



**Yasodhara Ashram**  
YOGA RETREAT & STUDY CENTRE

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **The Temple of Light Rises**

On November 7 and 8, 2016 the primary structure of [Yasodhara Ashram's Temple of Light](#) in Kootenay Bay, BC was assembled.

This stage of construction sees a dramatic visual transformation in the process of rebuilding. The original Temple was destroyed by fire in June 2014.

“Even though this is one small temple in the Kootenays, we see it is a symbol for hope and peace in the world, open to people from all spiritual traditions,” says Ashram President Swami Lalitananda.

The reconstruction of this building with its cutting-edge design and powerful message of inclusivity serves as a testament to the resilience of Yasodhara Ashram's international and local community.

Construction partners include Nelson's [Spearhead Inc.](#), a multi-faceted manufacturing company that specializes in building steel and timber structures. Spearhead is one of few companies in the world that works with the specific technology required for this unique project.

Award-winning Vancouver based firm [Patkau Architects](#) is the team behind the design of the Temple of Light. “We've been practicing architects for over thirty years,” says John Patkau of himself and his partner Patricia Patkau, “and this will certainly be the most remarkable thing that we've constructed.”

With the supporting structure in place, the petal design of the building will be put together incrementally over the coming months. Construction is expected to be completed by summer 2017.

“Seeing the vision begin to manifest is a joy. It's a process of innovation and collaboration among our community, the architects, fabricators and builders all coming together in harmony,” says Swami Lalitananda.

Yasodhara Ashram is a yoga retreat and study centre founded by Swami Sivananda Radha in 1963, in Kootenay Bay, British Columbia, Canada.

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Additional Information on Yasodhara Ashram and the rebuild of the Temple of Light:

[High Resolution Photos](#)

[History of Yasodhara Ashram](#)

[More Information on the June, 2014 Fire](#)

[Design of the Temple of Light](#)

[Video: Perspectives on the Temple of Light](#)

Luke Stern, manager of Design Research at Patkau Architects explains how unconventional design tools inform the digital fabrication process to create this geometrically complex structure.

[Video: Spearhead Visit](#)

Geoff Watts of Spearhead walks through the process of creating each petal structure of the building. Using a digitized process, the craftspersons at Spearhead worked directly with the 3D models provided by architects to complete complex designs.