



ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Interior Design Institute Opens Door to Joining Architectural Profession

VANCOUVER, July 6, 2006 - The Interior Design Institute of British Columbia (IDIBC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Architectural Institute of British Columbia (AIBC) to continue discussions to integrate the two professions under new legislation.

As members of the AIBC, interior designers, regulated under a new *Architectural Professions Act*, would enjoy practice rights currently not enshrined in any legislation.

The Institutes share many similarities in both administration and practice. "Architects often work hand in hand with interior designers and often architects are providing interior design services within their own practices," said AIBC President Patrick Stewart. "It makes sense for the design profession to be united in the public's interest."

The MoU was signed on June 14, 2006 at the Festival of Architecture by IDIBC President Deanna Hayko and Patrick Stewart.

The proposed new Act is scheduled for reading during the spring 2008 sitting of the provincial legislature and if passed, will create a new organization that will have expanded to include the chief design professionals within a single organization. This will ensure that the practice of interior design and architecture meets the highest standards and protects the public interest.

The Architectural Institute of British Columbia is a self-governing body dedicated to excellence in the profession of architecture for the benefit of the public, the environment and its membership.

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Photos are available on request.

For more information, contact:

Colin Wong
Director of Communications
Tel: (604) 683-8588 ext. 308
E-mail: cwong@aibc.ca

Danijela Zutic
Communications Coordinator
Tel: (604) 683-8588 ext. 311
E-mail: dzutic@aibc.ca