

Diamond and Schmitt Architects

MEDIA RELEASE

October 5, 2011

DIAMOND AND SCHMITT ARCHITECTS WINS BROWNIE AWARD Corus Quay honoured for brownfield redevelopment

TORONTO – Corus Quay, the first building to open in Toronto’s new East Bayfront precinct has received a Brownie Award in the category of Excellence in Project Development: Building Scale. The presentation was made at the Canadian Brownfields conference and presented by the Canadian Urban Institute on October 4th in Toronto.

The eight storey, 482,000-square-foot commercial building designed by Diamond and Schmitt Architects is located on a remediated brownfield site on the edge of Lake Ontario. It opened in September 2010. The building is owned by the City of Toronto’s arms-length real estate development company, Build Toronto, and named for its principal tenant, Corus Entertainment.

“The vision for Corus Quay was to demonstrate how a contaminated site could be managed to create a safe, healthy and environmentally efficient environment, and in turn, kick-start the redevelopment of Toronto’s East Bayfront with an exemplar of sustainable design,” said Jack Diamond, Principal with Diamond and Schmitt Architects.

Remediation and excavation of the site on which a derelict warehouse was demolished began in 2007. Environmental consultant Trow Associates Inc. monitored the removal of 60,000 cubic metres of soil, fifty percent of which was remediated on site by the project contractor AECON/Terrasen. Given the building’s proximity to Lake Ontario, silt fences and catch basins were erected to prevent soil and debris from being washed off site.

“Regardless of their size or scale, successful brownfield projects are a truly collaborative effort, requiring commitment, persistence and an ability to overcome complex challenges,” said Glenn Miller, Vice President, Education and Research with the Canadian Urban Institute. “These awards celebrate excellence in brownfield redevelopment by transforming contaminated sites into great places,” he added.

Corus Quay is targeting to consume 42 percent less water and 29 percent less energy than conventional office buildings of its size and to achieve LEED Gold designation. The building scheme employs a variety of sustainable initiatives including green roofs covering 37 percent of the roof area, rainwater collection and reuse, high efficiency mechanical equipment, advanced building and lighting automation and a five-storey-high living wall.

Diamond and Schmitt Architects (www.dsai.ca) is a leading Canadian full-service architectural practice committed to creating sustainable design solutions for a wide range of clients. The firm is recognized for excellence in the design of award-winning performing arts centres, academic research buildings, commercial, residential and health care institutions. Current projects include the new Mariinsky opera house in St. Petersburg, Russia, Bridgepoint Hospital in Toronto and the Centre for Global Innovation Exchange at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario.

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