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Images courtesy of Wood *WORKS!* BC and Stephanie Tracey, Photography West. For more BC project profiles, please visit naturally:wood.com

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Gateway Lodge Residential Care Facility

Location:
Prince George
Design Team:
Neale Staniszkis Doll Adams Architects /
Krahn Engineering Ltd.
Description of Project:
Wood is used on this project because of its warmth, tactile character, durability and, ultimately, its ability to create a residential environment and home-like setting for its elderly residents. The exposed wood structure in the social spaces, community hall, building entrances and garden pavilions create a strong, modern and materially expressive architectural aesthetic that reflects the uniqueness of northern BC, the local forest economy and natural environment.

Tseshaht First Nation Health Centre and Multiplex

Location:
Port Alberni
Design Team:
Lubor Trubka Associates Architects /
CWMM Consulting Engineers Ltd.
Description of Project:
The structure is a combination of open-framed post-and-beam infill with glazing and strategically placed sheer walls in limited amounts, utilizing a multitude of engineered wood products and a variety of natural lumber products harvested and milled by Tseshaht from their own forest reserves. This near-to-millwork design concept, which exposes every element of the structure as an architectural feature and vocabulary, required precision pre-manufacturing of each element, which was done on site before its assembly and erection and carried out very successfully by predominantly Band labour.

Glen Eagles Community Centre

Location:
West Vancouver
Design Team:
Patkau Architects Inc. /
Fast & Epp
Description of Project:
The roof system of curved glulam beams undulate from the back of the building which is on the upper slope, over the second storey workout space up and over the gym floor landing on glulam columns and shooting out over to form a large overhang on the lower side. This is an excellent example of shape and form that comes with using the right material for the right purpose; wood for the flowing roof, concrete for the retaining walls and steel for the connections.

Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre

Location:
Whistler
Design Team:
Alfred Waugh Architects /
Equilibrium Consulting Inc.
Description of Project:
Wood helps to carry on the memory of the First Peoples traditional connection to the land and supports a locally renewable and energy efficient natural resource. The vision for this project was a contemporary interpretation of the traditional longhouse and pit house forms used by the Squamish and Lil'wat people since ancient times. The building is three storeys in height and curved in plan, and has the main entrance with its intricately carved cedar doors on the east side, leading directly into the 'Great Hall'.

Smithers Municipal Hall

Location:
Smithers
Design Team:
Dan Condon Architect
& Ross Steward Architects Inc.
Description of Project:
Due to the current pine beetle epidemic in the north and the growing use of denim pine in wood construction, the town "captured the moment" by utilizing the denim pine in the project, both in the large timber construction in the main entry and in the wood ceiling in council chambers. All the denim pine wood was donated to the project by the local sawmill. The wall framing consists of wood studs and the roof system features all wood trusses. All millwork in the council chambers and kitchen areas is made of solid wood fabricated in a local shop.

Rotary Centre for the Arts

Location:
Kelowna
Design Team:
Hotson Bakker Architects & Renaissance Architecture
Planning Inc. / C.Y.Loh Associates Ltd.
Description of Project:
The $6.7 million, 44,000 sq. ft. facility, designed in association with Renaissance Architecture, caters to both the visual and performance arts. A 330-seat theatre and public veranda surround the existing Growers Building. The facility houses an art gallery, a pottery studio, various visual arts studios, dance studios, a music room and set shop. Open space around the centre accommodates outdoor performance and an outdoor works yard.

The Squamish Adventure Centre

Location:
Squamish
Design Team:
Iredale Group
Architecture
Description of Project:
The Squamish Adventure Centre is a striking example of the developing skill of British Columbia's timber frame industry. It shows how a remarkable 21st-century architectural concept can be executed in wood quickly, economically and with a high level of precision and finish by BC designers and craftsmen.

West Vancouver Aquatic Centre

Location:
West Vancouver
Design Team:
Hughes Condon Marler Architects /
Fast & Epp
Description of Project:
The architectural possibilities of the glulam structural systems allowed the freedom to sculpt both the volume and structure of the new natatorium in a manner that would not have been possible in steel. The simplicity and warmth of the material contribute greatly to the ambiance of the space, and the properties of the wood systems provide a durable response to the challenges posed by the corrosive nature of the indoor air environment of aquatic centres. The glued laminated glazing wall framing provides a dramatic, unique and memorable impression of the building for both facility users and the broader public that pass by.

Tla'Amin Community Health and Multi-purpose Centre

Location:
Powell River
Design Team:
McFarland Marceau
Architects Ltd.
Description of Project:
The physical expression of the building draws upon the traditional Tla'Amin cedar shed in its form, and incorporates an abundance of Band-supplied red and yellow cedar in its heavy timber structure and siding. Contemporary and traditional detailing creates a balance of performance and local artistry. The result is a civic building, with flexibility of use that speaks to the pride of the Sliammon nation in their past and optimism towards their future.

Prince George Airport

Location:
Prince George
Design Team:
McFarlane Green Architecture & Design Inc. /
Equilibrium Consulting Inc.
Description of Project:
The design modernizes the 1970's terminal and establishes a fresh approach to the interior and exterior architecture. The new structure is heavy timber, concrete and steel. The structural systems are exposed and form the basis of the building's material palette. The design focuses extensively on the structural and envelope detailing. Exterior cladding includes an innovative structurally glazed curtain wall supported on custom-designed castings.

Ladysmith RCMP Detachment

Location:
Ladysmith
Design Team:
KMBR Architects Planners Inc. /
Herold Engineering Ltd.
Description of Project:
In response to the context of a small rural community, wood was chosen as the primary construction material for this building. A glue-laminated post-and-beam system provides the main structure for the building, augmented by a dimension lumber, wood stud-and-joist secondary structure. The exterior finish is Western red cedar applied in a rain-screen system. The honest expression of a glue-laminated post-and-beam structure and the exposed roof joists and plywood decking are significant compositional elements for the interior of this building.

Whistler Public Library

Location:
Whistler
Design Team:
Hughes Condon Marler Architects /
Fast & Epp
Description of Project:
The system developed on the Whistler Public Library provides a framework for promoting the use of wood in general, and hemlock, specifically, in larger scale projects. The 15,000 sq. ft. library provided a convincing test case due to the high roof loads and distance from the fabrication centre in Vancouver. Embraced by the local community, the project was a showcase of Canadian innovation during the 2010 Olympic Games in Whistler and Vancouver, thus raising the visibility and viability for wood construction within the province and beyond.

Oyster River Fire Hall

Location:
Comox
Design Team:
Johnston Davidson Architecture and Planning Inc. /
Herold Engineering Ltd.
Description of Project:
The fire hall features exposed glue-laminated roof beams and purlins over both the apparatus bays and support areas. The roof features substantial cantilevers at the eaves with beams and roof sheathing exposed on the soffits. The visual warmth of the wood contrasts with the other exterior materials, such as the brightly coloured metal cladding. The bright colours and strong form announce the fire hall to the street while maintaining a relationship with the regional character.

Nor Val Centre (Armstrong-Spallumcheen Arena)

Location:
Armstrong
Design Team:
C. E. I. Architecture Planning Interiors
& GEC Architecture / Fast & Epp
Description of Project:
The construction of the Armstrong / Spallumcheen Multi-use Complex showcases locally manufactured wood products. The main roof support above the ice / playing surface is provided by glue-laminated beams. Intermediate support of the long beams is provided by two steel legs supported by structural cable. One end of the trusses is supported by steel frames that cantilever over the seating area. The supports also raise the level of the underside of the roof to increase the clearance height desirable for lacrosse.

Brentwood Sky Train Station

Location:
Burnaby
Design Team:
Busby Perkins + Will /
Fast & Epp
Description of Project:
The Brentwood Station is the flagship location in the new ALRT line adjacent to Brentwood Town Centre, and a major transfer point to an existing bus loop at Brentwood Mall. Structural components of this station are a combination of wood and steel. They have been custom designed to provide the elegant curved shape, yet be efficient and cost effective to build.

Kingsway Pedestrian Bridge

Location:
Burnaby
Design Team:
Busby Perkins + Will /
Fast & Epp
Description of Project:
The 43 m x 3 m Kingsway Pedestrian Bridge is a landmark structure connecting Metrotown with the growing commercial and residential areas to the north of Kingsway in Burnaby. Structural components of this bridge are a combination of wood and steel material. The striking double-curved glulam wood form hovers above the foot-bridge that crosses Kingsway at McMurray Avenue, blending an elegant design solution with an inviting passage across a busy intersection.