

The Manitoba Association of Landscape Architects

Revision – March 2008

Experience Record Book OVERVIEW

All Associate members of the Manitoba Association of Landscape Architects seeking full membership in the Association are required to fulfill two (2) years of an internship program. Work experience during this period is to be documented in the **Experience Record Book (ERB)**. Please refer to the following documents for further clarification: ***MALA Policy - Experience Record Book Requirements*** and ***MALA Policy - Professional Advisor***.

The above policies, as well as additional **ERB** pages (revised 2008) may be downloaded from MALA's website, www.mala.net.

Associates are encouraged to obtain a balance of experience in the following areas:

Advisory, Consulting & Pre-design – 60 days
Conceptual Design (Design A) – 60 days
Detail Design (Design B) – 60 days
Contract Administration – 40 days
Other Experience – 60 days (see table below)

Professional Landscape Architectural Experience Table

| Area of Practice | Role | Specialization |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| Planning Design Management | Administrator / Co-ordinator Consultant / Practitioner Educator | Landscape design Site planning Urban design Regional landscape planning Land development planning Ecological planning and design Heritage conservation Landscape reclamation and restoration Social / behavioral aspects of landscape design Consulting services Cultural resource management |

Note: Use this table as a guide only. In recognizing different types of landscape architectural experience, the Examining Board will use its judgment in interpreting what is responsible landscape architectural practice. Descriptions of the 'specializations' are listed below.

Candidates are strongly urged to consult with the Professional Advisor at any time during their internship period to ensure their work experience will be considered. Diversity of experience can also be gained through completing sections of the LARE or completing design exercises developed by the Professional Advisor.

Definitions and Descriptions

The (MALA) definition of landscape architecture and descriptions of current landscape architectural practice, below, will assist the candidate in the completion of the ERB (adapted from the Ontario Association of Landscape Architects - Resource Guide, 2006).

Landscape Architecture is the profession which applies knowledge of the earth's natural systems and human cultures to the planning, design and management of sustainable urban and rural developments. Its goals are to promote attitudes of respect, care and responsibility in conserving the landscapes of our heritage and understanding the physical and cultural environments in which new places are created.

Landscape design, the historical core of the profession, is concerned with detailed space design for residential, commercial, industrial, institutional and public areas. It involves site analysis, development of design concepts, the shaping of spaces, the balance of hard and soft surfaces in indoor and outdoor spaces, the selection of construction and plant materials, and the preparation of detailed construction plans and contract documents. It may also involve maintenance planning, construction review, and post-construction analysis.

Site planning focuses on the physical design and arrangement of the built and natural elements of a land parcel. It deals with a wide range of technical aspects such as circulation patterns, utility layout, siting of buildings and creating areas for human use. A site planning project can involve designing the land for a single house, an office complex or shopping centre, or an entire community. Sensitive site design produces developments that minimize both environmental impacts and project costs, while adding value to a site.

Urban design deals with the design of cities and towns. This field also involves the development of open public spaces, such as plazas and streetscapes. As urban designers, landscape architects set standards, development guidelines and create designs.

Regional landscape planning has emerged as a major area of practice for many landscape architects since the rise of environmentalism in the 1970s. In this field, landscape architects deal with the full range of planning and management of land and water, including natural resource surveys, creation and protection of habitats, wetlands, and other natural environments.

Land development planning involves undeveloped land and provides a bridge between policy planning and individual development projects. Landscape Architects working in this area have knowledge of real estate economics and development regulation processes, as well as an understanding of the constraints of working with the land. Landscape architects often head multi-disciplinary project teams that integrate economic factors with good design to create quality environments for human use.

Ecological planning and design studies the interaction between people and the natural environment and is concerned with the formulation of design policies, guidelines and plans to ensure the suitability of a site for development and to guide environmentally sound development, including bio-engineering practices.

Heritage conservation provides a link between past, present and future uses of land and historic sites. Landscape architects working in this area undertake historical research, analyze contemporary needs, and recommend stabilization, restoration, adaptation, and interpretation of landscapes to accommodate human use and ensure protection of cultural resources.

Landscape reclamation and restoration is a growing area of practice for landscape architects. This field involves reclaiming disturbed landscapes such as gravel pits and landfill sites, creating habitats, wetlands, and other natural environments, or public open space for recreational or other uses.

Social/behavioral aspects of landscape design focus on the human dimensions of design, such as meeting the special needs of the elderly or the handicapped, and understanding how people respond to and use a landscape.

Consulting services, expert testimony, and facilitating project implementation including the approvals process and public participation are other areas of landscape architectural specialization.

Cultural resource management is the practice of managing and preserving cultural heritage. Cultural heritage includes the legacy of physical artifacts such as buildings, monuments, artwork, archaeological remains, cultural landscapes, historic places, etc. and the intangible attributes of a society, such as traditions, customs and practices, rituals, spiritual beliefs, language, artistic expressions and other aspects of human activity.
