I had stayed only a short while. In addition to the access to amazing projects and cities, I was also exposed to Landscape Architecture students from around the world. By learning with and befriending my classmates, I was privy to not only the value systems and priorities of Swedish landscape architecture programs but others across Europe as well.

As a North American landscape architecture student, I am always made aware of the lessons that can be learned from the rich history of European settlements and urban design. Being in Europe for a prolonged amount of time, I was able to see some of these first hand and at my own pace. I was able to take the time to travel leisurely around the continent, visiting the UNESCO world heritage site Skogskrykogarden one weekend while staying with a friend in Stockholm, and checking out Hyde Park and others while visiting friends in London another weekend. The ease of travel around Europe made my experience more fulfilling than I could have imagined.

As much as I loved my time in Sweden and appreciate everything I learned from it, I think the greatest learning came from being a resident rather than a visitor. I was left with the impression that I was at once understanding my surroundings better because of my length of time there but also awed by the same sight because it was completely new and exciting for that reason. Being a travelling student with an open mind made this trip one of the greatest learning experiences thus far in my university career.
Carbuncle

Bianca Dahlman | The Carbuncle sauna is a playful and literal response to the vision of a truly warm warming hut. Scandinavian and Indigenous cultures have a long-standing sauna tradition that goes hand in hand with a long-standing tradition of humor. In this spirit of play, Carbuncle manifests itself as a hodgepodge of three unique volumes: the vestibule clad in cedar shakes, the lumpy core carbuncle, and the stove’s housing dressed in black-blue asphalt shingling. In medicine, a carbuncle describes an unsightly pussing boil on the surface of one’s skin. In the 1980’s the term was co-opted by Prince Charles to describe works of modern architecture that he deemed as monstrosities amongst Britain’s more traditional work. The unpretentious, rugged, and quirky sauna co-opts the term once again to characterize a space tailor-made for a prairie winter. Carbuncle’s chapel-like interior invites serenity and contemplation and functions as a counterpoint to the exterior whimsy. The interior space features gradient lighting from the dimly lit vestibule, to the glow of the sauna’s stove and the luminous relief of the skylight apertures.

The hut was developed by a team of students and professors from the Faculty of Architecture at the University of Manitoba in collaboration with the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD). The Institute generously donated the Pellet Stove and fuel, providing warmth to Carbuncle through the combustion of locally produced cattail & wood residue fuel pellets. The waters of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers flowing under the ice at The Forks naturally contain phosphorus (P) and nitrogen (N). However, human activities in recent decades have increased these nutrients to the point that the lakes in the watershed have experienced increased algal blooms. Cattail absorbs large amounts of P and N in its leaves. Harvesting cattail helps to reduce the amount of nutrients that would be released into waterways by decomposing plants. In addition to improving water quality, these cattail and wood fuel pellets are a form of sustainable and renewable low carbon energy to replace fossil fuels.

For more information visit https://umanitoba.ca/faculties/architecture/media/_Carbuncle_Warming_Hut_2017.pdf
back elevation
stove chamber elevation
roof elevation
doors elevation
Warehouse

"Do we publish to exist, or do we exist to publish? Has architecture’s affinity for the printed media directed the current discourse, or has it proven solely as a mechanism to validate our uncertain existence?"

- Foreword from Warehouse 01

Warehouse is a non-profit journal established in 1992 that showcases the yearly work of students and staff from the University of Manitoba’s Faculty of Architecture. The publication is devoted to the critical pursuit of design discourse and the greater application to various collective communities. The journal reflects, engages and extends ideas from within the various departments that fall within the interdisciplinary vision of our Faculty.

For more information, and to read past editions, visit: www.warehousejournal.org
Simone Sucharov-Benarroch | Forty-one years ago, overworked and overwhelmed architecture students sought to blow off steam on a field trip, rushing to the snow to toss around a ball, establishing the legendary Faculty of Architecture annual game of Ditchball.

This traditional sport consists of an ice ditch built from plywood boards and scaffolding with teams composed of ten students with a minimum of four female players. There is a roster, a large stuffed rhombicuboctahedron, referees and a whole lot of spirit. The players must adhere to the simple rules of wearing a helmet, mouth guard and understanding that deliberate violence is prohibited.

The event begins with a social the night prior, where teams are invited to socialize with their competition. Ditchball day begins with a rally run though the University of Manitoba campus and back to begin a day full of competing until a winning team is victorious. Classes are cancelled that day as all students are encouraged to cheer on their peers as the games begin.

Ditchball encompasses student creativity and passion while celebrating Winnipeg’s unique winter; a chance for students to let loose during a busy time of year.

For videos and more information visit www.umanitoba.ca/faculties/architecture/ditchball.htm
Oodles-of-Doodles
An Alumni Personalities Reveal

Oodles-of-Doodles was an input to SKiTch Camp 2016 - a sketching-with-a-skittish-twist on the final BArch 2nd year sketch camp that took place 50 years ago (1966). It also marks the 45th anniversary of the last graduates of the then-professional BArch program (1970/71).

The doodles collection commemorates 50 years since the arrival of the first cohort into the non-professional Bachelor of Environmental Studies (now Design) program.

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**Douglas Massie** BArch 1971

Idled!

I doodle when I’m on the phone... Usually its just geometric shapes because I always have a pas of squared paper on my desk... I hope its not boredom or a sign of an idle mind. Long Beach at Tofino on Vancouver Island is our favorite place. Who am I?

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**Bill Ketcheson** BArch 1971

Long-In-The-Tooth!

When my son was a child he delighted in my “Long, Long Tale of Hebert, The Dinosaur” bedtime stories that were improvised nightly and spoken by a hand puppet. Years later I finally put words to paper with the aim of publishing. This made-for exhibition doodle of Long-in-The-Tooth, the sabre-toothed tiger, afforded me the incentive to illustrate my characters as I always imagined them to be.
Andrew Little  BArch 1971

MAA (Retd), SAA (Retd), ZIA (Retd)
PP/AAA, PP/FRAIC, FAIA (HON)
Principal Architect
Eldred & Associates
Regina, SK

Priorities!
My sports car was supposed to be my university-days babe magnet. Instead, I fell in love with the game. Now I cling to the edge that the ladies like a guy who can dance. You guessed it; no I’m addicted to the ballroom. What’s with my priorities? Single as ever.

Brian Eldred  BArch 1970

Iconic!
During my university travels I visited Mont Saint-Michel in Normandy and its Cornish counterpart, St. Michael’s Mount in Cornwall. Coincidentally, each was viewed through haunting fog as well as in bright sunshine. These powerful images have not faded with time; neither has my use of the iconic Pilot Fineliner marker pen in this 2016 recall.

Arnie Davis  Best Friend of the BArch Class of 1965-67

Marked!
Back in the day, musicians - I am one - would share albums (i.e. LPs) because none of us could afford to have the big collection. So, everyone had his/her “mar” for identification. Mine was a bird with a signature reinforced with a “MY RECORD!” reminder. There was/is no problem getting loaned records back.
Malcom Candler  BArch 1971

AIBC, AAA
Associate Architect
Soren Ramussen Architects
Vancouver, BC

Priorities!
Keeping the Oodles-of-Doodles curators at bay: my lunchtime view.

James Dykes  BArch 1971

AAA, FRAIC
Founding President (Retd)
Sustainable Labs Canada
Victoria, BC

Mythical!
“Zan and the Mythical Art of Miz-Management” is my annoyance-based tongue-in-cheek look at management styles. Its premise is not all managers are competent. Since there is no “miserable Management Book for Dummies” I thought I’d write one. After all, how many architects truly manage their practice effectively and efficiently?

Gordon Heinsen  BArch 1970

AAA (Retd)
Calgary, AB

Mindless
What better day than April Fool’s Day 2016 to create a mindless doodle! Not being a sketching type person this exercise had been a little frustrating. I didn’t want to do a drawing - a sketch/doodle should be spontaneous. So, after some attempts testing pencil colours and deliberate lines...
Gordon Richards BArch 1971

While I was doodling this I remembered back to 1956 and how positive and supportive Gimli Sketch Master Gordon Adaskin was. I felt secure showing my rather clumsy efforts to him. Just like the pilots of the “Gimli Glider”, he brought us safely to ground in graphic & artistic expression.

Richard Howell BArch 1970

Following retirement I joined the Shoestring Players (which pretty much describes our budget) as an actor and stage manager. My best role was Mr. Meeker the bailiff in “Inherit the Wind”. But, my most fun and best costume was in Thornton Wilder’s “the Skin of Our Teeth” where I played a dinosaur. I recall accusing the director of typecasting.

Larry Cook BArch 1971

Of the many sketchbooks I have kept from years past I see drawings done for pleasure transitioning into drawings for work. The SKITch-doodles challenge revitalized my interest in seeing the world via pencil and pen, to capture and share with others. My front yard fence, imagined in 2015, now completed....
**Roger Mitchell** BArch 1971

Being communications and code-compliant.

**Sig Toews** BArch 1970

Recently, Ruth and I overnighted with our 14-month grandson Sando who, never having been away from mom, decided not to sleep. What he did not realize was that during our time, all-nighters were common to get through Architecture School. As with his mom before, this was a candelight-bonding opportunity. Architecture begets resilience!

**Stanley Britton** BArch 1971

A twisted-paper concept-doodle for complimentary winter’s winds shelters for Winnipeg's Warming Huts Competition v.2015 and the Kathmandu International Art Festival v.2015 using a roll of snow fence for one and a roll of ba,boo weave for the other. For structural stiffness reasons neither was built.
Blessed!
This charcoal sketch is a recent derivative of an old photo (circa 1900) of my great-grandfather Marcin. A man of little means who never ventured from his beloved Polish homeland. He nevertheless gifted Canada, by way of emigration, the Lewkowich ancestral like of whom I, the family’s genealogist, am one of those so blessed.

Flight!
Dog Taz and I walk the shore of Regina’s Wascana Lake each day. We often come across different kind of wildlife: migratory birds such as suck, rabbits, beavers, muskrats and Canada geese that stay all year long. The geese are particularly beautiful, especially when taking off, landing and flying at low altitude. My sketch is of a Canada goose in flight.