

## **Recipient of the 2025 OLA New Library Building Award Announced**

*Library in Ontario wins award for new library building*

### **NEWS RELEASE**

**TORONTO, ON** (June 18, 2025): Rooted in innovation and community connection, land, craft and spirit are important aspects that are embodied by the recipient of the 2025 Ontario Library Association (OLA) New Library Building Award. The award presentation will be made at the Library as Place conference, held from June 18-19, 2025, in North York. This year's theme is "Beyond the Blueprint: Problem Solving Strategies for Library Space Design."

The OLA New Library Building Award is for projects that were completed and fully occupied between June 2022 and June 2025. The award aims to encourage and showcase excellence in the design of new libraries located in Ontario.

The Ontario Library Association (OLA) is pleased to announce recipient of the 2025 New Library Building Award:



**Coulson Family Bracebridge Library**

From the Library Building Award jury: "The Bracebridge Muskoka Library simply exudes warmth, with careful thought to integrate the colours of the north throughout the build. The marriage of brick and local wood, along with the curved walls and homage to northern signage, not only created such calm and welcoming spaces, but reflected the complexity yet simplicity of Northern Ontario." - Mary Chevreau, Canadian Urban Libraries Council.

The OLA congratulates this year's award recipient for their new library building and demonstrated skills in societal, technical, and environmental advancement. From the Library Building Award jury: "Every element of this library has been chosen with an eye towards reflecting and evoking Bracebridge." - Rochelle Mazar, Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, UBC Library.

The OLA Library Building Award encourages and showcases excellence in the architectural design and planning of libraries in Ontario. The award is divided into two alternating categories; Library Architectural and Design Transformation, and New Library Buildings. Each runs every three years.

The next call for applications will be the Library Architectural and Design Transformation Award, announced in Spring 2027. More information will be shared on the OLA website closer to the date.

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**About the Ontario Library Association:** The Ontario Library Association (OLA) is a centre of excellence for the library and information sector, with nearly 4,000 members who work in public, school, academic and special libraries. OLA enables members to advocate for the right of individuals to have free and equitable access to information. Our members research, develop and participate in educational programs designed to provide exemplary library services. Signature OLA events include the annual Super Conference and the Forest of Reading® program.

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