



Catherine Lalonde Memorial Scholarships Awarded ***Students Share Legacy's Passion for Wood Industry Innovation***

Ottawa, ON, December 1st – The Canadian Wood Council (CWC) awarded three student recipients as part of the 2020 Catherine Lalonde Memorial Scholarships – **Laurence Picard** (Laval University), **Samuel Shulman** (University of British Columbia) and **Michael Plummer** (Ryerson University). The winners demonstrated academic excellence through their research projects that will have positive influences on the structural wood products industry.

Established fifteen years ago, the memorial scholarship is awarded yearly to graduate students whose wood research transcends the same level of passion that Catherine Lalonde championed relentlessly for the wood/wood products industry as a professional engineer and president of the CWC.

- **Laurence Picard**
Laurence is a 1st year PHD candidate in Mechanical Engineering at **Laval University**. Her thesis examines the development of a range of universal connectors for the assembly of prefabricated elements found in light wood frame buildings. Her goal is to develop standardized embedded connectors to facilitate the assembly of prefabricated wood structural systems, reduce design time and automate the installation of the connections in the factory resulting in higher quality control and lower construction costs.
- **Samuel Shulman**
Samuel is a 2nd year Master candidate in Applied Science, Department of Wood Science at **University of British Columbia**. His thesis aims to develop an advanced multi-material hybrid shear connection for mass timber buildings that allows for easy construction, deconstruction, and reuse of the structural elements. The results of this research will provide data to further perform reliability analysis of this novel connection and expand to hybrid structural solutions. Demonstrating the viability of hybrid timber connections will benefit all levels of the Canadian timber industry, from processing to manufacturing to construction, as well as assist in positively shifting the public perception of tall timber buildings.
- **Michael Plummer**
Michael is a 2nd year Master candidate in Architecture, at **Ryerson University**. His thesis focuses on the research, investigation, and application of new wood open architecture. The resulting project will be a modular and prefabricated wood construction system that allows people to design, build, and modify their own dwellings.

“The winning scholarship recipients’ submissions exemplify the level of enthusiasm and expertise that Catherine Lalonde encouraged and inspired within our industry.” explained Etienne Lalonde, VP Market Development of the CWC. “Her legacy lives on through initiatives such as the memorial scholarship, and we are elated to celebrate and recognize future practitioners that share her passion for wood construction.

For more information, please contact:

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