



Abdul Ladha Science Student Centre | University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC

Johnston Davidson Architecture Planning Inc.

The Abdul Ladha Science Student Centre is located at the University of British Columbia Vancouver Camps. With an undergraduate student faculty spread out across campus in a variety of academic buildings, and an office and lounge space that could barely hold one percent of the Science student population, the Science Undergraduate Society (SUS) lobbied the University for a central gathering place where they could study and socialize, and take advantage of the services SUS has to offer. At 7,200 square feet, the Ladha building provides the SUS with a position on the front door of all student activities on campus with a building which is an easily recognizable landmark. In addition, the facility has been designed to incorporate the kind of maximum flexibility that a student centre requires, providing study spaces, lounge areas, kitchen facilities and the ability to convert these spaces into large reception areas for parties, guest lecturers, school shows, presentations, graduation receptions and many other student related activities.

Wood was selected for the primary structural supporting walls and roof member with the use of glulam columns and beams. The basic philosophy for this selection of wood comes from a desire to utilize as many materials in the building which do the job technically and with style and flare. Wood was also chosen because it suited the size and scale of the building and because the material is highly sustainable. The design called for major portions of the building to be transparent, thus the combination of wood and glass met the expectation beautifully.



Wood materials used:

- Glulam fir columns and roof beams
- Exterior 1 X 4 T & G cedar resawn siding
- Walnut faced millwork
- Stained birch faced doors
- Plywood forming for all cast in place concrete

**Design team:****Architectural:**

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Contractor

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