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New Kentville Library Wins 2018 Maritime Architectural Design Award

KENTVILLE, NOVA SCOTIA – The Town of Kentville, Annapolis Valley Regional Library and houdinidesign ARCHITECTS are pleased to announce that houdinidesign ARCHITECTS is the recipient of a 2018 Maritime Architectural Design Excellence Award for the adaptive reuse design of the new Kentville Library.

This is the first time the awards were presented jointly by the Architects Association of Prince Edward Island, the Architects' Association of New Brunswick and the Nova Scotia Association of Architects. Submissions were received from across the region, and a jury of internationally recognized architectural experts adjudicated.

"It is a great compliment," says architect Lisa Tondino, owner of houdinidesign ARCHITECTS. "Being honoured by our peers is as wonderful as being selected by the users of the Library as the Valley's 2018 Best Public Space in The Grapevine newspaper!"

The Award of Merit was presented to Jordan Spidle, part of the team at houdinidesign ARCHITECTS, at the Awards Gala on June 1 in Saint John, New Brunswick. The President's Dinner and Awards Gala were held in conjunction with the 2018 Royal Architecture Institute of Canada (RAIC) / Architecture Association of New Brunswick (AANB) Festival of Architecture.

"To those residents with a special affinity for the former Church, this award will no doubt give them pride and 'bragging rights' for its successful repurposing," stated Ann-Marie Matthieu, Chief Executive Officer at the Annapolis Valley Regional Library. "The increase in activity and borrowing of materials clearly demonstrates how positively the citizens have responded to the space as a library. Congratulations!"

"I couldn't be more proud of the work that houdinidesign put into this project," stated Rachel Bedingfield, Director of Parks and Recreation with the Town of Kentville. "This project took a lot of time and energy and they consistently steered us toward a space that was innovative and progressive for the site. Lisa and her team are well-deserving of accolades, and we get to appreciate the fruit of their labour for many years to come!"

The new Kentville Library is in the sanctuary of a prominent stone and timber frame construction built in 1914 that served as the United Church of St. Paul and St. Stephen until it was decommissioned. The Kentville Library moved into the new space in November 2017.

"This beautiful, historical building could have sat underutilized but now it is a vital part of the community that is used every day," stated Kentville's Mayor Sandra Snow. "Libraries are the foundation of a healthy

community for so many reasons, and this building shows that we care about our past as well as our future.”



Photo: Jordan Spidel of houdinidesign accepting the 2018 Maritime Architectural Design Excellence Award, from Architects’ Association of New Brunswick President Donald C. Sterritt

For more information:

- Rachel Bedingfield, Director of Parks and Recreation, Town of Kentville, 902-679-2541
- Lisa Tondino, houdinidesign, 902-582-7749
- Ann-Marie Matthieu, Annapolis Regional Library (out of the province at this time)

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