



## CEDAR RESTAURANT WINS FIRST PLACE AT 2009 AWMAC WOODWORK AWARDS

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**Mackay|Wong Strategic Design** is pleased to announce that their design work for Cedar Restaurant, located at Casino Rama in Rama, Ontario, has been awarded first place in the 2009 AWMAC (Architectural Woodwork Manufacturing Association of Canada) Woodwork Awards.

Working in conjunction with Allwood Fine Interiors Ltd, Mackay|Wong developed a warm and inviting space that celebrates wood in all its different forms. From the textural interest of rough-hewn driftwood to the polished craftsmanship of classic millwork, Cedar Restaurant is a nod to wood's diverse beauty.

Taking design cues from the reverence of the cedar tree by First Nations people, the restaurant reflects all aspects of the tree. The central column is an architectural representation of a cedar trunk with lit panels above typifying the canopy of the tree. Branches float against the stone wall that leads to the private dining area, where the dappled green of forest leaves creates an enclosure of calm renewal. The yellow slotted wall denotes the setting sun with the fiery red sky above. Floating tree trunks celebrate the tree in its natural form juxtaposed to the refined wood used throughout the restaurant. The fireplace is a welcome invitation for the Creator. The design challenge for this project was to respectfully bridge the gap between design and the mythology and customs of native legacy. Careful collaboration between designer, millworker and client has led to this elegant and mindful solution.

For more photos, please see our website. For more information, contact Gordon Mackay at 416.341.2348.