



**Ontario  
Association  
of Architects**



**Association  
of Registered  
Interior Designers  
of Ontario**

## **JOINT COMMUNICATION JULY RELEASE**

Further to the comprehensive member consultation document issued to both OAA and ARIDO members earlier this spring, the Joint ARIDO/OAA Task Group continues to work towards the development of direct regulation of the practice of interior design under the *Architect's Act*.

The feedback received from members as a result of the spring consultation was positive, with over 70 % of the members that responded in favour of proceeding with Model 1 – direct regulation. This supports the direction given by government. This consultation process also allowed for more detailed comment on the model by members through the online survey that was included. The Task Group is considering the detailed feedback as it continues its' work which included a few common threads of questions that need to be addressed or clarified. For example:

- a better understanding of firm ownership requirements for interior designers going forward;
- a better understanding of the scope that will be defined as the practice of interior design;
- how OAA and ARIDO will continue to work together as individual organizations;
- governance and administration within the OAA;
- enforcement of the restricted scope of practice once in place; and,
- the need for communication to educate the industry, the public and building officials.

During June both organizations undertook additional approvals within the governance framework of their respective organizations, to move the model forward. In accordance with requirements under ARIDO's by-laws a membership vote was conducted on June 18. The vote was overwhelmingly in favour of proceeding. On June 20, OAA Council, in fulfilling its elected governance responsibilities, unanimously voted in favour of moving ahead.

As a result, ARIDO/OAA Task Force meetings are continuing and will take the necessary next steps to finalize the finer details of the model. Further work through out 2018 will include meeting with Pro-Demnity, the OAA Insurance provider, to develop the parameter of the program to insure interior designers; meeting with the Attorney General's Office to relay intent of the model as approved by both organizations, and; working with the staff at the Ministry of the Attorney General to begin drafting legislation.

ARIDO and OAA are committed to providing communication updates and information throughout the process.