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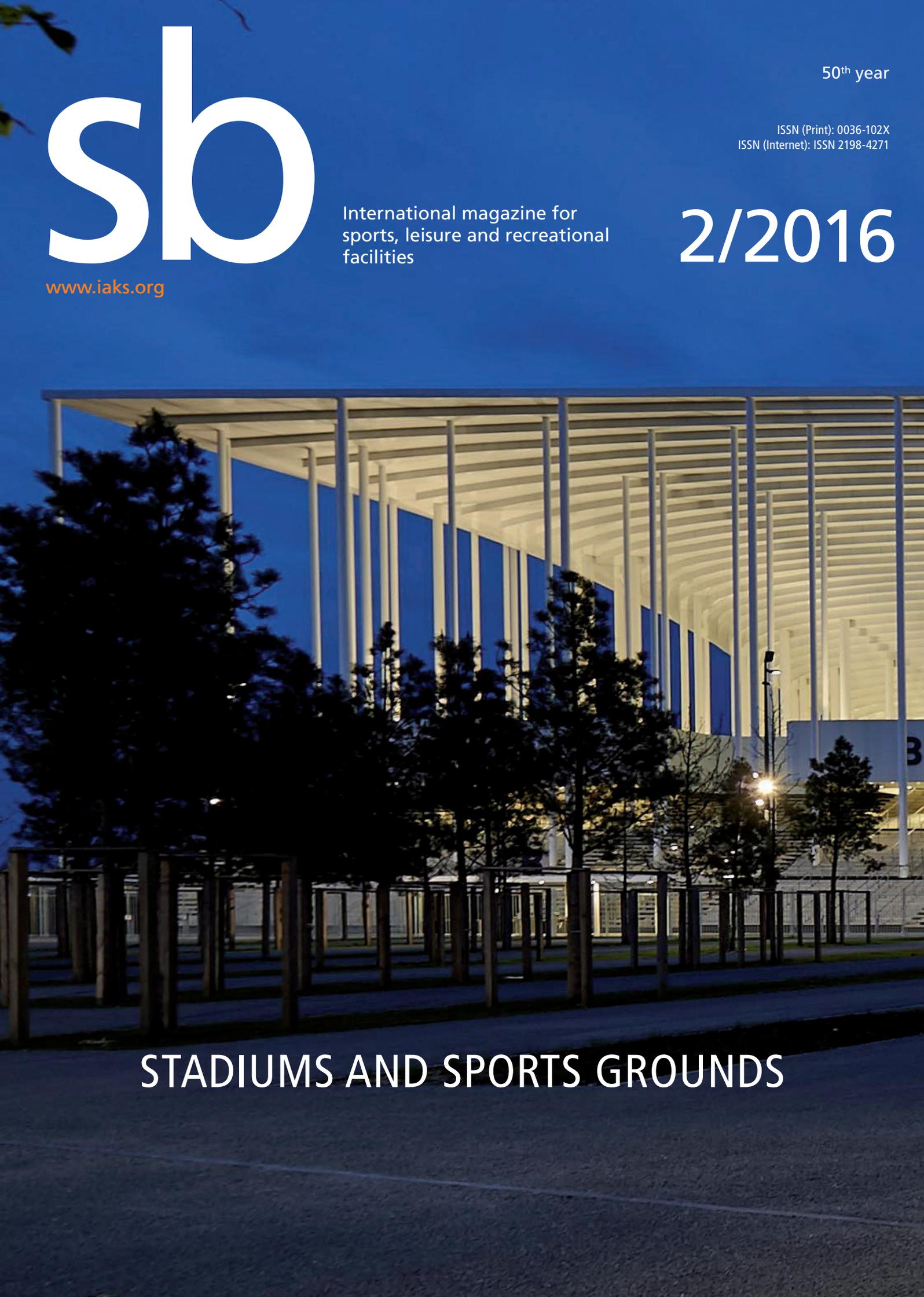
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STADIUMS AND SPORTS GROUNDS



## 30 YEARS ON MONTREAL OLYMPIC TOWER TO BE CONVERTED INTO AN OFFICE BUILDING

After 30 years of standing empty and under-used, the Olympic Stadium's massive tower will become a major office building. Up to 1,000 people will work here on a daily basis, starting in 2018.

Montreal's "Big O" is subject to numerous controversies, but one of them may come to a happy end now. Last week agreement was signed to lease 7 of the 12 floors at Montreal Tower to credit union Desjardins.

Finding proper use for the bulk of the tower's floor space is great news for taxpayers, as it improves the chances of Montreal Olympic Stadium to optimize revenue streams. The long-term lease will bring much needed use to spaces that have been empty for 30 (!) years. To make the 175-metre tower operable, first major renovation works need to be carried out. The operation will cost CAD \$60 million (\$45m), of which roughly two thirds will be covered by loan from the Quebec provincial government. The Montreal Tower was initially planned to open in time for 1976 Olympics, its infrastructure would have housed training facilities. Unfortunately the delayed stadium wasn't finished until the 1980s and since delivery in 1986 the tower has remained empty.

Photo: Tony Hisgett



## 140 YEARS ON PORT MELBOURNE FOOTBALL CLUB SPORTING AND COMMUNITY FACILITY

Port Melbourne Football Club (PMFC) has a proud history spanning 140 years, which makes it the oldest sporting club in Australia. Port Melbourne was once Victoria's industrial centre and over the last 15 years its workhouses and industrial facilities have given way to luxury apartments, cafés, French bakeries and boutique retail outlets. Port Melbourne experienced rapid change but PMFC was not a part of that change.

Completed in 2015, the new facility stands at the edge of the playing pitch, taking advantage of the elevated aspect of the site.

k20 Architecture delivered Port Melbourne Football Club Sporting and Community Facility with maximum specification of Australian and

locally sustainable sourced content, including materials and labour, to promote locally sourced and manufactured materials. Sustainably sourced timber, with a high carbon sink, was used in the design to provide a cost-effective outcome.

In recognition of the sustainable design of the project, Port Melbourne Football Club was named "Sustainability Category" winner at the 2015 National Australian Timber Design Awards. Standard, off-the-shelf and locally sourced timber materials and timber components were procured and k20 also ensured that local labour was commissioned to skilfully assemble and construct the building.

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