



## **Bondfield Team Selected as Preferred Proponent to Design and Build the Niagara Convention & Civic Centre**

**(Niagara Falls, ON - December 15, 2008)** –Niagara is one step closer to a new state-of-the-art Convention Centre. At their regularly scheduled meeting, Niagara Falls City Council voted to confirm the recommended Preferred Proponent to design and build the Niagara Convention & Civic Centre (NCCC). The Preferred Proponent team is lead by Bondfield Construction Company Limited in collaboration with CS&P Architects, Stanford Downey Architects and the Kirkland Partnership, a Toronto Based consortium, who's members have completed several large infrastructure projects in the Niagara Region including the Niagara College Glendale Campus, Queenston-Lewiston Bridge Plaza redevelopment, and the Hilton Fallsview Hotel.

This evening's Council vote follows a thorough selection process mandated by both Provincial and Federal procedures and the City's own procurement guidelines. The process began in June 2008 when nine Canadian companies responded to the City's Request for Qualifications (RFQ) asking for interested firms to submit relevant credentials and experience. Subsequently, the Technical Evaluation Team, with representation from the City of Niagara Falls, Niagara Convention & Civic Centre Inc., MPHM Project Managers and the Zeidler Partnership, having completed an extensive evaluation, reduced the nine firms down to four finalists that would submit bids for the Request for Proposals (RFP). The four bidders were then asked to submit their offer for the Convention Centre including detailed plans, marketing, artist's renderings, and price.

The Technical Evaluation Team, in tandem with the Bridging Compliance Consultants, carefully reviewed each proposal and after an extensive evaluation/scoring process selected the Preferred Proponent. The Bondfield proposal, consisting of a 280,778 square foot state-of-the-art facility, was judged to be superior to the other three bids. The architectural team indicated that the design of the Niagara Convention and Civic Center is intended, through its transparency and form, to engage visitors and welcome them into a dramatic sequence of public spaces and convention facilities. The imagery conveyed by the fully glazed north and east facades, which address the Falls and tourism core, alludes to some of the most compelling and memorable features of this unique region. A bowed and folded curtain wall of glass cascades from the roofline along Stanley Avenue suggesting both the sweep of the waterfalls and jagged rock formations of Niagara's imposing gorge. The theatre is articulated as an object within a building both visible from the Fallsview Tourist Area and dominating the atrium space at the principal corner of the building. Attached to the Stanley Avenue glass wall is the skeletal framework of galvanized steel and tension cables, which support convention banners and provide



animation and a festive promenade for pedestrians along this major city street. The structure also evokes associations both with the latticed wires of Niagara's vineyards and with the striking skyline tracery created by the Region's impressive power infrastructure. Coloured glass inserts within the double height glass volume at both the north and east corners elevations suggest the light spectacle of the City and Falls and provides a dramatic focus to the building. The LEED Silver complex will include an 80,000 sq.ft. expandable exhibition hall, a 1,000-seat theatre, 17,000 sq.ft. ballroom, 10,500 sq.ft. of flexible meeting space, along with an added shell structure for future expansion.

Kerry Painter, President & General Manager of the Niagara Convention & Civic Centre who was at City Hall for the vote said, "The selection of the Bondfield team as the preferred proponent is yet another major milestone for the NCCC. Now that we have renderings of our new facility to share, it will be a further boost to our sales efforts and shows we are one major step closer to putting the shovel in the ground this spring."

Similarly, Mayor Ted Salci stated "This is great news for the City of Niagara Falls and we are proud to be a part of this significant next step. We are certain that the NCCC is destined to become a city icon and the catalyst for economic growth for many years to come, and are pleased to have a world-class project team leading the design and construction of the convention centre," he added.

Following tonight's vote, negotiations will begin to finalize a contract between the City and the Bondfield Team which is expected to be completed early in the New Year.

### **About The Niagara Convention & Civic Centre**

The Niagara Convention & Civic Centre is a new convention facility located in Niagara Falls, Ontario scheduled to break ground in May 2009 and open in the spring of 2011. Presently, the sales and marketing staff are accepting convention and meetings bookings!

For additional information, please contact:

Kerry Painter, Niagara Convention & Civic Centre  
(905) 357-6222 / [kpainter@fallsconventions.com](mailto:kpainter@fallsconventions.com)

Carrie Kormos, OEB Enterprise  
(416) 456-5606 / [carriekormos@oebenterprise.com](mailto:carriekormos@oebenterprise.com)



view looking towards north/east entrance corner



view looking towards north entrance concourse

