



Vancouver, BC

March 17, 2015

TED2015 Lions Marquee Shows Off BC Wood Products *Structure Will Become Part of the DTES Street Market*

This week, the Lions Marquee is showing 1,000 of the world's leading thinkers and does the beauty of wood – and soon it will provide shelter to the DTES Street Market in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, one of Canada's most disadvantaged neighbourhoods.

The marquee was built for TED2015, and features Douglas-Fir lumber donated by Interfor Corporation from its sawmill in Adams Lake, BC. It was designed by 17 students from the University of British Columbia, Kwantlen Polytechnic University, the British Columbia Institute of Technology and Emily Carr University of Art + Design under the direction of the not-for-profit DBR | DESIGN BUILD RESEARCH INSTITUTE.

When the conference ends March 20, the marquee will be moved to the DTES Street Market, which runs every Sunday and supports hundreds of local residents.



"The Lions Marquee shows the beauty and versatility of BC's incredible forest resources, and fits with our Company's promise to build value for our communities," says Steven Hofer, Interfor's Senior Vice President, Sales & Marketing.

"When TED organizers asked us for a structure to shelter participants during breaks, we chose wood – the best structural material on earth," says Michael Green, an award-winning Vancouver architect who co-founded DBR. "It let us capture the essence of the North Shore's Lions mountain peaks, and is easily repurposed for future use in the community."

The marquee is located next to the Vancouver Conference Centre where TED – the non-profit devoted to Ideas Worth Spreading – is holding its annual conference this week.

"The Lions Marquee will be a wonderful attraction and provide much-needed shelter for our market, which draws as many as 200 vendors and 10,000 visitors every Sunday," says Roland Clarke, Coordinator of the DTES Street Market.

- 30 -

ABOUT INTERFOR

Interfor is a growth-oriented lumber company with operations in Canada and the United States. The Company has annual production capacity of 3.1 billion board feet and offers one of the most diverse lines of lumber products to customers around the world. For more information about Interfor, visit our website at www.interfor.com.

ABOUT DBR | DESIGN BUILD RESEARCH INSTITUTE

DBR | DESIGN BUILD RESEARCH INSTITUTE is a not-for-profit institute dedicated to teaching the design and construction of socially, culturally and environmentally relevant student-led installations. It was founded in spring 2014 by architect Michael Green, wood engineer Eric Karsh and social entrepreneur Scott Hawthorn. Learn more at <http://dbr-school.org/>.

ABOUT DTES STREET MARKET

The DTES Street Market, a registered BC society operated by the street vendors of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, runs every Sunday. It supports hundreds of vendors from the neighbourhood so they can be more independent, less clientized and earn much-needed extra money for themselves to supplement welfare rates. Learn more at <http://dtesstmkt.blogspot.ca/>.

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