

# NEWS RELEASE

## Wilfrid Laurier University



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### **Laurier appoints architectural firm for new science building**

*Waterloo, Ont. (Sept. 12)* — Shore Tithe Irwin & Partners, an award-winning firm with an international reputation, has been appointed architect for the new science building at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo.

The appointment was approved at a meeting of the university's board of governors on Saturday, Sept. 12.

The design of the building, to be located at the corner of King Street and Bricker Avenue, will begin immediately and the entire project is scheduled to be completed by September 1994. The total cost of the project, including extensive renovation of some existing facilities, is estimated to be \$18.3 million.

Lorna Marsden, president of Laurier, says the university is looking forward to working with Shore Tithe Irwin & Partners. "The science building will be the cornerstone of future campus building under the new campus development plan. I'm pleased that a firm with such expertise in designing science facilities has been appointed."

Shore Tilbe Irwin & Partners, in practise for 47 years, was selected from among 38 applicants in a competition.

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The Toronto-based firm has designed a wide variety of educational, institutional, governmental, residential, and industrial projects including the IMAX Corporation Technology Centre, the Allelix Biotechnical Laboratory, the Shell Research Centre, and the Kaneff Centre of the University of Toronto's Erindale campus. It has won more than 60 national and international design awards, including the recent Mississauga Urban Design Award for the Mississauga Central Library.

For this project, Shore Tilbe Irwin & Partners will be associated with Joe Somfay Architect of Waterloo. The local firm has won several awards, including a Governor General's Award for Design Excellence and the Design Excellence Award from the *Canadian Architect*.

These two firms have been involved in joint-venture projects for two years. They are currently working together on the Region of Waterloo's Health and Social Services Building in Waterloo, to be completed in the fall of 1993.

Laurier's new science building will house the natural science departments (biology, chemistry, and physics and computing) as well as psychology. The project will ease space constraints for geography and a number of other departments. It will also provide more academic space overall for classrooms and faculty offices, as well as research and laboratory facilities.

In July, the provincial government announced it would provide a grant of \$14.6 million under its JobsOntario program. The difference will be financed by the university.

The project is expected to create 108 person-years of employment.

Laurier has about 370 science majors. It offers undergraduate science programs in biology, chemistry, computing and computer electronics, geography, mathematics, physics, and psychology.