

Wood *WORKS!* BC



2012 WOOD DESIGN AWARDS - WINNER

Western Red Cedar

City of Courtenay

Courtenay City Hall Renovation, Courtenay



The jury described this project as an astounding transformation, highlighting how Western red cedar can transform something so drab into something so beautiful.

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

Wood played a starring role in the Courtenay City Hall renovation. With a mandate to use local products as much as possible, Western red cedar and Douglas fir were natural choices. Historically these were harvested and milled in the Comox Valley, and they remain a favourite option for local building materials. Wood was also chosen for its beauty and popularity with the public. The use of wood helped add a traditional element to the contemporary look of the building. It visually connects City Hall to other public buildings downtown, including the Courtenay Library and the Comox Valley Art Gallery which both have wood strongly

incorporated into their designs. It was noted that as a local government, remaining fiscally responsible is a necessity. Wood is a cost-effective finish for public buildings, and with proper maintenance, it will remain durable and functional for years to come. The use of wood also helped the project meet environmental considerations, as it is a renewable and sustainable material. The City of Courtenay hopes this project sets an example to the development community on how wood can be incorporated as both a structural and a design element, hopefully guiding and influencing future local development.