

Tall Wood is on the Up-and-Up in Toronto

10-Storey Building Receives Support from the Green Construction through Wood Program

Toronto - May 30th, 2019 – The Arbour, a 10-storey building planned for George Brown College’s Waterfront Campus, is one of the winning recipients of the Green Construction through Wood (GCWood) Program. Launched by Natural Resources Canada, the GCWood Program encourages the broader awareness and domestic capacity for wood in Canadian construction. The Arbour, which will use mass timber products, will demonstrate wood’s ability to complement other building materials in innovative applications such as tall construction.

“Today’s GCWood Program announcement is about diversifying options for builders and architects in Canada, and providing them with the science, research and funding to support the advancement of wood in tall construction,” explained Rick Jeffery, Interim President at the Canadian Wood Council. “It’s important to note that tall buildings are hybrid buildings. With a gap existing between wood’s capabilities and its perceived capabilities in construction, programs such as GCWood assure that wood is included in the discussions pertaining to building material choices.”

“We couldn’t be happier about this announcement. The selection of The Arbour as an NRCan Tall Wood demonstration project is a significant achievement for George Brown College, the project team, and the City of Toronto,” added Marianne Berube, Executive Director of Ontario Wood *WORKS!*, a program of the Canadian Wood Council. “This versatile building will stand as a clear, inspiring demonstration of what can be achieved with modern wood construction. The example set by The Arbour will help drive advancement in sustainable wood construction and lead the way for additional tall wood projects in the Greater Toronto Area and across the country.”

The team of Moriyama & Teshima Architects + Acton Ostry Architects will design The Arbour with a ‘made in Canada’ approach using naturally sourced mass timber products. The design will feature ‘breathing’ rooms using solar chimneys for sustainable, natural ventilation, as well as flexible learning spaces with walls that can be extended or retracted.

“The Arbour is destined to become a landmark in the city, driving forward advancements in sustainable innovation and green buildings throughout Canada,” said Anne Sado, President of George Brown College. “We hope that this building will serve as an example of how we can incorporate sustainability into all aspects of our lives, including where we learn, work and play.”

The GCWood program was announced as part of the Government of Canada’s Budget 2017 with \$39.8 million in funding available over four years, starting in 2018–19. The funds will support projects and activities that increase the use of wood as a green building material in infrastructure projects. GCWood provides non-repayable contributions to a project’s eligible incremental costs for the demonstration of innovative wood products and systems. Knowledge and information developed using GCWood funding falls under a Creative Commons license and will allow for future knowledge sharing. To learn more about the GCWood program, please visit <https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/forests/federal-programs/gcwood/20046>.

When it comes to information about wood, trust the experts with over 60 years of experience at the Canadian Wood Council www.cwc.ca.

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