



Photo courtesy of Alex Zander Photography

Project Overview

The City of Prince George needed to upgrade the existing Kin Centre Complex in order to host the 2015 Canada Winter Games.

The old Kin 1 arena, built in the 1970's, was demolished and replaced with a new 700-seat arena in a phased construction process. The new Kin 1 arena is to be the City's show piece for the 2015 Canada Winter Games. The existing Kin 2 & 3 arenas, the new Kin 1 arena and the existing 6,000 seat CN Centre will host men's & women's hockey, ringette, short track speed skating and figure skating. The existing Outdoor Ice Oval next to the Kin Centre will host long track speed skating.

To meet the Games requirements, the new Kin 1 arena will have Olympic-size ice that can be converted back to NHL-size for future use. Games requirements also necessitated adding 400 seats to the Kin 2 arena along with five new larger dressing rooms.

A mezzanine lounge will provide views into two of the arenas and connect to the atrium lobby that also serves the CN Centre. A second entrance lobby on the north side will serve as the community entrance. The facility has office space for minor league hockey, a pro-shop and a dividable meeting room.

In early 2014, the facility hosted the Canadian National Speedskating Championships and provincial championships in ringette and figure skating. After the Games, this legacy facility will allow the City of Prince George to host more provincial and national tournaments and events that will contribute positively to the local economy.

Location

Prince George, British Columbia

Completion

2013

Architect

PBK Architects Inc.

Structural Engineer

Fast + Epp

General Contractor

Yellowridge Construction Ltd.

Engineered Wood Fabricator

Structurlam Products Ltd.

Project Owner

City of Prince George



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“The very first skaters to touch the ice were a group of four and five year olds. Seeing them going on the ice and thinking — the memories that are going to be created here, the tears and the joy and the sorrow that is going to happen in here — it’s quite profound.”

— Andy Beasley
Arena Manager, Kin Centre

Wood Use

At the beginning of the project, the City expressed a desire to have wood used in a meaningful way and use as much local wood as possible to meet their Wood First Policy. The design team decided that a wood roof should become the main feature of the building. A gently-arched wooden roof that contains over 400,000 board feet of solid wood decking was designed and the specifications were developed to favour locally sourced spruce, pine and fir. Recesses for piping and conduits were designed to eliminate unsightly services and ensure the warmth and beauty of wood was showcased.

The roof consists of glue-laminated panels 600mm wide by 130mm deep and constructed from spruce, pine and fir. Some mountain pine beetle wood was also used in the panels. The wood panels became a solid diaphragm enabling the roof to be designed without additional steel braces in the roof plane. They were two-span continuous panels approximately 9.6 meters long in a staggered configuration over the roof to keep loading and deflections consistent and provide an interlocking surface for the diaphragm. Plywood was used to tie the wood panels together and to help meet the heavy timber requirements.

For more examples of innovative wood building projects throughout British Columbia, visit:

www.woodfirstbc.ca