



## Ottawa's Design Guidelines win Excellence in Planning Award

September 12, 2008 – The Ontario Professional Planners Institute has awarded the City of Ottawa an Excellence in Planning Award for **Urban Design Guidelines for the Development Review Process**.

To help translate its high-level urban design principles into brief, easy-to-remember directions, the City of Ottawa carried out extensive consultations that resulted in a short, illustrated guide to design for all parts of the city. The guidelines cover regional roads, development along arterial mainstreets and traditional mainstreets, greenfield developments, transit-oriented developments, infill housing, environmental noise control, right-of-way lighting, outdoor patios, drive-through facilities, gas stations, and large-format retail. The guidelines have proved popular and easy to use, and other municipalities have drawn on Ottawa's work in developing their own guidelines.

The Excellence in Planning Award recognizes innovation, creativity, professionalism, problem-solving, and communications in four categories: urban and community design, planning studies or reports, research/new directions, and public education. This year's winners were chosen from 30 entries. The other winners are:

- Regions of York, Halton, Peel and Durham and the cities of Toronto, Mississauga and Hamilton for the Smart Commute initiative
- Niagara Economic Development Department and peter j. smith for "Energizing Niagara's Wine Country"
- City of Toronto for Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines
- Town of Markham for Markham Small Streams Study
- City of Brampton and MMM Group for the Incineration and Waste Processing Transfer and Disposal Study

The awards ceremony will take place on the evening of Thursday, September 18, 2008, Clarion Pinewood Park Resort in North Bay. The ceremony is part of the 2008 symposium of the Ontario Professional Planners Institute.

The Ontario Professional Planners Institute (OPPI) is the recognized voice of the Province's planning profession. Its more than 3,000 members work in government, private practice, universities, and non-profit agencies in the fields of urban and rural development, urban design, environmental planning, transportation, health and social services, heritage conservation, housing, and economic development. For further information, go to: [www.ontarioplanners.on.ca](http://www.ontarioplanners.on.ca)

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