

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Two Hulls House wins a Governor General's Medal in Architecture**

#### ***House design honoured by Canada's most prestigious architecture prize***

Nova Scotia — (May 7, 2018) Two Hulls House by MacKay-Lyons Sweetapple Architects has been awarded a Governor General's Medal in Architecture.

The bi-annual Governor General's Medal in Architecture is presented by the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC) with the objective of recognizing and celebrating outstanding design in built projects by Canadian architects over the past decade. Two Hulls House was one of 12 projects to be honoured with the award, as selected by a distinguished jury of architectural professionals from Canada and abroad. This prestigious medal shines a spotlight on the house as a national architectural treasure.

Two Hulls House is situated in Port Mouton, Nova Scotia on a glaciated, coastal landscape with a cool maritime climate. The site's geological make-up consists of granite bedrock and boulder till, creating pristine white-sand beaches and turquoise waters. Two volumes cantilever above the shoreline like two ship's hulls resting on cradles for the winter, forming protected outdoor spaces both between and underneath them. Like a pair of binoculars, Two Hulls House acts as a landscape-viewing instrument, effortlessly framing the environment. This is a permanent home for a family of four, consisting of a day pavilion and a night pavilion. One approaches the understated, abstract public façade, then proceeds through the foyer, turning right to the sleeping pavilion or left into the living pavilion.

This recognition follows previous accolades for Two Hulls House. In 2016, the project was presented with an American Institute of Architects (AIA) International Region Honor Award for Open International. In 2012, the project was honoured by Azure Magazine with AZ People's Choice Design Award, and in 2011, MacKay-Lyons Sweetapple Architects received an Architectural Record House Award, a Canadian Architect Award of Excellence, a Lieutenant Governor's Medal of Excellence and a North American Wood Design Citation.

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## **MacKay-Lyons Sweetapple Architects Limited**

• MacKay-Lyons Sweetapple Architects is based in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. The practice works locally and internationally on cultural, academic and residential projects, providing full architectural and interior design services. There are three Partners: Brian MacKay-Lyons, Talbot Sweetapple, and Shane Andrews, and one Managing Principal: Melanie Hayne.

• In over 30 years of work, the practice has built an international reputation for design excellence confirmed by over 100 awards, including the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada Gold Medal in 2015 and Firm Award in 2014, six Governor General Medals, two American Institute of Architects National Honor Awards of Architecture, thirteen Lieutenant Governor's Medals of Excellence, eight Canadian Architect Awards, four Architectural Record Houses Awards, and ten North American Wood Design Awards. A fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (FRAIC), and the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts (RCA), Brian MacKay-Lyons was named Honorary Fellow of the American Institute of Architects (Hon FAIA) in 2001 and was made an International Fellow by the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) in 2016. In addition, the firm's work has been featured internationally in over 300 publications and 100 exhibitions.

Both Brian MacKay-Lyons and Talbot Sweetapple are active in architectural education, Brian as a full professor and faculty member at Dalhousie University for 30 years, and Talbot, as an Adjunct Professor since 1997, and now a Professor of Practice as of 2013. Together, they have held 18 endowed academic chairs and visiting professorships at leading universities worldwide, such as: The Peter Behrens School of Architecture, Washington University in St. Louis, and Harvard University. They have also given over 200 public lectures on their work worldwide.

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