

Canadian

# Design & Construction

Report

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## **ABES... Honest?**

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Another Approach**

**Infrastructure stimulus  
program deadline creates  
risks for contractors**

**Merit Contractors support  
Labour Relations Act  
amendments**



# Sustainable, community-focused architecture

Staff writer – CDCR Special Feature

Ted Handy and Associates (THA), a practice with roots dating back to 1958, has been designing buildings in Barrie and Simcoe County since 1992. Focusing on sustainability, the firm has designed buildings with respect for communities and the environment throughout its history.

THA has completed projects for a variety of Central Ontario municipalities and school boards, Defence Construction Canada, The Salvation Army and Casino Rama, to name a few. The practice has earned several awards including Barrie Urban Design Awards of Excellence for the restoration of the Southshore Community Centre, work on the Munro Concrete

Products office and construction of the Barrie Public Library. THA also captured a 2004 Wood Design Award and honourable mention at the 2006 Ontario Steel Design Awards.

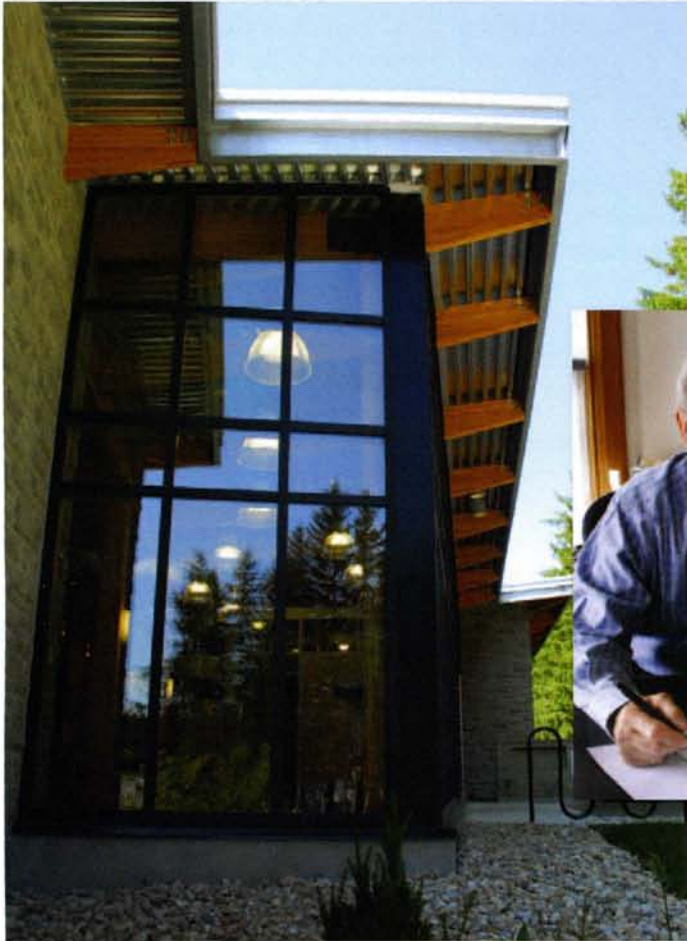
Many projects within the Barrie and Simcoe County region reflect THA's commitment to community.

"Context is king. How a building fits with its neighbors is what good manners is all about," says Handy. "A good project will function well in all respects and will feel like a natural fit and attribute to the community. A great project not only does all this, but adds a sense of inspiration, humor and delight. In my opinion, if it is not adding beauty, it is a disappointment."

THA also focuses on environmentally responsible design and construction. An example of this commitment can be found with the Mundy's Bay Public School in Midland, the only LEED Gold accredited school in 2009 across Canada.

"Energy saving is the engine that drives the movement to sustainable building and sustainable living – but the real benefit is a healthier, happier, and more wholesome environment," Handy says. "We have unfortunately created a toxic world within which we are attempting to live a fulfilling life. Sustainable design is an attempt to steal back an environment which will invigorate our lives. We look for every opportunity to make 'right' choices about form, character, material, and products that move our projects in that direction as best we can."

THA will be busy this summer with the expansion of the County of Simcoe Administration Centre and the Georgian College Health and Wellness Centre, which Handy says are undergoing LEED certification and should be ready for occupancy by next year.



Congratulations to Ted Handy and Associates Inc.



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