

CPCI is Pleased to Announce the Winners of the 2023-2024

WELLNESS BENCH STUDENT DESIGN COMPETITION

Congratulations to the following winners of the 2023-2024 CPCI Wellness Bench Design Competition. The submissions received this year were innovative, environmentally-friendly, versatile and made great connections to the theme of wellness. We want to thank all of the teams who participated in this year's contest. The jury panel was very impressed with the quality of the projects!

THE 2023-2024 WELLNESS BENCH

PRECAST CONCRETE
STUDENT DESIGN
COMPETITION

First Prize: The Infinity Bench, Toronto Metropolitan University

Second Prize: The Renewa Bench, UBC Okanagan

Third Prize: The PineCrete Bench, Carleton University

THE JURY PANEL:

- › **Arlene Dedier**, Executive Vice President, Canada Project Management, Avison Young
- › **Clark Weber**, Structural Engineer and Owner, Bluerock Engineering Ltd.
- › **Darren Swire**, Director, Corporate Sales, Multicrete Systems
- › **Steven Van Wyk**, Quality Assurance Manager/Plant Engineer, Stubbe's Precast



FIRST PRIZE

THE INFINITY BENCH

Toronto Metropolitan University

Prize:
\$2500

Submitted by:

Chloe Thorp, Justin Lieberman, Horia Curteanu and Daniel Wolinskin

Supervisors:

Medhat Shehata, Civil Engineering, Toronto Metropolitan University

Vincent Hui, Architectural Science, Toronto Metropolitan University



THE 2023-2024
WELLNESS
BENCH

PROJECT STATEMENT

“The objective of Infinity Bench is to enhance the wellness of TMU students by establishing a central community hub that fosters various dimensions of well-being. The interlocking design ensures connectivity and integration across multiple levels: personal, communal, and environmental. Physically intertwining with itself and to a tree, the bench integrates with the site, echoing the interrelation inherent to wellness. The physical intertwining of the bench on the site reinforces our concept of wellness as a metaphorical way to link and connect one’s personal wellness to nature and the surrounding community. This concept is manifested through the bench’s curvilinear, overlapping form and its capacity to create communal well-being and health. Finally, the light modular components with hollow sections facilitate easy relocation or replication, a key factor in the bench’s life-cycle and the environment’s wellness. In pursuit of environmental wellness, the mix design focuses on recycled materials and decreased cement content, as this is the main source of carbon emissions. By promoting diverse social interactions for the user and the passerby, Infinity Bench aims to positively impact TMU students, creating an inclusive space dedicated to on-campus wellness.”

[View the first prize project poster here](#)

SECOND PRIZE

THE RENEWA BENCH

University of British Columbia
Okanagan Campus

Prize:
\$1500

Submitted by:

Kurtis Dezall, Anoop Takhar, Arsalan Khan, Chadia Uwamahoro
and Mona Sabounchi

Supervisors:

Lisa Tobber, Civil Engineering, UBCO



THE 2023-2024
WELLNESS
BENCH

PROJECT STATEMENT

“Engaging with the student community at the UBCO Campus has led to identifying the need for more study spaces, specifically those with charging ports for laptops, phones, and other devices. Holistic sustainability is the foundation of our project’s goals. In addition to promoting the integration of renewable solar systems into urban landscapes and public spaces, the project promotes wellness for UBCO students, faculty, and staff. Our solution is the “RenewaBench,” which aims to provide an outdoor seating area with shade, protection from the elements, and charging outlets for devices powered by off-grid solar power. The addition of solar power allows users to maintain productivity (if desired) while enhancing their connection to nature through time spent outdoors, which has been shown to have numerous health benefits. The design utilizes sustainable, market-ready materials, allowing for local component sourcing and reduced installation costs related to on-site adjustments and modifications of untested elements. Environmental impacts throughout the project life cycle can be partially offset by producing renewable solar energy.”

[View the second prize project poster here](#)

THIRD PRIZE

THE PINECRETE BENCH

Carleton University

Prize:
\$1000

Submitted by:

Faris Itum, Anthony Papini, Simon Martignago, Oskar Kalm and Rheaane Pascal

Supervisors:

Sheryl Boyle, Azrieli School of Architecture, Carleton University
Ted Sherwood, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Carleton University
Jean-Philippe Beauchamp, Azrieli School of Architecture, Carleton University



2023-2024
THE WELLNESS BENCH

PROJECT STATEMENT

“A revolutionary design that reimagines urban seating through the lens of sustainability, wellness, and community engagement. Crafted with an innovative blend of concrete, charred wood pellets, dry sand, and burnt pine sap, our bench not only stands as a testament to durability and environmental consciousness but also serves as a beacon of comfort and social interaction in the heart of the Byward Market. With its ergonomic design and versatile seating, the Wellness Bench invites the passerby to pause, connect, and rejuvenate, seamlessly integrating with the urban landscape to enhance public spaces. Through meticulous engineering and a commitment to sustainability, our design embodies a forward-thinking approach to urban furniture, promising a future where cities can foster wellness and creativity among their inhabitants.”

[View the third prize project poster here](#)

HONOURABLE MENTIONS

The jury would like to acknowledge the following teams for their creative, functional and well-thought-out project submissions.

THE GREEN BELT BENCH

McGill University



Submitted by: Clara Meyer, Noah Munro-Kagan, Rob Wang, Sarah Hill and Yuhao Wu

Supervisors:

Yi Shao, Civil Engineering, McGill University,
Avi Friedman, Architecture, McGill University

> MORE INFO

THE PEBBLE PATH BENCH

Carleton University



Submitted by: Daphne Stams, Filipe Costa, Gabriel Karam, Jennifer Liu and Weixi Zhong

Supervisors:

Sheryl Boyle, Azrieli School of Architecture, Carleton University
Ted Sherwood, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Carleton University
Jean-Philippe Beauchamp, Azrieli School of Architecture, Carleton University

> MORE INFO

Congratulations to all of the teams on their hard work and great submissions. Details on the 2024-25 Design Competition will be announced soon. Check our website for updates:

<http://www.cpci.ca/en/resources/academic/>

THE 2023-2024
WELLNESS
BENCH