



Architecture Canada | RAIC - Athabasca University program diploma receives approval

EDMONTON Feb. 22, 2011 – Architecture Canada | RAIC and Athabasca University joined together at a reception today to celebrate the approval by the Alberta Government of a Post-Baccalaureate Diploma in Architecture to be offered through the RAIC Centre for Architecture at Athabasca University.

“We are very pleased to see this program offered through Athabasca University. It will soon provide students across Canada with a path into the profession of architecture based on a unique work-study program that includes employment experience in the office of an Architect,” said **Stuart Howard, FRAIC President, Architecture Canada**.

“We’re delighted we’ve been able to partner with RAIC in offering this much-needed new program,” said **Dr. Frits Pannekoek, President of Athabasca University**. “The Mission of the RAIC Centre for Architecture at Athabasca University includes the provision of inclusive professional architectural education that meets the highest standards of excellence and leads to professional certification. It also allows us to break down barriers for foreign-trained architects so they can work in Canada.”

Professional practice courses will begin to be offered in the spring with other courses being added to the curriculum as they become available.

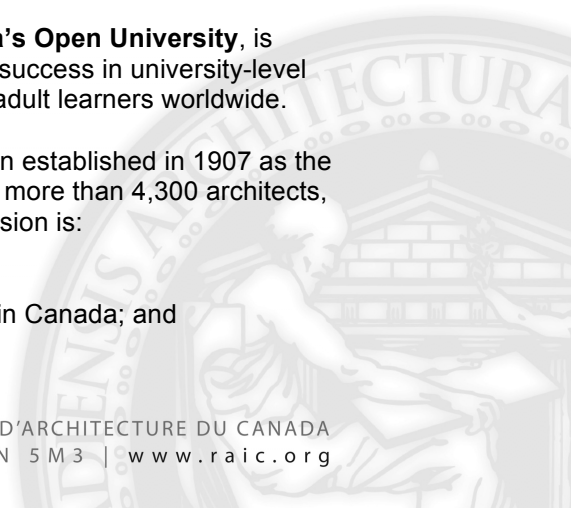
The existing RAIC Syllabus program will continue to fully operate in its current form while courses are developed for delivery through Athabasca University. Once the new program is fully operational, students will continue to have the option of pursuing the existing model of a work-study experience-based path to practice while taking courses through Athabasca—or supplement this by taking additional courses resulting in academic credentials from Athabasca.

This diploma is subject to the Department of Advanced Education and Technology’s Key Performance Indicators and Learner and Enrolment Reporting System practices and therefore falls under the Tuition Fee Regulation and is eligible for designation for student financial support. It has been made possible through funding made available to Architecture Canada | RAIC by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, and the Canadian Concrete Masonry Producers Association. Funding will also come from Athabasca University’s program development fund, to be allocated over the first two years of implementation.

Serving over 38,000 students, **Athabasca University, Canada’s Open University**, is dedicated to the removal of barriers that restrict access to and success in university-level study and to increasing equality of educational opportunity for adult learners worldwide.

Architecture Canada | RAIC is a voluntary national association established in 1907 as the voice for architecture and its practice in Canada. Representing more than 4,300 architects, the RAIC is the leading voice of architecture in Canada. Its mission is:

- To affirm that architecture matters;
- To celebrate the richness and diversity of architecture in Canada; and



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- To support architects in achieving excellence.

– 30 –

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