Tsawwassen Mills, owned by Ivanhoe Cambridge and designed by Stantec Architecture, utilizes natural wood accompanied by an abundance of natural light to create a feeling of warmth and comfort for its patrons. In the shopping centre’s two feature spaces, heavy timber framing is displayed as the primary element.

The use of wood in the project led to cost savings. It was achieved through the application of the long span beams featured in the Promo Court by utilizing an innovated pin connection that allowed for the use of four shorter beams instead of one longer beam. The smaller size of the beams meant simpler transportation methods to the project site, which led to extensive cost savings.

The inclined glulam beams and columns in the Food Court were designed to give a sense of movement and liveliness to the area.

The use of heavy timber as a material choice for the display spaces provides both aesthetic and environmental benefits. This natural material achieves the predominant wood texture and adds to the thematic West Coast design for those areas. Thoughtful consideration was taken throughout the design to increase the environmental efficiencies along with the intent to achieve a level of LEED Core and Shell for the project.

“The size, quantity and careful use of wood has an astounding effect.”
- jury comments