

BC Log Builders & Timber Framers NEWSLETTER



View from the East Tower at Harrison Hot Springs Resort, in close proximity to the conference activities.

Save the Date — 2027 BCLTBIA Conference!

Maik Gehloff, Conference Chair

We are thrilled to announce the dates for the **2027 BCLTBIA Conference**, March 18-21, 2027. This conference is especially meaningful as we celebrate our **30th Anniversary!**

For three decades, our conference has provided an important opportunity for members to connect, share knowledge, build relationships, and gain valuable training and education. To mark this incredible milestone, we are returning to where it all began — **Harrison Hot Springs, the location of our very first conference!**

We have secured excellent room rates (see page 11 for further details), and as always, your conference registration will include the full meal package from Friday morning through Saturday evening.

Celebrating 30 Years — Leaving Our Mark

This year, we are planning something truly special. As part of our 30th Anniversary celebration, we will be building a timber frame structure that will remain at the resort in the hot pool area, completed by BCLTBIA members, leaving our signature. Coordination with the resort and planning is underway.

It will be a lasting reminder of our association, our industry, and the members who have helped build our organization over the past 30 years. We hope you will join us and be part of this memorable project!

Bring the family & your staff!

The conference will take place during spring break, making it the perfect opportunity to combine professional development with a family getaway.

We are also planning a variety of fun activities and events for members and their families, so there will be plenty to enjoy both inside and outside the conference sessions.

Training, Workshops & Networking

Our program will feature a combination of informative sessions, seminars, and hands-on workshops covering topics that are relevant to you, your business, and our industry.

We are currently working on the program and reviewing feedback from previous conference surveys to ensure we are offering the topics and training opportunities that matter most to our membership.

... continues on page 2



BCLTBIA Newsletter Fall 2026 – Issue 014-26

© 2026 BC Log & Timber Building Industry Association
#116, 5100 Anderson Way #420
Vernon, BC V1T 0C4
Phone: 250-545-5647 (LOGS)
www.bclogandtimberbuilders.com
Catherine Hansen, Executive Director
bcltbia@gmail.com

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Maik Gehloff
mgehloff@gehloff-consulting.com

Kelly Marciniw
kelly@ztframes.com

Michael McLennan
michael@secondgrowthwoodcraft.com

Oliver Tritten
oli@ottimberframes.com

Beth Veenkamp
bveenkamp@williamslake.ca

SUPPORTING OUR UNIQUE BUILDERS

Our seasoned Log Builders and Timber Framers all share one thing in common: a true passion and dedication to their craft. They have recognized the benefits of integrating traditional methods with computer-cutting technology and continue to embrace new technologies moving forward.

BCLTBIA Newsletter

bcltbia@gmail.com 250-545-5647 (LOGS)

Editor: Catherine Hansen

Design Layout: Cameron Luckock

Contributions and advertising DEADLINE
for next issue is December 1, 2026

BCLTBIA Newsletter welcomes advertisers.

Our Newsletters are a great way to connect the best builders and suppliers for our industry. Newsletters mailed to members and posted online. bclogandtimberbuilders.com/resources/newsletters

... continued from page 1

We want your input!

If you have ideas for:

- Workshop topics
- Seminar subjects
- Instructors or presenters
- Hands-on training
- Industry-related topics you would like addressed

Please send your suggestions to the office (bcltbia@gmail.com) or give us a call (250-545-5647) as soon as possible. We would love to hear what you would like to see included in the 2027 conference program.

As always, our goal is to create an exceptional conference filled with **learning, networking, connection, and plenty of fun** — a true celebration of our industry and our 30 years together.

We look forward to celebrating this milestone with you!



Our site visit to determine the best plan for the construction of the Gazebo beside the pools at Harrison. (L-R) Maik Gehloff, Sam Zirnelt, Luke King

In this Fall Issue

Save the Date – 2027 BCLTBIA Conference!	1
Networking & Relationships	2
OT Timber Frames Expands into Dowel-Laminated Timber Manufacturing	6
Cariboo Chilcotin Forestry Leaders Unite Around Regional Solutions.....	8
More reasons to attend the 30th BCLTBIA Conference at Harrison Hot Springs in March of 2027!.....	9
Where Craftsmanship Meets the Doorway.....	10



Several of the BCLTBIA Board Members came to Whistler to meet with the Minister of Forests and other officials, on behalf of the BCLTBIA Membership.

Networking & Relationships

Kelly Marciniw | kellymarciniw@gmail.com

Catherine Hansen | bcltbia@gmail.com

The 2026 Global Buyers Mission (GBM) has now wrapped up, and what a great event put on by BC Wood!

The networking opportunities, informative sessions, and conversations were incredibly worthwhile for everyone who attended. The BCLTBIA was proud to attend on behalf of our association members, with several Board members stepping up to help man the BCLTBIA booth, promote our industry, and engage with government, industry partners, and buyers from around the world.

We were particularly pleased to have the opportunity to meet with Minister Parmar and his staff. It was an important conversation, and one we look forward to building on.

Access to **trees** remains a key issue for our industry, as does ensuring we have the training and workforce needed to develop the next generation of builders

and skilled workers. We look forward to continuing to coordinate with provincial and federal departments to strengthen our industry and meet the needs of our members.

The environment, jobs, economic growth, housing, and forestry need to be part of the same conversation. We want to remain engaged and be in the room when decisions are being made that directly affect our businesses, our communities, and our industry.

We look forward to workshopping future changes and being involved in the emerging **Economic Hubs**, from regional to micro-level initiatives. Collaboration will be essential. Bringing sectors together, breaking down silos, and integrating our efforts will lead to better outcomes for everyone.

Our industry has the ability to provide stable, long-term employment in communities throughout British Columbia — but we need access to the trees to do it.

... continues on page 4

... continued from page 3

Our fibre requirements are not extreme. Each tree can provide significant value-added opportunities, with approximately 1.5–2 truckloads supporting one person's employment for a year. This is what value-added manufacturing is about: taking a renewable resource and creating substantially more economic and employment value from it here at home. Our industry epitomizes value-added manufacturing. We take a valuable resource and turn it into products, businesses, jobs, and economic activity that stay in our communities. **Our value-added sector is part of the housing solution.**

Forest health must remain a priority, and producing more in our province and our country must also be a priority. Countries such as Finland, with considerably less land - though they have seen reductions in their biodiversity- demonstrate that there is an opportunity

to do more with the resources we have. There is much we can learn from their approach.

We need to continue making that distinction clear — and ensuring that the voice of value-added wood manufacturing is heard when policies and decisions are being developed.

We look forward to continuing the conversations started at the GBM and working collaboratively with government, industry, and our members to build a stronger, more productive, and sustainable future for British Columbia.

Jobs. Housing. Forest health. Economic growth. Value-added manufacturing.

These are not separate conversations. They are connected — and our industry has an important role to play in all of them.



GBM Photos: BCLTBIA Booth (above) / Kelly Marciniw welcoming Minister Parmar (above) / BCLTBIA Members with their booths (below)



GBM Photos: BCLTBIA Members with their booths (below)



BCLTBIA NEWSLETTER welcomes advertisers. Please contact the BCLTBIA Office for deadlines.

OT Timber Frames Expands into Dowel-Laminated Timber Manufacturing

Oliver Tritten | oli@ottimberframes.com

OT Timber Frames is entering a new phase of growth with a major expansion of its manufacturing capabilities and the introduction of a new dowel-laminated timber (DLT) and cross dowel-laminated timber (CDLT) production line.

The expansion represents a significant step beyond the company's established timber frame and prefabrication work and into advanced mass timber manufacturing. With the addition of a dedicated 12,000-square-foot production facility, automated equipment, and supporting infrastructure, OT Timber Frames is positioning itself to take on a larger role in the growing market for prefabricated, high-performance, and VOC-free wood building systems.

The expansion introduces a new solid wood panel system manufactured in a cross-layered configuration and mechanically connected with hardwood dowels. Unlike conventional laminated mass timber products that rely on structural adhesives, the system uses an all-wood connection method, resulting in a fully bio-based panel. This system is intended to offer another option for projects where material composition, indoor air quality, sustainability, and building performance are important considerations.

At the center of the project is the installation of the TWOODS line, a modular production line made up of 3 portal CNC machines, including the TW-Layer for placing boards, TW-fix for drilling and dowelling, and the TW-Mill, a 5-axis CNC machine used for

precision cutting and finishing of the panels. The production line also includes a DLT pit capable of producing dowel-laminated timber (DLT) panels up to 4 feet wide by 45 feet long. Together, these portals integrate material handling, assembly, fastening, and precision machining into a continuous manufacturing workflow. OT Timber Frames' expansion represents the first implementation of the full TWOODS solid wood elements production line in North America, bringing an established European manufacturing approach to the local mass timber sector.

For OT Timber Frames, the expansion is about more than adding a new product to the mix.

It marks a shift toward a more scalable, production-based manufacturing model that builds on the company's existing expertise in timber construction, CNC processing, kiln drying, and prefabrication. The new system will allow the company to increase the amount of work completed in a controlled manufacturing environment before components arrive on site, supporting greater consistency, efficiency, and production capacity.

For British Columbia's wood industry, the project represents another example of how the province's forest resource can support higher-value manufacturing. Rather than limiting wood products to traditional applications, advanced mass timber manufacturing creates opportunities to turn BC fibre into highly engineered, project-specific building components.



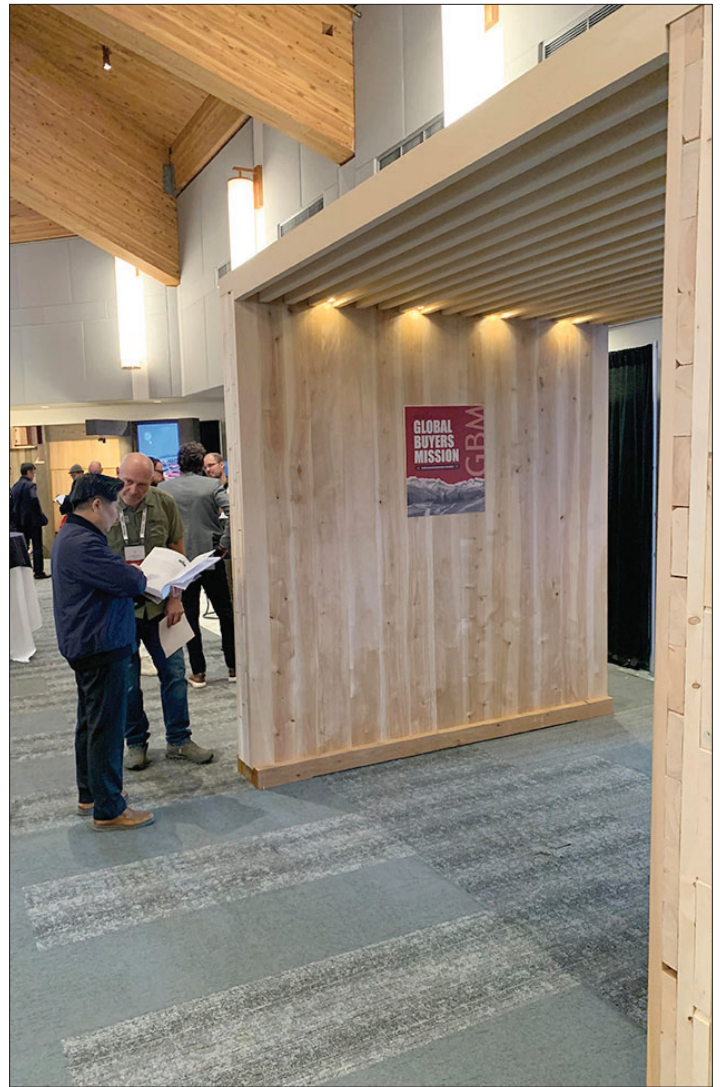
More broadly, the expansion reflects the growing role of innovation, automation, and value-added processing in the forest sector. By bringing a new manufacturing system into the North American market, OT Timber Frames is contributing to the development of new markets for our wood fibre and helping expand the role of timber in applications traditionally served by other materials.

The first demonstration of the BC Wood Panel was presented at the Global Buyers Mission in Whistler, hosted by BC Wood, where attendees were able to experience the system firsthand by walking through a tunnel constructed from the panels. The display offered an early look at the finished product while also giving viewers a sense of how the system will translate into full-scale building applications.

The transition from demonstration to application is already underway, with the first two customer projects in the design phases. One involves an addition to an existing home in Jackson, Wyoming, while the second is a butcher shop project in Bozeman, Montana.

Together, these projects will showcase the system in both residential and commercial applications.

As these first projects take shape, they will offer the industry its first look at what OT Timber Frames' new manufacturing capability can deliver and where the BC Wood Panel system can lead to next.



Cariboo Chilcotin Forestry Leaders Unite Around Regional Solutions

Beth Veenkamp | bveenkamp@williamslake.ca

More than 60 forestry, Indigenous, government and economic development leaders gathered in Williams Lake to identify shared priorities and advance collaborative action for the future of forestry in the Cariboo Chilcotin.

Hosted on Thursday, July 23, 2026, by the City of Williams Lake, the Cariboo Chilcotin Forestry Forum brought together a diverse cross-section of forestry leaders and stakeholders for discussions focused on strengthening the region's forest economy, supporting sustainable jobs, improving wildfire resilience, and advancing long-term forest stewardship.

"It was a pleasure to see so many forestry and community leaders gathering in Williams Lake," said City of Williams Lake Mayor Surinderpal Rathor. "The depth of experience, knowledge and commitment was inspiring. What stood out was the shared determination to work together on practical solutions that will support healthy forests, stronger communities and a sustainable forest economy. Forestry has long been the backbone of the Cariboo Chilcotin and British Columbia, and by working together we can help ensure it remains a strong contributor to our communities and our provincial economy for generations."

Throughout the day, participants discussed opportunities to strengthen regional collaboration, improve forest management practices, enhance wildfire

resiliency, address fibre supply challenges, and ensure local perspectives help inform future forestry decisions.

Six priority areas emerged from the discussions to help guide future collaboration across the region:

- Strategic partnerships
- Wildfire resiliency
- Communication and public awareness
- Reliable access to fibre for local forestry operations
- Land stewardship and restoration
- Greater utilization of every harvested tree

The importance of local knowledge, long-term stewardship and community-based decision-making was a recurring theme throughout the forum.

"For me, one of the most encouraging outcomes was seeing so many organizations come together to identify what is missing locally in the Cariboo Chilcotin region and where we can move forward collectively," said Gord Chipman, Executive Director of Woodlots BC.

"Forestry challenges are experienced differently across the province, and solutions need to reflect the realities of the communities they affect. Woodlot licence holders have demonstrated for generations that local knowledge, long-term stewardship and community-based decision-making create more resilient forests. By reducing barriers and giving local forest managers greater flexibility to do the right thing, we can strengthen both our forests and our communities."

Agreeing with Chipman's insights was Todd



Chamberlain, General Manager of the Interior Logging Association (ILA), who attended alongside leadership from the ILA Board of Directors.

“The collaboration across the Cariboo Chilcotin sets a benchmark for the province. Local communities must drive these forestry decisions because they bear the heaviest burden of any mistakes,” Chamberlain said. “We need immediate, decisive action; further manufacturing curtailments will devastate our membership.”

Participants also emphasized the value of continued regional collaboration to ensure forestry remains a strong economic driver for communities throughout the Cariboo Chilcotin.

“Bringing so many people and organizations together with local government demonstrates that our region is ready to work collaboratively and bring forward practical solutions,” said Margo Wagner, Chair of the Cariboo Regional District. “Too often we spend time identifying problems, but this forum was focused on identifying solutions and presenting strategic recommendations we believe will help strengthen the future of forestry in the Cariboo Chilcotin.”

The Cariboo Chilcotin Forestry Forum marks the beginning of a collaborative process. Over the coming months, participants will refine the recommendations into a regional action plan, establish working groups and continue advancing opportunities for coordinated action across the sector.

Regional leaders also intend to invite the Premier and provincial ministers to the Cariboo Chilcotin this fall to discuss the forum’s recommendations and explore practical solutions to support the future of forestry in the region.

“What made this day unique was the willingness of so many organizations to come together with a common purpose,” said Beth Veenkamp, Manager of Economic Development for the City of Williams Lake. “Rather than focusing on individual priorities, participants worked collaboratively to identify practical actions that will benefit the entire region. The conversations reinforced that the Cariboo Chilcotin has the expertise, partnerships and leadership needed to shape the future of forestry in the region. Our next step is to build on this momentum, continue working together, and advance these recommendations into meaningful action.”

More reasons to attend the 30th BCLTBIA Conference at Harrison Hot Springs in March of 2027!

After months of dusty jobsites, early morning cold starts, and relentless deadlines, every building family deserves a real break to recharge.

Visiting Harrison Hot Springs in March offers an ideal off-season sanctuary—combining crisp spring air with naturally heated mineral pools, long before the summer rush arrives.

Stepping into steaming outdoor mineral water while cool spring air settles around you is far more invigorating than soaking in the summer heat. Years of heavy lifting and framing take a toll. Rich in natural minerals, these warm waters ease deep muscle tension, relieve stiff joints, and support circulation. Come and relax in the private indoor and outdoor pool grounds at the Harrison Hot Springs Resort, where we will be hosting the conference March 18-21, 2027.

Look up from the warm pools to see lush green valley hills framed by snow-dusted mountain peaks.

Step straight off the resort grounds onto easy, mossy forest trails—perfect for a quiet morning walk with the family.

Whether you need a quiet weekend to reconnect or a relaxing retreat to recover before the busy spring build season kicks off, a March getaway to Harrison delivers the rest you’ve earned.



Harrison Hot Springs, Land of the Sasquatch, here we come!

Where Craftsmanship Meets the Doorway

Michael McLennan | michael@secondgrowthwoodcraft.com

At Second Growth Woodcraft, the humble door becomes something more: a statement of craftsmanship, character, and enduring design.

There is something inherently timeless about a solid wood door. It welcomes, protects, and sets the tone for everything beyond it. At Second Growth Woodcraft, that sense of permanence has been at the heart of the business since 2004.

Based in Aldergrove, British Columbia, Second Growth specializes in handcrafted Douglas Fir doors, combining the natural beauty of the wood with the skill and precision of experienced craftsmen. No two doors are quite alike. Each is shaped by the character of the timber, the design of the project, and the vision of the client.

The company works with architects, builders, contractors, timber-frame and log-home specialists, as well as homeowners looking for something distinctly their own. From traditional residences to contemporary spaces, the goal is not simply to produce a door, but to create an architectural element that feels considered and lasting.

A new chapter began in July 2024, when new ownership took the helm. The transition brought fresh energy while maintaining the principles that have long defined Second Growth Woodcraft: quality materials, careful workmanship, personal service, and an appreciation for the details that make handcrafted products special.

That philosophy has also allowed the company to grow well beyond its British Columbia roots. While its work can be found throughout the province—from Vancouver and Whistler to the Okanagan—it now ships custom Douglas Fir doors across Canada and into the United States, with projects reaching Alberta, Ontario, California, Colorado, and other western markets.

Perhaps the appeal lies in what a handcrafted wood door represents in an increasingly mass-produced world. It carries the marks of natural material and human hands; it has weight, warmth, and presence. When thoughtfully designed and carefully built, it is made to age gracefully alongside the home it belongs to.

For Second Growth Woodcraft, that is the enduring idea behind every project: create something beautiful today that will still feel at home decades from now.

Crafted with care. Built to become part of the story.



The kiln dried Douglas Fir is purchased in 2x6" planks



The wood is milled to 1 3/4" for the door stiles and rails



The shaper cuts for the cope and stick joinery



Accuracy down to thousands of an inch is required



Kettle River
TIMBERWORKS LTD.

*Custom Craftsmanship
Beautiful Design
True Collaboration
Remote Site Specialist*

1-888-513-8555 - info@kettlerivertimber.com




ZIRNHELT
Timber Frames

COMPLETE CUSTOM BUILDS,
LOCKUP OR
TIMBER FRAME PACKAGES




CONTACT US
WWW.ZTFRAMES.COM | 250-296-3499 | INFO@ZTFRAMES.COM



Dürfeld Log & Timber
Elevating the Beauty of Nature

Specializing in Log Post & Beam Construction
www.durfeldlogandtimber.com | 250 398 0041



OT **TIMBER**
FRAMES
Ltd.

For All Your
Panelized Timber
Solutions

250.296.0010
info@ottimberframes.com
www.ottimberframes.com

Gehloff
Consulting Inc.

mgehloff@gehloff-consulting.com

TF international
timberframes

timberframe | DLT mass timber

itimberf.com | 250 439 1099 | info@itimberf.com



SITKA LOG HOMES

info@sitkaloghomes.com

SITKALOGHOMES.COM

BOOK EARLY for our 30TH BCLTBIA CONFERENCE March 18-21, 2027

Rooms range from: \$174-\$229/night

Visit: www.HarrisonResort.com

Then follow these steps:

1. Select Special
2. Select Book Now
3. Select Add Code – Click Discount Code
4. Select Group Attendee, enter your Group Code: 334808
5. Click Add, then select & continue
6. Choose your dates from the calendar

Group Reservations by Phone

Call: 1-800-663-2266

- Press 1 for Room Reservations
- Then press 2 for Group Reservations
- Group name when calling:
BCLTBIA Conference 2027 or 334808

Your Masterpiece Deserves the Best Wood Protection



Naturally Perfect® Wood Protection for Logs & Timbers.

Logs and timbers not only require protection from sun and rain, the sheer size of the wood demands a coating that "breathes" freely to prevent moisture from getting trapped and rotting from within. Sansin's penetrating, water-borne stains are specially designed to protect the natural beauty of your logs and timbers.

Contact your sales representative by email at rstokes@sansin.com



1-877-SANSIN-1 | sansin.com