

be blamed for not doing so. Most avoided the area. But as writer Harry Bruce noted, these buildings were "among the last standing throwbacks of the whole fighting, privateering, rum-running, sailing, steaming, trading, politicking, banking, shopkeeping and sea-going history of 19th-century Halifax."

The Duffus firm was picked to draw up the renovations. They came up with plans to transform the brackish backwater-18th-century buildings into a delightful cluster of restaurants, pubs, offices, boutiques and stores tied together with walkways, incorporating the permanent berth for the famed Bluenose. Like Vancouver's Gastown, Toronto's Yorkville, Victoria's Bastion Square and Old Montréal, it has its own unique character.

What Halifax now has is a heart, a gentle reminder that no matter how bad, no matter how fast life is, how complete the takeover by container-like structures, it is still possible to retain some shred of stability.

Environment is the important factor in the architectural equation, and environment is so important to Toronto architect Raymond Moriyama he refuses to build anything higher than five stories and lives close enough to work to avoid driving his 10-year-old Mercedes unless necessary.

"I believe that the best way to tell if a person is sincere is by seeing what he does rather than says," professes Moriyama who, at 48, has to his credit the Scarborough Civic Centre, a multipurpose community centre; Ontario Science Centre, a 'hands-on' experience that has been highly successful in attracting hordes of people; and a \$30-million Metropolitan Toronto Library facility that is designed to permanently shake up our traditional views on what libraries are supposed to be like.

Moriyama has been successful at building places for people. He is sensitive to the public's needs and that sensitivity comes from getting completely involved in the project.