



March 4, 2024

Subject: Letter of Recommendation for BIRD Construction - OGCA Ontario Builder Awards  
**Thunder Bay and Kenora (RDF) Detention facilities**

OGCA Recipient

I am writing to express my utmost commendation for BIRD Construction on behalf of NORR Architects. It is with great pleasure that I provide this letter of reference in support of BIRD Construction's application for the OGCA Ontario Builder Awards.

BIRD Construction served as the General Contractor for the successful execution of the new Thunder Bay and Kenora (Rapid Deployment Facilities) Detention facilities, commissioned by Infrastructure Ontario in collaboration with the Ministry of the Solicitor General. These projects were notably challenging and ambitious, addressing the expansion needs in Thunder Bay and Kenora, Ontario, Canada. The Rapid Deployment Facilities (RDF) required accelerated builds to enhance access to literacy, skills development, and technology programs, ultimately contributing to safe community reintegration and alleviating overcrowding at both facilities.

Throughout the project's duration, BIRD Construction demonstrated a proactive and collaborative approach, catering to the unique requirements of the endeavor. The professionalism, transparency, organization, reliability, and efficiency displayed by BIRD's project team were commendable, particularly in managing multiple trade partners and navigating project milestones. This was particularly noteworthy considering the challenges posed by the ongoing pandemic and intricate supply chain issues.

BIRD Construction's unwavering commitment to safety, coupled with their fair and reasonable approach in handling additional costs and general issues, contributed significantly to the overall success of the Thunder Bay and Kenora projects. Communication with the team was consistently a pleasure, fostering a positive working relationship.

The collaboration among BIRD Construction, Infrastructure Ontario, the Ministry of the Solicitor General, and the entire consulting team, including NORR Architects, made these complex and rapid-paced projects enjoyable. We anticipate with enthusiasm the prospect of collaborating with BIRD Construction on future projects.

NORR Architects wholeheartedly supports BIRD Construction's application for the OGCA Ontario Builder Awards, recognizing their outstanding contributions to the success of the Thunder Bay and Kenora (Rapid Deployment Facilities) Detention facilities.

Thank you for considering this recommendation.

Sincerely,

Andrew Schmidt  
Principal  
NORR Architect & Engineers Limited.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "AS" or "Andrew Schmidt", written over the printed name.

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