

The Hub Receives the 2018 Wood Design Awards, Western Red Cedar



"...really showcases the beauty and grain of Western red cedar."

- Jury Comment,
2018 Wood Design Awards

The GoodLife Fitness Family Autism Hub ("The Hub") has received the Canadian Wood Council, 2018 Wood Design Awards in the Western Red Cedar category.

The GoodLife Fitness Family Autism Hub is designed to address the challenges of living with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The primary goal was to develop a nurturing, supportive and sustainable environment for the physical and emotional well-being of the building's occupants. The province's Wood First Initiative informed the design from choice of structure, to cladding, to interior finishing. The post-and-beam glulam structure is expressed throughout the building, contributing to a warm, inviting environment. The economy and versatility of a hybrid system of TJI joists and engineered wood was also introduced to maximize budget dollars.

All materials for the project were selected based on their durability, functionality, aesthetics and low environmental footprint with a high priority placed on materials containing recycled content and sourced locally. Wood was an obvious choice. The exterior materials are primarily stained cedar siding and metal panels. The Western Red Cedar is finished with a clear sealer to maintain the natural warmth of the wood and provide visual richness. The exterior site structures such as the security fences and the bicycle enclosures are also built in or clad in Western Red Cedar.

Beyond the expressed wood structure, interior finishes include linear wood ceilings, wood acoustic wall panels, and extensive millwork. These are all designed and detailed to create a modern expressive architecture and a nurturing place for people living with ASD.