Robert N. Allsopp

FCSLA / OALA / MALA (Hon) / ARIBA / MRTPI / MCIP / RPP
Professional / Teacher / Advocate / Pioneer

Academic Qualifications

Diploma in Architecture,
Leicester School of Architecture, 1959

Diploma in Civic Design,
University of Edinburgh, 1966

Professional Memberships/Affiliations

Fellow, Canadian Society of
Landscape Architects

Member, Ontario Association of
Landscape Architects

Honorary Member, Manitoba Association of
Landscape Architects

Canadian Institute of Planners,
Registered Professional Planner

Royal Town Planning Institute

Ontario Professional Planners Institute

Associate, Royal Institute of
British Architects

Registered Architect, United Kingdom

Other Affiliations

Architectural Conservancy of Ontario,
Presidents Circle

Friends of Fort York

Heritage Toronto

ICOMOS Canada

Toronto Society of Architects

Canadian Congress for Urbanism,
Honorary Board Member

Robert is a decorated landscape architect, planner and architect (U.K.) whose principal focus is urban design.

Robert has extensive professional experience in Canada, England, the United States and Spain with an active career over six decades. His broad range of work undertaken for public, institutional and private sector clients has provided extensive experience with multi-dimensional projects.

Robert arrived in Winnipeg, 1968. For 11 years he established his own consulting practice while teaching and serving as Campus Planner at the University of Manitoba. In 1979, Robert joined the Toronto office of Roger du Toit Architects/du Toit Associates. In 1985, he became a founding partner of du Toit Allsopp Hillier (now DTAH), one of Canada's preeminent interdisciplinary design firms. Collectively, Robert and his colleagues have received over 220 awards for their efforts, including over 150 for landscape architecture projects.

Robert is a pioneer of modern day landscape architecture in Canada. He entered the CSLA College of Fellows in 1995. In 2008 he received the OALA's Pinnacle Award, recognizing a body of work that demonstrates an outstanding professional accomplishment. In 2016 CSLA presented Bob with the Lifetime Achievement Award for contributions to the profession of Landscape Architecture.

Education
Robert has formidable credentials as a graduate of Leicester School of Architecture and the University of Edinburgh in Civic Design. He is a recipient of the Royal Institute of British Architects' Soane Medallion as well as a Fulbright Scholarship award.

National Capital
He has worked for nearly fifty years on a series of urban design projects in Canada's National Capital, many of which have received national and international design award recognition. Focused largely on the National Capital Core, these projects sought to protect the National Symbols and create a coherent and livable public realm. Key projects include Ceremonial Routes (Confederation Boulevard) urban design plan, now implemented; the long-range development plan for the Parliamentary Precinct; and "views protection" studies that establish downtown built-form controls required to protect the visual integrity of the Parliament Buildings and other National Symbols. Other National Capital projects include the urban design component of the National Capital Core Area Concept Plan, the urban structure plan for the LeBreton Flats area of the Canadian War Museum, and the urban intensification strategy for Confederation Heights.

More recently, Robert has guided studies for new commemorations in the National Capital, prepared site rehabilitation strategies for a central sector of the Parliamentary Precinct, contributed public realm design to the overall redevelopment plan for Tunney's Pasture, prepared guidelines for The Afghanistan Memorial in LeBreton Flats, and guidelines for the Centre Block.

Fort York
Robert has a long volunteer and professional association with Fort York, an important National Historic Site in Toronto. In a pro-bono capacity, he was a founding member in 1993 of the Friends of Fort York. He prepared Revealing Fort York (1994) in support of the Friends' struggle to bring "Dignity, Visibility and Accessibility" to the Fort as adjacent lands were being rapidly redeveloped. He initiated and co-edited (with Catherine Nasmith) Fort York - Setting it Right (2000) prepared by the Friends of Fort York and the Fort York Management Board working group. He provided expert testimony at the OMB, in support of the Friends' opposition to what was felt to be incompatible developments on adjacent lands.

As a partner in DTAH, Robert led the Fort York Visitor Centre Study (1991, for the Toronto Historical Board), the Fort York and Garrison Common Open Space Plan (2001), the Fort York Neighbourhood Public Realm Plan (2004), and the Blocks 32 and 36 Development Strategy (2006) and Public Realm Plan (2008). Robert was a contributor to the DTAH design team's finalist submission to the Fort York Visitor Centre Architectural Competition, and managed the preparation of the Fort York Heritage Conservation District Plan (2014). He recently provided planning and design advice for the landscape restoration and rehabilitation of Fort York's Garrison Common, and contributed to the design of the award-winning landmark Garrison Crossing pedestrian bridges.

Other Projects
Other landscape and urban design projects include plans for Vaughan Corporate Centre, North York City Centre, and Scarborough Centre. Recent campus development plans include those for University of Calgary, McGill University, University of Guelph and University of Regina. Robert also prepared campus plans for the RCMP Academy in Regina, and for three RCMP corporate and training campuses in the National Capital. Recently, Robert has contributed to several design plans for community hub projects in Toronto, the rehabilitation and redevelopment master plan for the Jury Lands—a former Boys Training School and POW Camp in Bowmanville, Ontario, and a Cultural Heritage Landscape Assessment for the world famous Glen Abbey golf course in Oakville, Ontario.

In 1989 he studied and worked in Barcelona. With Adjuntament de Barcelona's urban projects office he was responsible for the design of a 20-hectare park in the Nou Barris district (CSLA National Merit Award). In 1990, he mounted a Canadian exhibition, Barcelona Works, illustrating that city's public realm development program.

Teaching
Throughout his career, Robert has been committed to sharing his experience and stimulating creative thought through teaching and mentoring. Following graduation, he taught at the University of Kansas and, later, was instrumental in establishing Canada's first Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) program at the University of Manitoba, where he taught the first landscape architecture studio at the school. Robert subsequently taught as a full-time professor at the University of Toronto for 19 years while developing a leading professional practice.

Advocacy + Professional Discourse
Beyond project-based work and academia, Robert has contributed to other important aspects of public service. He has participated on numerous community steering committees, presented to local, regional and national conferences, guest lectured at colleges and universities, and authored articles published in local and national press. Recently, Robert was interviewed as part of a documentary series on the Pioneers of Landscape Architects in Canada completed in 2019.

In 2023, Robert generously established the largest gift to date to the Landscape Architecture Canada Foundation—"the Robert N Allsopp Urban Design Fellowship"—providing research and sabbatical opportunities for mid-career landscape architects.

From 2007 to 2012 Robert was a member of the City of Toronto Design Review Panel, and at the time was the longest serving member with the highest level of attendance. He currently sits on the City of Toronto Heritage Preservation Services Board, beginning his service in 2017 following appointment by City Council.

ROBERT NICHOLAS ALLSOPP / GOVERNOR GENERAL'S MEDAL IN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE 2026

Timeline of Significant Contributions and Achievements

1959
Leicester School of Architecture
Diploma in Architecture

RIBA Soane Medallion Winner

1963
Nottinghamshire
School Design +
Implementation
(Designed and
Constructed
between Degrees)

1966
University of Edinburgh
Diploma in Civic Design

Fulbright Scholarship

1967
Arrives at University of Kansas
Lecturer

1968
Arrives at University of Manitoba
Director, Campus Planning

Introduces Principle Based
Strategic Campus Planning
to UoM

1971
Robert N. Allsopp
Planning and Urban Design
Winnipeg, MN

Boeing of Canada Ltd.
Site Development

1972
University of Manitoba,
Masters of Landscape
Architecture Program
Instructor and Co-Founder

Teaches First Masters of
Landscape Architecture Studio
in Canada

1973
Shopping Centre
Redevelopment Study, Toronto

CN East Yards, Winnipeg

1975-76
Province of Manitoba
Canada Housing and
Mortgage Corporation
South St. Boniface
Development Plan,
Medium Density
Family Housing Study, and
Lavalee Road Family Housing

1977-78
Youville / Bertrand
Seniors Housing Study

Development Plan
Macdonald Municipality

1979
Winnipeg East Yards
(The Forks), Canada Housing
and Mortgage Corporation

Moves to Toronto
Joins duToit Associates

1979
University of Toronto
Lecturer,
School of
Landscape
Architecture

1981
Prince Philip Quadrangle
Restoration Plan and Design
Upper Canada College
OALA Citation Award

1982
Downtown South
Urban Design Plan
Vancouver, BC

1984
Jacques Cartier
Square Fountain
Le Vieux Port de Montreal
National Competition
1st Prize, with Bob Newbury

Ceremonial Routes,
National Capital
OALA, Honour Award
Progressive Architecture,
Citation for Excellence
in Urban Design

1985
duToit Allsopp Hillier
Founding Partner

1986
University of
Toronto
Professor

1987
Confederation Boulevard,
National Capital
Canadian Architect
Design Award of Excellence
OALA and QALA, Honour Awards
Progressive Architecture,
Citation for Excellence
in Urban Design

1988-91
Parliamentary
and Judicial Precincts Plan,
National Capital
CSLA National
and Regional Honour
Progressive Architecture,
Citation Award
American Institute of Architects,
Citation for Excellence in Urban Design

Canada Arts Council Award
Barcelona Residency

1989
Gardiner/Lake Shore Corridor Study
CSLA National Citation
and Regional Merit

1990-94
University of British Columbia
Campus Master Plan
CSLA Regional Honour
and National Merit

1991
National Capital
Commemorations
CSLA National
and Regional Merit

Nou Barris Park
Barcelona
CSLA National and
Regional Merit

1992
University of
British Columbia
Lecturer, School
of Landscape
Architecture

1994
Revealing Fort York
Publication

Friends of Fort York
Founding Member

1995
CSLA College of Fellows

Distillery District
(Gooderham and Worts)
Urban Design Proposal
OPPI Written Report Award

1996-1997
Confederation Boulevard
National Capital
ASLA, Merit Award

North York Centre
Urban Design Guidelines
OPPI Merit Award

1997
University of
Toronto
Retires after
19 years

1999
Friends of Fort York
Board of Directors/
Precinct Advisory

2000
Fort York:
Setting it Right
with Cathy Nasmith
CSLA Merit and
Regional Honour

2001-02
Fort York + Garrison Common Parks and Open Space
CSLA National Merit and Regional Honour

2003
University of Guelph Campus Master Plan
CSLA Regional Honour

RCMP Academy Regina Site Development Plan
CSLA Regional Honour

2004
Fort York Neighbourhood Public Realm Plan
OPPI Award of Excellence
Toronto Urban Design Awards, Honourable Mention

Railway Lands Block 32 Development Strategy
CIP, National Honour

2004
City Crossing
Portage and Main, Winnipeg
International Design Competition
Jury Member

2005
Fort York: Adding New Buildings
Publication

2007
National Capital Views Protection
CSLA National Citation

Parliamentary and Judicial
Precincts Area Plan
CSLA Regional Citation

Design Guidelines
Ottawa Congress Centre
National Capital

2007
City of Toronto
Design Review Panel
(until 2012)

National Capital
Views Protection
Presentation to CSLA,
Heritage Canada and
UNESCO World Heritage

2008
OALA Pinnacle Award
Outstanding Professional
Achievement

2010
Queens Park
Views Protection,
Ontario Legislature

2013
University of Toronto
Back Campus

College Avenue and
South Niagara Lands
Advisory Committee

2014
University of Manitoba Visionary Re:Generation
International Competition
3rd Place Prize of 45 Entrants

National Capital Military Commemorations

2014
Council for Canadian Urbanism
Honourary Board Member

2015
Urban Forum:
Heart of the Nation
Presentation on
National Capital Long Range
Development Plan

City of Toronto Heritage
Preservation Services Board

2016
CSLA Lifetime
Achievement Award

West Terrace Urban Design
Parliamentary Precinct
National Capital

Wascana Centre
Master Plan, Saskatchewan
Legislative Precinct

University of Regina
Campus Master Plan

Toronto / King-Spadina
Heritage Conservation District

2016
Toronto Society of Architects
Urban Affairs Forum
"Generosity by Design"

Queens University
"The Search for Sense of Place
35 Years of Thinking about the Core of the Capital"

2017
OAA and RAIC Festival of Architecture
Heart of the Nation
Presentation on
National Capital Long Range
Development Plan
w/ Lyette Fortin and Barry Padolosky

2018
Tunneys Pasture
Urban Design Manual

2019
Toronto Danforth Barns
Master Plan

Jury Lands
Master Plan

Glen Abbey Golf Course
Cultural Heritage
Landscape Assessment +
Conservation Plan

2020
Toronto Port Lands
PIC Core Guidelines

NCC Centre Block
Rehabilitation Program

NCC LeBreton
Afghanistan Memorial Park

DTAH
Partner Emeritus

2023
Keynote: University of Manitoba
Master of Landscape Architecture
Program 50th Anniversary

Robert N. Allsopp
Urban Design Fellowship
Landscape Architecture
Canada Foundation

2026
Toronto Doors Open
"Hand Made": Drawings
and Graphics Exhibition

⊕ Academic
○ Professional Practice
◎ Advocacy + Professional Discourse

CSLA: Canadian Society of Landscape Architects
OALA: Ontario Association of Landscape Architects
QALA: Quebec Association of Landscape Architects
ASLA: American Society of Landscape Architects
CIP: Canadian Institute of Planners
OPPI: Ontario Provincial Planners Institute
OAA: Ontario Association of Architects
RAIC: Royal Architectural Institute of Canada
RIBA: Royal Institiute of British Architects

ROBERT NICHOLAS ALLSOPP / GOVERNOR GENERAL'S MEDAL IN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE 2026

Select Project Awards

Canadian Society of Landscape Architects, Lifetime Achievement Award, Robert Allsopp, 2016

Canadian Society of Landscape Architects, National Merit, Tree Planting Solutions Manual, 2014

Ontario Association of Landscape Architects, Pinnacle Award, 2008

City of Toronto Urban Design Awards, Award of Excellence in the category of Visions and Masterplans, Toronto Central Waterfront, 2007

Canadian Institute of Planners, Honourable Mention, Urban Design, Parliamentary and Judicial Precincts Area: Site Capacity and Long Term Development Plan, 2007

Canadian Society of Landscape Architects, National Citation Award, National Capital Views Protection, 2007

Canadian Society of Landscape Architects, Regional Citation Award, Parliamentary and Judicial Precincts Area: Site Capacity and Long Term Development Plan, 2007

Ontario Professional Planners Institute, Excellence in Planning Award, Parliamentary and Judicial Precincts Area: Site Capacity and Long Term Development Plan, 2007

Canadian Institute of Planners, Award for Planning Excellence, Railway Lands Blocks 32 + 36 Strategy, 2006

City of Toronto Architecture and Urban Design Awards, Honourable Mention, Fort York Neighbourhood Public Realm Plan, 2005

Ontario Professional Planners Institute, Excellence in Planning/Urban Design, Fort York Neighbourhood Public Realm Plan, 2005

Canadian Society of Landscape Architects, Regional Honour, University of Guelph Campus Master Plan, 2003

Canadian Society of Landscape Architects, Regional Honour, RCMP Academy Regina, Site Development Plan, 2003

Canadian Society of Landscape Architects, National Merit/Regional Honour, Fort York and Garrison Common Open Space Plan, 2002

Canadian Society of Landscape Architects, National Merit and Regional Honour, Fort York: Setting It Right, (Friends of Fort York), 2001

Ontario Professional Planners Institute, Outstanding Planning Award, Vaughan Corporate Centre Secondary Planning Study, 1998

Ontario Professional Planners Institute, Professional Merit Award, North York City Centre Urban Design, Final Recommendations, 1998

American Society of Landscape Architects, Planning and Urban Design Merit, Confederation Boulevard (National Capital Commission), 1996

American Institute of Architects, Citation for Excellence in Urban Design, Parliamentary Precinct Plan, National Capital, 1991

Canadian Society of Landscape Architects, National and Regional Merit, Capital Commemorations, National Capital, 1991

Canadian Society of Landscape Architects, National and Regional Merit, Parc Urba Forum Nord, Barcelona, Spain, 1991

Ontario Professional Planners Institute, "Written Report" category, Parliamentary Precinct Plan, National Capital, 1990

Canadian Society of Landscape Architects, National Citation and Regional Merit, Gardiner/Lake Shore Corridor Study, Toronto, 1989

Canadian Society of Landscape Architects, National and Regional Honour, Parliamentary Precinct Plan, National Capital, 1989

Progressive Architecture, Citation Award (Urban Design and Planning), Parliamentary Precinct Plan, National Capital, 1989

The Canadian Architect, Design Award of Excellence, Confederation Boulevard, Ottawa, 1987

Progressive Architecture, Citation Award, Ceremonial Routes, National Capital, 1987

Ontario Association of Landscape Architects, Honour Award, Ceremonial Routes, National Capital, 1984

Ontario Association of Landscape Architects, Citation Award, Prince Philip Quadrangle, Upper Canada College, Toronto, 1981