Adaptive Reuse and Cultural Spaces
7:00pm, Wednesday November 18, 2009. Frances Morrison Library Auditorium

Great Places, Saskatoon’s discussion forum on current issues in the built environment, is pleased to announce the latest in our 2009 series of events. Jyhling Lee, Andrew Wallace and Curtis Olson will share their unique perspectives on renovation and design in an evening devoted to the discussion of adaptive reuse and cultural spaces.

Jyhling Lee - architect, public artist, and designer - will introduce three adaptive reuse projects which have become important creative cultural complexes within their urban Toronto neighborhoods. She will describe 401 Richmond, The Centre for Social Innovation - Robertson Building, and the Wychwood Barns and discuss how the existing heritage structures have positively influenced their building’s new functional program and the refurbished architectural spaces.

In his presentation of Whitby’s Station Gallery, Andrew Wallace - Architectural Design Coordinator with the University of Saskatchewan - will take a closer look at cultural spaces and adaptive reuse within the context of the smaller city. Wallace designed and managed the construction of this finely-crafted project, completed in 2005, while working at Goldsmith Borgal & Company Architects in Toronto.

From a local perspective, Shift Development’s Curtis Olson will be speaking on the Hayloft, the adaptive reuse of a former grocery store in Saskatoon.

This talk will be located in the lower level auditorium of the Frances Morrison Library. The event begins at 7:00 PM. Admission is free. Following the presentations, there will be a moderated public discussion on the topic with the panelists.

Great Places is a discussion forum that focuses on current issues related to the built environment in Saskatoon as shaped by architecture, urban planning, public art and landscape design. The group brings together visionary design professionals, government officials and citizens to discuss projects, initiatives, and precedents, locally and from abroad. Please contact Great Places at 934 0938 for further information on this event.

Curtis Olson has worn many hats, including that of a musician, engineer, finishing carpenter, entrepreneur and real estate developer. His combined passions have all come together in green real estate through the formation of Shift Developments Inc. He developed Saskatoon’s first warehouse loft conversion with Olstar Developments Inc.

Andrew Wallace is a graduate architect with professional interests in environmental sustainability and heritage preservation. In 1997, he completed a Master’s thesis on the subject of cultural memory and architectural heritage preservation. Since then, he has worked on renovation and heritage restoration projects in British Columbia, Ontario, and in the UK. Most recently, he acted as Project Manager on the renovation of the Murray Library at the University of Saskatchewan.

Jyhling Lee is an architect, artist, and active contributor to the cultural community in Saskatoon. As an architect working with Stantec Architecture she is passionate about the socially enabling role of design within our built environment. Jyhling is also a partner in the public art and design studio Lee-Koopman Projects. In her work she has sought to create inspiring and culturally responsive contemporary spaces and urban regeneration projects. She has contributed to the design of three public art spaces and interpretive heritage pieces, Prairie Wind, Saskatoon’s centennial landmark plaza; Storytelling Chairs in Market Square at the Farmer’s Market; and Broadway Five Corners. Prior to moving to Saskatoon in 2006, she worked with notable architectural and design practices in North America and Europe. Jyhling holds a Master of Architecture degree with distinction and a Bachelor of Environmental Studies degree with honours from the University of Waterloo.

Photographs L to R: Station Gallery, Whitby; the Hayloft, Saskatoon; Wychwood Barns, Toronto.