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Wood *WORKS!* Award Winners Announced: wood design solutions for diverse building types showcased

(Ottawa, November 3, 2011) An elite group of Ontario's leading architects, engineers, and project teams received Wood Design Awards at the 11th annual Wood *WORKS!* awards celebration. The awards recognize people and organizations that, through design excellence and innovation, are advancing the use of wood in construction.

"Design professionals in Ontario are specifying wood in a wider variety of building types," said Marianne Berube, Wood *WORKS!* Ontario's Executive Director. "This is an exciting trend because the benefits of wood construction are so significant. Increased wood use supports Ontario's second largest economic engine and has positive outcomes for forest dependent communities across the province."

"Globally, design solutions that incorporate sustainably sourced wood products help us reduce our CO₂ emissions. Since wood products actually store carbon, when we use wood in place of non-renewable materials that require large amounts of fossil fuels to produce, we greatly reduce the carbon footprint of any building."

"In addition to wood's environmental advantages, new products and advancements in manufacturing have ensured that today's wood products are stronger, smarter and more versatile than ever. As a result, applications for wood products are almost unlimited and, through design innovation, architects and engineers can create larger wood buildings of diverse occupancies that meet or exceed the requirements for safety and performance. It is our privilege to celebrate some of the best of these buildings each year through the Wood *WORKS!* Awards program."

Working with the design community, Wood *WORKS!* connects practitioners with resources related to the use of wood in commercial, industrial and institutional construction, assists in product sourcing, and delivers educational seminars and training opportunities.

"We are proud to honour people who, through their work with wood, enrich our built environment and lead the way for future excellence and innovation in wood design and building," concluded Berube.

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Individual project profiles and high-resolution colour photos available on request.
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*Wood *WORKS!* is a national, industry-led initiative of the Canadian Wood Council that promotes the use of wood in commercial, industrial and institutional construction.*

www.woodworksawards.com • www.wood-works.org

2011 Ontario Wood *WORKS!* Award Winners

Award	Winner
<p>Green Building Wood Design</p> <p><i>Sponsored by OWL Distribution</i></p>	<p><u>Project: Christopher Children's Centre, Cambridge, ON</u> Architect: Lillepold Dowling Architects in association with CS&P Architects Engineer: Blackwell Bowick Partnership Ltd.</p> <p>Sustainability and economic goals led to the incorporation of wood as the primary structural element in a fully-sprinklered building type, and allowed for a rapid and low-tech construction system utilizing a renewable resource harvested to FSC requirements. The project was designed toward LEED Silver and may attain LEED Gold. Large overhangs are cantilevered with LVL beams providing generous covered play areas, solar shading, and protection for the wood siding.</p> <p>The High-Scope Curriculum used within the childcare centre advocates a learning environment where children are in contact with natural materials, and wood provided a variety of colours, textures and species - from the smooth face of White Maple panels and solid Black Walnut benches in corridors and classrooms to rough sawn siding and battens at the exterior.</p> <p>In addition to the building's numerous sustainability strategies, the daycare center has an extensive recycling program which includes collection of organic waste. Furthermore, over 95% of generated construction waste was sent to recycling facilities and diverted from landfill. Over 15% of all construction materials were produced from recycled content, and over 30% of construction materials were produced regionally.</p> <p>The energy efficiency features employed in the centre result in energy use 45% below MNECB, eliminating approximately 40.5 tons of CO₂ emissions annually compared to a similar building built to code.</p>
<p>Interior Wood Design</p> <p><i>Sponsored by Resolute Forest Products</i></p>	<p><u>Project: Salvation Army Harbour Light, Toronto, ON</u> Architect: Diamond and Schmitt Architects Engineer: Read Jones Christoffersen Consulting Engineers</p> <p>The Harbour Light is the flagship facility of the Salvation Army in the downtown core of Toronto. The seven-storey, 8,500 square meter building houses a community church, transitional housing, a residential addictions recovery program, and community & family services.</p> <p>The north wing is a short-term residential addiction recovery facility operated in conjunction with the Ministry of Health Long Term Care that houses 48 single, double and triple dwelling rooms over six floors. Residents are brought together as extended family groups of 15 with their own counselor eventually graduating to one of the 98 transitional apartments located in the south wing of the building with continued access to counselors as well as education, job training and employment services. Maple floors and red oak millwork and cabinetry are used throughout the Harbour Light to civilize the building's institutional qualities and bring a sense of home to the apartments and clinic.</p> <p>The community Chapel sits as an independent volume to the north of the residence wings. It is clad in polycarbonate panels backlit to produce a beacon of, light, emblematic of the centre's mandate as a place of hope. They rise above the solid masonry base and cut back to reveal two crosses incised into the brick.</p> <p>The Sanctuary of the church is the heart of the Harbour Light. It is constructed entirely of wood at the interior within the shell of exterior masonry and polycarbonate. Red oak is used</p>

	<p>for the interior walls, with the lower portions in a solid pattern derived from shingles for acoustic reflection. The upper walls and ceiling are oak in acoustically transparent and absorptive patterns. The floor is maple with wooden louvres.</p>
<p>Residential Wood Design</p> <p><i>Brockport Home Systems</i></p>	<p><u>Project: House in Frogs Hollow, Grey Highlands, ON</u> Architect: Williamson Chong Architects Engineer: Blackwell Bowick Partnership Ltd.</p> <p>The House in Frogs Hollow is a 2,000 SF country retreat located on a long slope of the Niagara Escarpment overlooking Georgian Bay. The property is a collection of eroded clay hills and protected watershed zones blanketed with a dense field of hawthorn and native grasses. The clients are avid cyclists who spent months on the property prior to construction camping and cutting in discreet biking trails. They wanted their house to be connected to this unique landscape. Aside from the natural beauty of the material, building in wood was important for a number of reasons. First and foremost was the desire to use the skills of local trades. By using local labour and modifying the structure and details to complement their skills, the house was built better and more economically. For example, the original stair had details that were a combination of drywall and wood. After discussions with the contractor about the high skill level of the carpenters, we changed the design to be 100% wood and ended up with a more elegant and better built stair. Wood was also pivotal in the CNC aspects of the project. It allowed great flexibility in types of fabrication (for both solid and built up laminate construction techniques) and was lightweight and easy to mill, transport, and install.</p> <p>The house is 2x6 wood frame with LVL and 2x10 structural members. The floor and roof systems are 2x10 wood joists and 9-1/2" TJI 110s. The siding of the upper volume is custom milled 2x8 (actual) pine boards that were CNC milled by the architect on a 3-axis router with a custom pattern that registers the shadows created by the sun as it moves around the house. The siding is finished with Falun Red, an iron oxide pigment in a linseed oil base. This finish allowed the use of more economical wood in this area because it impregnates the wood instead of floating on top. All eight sides of each piece were finished and then a final coat was applied on the exterior after installation. The pigment will not require reapplication for 15 years.</p> <p>The lower volume is western red cedar siding installed vertically and sealed clear to keep it bright. Interior cabinets and stair paneling is birch veneer. The stair balustrade and treads are solid birch. The curved interior stair, designed and fabricated by the architect, is made of custom CNC milled birch plywood profiles. The windows and interior trim are Douglas Fir.</p>
<p>Multi-Unit Wood Design</p> <p><i>Sponsored by the Ontario Wood Truss Fabricators Association</i></p>	<p><u>Project: Lippincott Living, Toronto, ON</u> Architect: Bradley Netkin Architect Engineer: Hamann Engineering</p> <p>Lippincott Living is an 8-unit, 1,266 SM row house development in Toronto. Wood is an excellent material for low rise, multi-unit housing. It is used in many ways in Lippincott Living due to its aesthetic quality, versatility, economy, durability, renewability. The wood framing provides function and the finishing materials enhance the warmth and intimacy of both the interior and exterior spaces.</p> <p>Wood was used for framing, exterior cladding, decking, landscaping, flooring and millwork. The framing was prefabricated in a local factory. The overall cost to pursue a pre-fabricated option instead of conventional framing methods was less than 10% of the framing cost and less than 1% of the building cost. Wall, floor and roof panels were built in a shop and incorporate engineered and recycled materials. This resulted in a better quality product, and faster installation. Pre-fabrication also minimized waste and materials. Panels were shipped to the site and erected by crane in January of 2010.</p>

	<p>The building was framed in 3 weeks which was critical since the building needed to be complete by June 2010 or the homes would be subject to HST. This would have added over \$70,000 to the purchase price of each home. The project was built and sold in 10 months. The fence boards and siding are finished with factory paint and provided with an excellent warranty on durability and finish. This is an important factor for builders and condominium owners. Interior finishes also incorporate wood.</p>
<p>Commercial Wood Design</p> <p><i>Sponsored by Tembec</i></p>	<p>Project: <u>MTO Patrol Yard, Sundridge, ON</u> Architect: URS Architects & Engineers Canada Engineer: URS Architects & Engineers Canada</p> <p>This project is a 38,000 SF (3,541 SM) sand and salt storage building. Wood was used exclusively in the sand and salt unloading, storage and reloading portion of the building. Wood was selected for its inherent resistance to corrosion, its strength, and the economical solution it offered for the total assembly. The combination of fire retardant treated lumber and plywood with the heavy timber glulam construction offered the necessary fire performance required in this rural setting. This building is a great example of the effective use of wood for tall wall construction in a large industrial building. It also shows the range of structural wood products available which can contribute to the success of a project like this.</p> <p>Products used include pre-fabricated wood trusses made from fire retardant treated lumber; 2x10, 2x12 and glulam wall studs; ½" CSP plywood for roof diaphragm and shear walls; glulam beams, headers and columns (up to 14 2/8" x 72"); and pre-fabricated wall panels up to 52' high.</p>
<p>Institutional Wood Design <10 M</p> <p><i>LP Building Products</i></p> <p><i>Photo credit: Ihor Kortchevich</i></p>	<p>Project: <u>Lake of the Woods Discovery Centre, Kenora, ON</u> Architect: Nelson Architecture Inc. Engineer: Lavergne, Draward & Associates</p> <p>The Lake of the Woods Discovery Centre in Kenora is a 6,500 SF tourist information and cultural centre focused on the lake. The primary structural frame of the building is glulam beams and local white pine tree columns where exposed. All exterior and interior wall framing is wood stud. The mezzanine floor utilizes engineered wood joists with plywood subfloor. The roof deck is 1-1/2" T&G pine. All exterior walls are sheathed with OSB. Wood plays an important symbolic role for a community whose historic principal industry has been based on the forest. Lake of the Woods is widely considered to be one of the most beautiful freshwater lakes in the world, and the exposed wood frame speaks to both the history and future of the community.</p>
<p>Institutional Wood Design >10 M</p> <p><i>Boise Cascade Engineered Wood Products</i></p> <p><i>CanWel Building Materials Group Ltd.</i></p>	<p>Project: <u>Brooklin Community Centre and Library, Brooklin, ON</u> Architect: Perkins + Will Canada, Inc. Engineer: Blackwell Bowick Partnership Ltd.</p> <p>A remnant forest in the historic village of Brooklin, Ontario provides the setting and inspiration for this 48,000 SF district Library and Community Centre. Each of the key program areas (library, community centre and gymnasium) are housed in one of three linked structures whose rooflines and simple forms recall the region's agrarian and industrial roots. A sophisticated approach to structural articulation, detailing and materiality transforms a regional inspiration into a sharply articulated response to the design issues of the 21st century. Porches, breezeways and glazed links provide the common space and allow the three shed volumes to frame courtyards and views into the surrounding hardwood forest. Each of the key program areas is accommodated under a pitched roof with exposed structure. To evoke agrarian structures and to provide a sense of warmth and intimacy within this relatively large complex, wood was used throughout for the structural roof decking.</p>

	<p>Lightweight steel cable trusses provide an economical, long span solution and allow the wood to provide the primary material characteristic of the large spaces.</p> <p>Throughout the interior, wood is used extensively in the creation of custom millwork counters which feature robust planes of Oak butcher-block. Walls and ceiling feature oak slat acoustic panels and doors are all solid core wood with oak or maple veneer. Oak and maple are used for their durability but also to provide an association with the hardwood forest which is seen through expansive glazing.</p> <p>The strategy of articulating the program as a series of discrete elements allows the building to bridge between the fine grained urban fabric of the village and its wooded site. The planimetric arrangement maximizes the enjoyment of the naturalized setting and the penetration of daylight into the building's program spaces. As a legacy to the Village of Brooklin, the projects sets an example for a considered approach to building siting and form that is highly responsive to the natural and built heritage of the area. The resulting design achieves an intimacy of scale and a variety of spatial experiences rarely achieved in a multi-use facility of its size.</p> <p>The use of wood is an important part of this overall design strategy, not only for its sustainability but also for its cultural and historical resonance. The combination of wood in a wide range of interior elements as well as the building structure provides a strong connection to the building's naturalized site and its economic and cultural roots -The Brooklin Sawmill on Lind Creek provided the economic engine of the community for early settlers. The continued integration of local wood working trades and regional suppliers of timber products into this significant public building carried an important message to the local community while rooting it to its context.</p>
<p>Northern Ontario Excellence Award</p> <p><i>Sponsored by FedNor</i></p>	<p><u>Project: Sioux Lookout Meno-Ya-Win Health Centre, Sioux Lookout, ON</u> Architect: Stantec Architecture Ltd. Engineer: Neegan Burnside Ltd.</p> <p>The principal concept behind the master plan of the project is the Medicine Wheel, a powerful 350-metre wide circular mark on the land, capable of being seen from the airplane which is the main means of arrival for the majority of the patients to the Centre.</p> <p>The circle of the Medicine Wheel gives the project a forceful compositional focus. At the centre of the circle is the Main Gathering Space, the primary access point of the Hospital. Constructed entirely of heavy timber, tree-like columns support the timber beams and rafters of the octagonal wood roof structure, providing a warm, welcoming orientation device for patients and visitors alike.</p> <p>Further along a diagonal corridor, is the canoe shaped Ambulatory Lobby. Within this area, round timber columns support a system of timber trusses separated from the surrounding flat roof by a clerestory that allows sunlight to comfort the waiting patients. The inpatient wing is surrounded by generous roof overhangs with regular timber clad supports which, together with a series of landscaped courtyards, manage the natural light penetration and further reduce the institutional image and scale of the facility. Timber structure canopies protect and welcome the public at the main entrances to the facility.</p> <p>Wood use was maximized within the parameters established in the OBC for a building required to be of non-combustible construction. Products used include solid Douglas fir columns, beams rafters and heavy timber roof decking; solid Douglas fir exterior columns, beams and rafters at canopies and roof overhangs; as well as fir veneer plywood cladding and solid clear cedar wall cladding.</p>

<p>Jury's Choice Award</p> <p>Sponsored by Weyerhaeuser</p>	<p><u>Project: Opeongo Road House, Bancroft, ON</u> Architect: Levitt Goodman Architects Ltd.</p> <p>Inspired by the wooden barns found in the surrounding landscape, the form and finishes of this residence are as simple and pure to the vernacular as possible and strong connections to the landscape are made through large windows carefully oriented toward the stunning surroundings.</p> <p>The focus of this sustainable house was to build small, and to build a well-insulated high quality wood exterior envelope. The truss design provides ample space for insulation. Given that the residents may be absent for weeks at a time, the wood structure is designed to withstand significant snow accumulation and the freeze/thaw phenomenon of spring. All aspects of the exterior walls, doors, and roof were detailed to withstand harsh winters. Window and door opening sizes and orientation were carefully tuned to take full advantage of natural ventilation and shading in summer and passive solar gain in winter. This allowed the house to be built without any mechanical air conditioning. The project employed local materials trades wherever possible.</p> <p>Notably, this is the firm's first completely drywall-free house. All of the walls and ceilings are completely clad in local 6" pine boards whitewashed with a coat of thinned latex paint which allows the natural texture of the wood to telegraph through. The kitchen and bathroom millwork was all built on site of solid birch with an oiled finish of natural linseed. The interior of the stair is fully clad in plywood but left natural in this location and oiled for wear. By experimenting with the many ways in which wood can be finished, the house captures a varied interior environment, all enhanced by the warm glow inherent to wood. Even the skylights in the roof have been encased with wood pine veneered plywood. They bring light and ventilation to the sleeping loft and draw focused light down into the stair. Using wood was central to the design. It is a renewable and local material capable of referencing the barn vernacular while still creating a contemporary house.</p>
<p>Engineer Wood Advocate Award</p> <p><i>Sponsored by Natural Resources Canada</i></p> <p>Photo credit: Blackwell Bowick Partnership</p>	<p><u>Project: Haiti Prototype School, Embouchure, Haiti</u> Engineers: Blackwell Bowick Partnership Ltd., Read Jones Christoffersen Consulting Engineers, Halsall Associates, Quinn Dressel Associates</p> <p>This year, rather than recognizing a single firm for a body of work, we recognize an initiative undertaken cooperatively by four Toronto-based engineering firms who are donating man-hours to rebuild schools in the rural Haitian communities most affected by the 2010 earthquake.</p> <p>The Embouchure School is a plywood diaphragm on wood trusses with plywood gusset plates on load bearing wood shear walls. A built-up wood ring beam was used to distribute diaphragm loads to the shear walls below. The site is remote, and materials were carried 9km by hand into a mountain valley and along a river. The school was constructed by local skilled and unskilled labour. Wood was light enough to make the journey and mistakes were easier to correct than any other material would have been.</p> <p>The engineers working on this project are also training local Haitian Engineers in Best Practices for Engineering.</p>
<p>Architect Wood Advocate Award</p> <p><i>Sponsored by Timber Systems</i></p>	<p><u>Architects: Nelson Architecture, Kenora, ON</u></p> <p>For understand the significance of supporting a wood culture in Ontario and his local community; for showing passion in the use of wood and for taking full advantage of its extraordinary properties; and for representing, through architecture, the significance that wood has in both the history and the future in the Kenora region, the 2011 Architect Wood Advocate Award was given to David Nelson of Nelson Architecture. Notable projects</p>

	include: St. Thomas Aquinas High School, the Northern Ontario Sport Fishing Centre, and, a 2011 Wood Design award winning project, the Lake of the Woods Discovery Centre.
<p>Wood Champion Award</p> <p><i>Sponsored by Ministry of Northern Development Mines and Forestry</i></p>	<p><u>Wood Champion: Roger Sigouin, Mayor of Hearst, ON</u></p> <p>Since the beginning of Wood <i>WORKS!</i> in Ontario, there have been some very special champions who have consistently selected wood in projects, who have overcome objections to building with wood and who have lead the way for other communities to take up the challenge and actively support Ontario’s forest products industry, our province’s second largest economic engine. Mayor Roger Sigouin is one of those wood champions.</p> <p>Nearly 10 years ago the town of Hearst was one of the first to pass a ‘Build with Wood Resolution’ and has since become a model town in this regard, using wood in all public buildings. This required leadership and commitment. In one instance, Mayor Sigouin went as far to send plans for a long-term care facility back to the architect to re-do when it wasn’t designed in wood. As a result, Pioneer Nursing Home, Notre-Dame Hospital, the Town Hall and Community Centre renovations, and the recent Heritage Sawmill all incorporated wood.</p> <p>Mayor Sigouin is a community leader known across the province and amongst his peers as an advocate for the sustainable use of forests. The new Hearst Regional Green Technologies Centre will make Hearst a model community showcasing new green energy technology and education that will support the future of Ontario’s forest industry.</p>

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