



August 27, 2024

To Whom It May Concern,

RE: Advanced Wood Construction Action Plan

The Ontario Structural Wood Association (OSWA) is very excited to support the Province of Ontario's Advanced Wood Construction Action Plan.

Our industry has been on the leading edge of the pre-fabrication of wood components since 1982. Our industry already supports the residential building industry across Ontario with a skilled work force using the latest software technology to build off-site floors, walls and roof components. We understand that the challenge ahead is immense but with political support and the support of the development industry plus the design trade, including architects and engineers Ontario can:

- meet demand for wood products
- grow wood's market share in the entire buildings sector
- increase the manufacturing of wood-based building components
- reduce carbon footprint in construction

This will create jobs and opportunities along the supply chain to not only maximize the value of our forest resources, but also address the challenge of climate change and housing supply. The plan's broad initiatives of delivering education and workforce training, supporting research, improving codes and standards will encourage innovation and advanced manufacturing techniques that will foster economic development and low-carbon construction.

Your support of Element5, Ontario's first certified manufacturer of cross-laminated timber (CLT) is to be commended. Element5's growth is symbolic of the opportunity for wood construction in Ontario and certainly a required investment to facilitate the large mass timber buildings this product is capable of supplying. OSWA is also very excited for wood's opportunity to fuel the building of the "missing middle" that Ontario's housing market requires to meet the supply crisis faced with our growing population.

On behalf of the over 100 business members of OSWA, thank you for delivering this action plan. OSWA and its members are ready to help Team Ontario meet the challenges presented within the plan and take action.

Yours truly,

Mike Phillips

Executive Director

cc: OSWA Board of Directors & OSWA Members