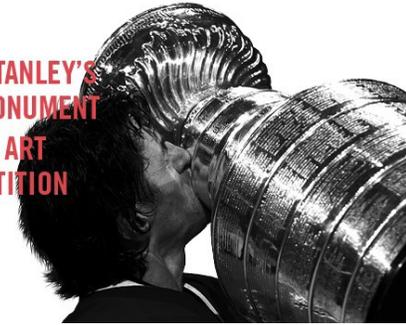




**LORD STANLEY'S  
GIFT MONUMENT  
PUBLIC ART  
COMPETITION**



## **LORD STANLEY'S GIFT MONUMENT PUBLIC ART COMPETITION: LSMMI BOARD STATEMENT**

November 3, 2016

### **BACKGROUND**

Lord Stanley Memorial Monument Inc. (LSMMI), is a Canadian non-profit charitable organization established by a group of private citizens with the objective of creating a monument to celebrate Lord Stanley of Preston, Canada's sixth Governor General's gift to the sport of ice hockey: the "Stanley Cup".

The monument will be known as "Lord Stanley's Gift". The patrons of the organization are His Excellency, David Johnson, the Governor General of Canada, and Stanley Cup winners, Serge Savard and Frank Mahovlich.

The Corporation of the City of Ottawa donated the site for the monument at the eastern end of the Sparks Street Mall at its confluence with Elgin Street, just steps from the former Russell House Hotel where the donation of the Stanley Cup was announced on March 18, 1892.

The Lord Stanley's Gift monument project has received generous financial and other support from the Government of Canada's Department of Canadian Heritage (PCH), the Ottawa Senators, the National Hockey League, the City of Ottawa, Hockey Canada, the Hockey Hall of Fame, the Canada Council for the Arts and the National Capital Commission.

The monument is scheduled to be unveiled in December 2017.

A ten-member jury of prominent persons from the fields of art, history, culture and hockey was appointed to serve in an advisory capacity to LSMMI in its process of selecting a winning Design Team.

On March 18,2016. with the assistance of its Professional Advisor and Project Manager, Barry Padolsky Associates Inc. Architects, LSMMI issued a Call to Artists inviting Canadian design teams to enter a two phase national design competition.

The terms of the Lord Stanley's Gift Public Art Competition were contained in a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) publicized through the competition website [lordstanleysgift.com](http://lordstanleysgift.com).

On May 13,2016, forty submissions from design teams across Canada were received. The Jury reviewed the submissions and recommended eight Finalists to be invited to submit detailed proposals to design and build the monument.

A detailed Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued to the Finalists outlining the specific requirements for Phase 2 of the Public Art Competition .The Finalists were given the opportunity to submit questions and receive clarifications through Addenda. On June 17,2016, the eight Finalists were invited to Ottawa to familiarize themselves with the monument site.

On September 2,2016, the eight Finalists submitted their design proposals. Each submission included a maquette at 1:10 scale ,technical drawings, renderings, and a written report containing a budget and schedule.

The Finalist submissions were reviewed by the Jury in advance of the live Finalist presentations to the Jury on September 22,2016. A team of technical consultants was retained to advise on the technical aspects of each proposal.

On September 22,2016, a Finalists Expo and Vernissage was held in Ottawa at the Canada Council for the Arts, Ajagemo Gallery. This event provide an opportunity for the public to view the design proposals and meet with the Finalists in person.

## **PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

Public comments on the Finalist designs were invited during a two week period ending October 7, 2016. This invitation was publicized through the Finalists Expo, the Lord Stanley Gift Website and extensive media coverage.

Through the Lord Stanley's Gift website, 228 written comments were received and recorded. These comments including 196 votes cast on behalf of preferred designs with the following results: the Coupland / Leinster / Mills design and the Myros Trutiak / Pelletier / vanderGaast design tied for first place with 42 votes each (21.4 %); the Covit / Nguyen / Norr design and SPMB 1X1 Architecture design tied for second place with 32 votes each (16.3 %). The other four Finalists followed with significantly fewer votes.

The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation also gave the public an opportunity to vote for each of the Finalists in an on-line poll. By the deadline for public comments, 6,731 votes were cast with the following results: The JA Architecture Studio & Sebastian Errazuriz Studio proposal ranked first with 1,846 votes (27.4 %); the Covit / Nguyen / Norr team proposal ranked second with 1,730 votes (25.7%); the Myros Trutiak / Pelletier / Vandergaast team proposal ranked third with 1,503 votes (22.3%). The Coupland / Leinster / Mills team proposal stood last with 126 votes ( 1.87%).

## **JURY OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATION**

The Jury met three times to comprehensively review and evaluate the Finalist submissions. The Jury also reviewed the Technical Advisory Committee's comments and the public comments before giving its advice to the Board of LSMMI. The diversity of public opinion challenged the jury in making its recommendation.

In the Jury Statement, and the Jury's briefing to the Board, the Jury was clearly impressed with the design excellence of all eight Finalists submissions. The Jury, not unanimously, recommended the Coupland / Leinster /Mills design for consideration as the winner, with the Covit / Nguyen / Norr design as runner-up.

Members of the jury noted that all the design proposals could be refined through further work. The Jury chose "to seek a good balance between literal rendering of the Stanley Cup and a more symbolic expression of the experience of hockey competition, the playfulness of the game and the joys of victory." As the Jury put it; "Canadians want to celebrate hockey because it expresses key parts of our country's values and realities: our winter conditions, the importance of teamwork, the achievements from competition and the pleasures we get from a sport of skill, endurance and grace. The Cup is more than a physical object; it has become a symbol of triumph that we share in our imagination and stories."

Speaking to the Coupland / Leinster / Mills proposal, the Jury observed that the design was "playful, light and elegant, open to engagement with the viewing public ...innovative, dynamic in appearance, strikingly modern, and yet easily recognized.....(expressing) a sense of fun and movement. What is special is its view from the side, elongated the way the Cup has evolved in history, which, through a visual trick capable of being captured by a camera, allows people to raise up their arms and "hoist" the Cup themselves in victory."

On the other hand, the Jury noted that this proposal raised concerns that it was "too sculptural" and that its figurative elements are " more fanciful than real." The Jury also observed that " The Cup is distorted to achieve the foreshortening, and this may not be pleasing to some viewers. Lighting issues remain unresolved. The design of the granite base, the proportion of the base to the rest of the installation, and space for interpretation require more attention."

Addressing the Covit / Nguyen / Norr proposal, the Jury noted that “ the entire monument is visually and physically permeable, inviting the visitor to enter to the centre of the Cup where interpretive materials can be seen.” The jury also noted “the grandeur of the elegant metalwork, which offers a strong presence in scale and materiality. It is modern and light with a design that reflects ambient colours, changing through daytime and night. The design is easily understood, and will be complemented by the recorded sounds of skate blades on ice. The joining of individual metal strands symbolizes a sense of teamwork and strength, while remaining light and permeable. It will also contrast with the traditional monuments in the vicinity. ”

The Jury was concerned about how the various elements would meld together and whether its scale was respectful to its surroundings. The Jury believed that additional study was needed to ensure the long term durability of the metal elements and the electrical and sound features. It was also concerned that the use of the original form of the Cup might conflict with a visitor’s image of the familiar, contemporary Stanley Cup.

## **LSMMI BOARD DECISION**

The Board carefully considered the Finalist design submissions (including maquettes) in their entirety. It considered the Jury recommendation, the Jury Report, the Technical Advisory Committee Report, and the public comments. In addition, the Board’s Professional Advisor and Project Manager answered inquiries from LSMMI directors. The Board diligently resolved to inform itself as much as possible before engaging in the decision-making process leading to the selection of a winning design.

The Board was acutely aware of the challenges in evaluating competing designs in the field of public art. This reality was underscored by the information that the Jury’s recommendation emanated from a vote whereby not one of the Finalists received over 50% of the Jury votes cast, and the difference between the top two Finalists was one vote. This reality was further underscored by the diverging results of the public consultation.

While respectful of the Jury’s recommendation, the Board of Directors of Lord Stanley Memorial Monument Inc (LSMMI), has unanimously selected the **Covit/Nguyen/Norr** Design Team (Montreal, PQ) to be the winner of the Lord Stanley’s Gift Monument Public Art Competition.

The winning design was chosen by the Board for its inspired interpretation of the historic, simple silver bowl donated in 1892 by Lord Stanley of Preston, Canada 6<sup>th</sup> Governor General.

The winning design magnifies and abstracts the Stanley Cup's original, modest form, giving it a glittering and iconic presence overlooking Confederation Square – the place of the Stanley Cup's birth.

The Board found the Covit/Nguan/ Norr design to be an elegant, contemporary, subtle but extraordinarily powerful tribute to Lord Stanley's original gift: the modest cup that grew up to be the world's most sought after hockey trophy, hockey's holy grail.

The Board is convinced that the winning design's historic reference, its elegant form and engaging qualities will make it a lasting contribution to Ottawa's Confederation Square, the second most important ceremonial urban space in Canada's capital after Parliament Hill.

The Board of LSMMI was drawn to the winning design's simplicity and accessibility. It is a piece of public art that is legible without being literal.

The Board gave serious regard to the public comments on the Finalists and preferences received for across Canada through the Lord Stanley's Gift website and the CBC website.

The Board of LSMMI is immensely grateful to all the Finalist design teams for their extraordinary creativity and effort. The Board is also immensely grateful to the Lord Stanley's Gift Jury of eminent Canadians for its counsel and advice.

It is the Board's hope that its donation of the Lord Stanley's Gift monument to the City of Ottawa, timed to celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Stanley Cup, will delight and educate.

It is the Board's hope that the Lord Stanley's Gift Monument, to be unveiled in December 2017, will be a much admired and celebrated landmark in Ottawa, Canada's capital.

## **THE WINNING DESIGN**

Lord Stanley's Gift, by the winning design team Covet/Nguyen/Norr will be a 3.45 M high graceful chalice, fabricated with Canadian made silvered aluminum bands, woven together and positioned on an imaginary white paved "hockey rink" at the east end of the Sparks Street Mall.

The Cup's aluminum bands are gathered to create two gateways inviting visitors to pass through the cup, experience its interpretive narrative and discover a framed view of the National War Memorial.

The paving of the “hockey rink” will be imbedded with stainless steel lines (suggesting skate marks on the ice) and 39 black granite “hockey pucks” engraved with the names of the Stanley Cup winning teams between from 1893 to 2017.

A 1.4 M circular black granite bench resembling a large hockey puck is positioned at the west end of the “rink” to provide seating and a hint to the meaning of the sculpture for those unfamiliar with the Canadian history.

Lord Stanley’s Gift will include a subtle lighting plan; an interpretive plaque, a soundscape and a QR code linking visitors’ smartphones to websites interpreting Canadian hockey history.

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George Hunter, President  
Bill Irwin  
Kevin Kitchen  
Jim MacAuley  
Peter O’Leary  
Richard Patten