

2016 WOOD DESIGN AWARDS - WINNER

Commercial Wood Design

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Cordova Bay Physiotherapy Clinic, Saanich, BC



High resolution images available. Please e-mail mmclaughlin@wood-works.ca

“The beautiful use of wood on the exterior and interior creates an amazingly sinuous building form that hugs the landscape and envelops visitors.”

- jury comments

The Tall Trees Integrated Health Centre is a single-storey, 463 square metre (4,982 square foot) physiotherapy clinic. It complements the existing services provided by Mattick’s Market in Cordova Bay, strengthening the existing built fabric and character of the local community and creating a tangible benefit to the District of Saanich. The building also includes a ceramics studio in a separate suite.

The structure expresses the simplicity of its program and integration with the landscape through its material components. A flat roof cross-laminated timber (CLT) structure floats above curving exterior rock walls, separated by a continuous glazing band. Three large skylights provide views from inside the building to the tree canopy above, while areas of full height glazing create an expansive sense of space, connecting users to the surrounding landscape.

Carefully calibrated thresholds between programmatic uses and a considered material palette allow for the emphasis of the project to become focused on a synthesis of environmental context and built form. CLT shear walls are left exposed, expressing the function of the wood

structure while also providing a natural interior finish and high sound transmission ratings.

This project incorporates a wide range of sustainable features as fundamental components of its central concept. Its curvilinear shape was conceived to minimally disturb existing mature trees while its granite rock cladding utilizes materials local to the site. The monolithic roof is comprised of cross-laminated timber harvested and manufactured in BC.

The project achieved an EnerGuide rating of at least 82. The interior of the building includes the use of recycled content materials and low-VOC finishes, a fir feature wall to improve the acoustics, LED lighting on dimmers, energy efficient HVAC heat recovery, programmable HVAC control, and low flow fixtures. Exterior sun shading, operable windows for natural ventilation, and an optimized plan configuration for daylight and views decrease the building’s dependence on active heating and ventilation systems while the integration of new rain gardens into the existing landscaping decrease storm water run-off.