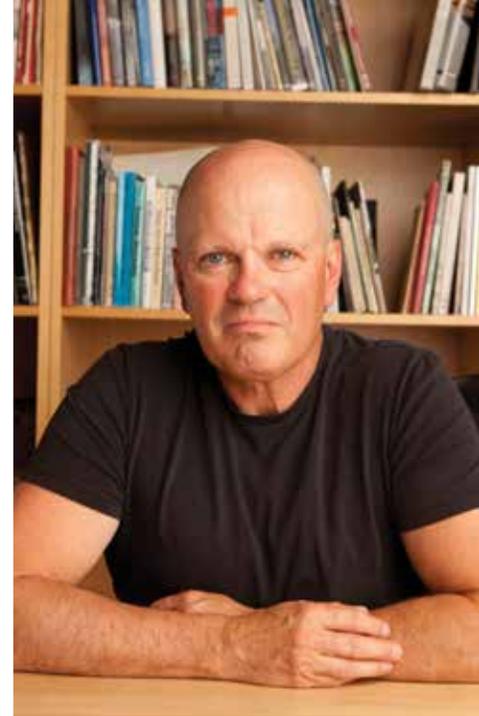




**SPECIAL**  
8-PAGE SUPPLEMENT

# WOOD CHAMPIONS

SPRING/SUMMER 2018 – VOLUME 5, ISSUE 4



## WHAT'S INSIDE

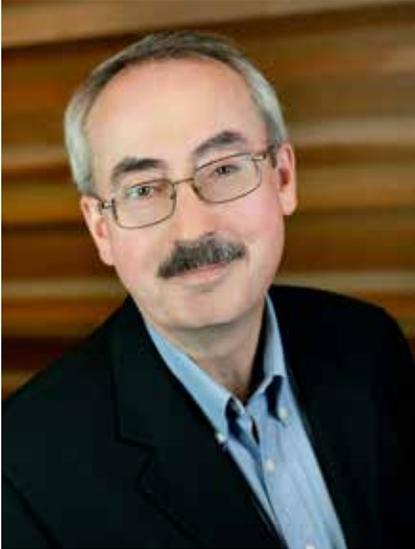
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## WOOD CHAMPIONS

The word “champion” likely invokes various examples of people we would all consider worthy of the term. Perhaps they are athletes or philanthropic advocates. Regardless of their pursuit, one thing is certain, their actions have influenced you in such a way that you’ve deemed them a champion and most likely view them in high regard.

Champions come in many different forms. For the Canadian Wood WORKS! program, we see wood champions as individuals who believe in the merits of the material and the research that is driving innovation for wood products. For these champions, Wood WORKS! is an essential program for technical information, educational events, and networking opportunities. Projects featured in our publications (*Wood Design & Building* magazine, awards book, case studies) inspire them. The educational and informational workshops, luncheons, and Wood Solutions Fairs are events where these individuals can learn, network and earn continuing education credits. In that way, we *champion* the use of wood.

Our wood champions’ career backgrounds are diverse – from the design and construction community, to municipal and government leaders, to fire officials. All individuals are equally essential to our Wood WORKS! program. It’s one thing for Wood WORKS! to advocate the benefits of wood in construction, and something completely different for a third-party to speak to their experiences with wood construction. Our role at Wood WORKS! is to ensure everyone is well-informed about the resources and technical expertise available, and to inspire them to push the boundaries of wood in construction with examples from Canada and overseas.

We’ve dedicated this Wood WORKS! magazine insert to just a few people we would call wood champions. I encourage you to read their stories and see how their vision has helped increase the use of wood in construction. Then let us know how we can help! Learn more about the Canadian Wood WORKS! program at [www.wood-works.ca](http://www.wood-works.ca).

Etienne Lalonde  
National Director  
Wood WORKS!

Interested in attending a Wood WORKS! educational opportunity in your region? Check out the events listed in this insert and get involved with your regional Wood WORKS! today.

This Wood WORKS! magazine insert was created to help inspire design professionals throughout Canada. Do you have a project that features wood as a primary building material? Take advantage of our Wood WORKS! magazine insert and get featured today! Contact Natalie Tarini at [ntarini@cwcc.ca](mailto:ntarini@cwcc.ca), and share your story.

## Mark your CALENDARS 2018 EVENTS

### May 30

Mass Timber Design Workshop  
Charlottetown, PE  
[www.atlanticwoodworks.ca](http://www.atlanticwoodworks.ca)

### June 5

Design Seminar  
Edmonton, AB  
<http://wood-works.ca/alberta>

### June 6

Design Seminar  
Calgary, AB  
<http://wood-works.ca/alberta>

### November 6

Wood Solutions Conference  
Vancouver, BC  
[www.wood-works.ca/bc](http://www.wood-works.ca/bc)

### November 22

Wood Solutions Fair  
Toronto, ON  
<http://wood-works.ca/ontario>

### November 20

Wood Design Luncheon Conference  
Kelowna, BC  
[www.wood-works.ca/bc](http://www.wood-works.ca/bc)

### November 23

Wood Design Luncheon Conference  
Victoria, BC  
[www.wood-works.ca/bc](http://www.wood-works.ca/bc)

### December 5

Wood Design Awards  
Halifax, NS  
[www.atlanticwoodworks.ca](http://www.atlanticwoodworks.ca)

### December 11

Wood Solutions Conference  
Calgary, AB  
<http://wood-works.ca/alberta>



SAIL PHOTO CREDIT: RAEF GROHNE



BRITISH COLUMBIA

KEVIN MAHON (L), CEO, ADERA GROUP OF COMPANIES, RECEIVES THE 2018 WOOD CHAMPION AWARD FROM ETIENNE LALONDE (R), VP, MARKET DEVELOPMENT, CANADIAN WOOD COUNCIL AND WOOD WORKS! NATIONAL DIRECTOR.

## Kevin Mahon

The Wood WORKS! BC 2018 Wood Champion award winner is Kevin Mahon, Chief Executive Officer of Vancouver-based Adera Group of Companies. As one of BC's leading multi-disciplinary real estate organizations with more than 45 years of experience, Adera has built a world-class portfolio that includes the development of both residential and commercial buildings. Mahon is a long-standing champion of wood, constantly pushing the standards of wood construction and advancing innovation in the use of wood systems in his firm's projects. Adera recently introduced cross-laminated timber into the construction of its residential mid-rise sector and continues to work toward providing sustainable wood solutions.

Adera's signature architectural style blends West Coast modernism with the surrounding elements of nature by highlighting exposed wood beams and cedar soffits. Here are some past Adera projects which highlight its extensive championing of wood and wood construction.

**Sail**, the second true six-story wood frame building in BC was constructed with an extensive use of natural, renewable building materials including an engineered truss joisting system for the flooring, maximizing the efficiency of wood material. An abundant usage of glulam structural beams creates the commanding entry canopy.

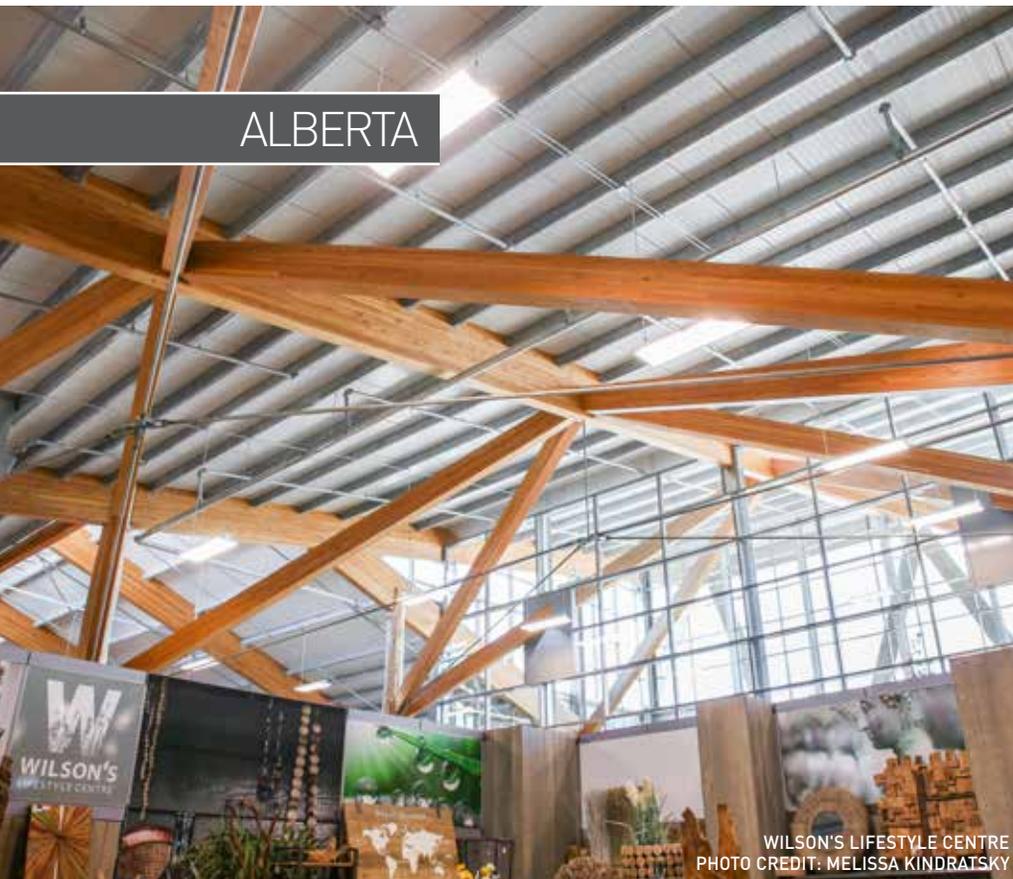
**Prodigy**, located on the UBC campus in the heart of Wesbrook Village, features West Coast modern architecture that blends a stunning six-story wood-frame building with the natural elements of its surroundings with exposed glulam wood beams, cedar soffits and inviting warm brick cladding interplayed with glass. Specific wood materials used include I-joists, parallel strand lumber and laminated strand lumber beams.

**The Shore** is a master-planned community in North Vancouver boasting a significant amount of wood features including expansive amounts of exposed

cedar soffits and exposed wood beams. Specific wood materials used include I-joists, parallel strand lumber and laminated strand lumber beams. Innovative acoustic technology exceeds mandated standards in the 2012 BC Building Code, significantly reducing impact/airborne sound transmission.

**Virtuoso** is the first project built using mass timber, specifically cross-laminated timber (CLT) panels. Featuring signature West Coast modern architecture and surrounding a central zen garden, Virtuoso is truly a balance of the modern architectural form. The use of mass timber on this project provides it with a sustainable advantage, as mass timber provides legitimate fire resistance, outperforms concrete in seismic conditions and is a superior renewable building resource. Mass timber also reduces the amount of airborne and impact sounds between attached homes, which complements Adera's acoustic technology.

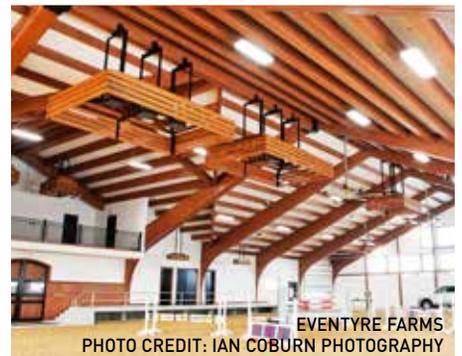
## ALBERTA



WILSON'S LIFESTYLE CENTRE  
PHOTO CREDIT: MELISSA KINDRATSKY



PHOTO CREDIT: CHELSEA OLSON



EVENTYRE FARMS  
PHOTO CREDIT: IAN COBURN PHOTOGRAPHY

## Melissa Kindratsky

Melissa Kindratsky is a Structural Project Engineer at ISL Engineering and Land Services Ltd., based in Canmore, located in Bow Valley within Alberta's picturesque Rockies. Kindratsky grew up in Port Alberni, BC, and knew from a young age she wanted to pursue a career in engineering. Wood has always been a part of her life. From her dad's career as a forester to her dream job at ISL, Kindratsky appreciates the aesthetic qualities, engineering intricacies and biophilic benefits of wood products.

Early on in her career, Kindratsky can recall her preference for working on wood projects. "I wanted to put something into the world that would make it a better place," she explains. "If a wood building helps with an individual's overall life happiness, and if I've contributed to that in some way shape or form, then I feel like I've done my job as an engineer."

After 14 years in the industry working with products from glulam beams to CLT panels to light wood-frame assemblies, Kindratsky grew to have an appreciation for the engineering complexities of wood as a natural building material. "As

the only living building material, there are certain properties that you have to consider for wood in a project – from the construction through to the life of the completed building," she says. "You have to work with the material, not make the material work for you."

Engineering is a broad field, Kindratsky says. "I am a very detail-oriented person and I like to understand 'how' and 'why' things work the way they do. At ISL, I'm part of a team of experts dedicated to working with clients who are looking to incorporate timber into their projects from homeowners to glulam manufacturers and timber framers. In my final year of university, I participated in a Structural Engineering with Architecture program in Edinburgh, Scotland. I'm able to apply elements from that coursework to ensure that wood is structurally and aesthetically represented in any given project that we work on from the configuration of the whole system, down to the connection details."

When Kindratsky has a wood-related technical question about a project, she

does not hesitate to contact the team at Alberta Wood WORKS! for additional resources. "I've attended many of their education events and find them insightful and inspiring." Kindratsky also receives mandatory education credits for engineering at these events, and says that they are a great opportunity to network with design and construction professionals who are also advocates for wood in construction. In addition to Wood WORKS! events, webinars via the Wood WORKS! eLearning Centre are a convenient way Kindratsky and the team at ISL receive education credits and inspiration from wood projects around the country.

"We're heading into an era where cutting-edge technologies are allowing design and construction professionals to push the boundaries of wood in construction," Kindratsky says. "I'm excited to be a part of this momentum that is driven by research, science and a desire to build green."

To learn more about Kindratsky and the team at ISL Engineering and Land Services Ltd., visit <http://islengineering.com>.

## Randall Kober

Randall Kober is an architect, carpenter, historian and educator with a Bachelor's degree in History and a Master's degree in Architecture. His CV includes hands-on construction and carpentry skills, years of professional practice, and extensive teaching experience. He has received several awards, published numerous articles, and is a regularly invited academic advisor, guest lecturer, and visiting critic.

Currently, Kober is a Master Lecturer at Laurentian University's new McEwen School of Architecture in Sudbury, ON. He was among the founding faculty of this dynamic school which has established wood design as one of its pedagogical foundations. The exposed CLT structure of the school itself is an educational tool that demonstrates excellence in wood design. At the time of construction, the school was celebrated as the most significant use of cross-laminated timber in a public building in Ontario.

Since the school opened in 2013, Kober has taught incoming undergraduate students wood design/build skills. He developed an introductory materials and methods course based on the values, static principles, and construction practices of the Indigenous, French and English cultures of the region and has lectured internationally on this innovative hands-on course where students explore wood's potential by building 1:1 wooden structures.

Kober is a passionate teacher whose inspirational work with student architects is helping to shape the future of Canadian architecture.

**You've said that the McEwen School of Architecture is a "wood first" school. What does that mean?**

Actually, I should have said "first wood" school. One of the inspirations for creating our school was an engaged community that wanted to assist the timber economy in northern Ontario. Wood is part of our DNA. We have lignum in our veins.

**Few schools of architecture teach about wood design in the comprehensive, hands-on way that you do at the McEwen School of Architecture. How will this skill set benefit your students in the workforce?**

We hope that our students will have an innate understanding of wood's possibilities as a structural material. Designing with wood should become second nature to them. More importantly, they are learning respect for the material as part of a complex ecosystem and respect for those who know how to build.

**You have led design/build programs for Laurentian students in Dinkelsbühl, Germany, for the past four years. Can you describe this experience and the impact it has on your students?**

The city is an ensemble of 16th century mass timber buildings, some of them six stories tall, which still has an intact craft tradition. The students get their hands dirty with medieval timber. They see that a timber building can last for more than 500 years. We also look at progressive practices of contemporary carpentry to understand where this centuries-old pursuit is going.

## ONTARIO



PHOTO CREDIT: DREW HOWLETT

**What do you see as the role of wood in our built environment? Why is it so important for the next generation of architects to know how to design and build with wood?**

As we become more enlightened about our role in shaping our planet's future, we see there is really only one sustainable structural material with which to build our growing cities. Here is this beautiful material with a rich cross-cultural building tradition that is being rediscovered. Wood is not only of the past. It is the future.



LAURENTIAN UNIVERSITY'S MCEWAN SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE





## Marc-André Roy

Marc-André Roy is the President and owner of Sotramont, a second-generation family business founded 49 years ago in Montreal. Sotramont is a real estate development and construction company; a leader in its industry with more than 3,000 housing units under its name. Sotramont has earned a reputation as a high-quality master builder of innovative neighborhoods and skillfully executed houses.

Roy, who has been active with his team in the greater Montreal area, has specialized in sustainable development of integrated residential projects such as the Bois-Franc district in Montreal and the Greenwich district in Pointe-Claire. These communities are well-conceived and built around an environmentally friendly lifestyle. Quality is of paramount importance to Sotramont. "We build effective housing that meets the highest energy efficiency and sustainable development standards," says Roy.

In 2012, one of Sotramont's achievements, the Place des Nations project in Bois-Franc, was recognized as the first LEED Gold building in Quebec (in the category of four or more floors) and in 2014, the same project was recognized having the most efficient building envelope in the world by the US Green Building Council. In 2015, Sotramont



innovated again by building two condo projects varying from six to eight floors, equipped with a CLT (cross-laminated timber) structure, known both for its solidity and environmental performance. One of the condo projects, Arbora, which includes 434 units spread over three eight-floor buildings, is the biggest CLT construction site in the world in terms of surface area. Since 2015, all the Sotramont real estate projects have been LEED developments.

From 2009 to 2016, Roy was President of the Qualité Habitation (Living Quality) board of directors, the leading new home warranty program in Quebec. He is a member of the Quebec Bar Association and currently works for many associations related to real estate progress and quality.

"While steel and concrete may have been the favored materials of the last two centuries, the 21st century will be made of wood," Roy said during the ACQ Congress last September.



POINT HOUSE PHOTO CREDIT: WILLIAM GREEN

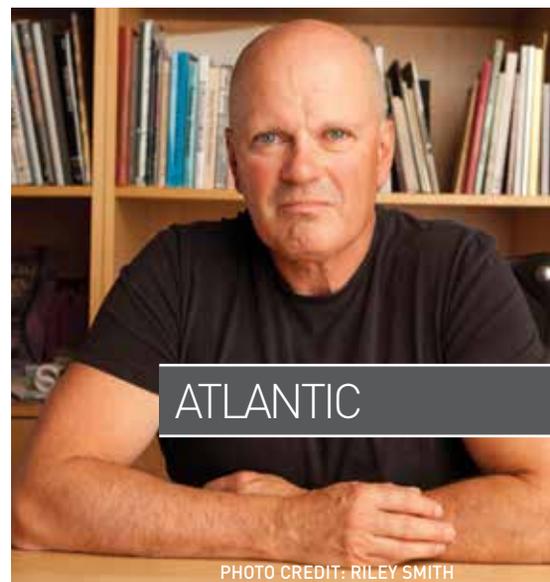


PHOTO CREDIT: RILEY SMITH

## Brian MacKay-Lyons

Theresa Rogers

Brian MacKay-Lyons was born and raised in southwestern Nova Scotia, receiving his Bachelor of Architecture from the Technical University of Nova Scotia and his Master of Architecture and Urban Design at U.C.L.A.

After studying and working in China, Japan, Italy, and California, MacKay-Lyons returned to Nova Scotia in 1983 to challenge the historic maritime 'brain drain' trend, and to make a cultural contribution to the province of his Acadian and Mi'kmaq ancestors. In 1985, he founded the firm Brian MacKay-Lyons Architecture Urban Design in Halifax. Twenty years later, MacKay-Lyons partnered with Talbot Sweetapple to form MacKay-Lyons Sweetapple Architects Limited. The firm has built an international award-winning reputation. Houses designed in Atlantic Canada have made the firm a leading proponent of regionalist architecture worldwide.

As a professor of architecture at Dalhousie University, MacKay-Lyons has contributed to architectural education in the region for 30 years, most recently with an internship on his farm each summer. Ghost Lab, as it is known, has been counted as among the top three alternative architectural programs in the world.

### How did you become a champion of wood architecture?

It just kind of happened. I guess partly because of material culture tradition in Nova Scotia that is heavily biased by wood. I grew up around shipbuilding. This produced a culture of lots of good carpenters. There's a long-standing wood building tradition that was really built on the back of shipbuilding.

### What makes people respond to your architecture?

I think lots of people probably don't respond very well to it. I think why you might see our work being respectful of the local traditions is partly because you're standing back far enough to see that. A lot of people would say our work is an outrage and is not respectful of the local traditions because it does kind of look very modern to the heritage crowd.

### Would you say Ghost Lab is your legacy?

I don't know. That's a fair question. I'd hate to think so. It's not the main attraction; it's not the main deal. We think that our regular practice is the main deal, where we make projects for clients. So certainly there's an educational legacy there, with Ghost, that's pretty cool and will hopefully be remembered... I think if there's a contribution – you know, my heroes were people who taught and practiced and wrote books and did it all. It's all part of a complete life of an architect, to do all of those things.

The sum of the whole should be greater than the sum of its parts.

### You have said the nature of the carpentry craft has changed.

Today you can be a rough carpenter and you can throw a house up in a few weeks. You just need a nail gun and some Skil saws. The nature of the craft has changed. The thing about the Maritimes is there is this deep, deep soil when it comes to wood building and you can always find really good craftsmanship when you need it. There's a wide range of skill here in dealing with wood. You can get really cheap stuff done and you can get the very highest craftsmanship done, and you can do that all on the same project. You can do a kind of sweet and sour house. You can do sweet craftsmanship and contrast that against raw sawn lumber. We try to exploit the wide range of skills here and they still endure... I was trying to convince our colleagues that the light timber frame tradition that we have here in the east has a kind of elegance that you don't find in the timber-heavy traditions of the west coast. There is a kind of refinement that the culture in Nova Scotia has developed, through shipbuilding, a kind of finesse that the heavy-timber muscular buildings of the west coast don't necessarily have.

Excerpted from *Wood Design & Building*, Winter 2012/13.

## NATIONAL PARTNERS

Canadian Wood Council  
Conseil canadien du bois



Natural Resources Canada  
Ressources naturelles Canada



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Intelligence In Wood

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**western archrib**  
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## WOOD WORKS! REGIONS IN CANADA

### National Wood WORKS!

c/o Canadian Wood Council  
99 Bank Street, Suite 400  
Ottawa, ON K1P 6B9  
Tel: 613-747-5544

### British Columbia

837 Riverside Drive  
North Vancouver, BC V7H 1V6  
Tel: 1-877-929-WOOD (9663)

### Alberta

900-10707 100 Ave.  
Edmonton, AB T5J 3M1  
Tel: 780-392-1952

### Quebec

1175, avenue Lavigerie Bureau 200  
Quebec, QC G1V 4P1  
Tel: 418-650-7193

### Ontario

1350 Fisher Street, Unit 115  
North Bay, ON P1B 2H1  
Tel: 1-866-886-3574

### Atlantic

c/o Maritime Lumber Bureau  
P.O. Box 459  
Amherst, NS B4H 4A1  
Tel: 902-667-3889

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