



APRIL 2007, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON  
**LIVING FUTURE**  
**07**

Dear Friend:

We need your energy and expertise! We'd like to invite you to participate in an exciting dialogue that will bring us all closer to achieving genuine sustainability in the area of green buildings and sustainable communities. The Cascadia Region Green Building Council and the AIA Seattle Committee on the Environment are working together to host a regional green building conference in April 2007 in Seattle, entitled *Living Future*.

Please accept this letter as a formal invitation for you to join us as a volunteer, speaker, exhibitor or sponsor.

The overarching theme of this joint event is mitigating climate change. As you know, our organizations are committed to promoting and educating our community on sustainable choices and practices. Together, we will provide our design community with inspiration and technical education to help evolve the practice of sustainable design.

Cascadia will be focusing intently on our Living Building Challenge. If you haven't heard of the Living Building Challenge, it was presented by Cascadia CEO Jason F. McLennan and launched by Rick Fedrizzi at Greenbuild 2006 in Denver, CO. The Living Building Challenge will raise the bar and define a true measure of sustainability in the built environment. At the heart of the Living Building Challenge is the belief that we need to move quickly to a state of balance between the natural and built environments.

What Makes it GREEN? has been the AIA Seattle COTE's annual program which highlights current sustainable design and practice in our region in observance of Earth Day. The event features entries of projects by designers of all disciplines, of projects demonstrating innovation in environmentally responsible project design for display, discussion, and publication. This year's call for entries will request additional information on energy reduction for each submittal.

The conference will also include a bookstore, a fellowship awards program, the presentation of an official conference film, a joint design competition, speed networking, sustainable building tours, project and material displays and a variety of other exciting events. A session called "15 Minutes of Brilliance" will highlight the best and brightest ideas for how we can move to address climate change in revolutionary rather than in incremental ways. This will be a competition for the best ideas, and only the top four ideas will be presented. There will be prizes, there will be celebrities, and this event will be a catalyst for great change.

This is our current plan to date and we would encourage you to be a part of the event. We are looking for volunteers, speakers, exhibitors and sponsors. Please get involved. As Rick Fedrizzi, President, CEO & Founding Chair challenged at Greenbuild:

'If not us...Who? And if not now...When?' Contact Marni Kahn at [marni@cascadiagbc.org](mailto:marni@cascadiagbc.org) to get involved and make change happen - now.

Sincerely,

Marni Kahn, Assoc. AIA  
WA State Director  
Cascadia Region Green Building Council

Peter Dobrovoly  
City Green Building Team, Commercial Expert  
City of Seattle

Julie Petersen, Assoc. AIA  
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