

# architectureBC

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## MORICETOWN GAS BAR

[Killick Metz Bowen Rose Architects + Planners Inc.]

### THE TYPICAL BANAL MODERN HIGHWAY GAS BAR AND CONVENIENCE STOP GENERALLY HAS LITTLE CONTEXTUAL OR CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE.

When the Moricetown First Nations Band approached the architect with the submission for this project, the architect suggested to the client that it would be important for this building to embody a measure of regional significance, rather than portray the corporate image of a large multinational corporation. The Band agreed.

To facilitate speed of construction and to allow a maximum employment of Band labour of the project, simplicity in design and detailing was a primary consideration.

A simple grid of glu-lam columns and beams as the primary structural system recalls the clear logic of the traditional First Nations post and beam structures.

To the greatest extent practical, the structural members are expressed both inside and out. The solid parts of the exterior walls are clad in natural finished vertical cedar boards.

On the inside, the logic of the structure remains readily apparent, and further interest is provided in the honest expression of exposed plywood roof sheeting and dimension lumber joists.

In today's quest for greening of the built environment, an important element of sustainability is often overlooked: Social Justice. The Moricetown store represents a further milestone for the Band in its quest towards economic independence. The employment of Band labour was an important design consideration for this project.



Photography courtesy of KMBR Architects + Planners Inc.

"Gas bars are the most iconic and ugly buildings in society. This one breaks the typology and reinvents it." [jury comments]



**Governor General's Medal Goes to AIBC Member**

Florian Maurer MAIBC, MRAIC was awarded a 2006 Governor General's Medal in Architecture for his design of Maurer House in Naramata BC. The house is Maurer's private residence. The medal will be presented in Montreal on September 20, 2006.



Bruce Kuwabara receiving Gold Medal from RAIC's past president Yves Gosselin

**2006 RAIC Gold Medal Winner: Bruce Kuwabara FRAIC**

Bruce Kuwabara FRAIC, is the recipient of the 2006 RAIC Gold Medal. In bestowing the award, the Gold Medal Selection Committee noted that "The medal recognizes Bruce Kuwabara's contribution to the professional craft of architecture, and he and his firm's focus and contribution to public life. His engagement in the schools is exemplary as well as fundraising and educating young people. The culture of his practice involves generations and shows wisdom and maturity in their work."

Kuwabara is a founding partner of Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg Architects (KPMB). He received his Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Toronto in 1972 and subsequently worked for George Baird, an architect and theorist. In 1975 he joined the studio of Barton Myers Associates where he was an associate until founding KPMB in 1987. KPMB is the recipient of nine Governor General's Awards for Architecture.



KMBR Architects: Heritage Woods Secondary School in Port Moody

**Excellence in Construction Awards**

Several BC Architects have been honoured by the BC Ready-Mixed Concrete Association. Some of the winners of the Excellence in Construction Awards include KMBR Architects for Heritage Woods Secondary School in Port Moody; Soren Rasmussen Architects, for their design of a stunning private home in Tofino; Nick Bevanda Architecture for The Hooded Merganser Bar & Grill in Penticton; and Ramsay Wordon Architect for Chancellor House. The Student Residence and Dining Hall at SFU, designed by Downs Archambault Partners Architects with Davidson Yuen, won the mid- to high-rise category. For a complete list of winners, please visit the BC Ready-Mixed Concrete Association's website at [www.bcrmca.bc.ca](http://www.bcrmca.bc.ca)

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