School of Architecture Senate
Presentation October 2014

Current Status
Premise for School of Architecture at U of S

- High Demand in Profession for Graduates
- High Demand from Students
- Cultural Driver in a Growing Economy
  a) More Architects (and Engineers) required to lead project development for growth envisioned by Premier Wall
- Centrum for other Design Disciplines
- Innovative and energetic student planning and design services to communities throughout the province
- Significant financial loss to province currently because work is exported

Model - Health Sciences Bio-medical Wing – U of S
Academic Support from U of S Faculty

- Series of three interrelated symposia held at the U of S to explore substantive themes in architectural education
- Internationally recognized architectural academics engaged wide range of faculty from numerous U of S disciplines
  - a) Discussions surrounded advantages of a school of architecture to the university
  - b) Concluded school of architecture would:
    - add cohesive focus currently missing
    - call upon colleges, schools and departments including engineering, law, business, natural and social sciences, fine arts, public health and environment & sustainability as essential contributors

- Currently no academic champion at U of S to sustain enthusiasm coming out of symposia
Prospect of Partnership with SIAST (Saskatchewan Polytechnic):

- Saskatchewan Polytechnic (SP) from SIAST September 24, 2014
- Existing architectural technology programming is solid - could contribute to curriculum necessary for professional accreditation
- Establishing partnerships with SP could lead to rapid development of a robust and unique program of architecture
- Partnerships with University of Regina and other post-secondary institutions could assist in creating province-wide program
- Risk that SP could develop program alone – loss of rich cross-discipline opportunity if U of S does not take lead
Home for School Secured:

- Historic John Deere Plow Building in Saskatoon's warehouse district has been gifted to the U of S by the City of Saskatoon if used to house a school of architecture.

- The City of Saskatoon has been a long-time strategic partner of the U of S and recognizes the advantages of a vibrant school of architecture in the city's downtown.
Home for School Secured (con’t):

- Substantial donor readiness to refurbish the building has been clearly expressed by proponents of the cause. Contributions would be both cash and in-kind (materials and/or labour)
- Recognize need to maintain academic and research connections between core campus and architecture
Support from Saskatchewan Association of Architects (SAA) – Proving the Value Proposition:

- Awareness campaign under way to contact industry leaders for expressions of support
  a) Building owners, municipal, provincial and federal government agencies, developers and contractors will be asked to demonstrate current and anticipated demand for graduate and registered architects
  b) The contribution of architects to business success of industry leaders will be identified
  c) This information will be the remaining evidence of need required by the province to provide support for school of architecture

- Strong statements of financial support expressed to date