StrongerBC
for everyone

B.C.'s Mass Timber

Action Plan

BRITISH COLUMBIA

MASS TIMBER ONE OF OUR GREAT NATURAL ADVANTAGES

In British Columbia, our natural surroundings are part of who we are. And we need to manage them in ways that ensure they'll continue to be there for future generations. As part of our new economic plan, it is our mission to foster innovation, leverage our competitive advantage and sustain our precious natural resources.

Mass timber has great potential to help us achieve that mission and more. It's made by joining layers of lumber to create structural parts for buildings that match the strength of more traditional construction – with a series of additional advantages.

ADVANTAGES INCLUDE:

- reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- boosting our value-added forest economy
- generating more good paying jobs for workers in the clean economy
- creating economic opportunities for people in every part of the province

JOINT LETTER FROM MINISTERS

From the start, our government has worked to make life better for people.

And by putting people first, B.C. is on the right track with the strongest recovery in Canada. Jobs and wages are up. And last year saw the largest number of people come to B.C. in almost 30 years.

To build on our momentum, earlier this year we released the StrongerBC Economic Plan.

The Plan builds an economy that works for all British Columbians, including BC's resource workers and communities who do so much to drive BC's economy and secure our quality of life.

Supporting the development of mass timber is a key part of the Plan.

Already B.C. is a global leader in the production and use of this high-value technology that promises to revolutionize construction here at home and around the world.

The Mass Timber Action Plan is a road map to grow the industry, create good jobs and support communities by partnering with First Nations, training new workers, modernizing regulations, and profiling mass timber to markets in Canada and around the world.

We want to thank the Mass Timber Advisory Council and industry leaders for their foresight and invaluable help in developing this plan.

Together, we are building an economy and future that works for all British Columbians.

Ravi Kahlon,
Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

George Chow,
Minister of State for Trade and Chair of the Mass Timber Advisory Council

Front cover photography and renderings: Agency Media; Ainsworth Communications; Brudder Productions; DIALOG; Don Erhardt; Ed White Photographics courtesy CEI Architecture and Parkin Architects; Henriquez Partners Architects; Intelligent City; KK Law; Michael Bednar; Nik West; Steven Errico; StuctureCraft Builders Inc; Tae Ik Hwang **Left photo:** Michael Bednar

THE OPPORTUNITY

Compared to milling logs for lumber, mass timber can deliver up to seven times the economic value – and B.C. is at the forefront of this emerging sector. Since 2009, we've been working with partners and driving improvements in our B.C. and national building codes, allowing for ever-taller, safer wooden buildings. We recently adopted new national provisions allowing for mass timber buildings up to 12 storeys high, and 22 communities have signed on as early adopters.

We lead the country with 285 mass timber buildings completed or underway at the end of 2020, supported by ongoing research and training – giving us a great opportunity to lead the mass timber economy of the future.

As of mid-2021, B.C. manufacturers were able to produce about a quarter of the leading types of mass timber in North America. With demand on the rise, we could see up to the equivalent of 10 new mid-sized factories in B.C. by 2035.

ACHIEVING THIS POTENTIAL WOULD DELIVER:

- New opportunities for jobs, growth and innovation in every part of the province, and additional potential for rural and First Nations communities; new plants could directly employ up to 2,400 people with close to 2,000 additional jobs in construction and design.
- A more diverse and sustainable forest sector, with more value-added manufacturing, more domestic markets for forest products, and more opportunities to co-develop economic opportunities with Indigenous Peoples.
- More opportunities to advance CleanBC and build our reputation as a leading supplier of the low carbon goods and services people desire.
- Significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from construction: for many building types mass timber can match or exceed the structural performance of concrete and steel while reducing carbon emissions by up to 45%. And because the components are custom-manufactured, it can also reduce waste and cut the time it takes to put up a building.

Mass timber design. Photo courtesy of Intelligent City

StructureCraft facility under construction in 2017, Abbotsford. Photo courtesy of StructureCraft Builders Inc

Panel assembly for aerospace museum, Kelowna.
Photography: Nik West

B.C.'S PLAN

The Mass Timber Action Plan maximizes opportunities for British Columbia as the market for mass timber grows across North America. It draws together the strengths of government, industry and academia to create new economic value from our vast forest resource, manufacturing base, construction sector and trade networks.

The cornerstone of the Action Plan is accelerating demand for mass timber construction to stimulate supply - of mass timber product, talent, and technology. We want to create the right conditions for B.C. to thrive. This means continuing our history of innovation and firsts, plus establishing exceptional and resilient industrial strength that sustains new jobs and community benefits for generations.

Mass timber is contributing to the StrongerBC Economic Plan's vision for a high-skill, competitive, low-carbon economy. The Mass Timber Action Plan supports both fundamental imperatives set out in the Economic Plan - inclusive growth and clean growth - as well as each of the six missions focused on supporting people and communities, climate leadership and promoting innovation.

WHAT IS "MASS TIMBER"?

Mass timber products are solid, structural load-bearing components such as columns, beams and panels. Engineered for strength, they are typically manufactured off-site by fastening multiple layers of smaller dimension wood together with glue, dowels or nails. This approach means that large diameter trees are not needed to make mass timber. They have a fire and seismic performance similar to concrete and steel.

Mass timber products include glue laminated (glulam) columns and beams, cross laminated timber (CLT) panels, and dowel laminated timber (DLT) panels, providing options for a wide range of residential, commercial and industrial buildings. Prefabricated building components can be brought to job sites just-in-time for installation, reducing overall construction time, noise and disruption. Mass timber is often combined with concrete and steel in hybrid buildings that make the most of each material's strengths.

KEY FACT:

The wood needed for Brock Commons Tallwood House at UBC – the tallest mass timber building in the world at the time of its construction – regrew in B.C. forests in about 43 minutes.

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THE ACTION PLAN

PLANK 1
DEVELOP MASS TIMBER AS AN INNOVATIVE ECONOMIC SECTOR

Around the world, mass timber is increasingly seen as the building material of the future. From multi-family homes to sporting venues to health and education facilities, mass timber structures are increasing in size, height and complexity, supporting the growth of more resilient, climate-friendly communities. With the North American industry still in its infancy and global demand on the rise, B.C. is leveraging its building innovation and forestry expertise to seize opportunities and benefit people in every part of the province.

1.1
DEMONSTRATE MASS TIMBER IN ACTION

Although we lead the country in mass timber construction, it still accounts for just a fraction of the buildings going up in our communities.

To help more people see and understand its benefits, the Province is showcasing mass timber innovation – providing designers, builders and others with real-world experience that everyone can learn from.

THIS INCLUDES:

- Increasing the number and diversity of public sector mass timber buildings. Government's capital plan prioritizes mass timber construction in sectors such as education, health care, transit and tourism. Mass timber is being used in the new Royal BC Museum Collections and Research Building in Colwood, in new student housing at the University of Victoria and on Okanagan College campuses in Vernon, Salmon Arm and Kelowna. It's now being considered for all new publicly funded buildings.
- Improving the way the public sector works with builders and encouraging decision-makers to choose mass timber.
- Incentivizing mass timber innovation in the private sector through initiatives such as the Mass Timber Demonstration Program and the CleanBC Building Innovation Fund. Since 2020, these initiatives have provided over $7 million to support the advancement of 24 mass timber buildings and related projects, helping to drive our economic recovery and change

Construction of Brock Commons Tallwood House, University of British Columbia. At time of completion in 2017, the tallest mass timber building in the world.
Architect: Acton Ostry | Photography: KK Law

the face of construction in the province.

- Collaborating with Indigenous Peoples to advance mass timber development, building on successes to date like the First Nations Health Authority Metro Vancouver Office to be constructed on the Tsleil-Waututh Nation land in North Vancouver. The building, scheduled for completion in 2023, combines mass timber construction with historical First Nations traditions to create a unique showcase of B.C. expertise.

1.2 ENHANCE AND ADVANCE THE SYSTEM OF TECHNICAL TOOLS AND RULES

As the mass timber sector develops, the regulatory system for buildings – including building codes and local government regulation – will keep evolving. As part of this action plan, we will work closely with industry and researchers to identify and overcome regulatory barriers and make technical resources more available.

THIS INCLUDES:

- Implementing regulatory solutions, such as improvements to the building code, to advance mass timber. B.C. is well established as a leader, having influenced national and international building codes by pushing boundaries and proving mass timber's potential in the real world.
- Encouraging innovation in the regulatory system by providing information and supports for evaluating innovative mass timber buildings that meet building code standards for fire and structural safety.
- Working with local governments to optimize approvals. This includes identifying planning and land use provisions that encourage mass timber construction and clarifying regulations for pre-fabricated components. Twenty-two communities are moving ahead with tall mass timber buildings, providing opportunities to pinpoint and overcome regulatory barriers as the sector grows.

- Advancing technical understanding of mass timber construction. Along with funding research in areas such as fire safety, the Province will work with sector partners to make existing technical information more accessible and to develop networks within and between early adopter communities. We'll also support the continuing development of professional practice guidelines and other mass timber reference materials.

1.3 CATALYZE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR INNOVATION

B.C.'s construction sector is one of the province's largest employers and a major contributor to all of our communities, providing over 221 thousand jobs and contributing 9.3% to our provincial GDP. The sector has its share of mass timber innovators and leaders. However, more can be done to support industry partners in using new mass timber approaches and technologies.

The Province will work with mass timber innovators to expand possibilities for low carbon building materials, smart design choices, and more efficient construction practices, helping to modernize the building process for all materials.

THIS INCLUDES:

- Bringing together manufacturers, prefabricators, building designers, tech companies, construction managers, trades, investors and others to create a dynamic "mass timber ecosystem," supporting new partnerships and helping us compete with other jurisdictions.
- Supporting the use of modern digital tools like building information modelling (BIM). These can help streamline construction projects of all types and make the entire process – from design to completion – more efficient.
- Advancing knowledge networks to boost construction sector efficiencies and climate-friendly solutions.

1.4 CELEBRATE B.C.'S HIGH-PERFORMANCE BUILDING SUCCESSES

B.C.'s strengths and achievements in high-performance building are well known within the sector. But according to a recent survey, only 16% of people in the province have heard of mass timber – so we need to build awareness here at home while establishing a strong, distinct presence in the global marketplace.

Celebrating and sharing our success will complement the Mass Timber Demonstration Program, making mass timber more visible to the public, local governments, developers and builders – helping to increase demand, build the brand, attract new investment and strengthen exports.

THIS INCLUDES:

- Helping more people get the facts about B.C. mass timber. We will work with sector champions, professional associations and others to validate bold claims, advantages and trade-offs and identify and challenge myths about mass timber's potential.
- Establishing and nurturing networks of mass timber experts and partners to build and share knowledge as the sector evolves, building on existing relationships in North America and Europe.

Photo top: Robotic mass timber assembly line at Intelligent City's factory, Delta. Photo courtesy of Intelligent City

Photo bottom: Proposed First Nations Health Authority building, Tsleil-Waututh Nation territory, North Vancouver. A Mass Timber Demonstration Program funding recipient. Architect: DIALOG | Rendering courtesy of DIALOG.

Proposed Saanich firehall and post-disaster building. A Mass Timber Demonstration Program funding recipient.
Architect: HCMA Architecture + Design | Rendering courtesy of HCMA Architecture + Design

PLANK 2
MAXIMIZE MASS TIMBER'S BENEFITS FOR PEOPLE

Mass timber has enormous potential for people, the economy and the environment. That gives the sector an edge in a world where investors are increasingly concerned about environmental and social values in addition to financial bottom lines.

Along with its structural and climate-smart advantages, exposed wood in buildings connects people to nature and supports improvements in health, well-being and productivity. It's also a less disruptive way to build in established neighbourhoods because the components are made off-site, reducing on-site activities along with traffic, noise, pollution and waste.

As part of our commitment to an inclusive, sustainable future, we will build this economic sector to maximize benefits for people – especially in areas where factors such as geography may have limited opportunities in the past.

2.1
EXPAND MASS TIMBER EDUCATION AND PREPARE THE WORKFORCE

A strong, competitive mass timber sector needs the right people with the right sets of skills to fulfil its economic and environmental potential.

THIS INCLUDES:

- Planning for the future workforce needs of mass timber. We will engage with industry and others to define current and future workforce opportunities; identify barriers to training, attracting and keeping skilled workers; and develop shared approaches to overcoming those barriers.
- Creating or expanding education and training for people coming into the sector, from trades to technologists to architects and engineers. We'll identify critical gaps and career paths across occupations; establish skills and training needs for programs; and encourage more mass timber content in entry-level professional and trades programs.
- Upskilling the existing workforce, focusing on areas where training usually happens on the job. We'll support expanded opportunities for hands-on experience across occupations and work with partners to develop new continuing professional development programs and standards.
- Optimizing academic networks to advance mass timber research from traditional fields of structural design and fire protection to new areas such as biophilic design (design that considers the human instinct to connect with nature).

Nadleh Whut'enne Yah Administration and Cultural Building, Nadleh Whut'enne Yah Territory, Fort Fraser Architect: Evans Architecture & Joe Y Wai Architect | Photography: Martin Knowles

INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT/ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

With passage of the *Declaration Act*, B.C. has committed to implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Mass Timber Action Plan supports reconciliation by co-creating tangible economic and social opportunities for Indigenous people in the mass timber economy.

As we move forward with this high-level action plan, we will continue to collaborate with Indigenous Peoples to co-develop detailed actions to grow the mass timber sector. This work will be based on growing long-lasting relationships, building solid partnerships and strengthening trust.

By sharing in shaping opportunities for Indigenous Peoples today to lead in the mass timber economy of tomorrow, we can build B.C.'s long term economic success.

B.C. dowel-laminated mass timber panel in Atlanta, Georgia, demonstrates mass timber's export potential.
Photo courtesy of StructureCraft

2.2 STRENGTHEN INCLUSIVE, SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Growing mass timber is a critical part of our work to build a strong, sustainable economy that reaches everyone. It's good for people, communities and the environment because it adds value, allowing us to generate more jobs and opportunities from every tree we harvest.

THIS INCLUDES:

- Building on a strong foundation of sustainable forestry. We will include the mass timber sector in our ongoing work to modernize forest policy and advance sustainability.
- Making B.C.'s mass timber industry more competitive. We will engage and work with manufacturers to identify efficiencies as they expand their role in pre-manufactured building assembly. We'll also bring together a range of new partners to innovate and create opportunities for jobs, growth and regional economic development.
- Expanding and diversifying domestic and international trade to strengthen our global presence, and co-create new economic opportunities with Indigenous Peoples.
- Exploring spin-off industry opportunities to maximize the sector's benefits.
- Modelling and measuring economic impacts of mass timber implementation. As the sector grows and our experience expands, we will measure and monitor our progress, adjusting course as needed.

Photo courtesy of: Intelligent City

THE STRONGERBC ECONOMIC PLAN

CLEAN AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH

Developing mass timber as our newest economic sector is part of our plan for B.C.'s economy, supporting clean growth and helping to expand our reputation as a leading supplier of low carbon goods and services to the world. B.C. companies and entrepreneurs are already leading the way, supported by ongoing improvements to building codes, regulations and standards, and initiatives to support the sector's growth and development.

Consistent with our vision for forestry and forest policy modernization, a healthy primary logging and sawmilling industry will be essential to supply secondary, value-added manufacturers with the forest products they need for their businesses. Both industries will benefit by embracing innovation and adapting to meet emerging challenges. By providing opportunities for workers and small-to-medium enterprises, mass timber contributes to inclusive growth, bringing additional employment and revenue to communities throughout B.C. and helping to build an economy that works for everyone.

KEY FACT:

By 2035, B.C.'s mass timber sector is projected to be worth $403 million, supporting over 4,000 direct and indirect jobs in manufacturing, technology, forestry, design and engineering.

Photography: Candace Kenyon

CLIMATE ACTION

Low carbon buildings are a key component of our CleanBC climate action plan, and mass timber is a great way to reduce a building's carbon footprint. Because it's made from wood, it can store carbon for generations, keeping it out of the atmosphere. It can also replace more carbon-intensive materials such as concrete and steel, and help to reduce construction waste – currently one of the largest waste streams in the province. Along with this action plan, we are developing CleanBC strategies on circular economy (2022) and low carbon building materials (2023) to further reduce the climate impacts of building with mass timber.

KEY FACTS:

- The circular economy has come to the forefront as a solution for moving away from today's linear "take-make-waste economy" by helping keep materials and resources in use for as long as possible. Mass timber can play a role in a circular economy when building components are repurposed instead of being sent to landfill.
- One facet of the circular economy is accounting for embodied carbon, which adds up all the GHG impacts it takes to make, construct, and deconstruct a building, from extraction of raw materials to manufacturing to maintenance to end-of-life.

PLANK 3
SUPPORT A MORE SUSTAINABLE LOW CARBON FUTURE

Buildings are a leading contributor to greenhouse gas emissions and, as part of our CleanBC plan, we're working to bring those emissions down. Mass timber is a natural solution, and one we can leverage to make the entire building sector cleaner.

3.1
AMPLIFY CLIMATE ACTION WITH LOW CARBON BUILDING MATERIALS

Most of our work to date on making buildings cleaner has focused on reducing emissions from operations like heating and cooling. The next bold step is to focus on emissions from building materials – including how they're made and how they're used at a building's end of life. As part of this action plan, we'll work with industry and others to decarbonize the full spectrum of building materials, focusing on mass timber and then building on the momentum developing among producers of other key construction materials.

THIS INCLUDES:

- Expanding market adoption of low carbon materials. A new Low Carbon Building Materials Strategy in 2023 will guide our efforts to reduce embodied carbon – the combined emissions from manufacturing, transportation and construction. The strategy will focus first on public sector buildings, with new embodied carbon targets by 2030.

Installing mass timber at Tallwood House at Brock Commons, UBC, B.C.'s first tall mass timber building. Architect: Acton Ostry | Photography: Steven Errico

Photography: Michael Bednar

Old meets new: this proposed neighbourhood densification project will use mass timber to retrofit a century-old timber warehouse in Vancouver.
Architect: mcfarlane biggar architects + designers inc. | Rendering courtesy of mcfarlane biggar architects + designers inc.

NEW VISION FOR FORESTRY & FOREST POLICY MODERNIZATION

Growing B.C.'s mass timber sector is part of our vision for the future of our forests – a future where people get more value from every tree we harvest and communities benefit from secure, innovative jobs for generations to come. It complements our world-class lumber and pulp sectors, providing new jobs in areas such as manufacturing, design and prefabrication. As we move forward, the Province is committed to transforming the forestry sector from a focus on high volume to high value, with more wood products made in B.C.

KEY FACTS:

- Forest certification is an independent assessment of the quality and sustainability of forestry activities. It helps inspire confidence that industry and environmental protection can co-exist, ensuring healthy forests as a legacy for our kids and grandkids.
- Canada is the international leader in certification with 10% of the world's certified forests in B.C.
- Our 47 million hectares of certified forests are equivalent to the certified forests of Norway, Germany, Brazil and Sweden combined. They cover 85% of B.C.'s Crown forestland.

- Building carbon calculators to make it easier to quantify embodied carbon and make informed building decisions – a key step in finding new pathways to reduce it. For example, the new Embodied Carbon Pathfinder lets you compare the impacts of various materials in high-rise, mid-rise and stacked townhome buildings, all of which are perfect candidates for mass timber construction. Another tool, the Impact Estimator for Buildings, lets you see a building's lifecycle impact on everything from human health to fossil fuel consumption. It was recently updated to include mass timber.

- Reducing construction waste and building a construction-sector circular economy. Currently, construction and building demolition are among our largest sources of waste – underlining the potential to improve efficiency while reducing costs and environmental impacts. Compared to traditional concrete and steel construction, mass timber can reduce waste dramatically by custom manufacturing components to meet builders' needs. As part of this action plan, we're also supporting the expansion of building deconstruction and material re-use across B.C., creating new opportunities in areas such as remanufacturing.

Data collection to monitor forest health. Photography: Michael Bednar

PREPARING FOR THE JOBS OF TOMORROW

Growing a new mass timber sector will bring jobs to communities across B.C. Some will be new. In other cases, existing jobs will evolve to incorporate new technologies, approaches and innovations as we build a future workforce that is more inclusive, resilient and adaptable – in partnership with Indigenous Peoples, industry, post-secondary institutions and others.

New opportunities will emerge in areas such as digital design, software development, robotics, logistics and design engineering, along with new jobs in manufacturing, remanufacturing and building deconstruction.

We're supporting the development of new training programs, like the new Mass Timber Construction program at the BC Institute of Technology, and we're committed to ensuring these programs are inclusive and appropriate for people in rural and Indigenous communities, as well as in larger centres.

Top photo: Computer-assisted CNC machining mass timber panels. Photography: Nik West

Bottom photo: Mass timber provides job opportunities in technology, including software development for 3-D modelling and calculating mass timber's embodied carbon advantage.

THE OFFICE OF MASS TIMBER IMPLEMENTATION

In 2020, the Province of British Columbia established the Office of Mass Timber Implementation (OMTI) to build and steward a new Mass Timber Action Plan that shifts mass timber building construction from niche to mainstream. It is the first government office of its kind anywhere in the world dedicated to growing a new mass timber economy through a unified policy framework that bridges four typically siloed sectors (forestry, manufacturing, construction, and trade).

The Office's sole focus is to mobilize the many strengths of government to catalyze a mass timber sector that will support forestry's transition from high volume to high value production, and build a vibrant new clean and inclusive economic base.

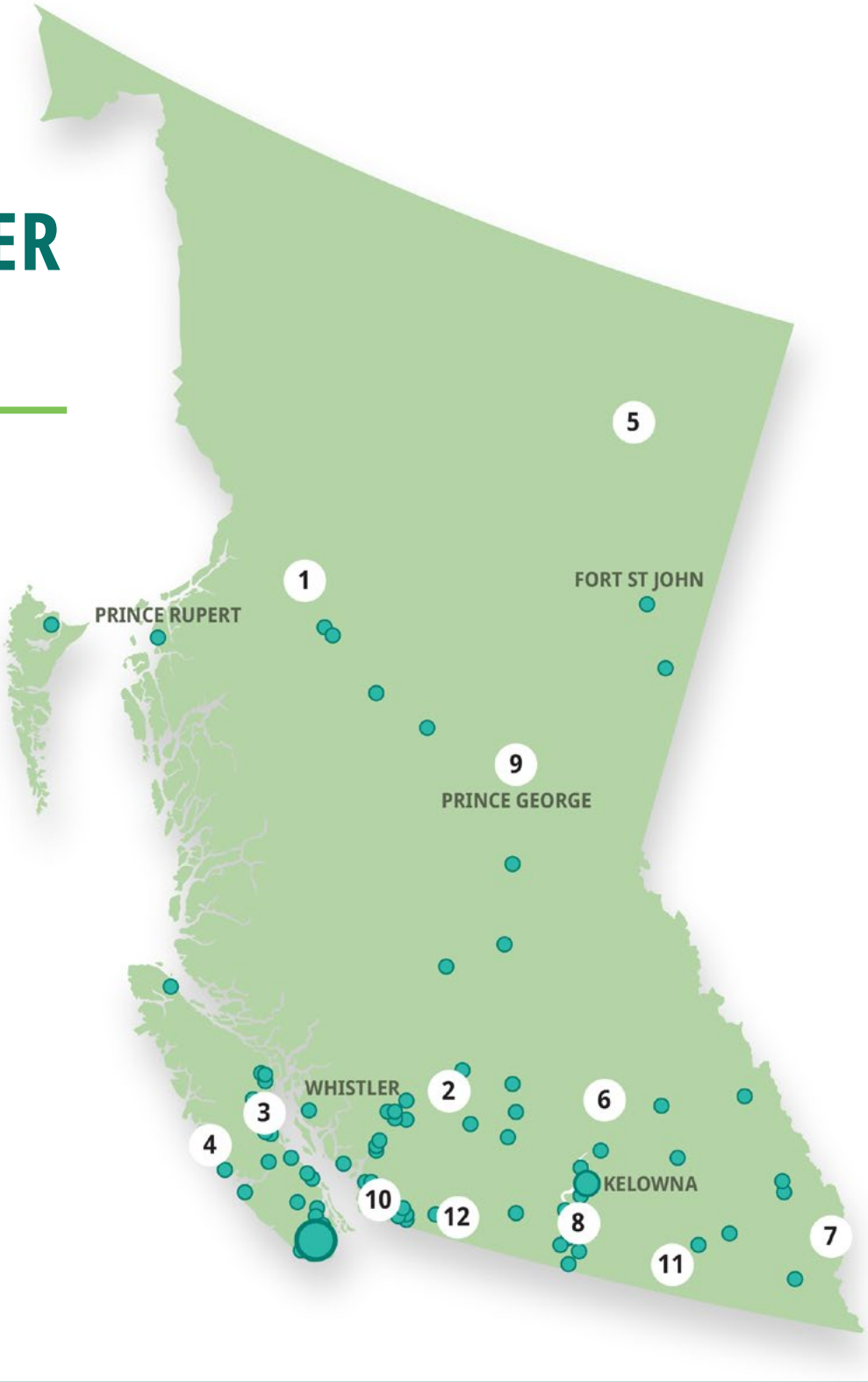
Contact OMTI at MassTimberImplementation@gov.bc.ca

KEY FACTS:

- The Mass Timber Action Plan was developed in consultation with:
  - › 40+ major stakeholder and Indigenous leaders from the forest product manufacturing, development and construction sectors
  - › 15 ministries across government
  - › The Mass Timber Advisory Council, composed of 16 B.C.-based, internationally recognized thought leaders representing a broad range of interests related to mass timber.

MASS TIMBER IN B.C.

This is a small sample of the over 285 mass timber buildings built in B.C. as of March, 2022.

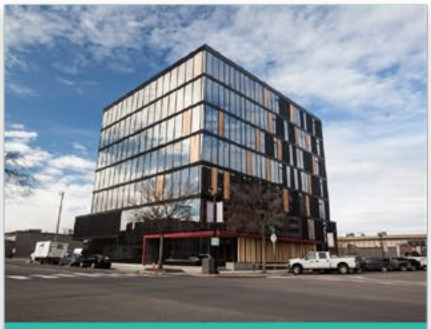


Building images courtesy of:

1. Architect: Hemsworth Architecture | Photography: Ema Peter
2. Architect: Unison Architecture Ltd. | Photography: Ema Peter
3. Architect: McFarland Marceau Architects | Photography: Derek Lepper
4. Architect: DeHoog & Kierulf Architects | Photography: StructureCraft Builders
5. Architect: David Nairne + Associates Ltd | Photography: Martin Knowles
6. Architect: Allen + Maurer Architects | Photography: Derek Lepper
7. Architect: Douglas Sollows Architect Inc. | Photography: Brudder Productions
8. Photography: Swanky Photography
9. Architect: Michael Green Architecture | Photography: Brudder Productions
10. Architect: Acton Ostry| Photography: Brudder Productions
11. Photography: Swanky Photography
12. Photography: Nik West

1 Upper Skeena Recreation Centre, Hazelton.

5 Prophet River Multiplex, Prophet River First Nation.



9 Wood Innovation and Design Centre, Prince George.

2 Ts'kw'aylaxw Cultural and Community Health Centre, Lillooet.

6 Askew's Uptown Supermarket, Salmon Arm.

10 Brock Commons Tallwood House, UBC.

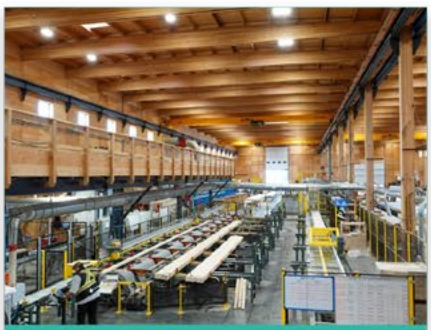
3 École Au-coeur-de-l'île, Comox.

7 Elkford Community Conference Centre, Elkford.

11 Kalesnikoff mass timber facility, Castlegar.

4 Bamfield Marine Centre, Bamfield.

8 Structurlam mass timber facility, Penticton.



12 StructureCraft mass timber facility, Abbotsford.

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MASS TIMBER ACTION PLAN AT A GLANCE

PLANK 1.
DEVELOP MASS TIMBER AS AN INNOVATIVE ECONOMIC SECTOR

Demonstrate mass timber in action

- Increase the number and diversity of public sector mass timber buildings in B.C.
- Improve the way the public sector works with builders and encourage decision-makers to choose mass timber
- Incentivize innovation in the private sector through the Mass Timber Demonstration Program and other initiatives
- Collaborate with Indigenous Peoples to advance mass timber development

Enhance and advance the system of technical tools & rules

- Use regulations, such as changes to the building code, to enable a wider range of mass timber building types
- Encourage innovation in the regulatory system
- Work with local governments to optimize approvals
- Advance technical understanding of mass timber construction

Celebrate B.C.'s high performance building success

- Help more people get the facts about mass timber in B.C.
- Work with partners to build and share mass timber knowledge and know-how

Catalyze construction sector innovation

- Use mass timber to bring together builders and the tech sector
- Support the use of modern digital tools
- Advance knowledge networks to boost construction sector efficiencies and climate-friendly solutions

Photography: Ainsworth Communications

PLANK 2.
MAXIMIZE MASS TIMBER'S BENEFITS FOR PEOPLE

Expand mass timber education and prepare the workforce

- Work with the sector to plan for future workforce needs
- Create or expand education and training programs for new entrants
- Upskill the existing workforce
- Optimize academic networks to advance mass timber research

Strengthen inclusive, sustainable economic development

- Support mass timber as part of forest policy modernization
- Make B.C.'s mass timber industry more competitive
- Expand and diversify domestic and international trade
- Explore spin-off industry opportunities
- Model and measure economic impacts of mass timber implementation

PLANK 3.
SUPPORT A MORE SUSTAINABLE LOW CARBON FUTURE

Amplify climate action with low carbon building materials

- Expand market adoption of low carbon building materials
- Build carbon calculators to assess and help reduce embodied carbon
- Reduce construction waste and build a construction sector circular economy

Keith Drive cross-sectional. Architect: DIALOG | Rendering courtesy of DIALOG

" Mass timber holds the promise of transforming how we build and will have major climate benefits, job benefits and will lead to more off-site construction that ultimately is our answer to the more affordable homes we all deserve."

Michael Green, Architect, member of the Mass Timber Advisory Council

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