

## **FPInnovations Releases Mid-rise Wood-Frame Construction Handbook**

### **Guide to facilitate design and construction of 5- and 6-storey wooden buildings**

**Pointe-Claire, Quebec – October 28, 2015** – FPInnovations has published the *Mid-rise Wood-Frame Construction Handbook* to help facilitate the design and construction of 5- and 6-storey wood-frame buildings across Canada. The handbook is intended to be used by early adopters and mainstream design practitioners to design mid-rise wood frame buildings in compliance with the National Code, Provincial Codes, and the Canadian Standard for Engineering Design in Wood.

The growing interest in wood-frame construction as an economical and environmentally friendly type of construction, along with the growth in the urban population, prompted the regulatory authorities of many provinces to allow taller wood-frame buildings in the last few years.

Developed in collaboration with the Canadian Wood Council and the National Research Council, and with financial support from Natural Resources Canada, the *Mid-rise Wood-Frame Construction Handbook* is comprised of ten chapters covering multi-disciplinary aspects. The handbook captures in a single document the knowledge of more than 40 experts and specialists, and provides practical solutions by making use of the most recently developed technical and research information to assist designers, architects, and engineers.

The Handbook is available in a print and a print/pdf combo version at <http://midriseguide.fpinnovations.ca>.

#### **Quotes**

“FPInnovations is continuing to assume its leadership role by paving the way for wood-based, living solutions. The Handbook provides architects, engineers, code consultants, developers, owners and authorities having jurisdiction the knowledge necessary to design and construct buildings to the highest possible standards of safety using wood, an abundant and renewable natural resource and a cornerstone of the Canadian economy. I hope that this handbook will attract and inspire the vision and creativity of budding architects, engineers, designers, and builders to adopt wood construction systems.”

- Pierre Lapointe, President and CEO, FPInnovations

## Quick Facts

- In 2009, the BC Building Code was amended by the BC Building and Safety Standards Branch to allow mid-rise wood-frame construction. More than 100 mid-rise wood-frame construction projects in BC followed the amendment. Later, the provinces of Quebec, Ontario, and Alberta took steps to permit mid-rise wood-frame construction, and finally the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes accepted the code change proposals allowing 5- and 6-storey wood-frame construction in the 2015 edition of the National Building Code of Canada.
- In 2011, the Canadian edition of the cross-laminated timber (CLT) handbook was published by FPInnovations, presenting design, construction, and implementation of CLT systems adapted to current codes and standards. A subsequent version was also published in the United States.
- In 2014, FPInnovations published the Technical Guide for the Design and Construction of Tall Wood Buildings in Canada, providing the guiding principles for the design of tall wooden buildings.
- In August 2015, the Government of Québec published a technical guide for the construction of mass timber buildings up to 12 storeys. In 2013, testing performed at the National Research Council in Ottawa, Ont., confirmed that this type of construction met the required fire safety specifications.

## Associated Links

- Government of Quebec Launches 12-storey Wood Building Construction Guide: <http://ow.ly/TJJl9>
- FPInnovations signs post-tensioning technology licensing agreement with NZ-based firms: <http://ow.ly/TJJJ4>
- FPInnovations Wins Two Awards at the 2014 Contech Building Exposition: <http://ow.ly/TJJUa>

### About FPInnovations

FPInnovations is a not-for-profit world leader that specializes in the creation of scientific solutions in support of the Canadian forest sector's global competitiveness and responds to the priority needs of its industry members and government partners. It is ideally positioned to perform research, innovate, and deliver state-of-the-art solutions for every area of the sector's value chain, from forest operations to consumer and industrial products. FPInnovations' staff numbers more than 525. Its R&D laboratories are located in Québec City, Montréal, and Vancouver, and it has technology transfer offices across Canada. For more information about FPInnovations, visit: [www.fpinnovations.ca](http://www.fpinnovations.ca).

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