

GEORGE F. DARK

George Dark, FCSLA, FASLA, partner at Urban Strategies, is an urban designer, landscape architect and Fellow with the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects and a full member of the American Society of Landscape Architects. George has over 30 years of professional experience and, since joining the firm in 1987, has led a variety of projects including new community plans, urban regeneration strategies, campus master plans, open space master plans, streetscape designs, design guidelines and public policy documents. George's work focuses on the quality of urban environments and he regularly coordinates large groups of diverse professionals and excels at guiding projects through complex approval and consultation processes.

George has directed numerous new community master plan projects for communities in Oakville, Markham, and Windsor, Ontario as well as Providence, Rhode Island, and Sarasota County, Florida. George directed the award winning University of Toronto Open Space Master Plan. He led the Downtown Ottawa Urban Design Strategy 20/20 and two subsequent district plans based on the strategy; the Escarpment Area District Plan and the Mid-Centretown District Plan. These, along with his Downtown Hamilton Design Strategy, include frameworks for community improvement, targets for site-specific and precinct-wide actions as well as design guidelines to evaluate future developments. He completed the Bridgepoint Health Neighbourhood Redevelopment Plan and the Master Plan for the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, large institutional sites in the center of Toronto, to be redeveloped as complete neighbourhoods while re-integrating their current uses into the existing urban communities.

George is renowned for his unique style and skill at facilitation and the ability to forge consensus among various stakeholders. He recently led a series of successful visioning exercises and design charrettes for such projects as the Fort York Neighbourhood Master Plan, the Markham Centre and Mimico 20/20 Vision in Toronto, the Town Centre Master Plan in Stratford, PEI. George led the firm's work in preparing the civic vision for Youngstown, Ohio. This process has been extensively written about as the first "Shrinking City" in the United States.

George recently completed the Cornell University's Comprehensive Campus Master Plan, the Public Space Framework for Toronto's Central Waterfront, and an update of the Master Plan for the University of Ottawa, and has provided consulting services to the University of Minnesota. He is currently leading the University of Toronto Scarborough Campus Master Plan and the two new Regional Centres in Richmond Hill. George recently completed the Central Corridor Development Strategy for the new LRT in St. Paul, Minnesota, and is working on seven station area plans along the line. Additional transit related work includes LRT station area plans in Calgary.

George has served on the steering committees and the design juries for some of the most important public projects in Ottawa and Toronto, including the 1812 Fort York National Historic Site and the HtO park in Toronto and Lansdowne Park in Ottawa. George is a Past Chair of the Toronto Parks Foundation; Chairman of the Board of the Evergreen Foundation, on the Honour Roll of the Toronto Region Conservation Authority and a Member of the City of Ottawa Design Review Panel.

EDUCATION

1978

Bachelor of Landscape Architecture
University of Guelph, Ontario

1976

Diploma in Landscape Architecture
Ryerson Polytechnical University,
Toronto

CONTACT

T 416 340 9004 x234

F 416 340 8400

georgedark@urbanstrategies.com

www.urbanstrategies.com

CURRICULUM VITAE

GEORGE F. DARK

SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE

2010 -	Mid-Centretown District Area Plan, Ottawa
2009 -	Toronto East General Hospital Master Plan
2009	Richmond Hill Regional Centre & Mobility Hub Master Plan
2009	McMillan Farm Plan, Vaughan, Ontario
2008 -	Calgary LRT Station Area Plans
2008 -	St. George Street, Moncton, NB
2007 -	Saint Paul Minnesota Central Corridor Station Area Planning
2006 -	Saint Paul Minnesota Central Corridor LRT Development Strategy
2006 -	Cornell University, Ithaca NY Comprehensive Campus Master Plan
2006 -	Escarpment District Area Plan, Ottawa
2005 -	Bridgepoint Health Community Plan
2005 -	Stratford PEI Vision for Core
2005 -	Moncton, NB North Area Growth Strategy
2004	Toronto Waterfront Parks and Public Spaces Framework
2003 – 2005	University of Ottawa Master Plan Update
2002 – 2004	Ottawa Downtown Design Strategy
2002	Downtown Vision, Youngstown, Ohio
2001 – 2002	Sarasota County Villages and Open Space Design Standards
2000 –	Centre for Addiction and Mental Health Master Plan, Toronto
2000	Rosemount Management Plan, University of Minnesota
2000 –	Manhattan Square Park, Rochester, New York
1999	Downtown Design Strategy, Hamilton, Ontario
1999	Promenade District Plan, Providence, R.I.
1998 – 1999	University of Toronto Open Space Master Plan
1998	Scotland District National Park, Barbados
1998	Barbados National System of Parks, Barbados
1996	Charlottetown Official Plan Review
1995	Cornell Community Open Space Master Plan and Architecture and Urban Design Guidelines, Markham, Ontario
1995 – 1996	East Riverside Community Plan, Windsor, Ontario
1993 – 1996	IBM/Minto Community Plan, Markham, Ontario
1992 – 1994	Montgomery Village Community, Orangeville, Ontario
1990 – 1992	Reurbanisation Guidelines for Metropolitan Toronto
1988 – 1996	Oak Park Community (Uptown Core), Oakville
1986	Skydome Precinct Plan, Toronto
1984	Baffin Region Tourism Development Plan

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Fellow, American Society of Landscape Architects
Fellow, Canadian Society of Landscape Architects
Member, Congress for New Urbanism

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Past Chair, Toronto Parks and Trees Foundation
Chair of Board of Directors, Evergreen Foundation of Canada
Honour Roll, Toronto Region Conservation Authority
Member, City of Ottawa Design Review Panel
Chair, Lansdowne Park Advisory Panel, Ottawa

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SELECTED AWARDS

2010	OALA Pinnacle Award for Landscape and Architectural Excellence
2010	CSLA National Award of Excellence in Planning & Analysis Ottawa Escarpment District Area Plan
2009	American Planning Association, NYU Chapter, Award for Comprehensive Planning, Cornell University Comprehensive Campus Master Plan
2009	OPPI/Heart and Stroke Foundation Healthy Communities Award Ottawa Escarpment District Area Plan
2009	OPPI Award of Excellence Ottawa Escarpment District Area Plan
2009	CIP Award for Planning Excellence in Neighbourhood Planning, Honourable Mention Bridgepoint Health Master Plan
2009	CIP Award for Planning Excellence in Urban Design, Cornell University Comprehensive Campus Master Plan
2009	Canadian Society of Landscape Architects Regional Honour Award Cornell University Comprehensive Campus Master Plan
2008	Design Exchange Award of Excellence in Urban Design Cornell University Comprehensive Campus Master Plan
2008	CIP Award of Excellence for Neighbourhood Planning City of St. Paul Central Corridor Development Strategy
2007	APA, Minnesota Chapter, Honor Award City of St. Paul Central Corridor Development Strategy
2007	OPPI Award of Excellence, King Edward Precinct, University of Ottawa
2007	American Planning Association Public Outreach Award Youngstown Ohio Vision
2005	Canadian Society of Landscape Architects National Award of Excellence Downtown Ottawa Urban Design Strategy 2020
2004	American Society of Landscape Architects Award of Excellence for Planning and Analysis Downtown Ottawa Urban Design Strategy 2020
2003	Congress for New Urbanism - Charter Award Sarasota 2050
2001	American Society of Landscape Architects Merit Award
2001	Canadian Society of Landscape Architects National and Regional Merit Awards
2001	City of Toronto Architecture and Urban Design Award of Excellence University of Toronto Open Space Master Plan
2001	City of Toronto Architecture and Urban Design Award The Pape Mortimer Neighbourhood
2001	Ontario Professional Planners Institute Excellence in Planning Award Vision for the Redevelopment of the Queen Street Site, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
1999	ASLA Planning Honor Award The Barbados National Park Plan, Barbados
1999	CIP International Grand Prize for Excellence Environmental Management and Land Use Planning for Sustainable Development, Barbados
1998	OPPI, Central District, Outstanding Planning Award Oakville Uptown Core, Oakville, Ontario
1995	Credit Valley Conservation Authority Merit Award Montgomery Village, Orangeville, Ontario

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URBAN DESIGN JURIES

The City of Toronto – Inaugural Urban Design Awards Program
The Town of Oakville (3)
City of Mississauga
City of Vaughan
2004 Concordia University Public Realm and Urban Design Plan – Montreal
2009 Premier of Saskatchewan Design Awards

DESIGN COMPETITION JURIES

2009	Lansdowne Urban Park Competition
2009	Fort York Centre Design Competition
2006	Ashbridges Bay Sewage Treatment Plant Public Art
2006	McMaster University Campus Core Design Competition
2005	Markham Center Design Competition
2004	Toronto's HtO Park

DESIGN PEER VIEW PANELS

2009	Lansdown Park Ottawa
2005/2006	City of Ottawa

HONOR ROLL

2003	Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
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GUEST LECTURES AND DESIGN REVIEW

2008 Design Week in Saskatchewan -City of Guelph
City of Calgary: TOD – The Urban Condition
City of Winnipeg – Chamber of Commerce
University of Toronto – Urban Design / Landscape Architecture
University of Guelph – Landscape Architecture
University of Toronto – Rotteman School of Business
Goderich BIA
Canadian Urban Institute
Credit Valley Conservation Authority
Charlottetown Waterfront Symposium
Downtown Ottawa/ Rideau Association
Ottawa Chamber of Commerce
City of Moncton – North Moncton
Hamilton Society of Architects
Task Force to Bring Back the Don River
Ottawa Mayors Downtown Task Force
Regional Council of Waterloo
The City of Youngstown Ohio
ASLA Conference – Salt Lake City

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