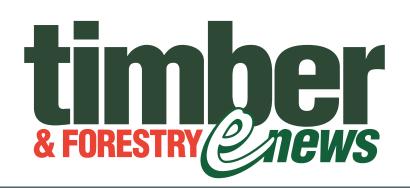
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ISSUE 808 // **June** 20 2024











ALL UNDER ONE ROOF

- IR SUPPORT
- TRAINING
- EMPLOYMENT
- WHS
- COMMUNITY



Wood Solutions



Two online courses on gender and diversity in forestry now available

FSC is pleased to announce two publicly available training courses that specifically target some of the social concerns within the forestry sector.

The courses are available to the public through access to the sites mentioned in the course descriptions below.

This is part of FSC 's ongoing mission to protect forests worldwide, and the organizations involved in their creation aim to be a knowledge resource in the realm of sustainable forestry.

Research shows that within the first 5 years of joining, women and minorities leave the forestry sector due to harassment, bullying, pay inequity, and a lack of sponsorship and mentorship. Much of the training created to-date has focused on what diversity, equity and inclusion is and why it is important, however, never has there been specific training provided on how to take action.



It is important to ensure workplaces are spaces that welcome people from all walks of life as everyone brings a unique perspective to the table. Image: Shutterstock

"FSC has actively engaged in the first ever Massive Open Online Course on Gender Equality, Diversity and Inclusion in the Forestry-related Sector, laying the groundwork for

DESIGNED TO SHIFT THE WORKPLACE CULTURE TO BE MORE WELCOMING FSC's ambition to become a leader in the sector while disseminating our values, vision and work" says Anakarina Pérez Oropeza, FSC's Interim Head of Strategy Engagement, speaking about one of the upcoming courses.

Gender Equality, Diversity & Inclusion in Forestry-related Sectors (ForGEDI)

The first training offering, Gender Equality, Diversity & Inclusion in Forestryrelated Sectors (ForGEDI), was developed under the International Union of Forest Research Organisations (IUFRO) Task Force on Gender Equality in Forestry to contribute to bridging the gap in forestry education by offering the latest knowledge and resources freely to all. The course is offered via the FutureLearn platform by the University of Padova in collaboration with the Swedish University of Agricultural Science, the University of Moncton, and IUFRO.

As stated on their homepage, "This course delves into the pivotal role of gender, equality, diversity and inclusion within forest-related sectors, providing insights and practical approaches to fostering an inclusive environment."

The 3-week, 12 hour course was developed by 40 dedicated volunteers over a period of two years. It is available here for free until April 2025.

Cont P 4



Timber & Hardware Industry Awards

2024 Victoria & Tasmania winners

LAST Friday, 14 June 2024, the National Timber & Hardware Association (NTHA) hosted the 2024 Victoria & Tasmania Timber & Hardware Industry Awards. This year's awards have showcased the outstanding achievements and contributions within our industry, and we are honoured to recognise the exceptional talent and dedication of all participants.

The Victorian & Tasmanian Timber & Hardware Industry Awards holds a prestigious status as the leading event within the timber & hardware industry. The excellence and achievements of the winners are acknowledged and celebrated with entertainment, drinks and a delicious dinner amongst industry friends.

This platform offers a valuable opportunity to appreciate timber merchants, hardware stores, suppliers, manufacturers and individuals who consistently go above and beyond, contributing significantly to the success of either the nominators business or the industry as a whole.

The awards ceremony was a testament to the community and high standards within our industry. A special thank you goes out to everyone who attended and supported the event. Your participation was key to its resounding success.

We would also like to express our gratitude to our

OPPORTUNITY TO
HONOUR THOSE
WHO ARE
DEDICATED TO
THE INDUSTRY

sponsors for their generous support. Your contributions were invaluable in making this event possible. Special thanks to:

- Platinum Sponsor: ITI Australia
- Silver Sponsor: Independent Hardware Group
- Bronze Sponsors: First Super, Parkside Timbers, Bremick, and NCI

2024 VICTORIA & TASMANIA WINNERS

- Garden
 Department of
 the Year: Benalla
 Mitre 10
- Garden &
 Outdoor
 Supplier of the
 Year: Takasho
 Australasia
- Retail Store of the Year Under 2500sqm: Jenkins Home Hardware
- Retail Store of the Year Over 2500sqm: Permewans Mitre 10
- Trade Store of the Year: Provans Timber and Hardware
- Best Frame & Truss Operation: AAA Advanced Trusses
- Trade Supplier of the Year: Meyer Timber Pty Ltd







- Retail Supplier of the Year: Bremick
- Supplier Sales Representative of the Year: Rebecca Cunningham (Dulux Group)
- REAL Difference Award: Sarah Jenkins (Jenkins Home Hardware Trafalgar)

Amongst some event schedule clashes the following event remains on schedule and attendees can still register to attend: New South Wales & ACT Timber & Hardware Industry Awards – 13 September 2024.

The remaining two events were postponed to 2025 but attendees can still register now in advance for the events: Queensland Timber & Hardware Industry Awards – 22 March 2025 and South Australia, Northern Territory and Western Australia Timber & Hardware Industry Awards – 30 May 2025.



On the cover: MAIN PIC: The Southgate Shopping Precinct was the venue for the VIC/TAS NTHA Industry awards for 2024. TOP INSET PIC: Provans Timber and Hardware takes out the Trade Store of the Year award. BOTTOM INSET PIC: Rebecca Cunningham from the Dulux Group wins Supplier Sales Representative of the Year award.

- 1/ Benalla Mitre 10, winner of the Garden Department of the Year award.
- 2/ Meyer Timber Pty Ltd, winner of the Trade Supplier of the Year award.
- 3/ The Timber & Hardware Industry Awards are a great chance for networking and celebration amongst the industry.
- 4/ NTHA celebrated the awards with dinner, drinks and entertainment.

From P 2

Free to Grow in Forestry Certification Course

Our second training offering -- The Free to Grow in Forestry Certification Course -- is designed to shift the workplace culture to be more welcoming of women and other under-represented groups in the forestry sector. It is forest-industry tested and focuses on ways to overcome the workplace culture barriers that women and other underrepresented people face in the sector. The Free to Grow in Forestry training specifically addresses: how to be an effective ally, how to be an inclusive leader, and how to overcome resistance to DEI in the workplace.

The Free to Grow in Forestry Training aims to achieve gender equality and empowerment of equity-deserving groups (women, Indigenous Peoples,



Women and minorities are underrepresented in the timber and forestry industry, FSC is championing these courses to help change that. Image: Shutterstock

LGBTQI+, people living with disabilities, among others) in organizations at all levels from technical to executive level positions in the forest sector. More information can be found at the Free To Grow website.

Expanding our reach by expanding awareness

With time and dedicated resources, our vision is to use

these training as a springboard to create larger, regional trainings that address specific barriers that women and



minorities face, bringing the local context to life in a meaningful way in the various regions that FSC operates. This will allow the trainings to have greater impact in shifting the workplace cultures globally.

Forestry can benefit immensely from the integration of diverse perspectives when it comes to some of the

most pressing environmental and social issues our world's forests face. These two trainings are just a start; we hope to continue forging ahead to create accessible knowledge platforms for all, so that we may have a greater chance of succeeding in protecting forests for all, forever.



AFPATHE LEADING VOICE FOR AUSTRALIA'S FOREST PRODUCTS SECTOR

1800 822 621 ntha.com.au

Murihiku Marae: community facility with a focus on sustainability

By MICHAEL SMITH

AMONG a number of recent examples that demonstrate the increasing influence of Māori culture in architecture and construction is Murihiku Marae, located on the fringes of Invercargill's CBD.

Timber & Forestry enews invited Murali Bhaskar, lead design architect with BOON, to discuss the project's design consultation process, timber structure and key sustainability features.

Mr Bhaskar says that before starting the design process, wānanga (workshops) were held with Waihōpai Rūnaka trustees to understand their values and aspirations for the project. "The site plan, entry locations, and spatial arrangement of the buildings were all guided by the cultural values and narrative identified during the project master planning and concept process.

"An important part of the design brief was that the building would be anchored in tikanga [customary practices/values], and that the cultural narrative of the Rūnaka was





1/ Murihiku Marae stands as a testament to sustainable building practices. Image: Jaime Smith, Ishotz Photography

2/ Curved glulam beams make up the whalebone structural effect along one side of the building. Image: Jaime Smith, Ishotz Photography

to be celebrated."

Envisioned as a vibrant community hub, the marae has enabled Waihōpai Rūnaka to expand its community support services, operate as a Civil Defence Emergency Centre, and provide a hub for educational initiatives in Murihiku Southland.

Mr Bhaskar notes that the marae is constructed entirely of timber (radiata pine), with 58 tonnes of carbon sequestered. "The curved glulam beams from Techlam make up the whalebone structural effect along one side of the building. Glulam roof beams and columns are exposed internally and make up the main building structure."

The marae also features Prolam timber posts and beams, timber rafters and piles, and Earthen Cladding (shiplap weatherboards).

"Earthen Cladding is locally manufactured from premium quality New

Cont P 6



From P 5

Zealand radiata. Micropro Greengard Certified infusion establishes H3.2 durability without the use of toxic chemicals such as chromium and arsenic. Precision profiling, including surface exfoliation before coating, ensures Foreverbreathe Oil coatings infuse deep into the timber surface to increase performance and reduce maintenance costs."

He adds that the curved eastern roofline – designed to emulate the shape of the tohorā (whale) – "is created with an internal membrane gutter, and the curved glulam beams extending to the exterior decking spaces represent the ribs.

"It was a challenge to develop the construction details for the curved shape of the eastern roofline and extrusion to act as a canopy to the deck that runs the length of the building. However, the resulting curve makes this building unique.

"The curved glulam members have remained



As a community hub the marae incorporates multiple functions, and aims to achieve positive social outcomes. Image: Jaime Smith, Ishotz Photography

in place from the original concept, surviving a value engineering exercise and forming a key element of the design narrative.

"The glulam structural beams and columns were fabricated off-site and assembled in situ. Technology allowed us to work in multiple locations, and then come together as one.

"Maintaining a genuinely collaborative and robust relationship with shared values has been key in this development. The Waihōpai

trustees understood and embraced this, which was fundamental to the success of the project."

Mr Bhaskar says the main issue faced during the construction phase was protecting the primary structural frames from the elements. "Invercargill is New Zealand's most southern city – and the site is exposed to extreme temperatures and can be affected by long cold and wet periods during winter.

"Because of Covid there were delays with the delivery

of other materials. We were faced with having some structural elements installed and exposed to the elements much longer than anticipated – notably the glulam frames. So, we worked closely with the contractor to provide a breathable protective wrap until such time as the building was enclosed."

Murihiku Marae stands as a testament to sustainability – a key focus of the project. "We worked with a sustainability consultant to develop a comprehensive framework that was implemented in line with the goal of achieving triple net zero status [net zero energy, water and waste].

"The project showcases cutting-edge design that uses energy-efficient practices with a renewable energy source [solar]. Sustainability design principles include designing for kaitiakitanga [guardianship and conservation], health and wellbeing, operational performance, and whole of life value."

Mr Bhaskar says BOON has extensive experience in this field of construction ... "and there are no significant challenges we find when designing with timber. The structural member sizes are generally bigger in scale than steel or concrete. However, when expressed internally this can be celebrated rather than concealed as would be common with other structural solutions."



JUNE

26-27: Fire Summit -Melbourne Connect, The University of Melbourne, Parkville, VIC. Theme: Prescribed fire: Exploring science, culture and practice. This Summit will review and discuss cultural fire practices, evidence from recent wildfires, fire science, lived experience and current prescribed fire practices. The Summit will also look to the future and consider more effective use of prescribed fire, health impacts of fire and smoke and how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and forest scientists can encourage two-way capacity building to support healthy and resilient forests. For more information, visit https://www.forestry. org.au/2024-fire-summitprescribed-fire-exploring-thescience-practice-and-culture/

JULY

2: WoodSolutions Webinar - AMRF First Building -**Designing for Country and Disassembly - ONLINE EVENT,** 11.00am-12noon. For more details and an RSVP link, visit https://www.woodsolutions. com.au/events/woodsolutionswebinar-amrf-first-buildingdesigning-country-anddisassembly

3: FSC Aligned for EUDR program - ONLINE EVENT, **6-7.30pm.** To register, visit

https://www.linkedin.com/ events/launchevent-fscalignedf oreudr7193967598538022912/

28-2 AUG: Gottstein **Understanding Forest Science** Course - Sunshine Coast, QLD.

The course is pen to everyone associated with the timber and forestry products sector in some way. For full details, visit https://gottsteintrust.org/ grants-courses/understandingforest-science-course

AUGUST

12-13: Timber Construct Conference - Rydges, Melbourne. The Timber Offsite Construction Conference and Exhibition has been rebranded as the Timber Construct Conference to encompass the full spectrum of timber building. The conference provides an invaluable forum to address pressing challenges and opportunities influencing timber's role across the built landscape. Technical sessions will cover research updates, emerging products, building code enhancements, and best practice case studies. For more information, visit https:// timberoffsiteconstruction.com

13: NTHA NSW/ACT State Awards - Hilton, Sydney.

New South Wales & ACT Timber and Hardware Industry. Nominations open at https://www.ntha.com.au/ events/2024-nswact-stateawards-nominations/ Contact Tahlia at events@ntha.com.au

23: Latin America Forest **Investment Conference -**Porto Alegre, Brazil.

24-25: International Woodchip and Biomass Trade Conference - Porto Alegre, Brazil.

25-27: Field Trip - Rio Grande do Sul State, Brazil.

OCTOBER

22-23: International Woodchip and Biomass Seminar and Networking Event - Singapore.

29-31: Forestry Australia's 2024 Symposium - Mercure **Ballarat Convention Centre,** Golden Point, VIC. Theme: Healthy and resilient forests for our future, will facilitate conversation and collaboration that regardless of land tenure and ownership, healthy and resilient forests should be the objective for all forest and land managers. The Symposium is a focused three-day gathering, consisting of two days of plenary and concurrent sessions, and a day of Field Trips. The twoday program will feature a range of Keynote and Invited Speakers, who are experts and thought leaders in their field. The Symposium will also feature several social functions, facilitating networking and

collaboration in an informal and relaxed environment. For more information, visit www. forestryconference.com.au/

NOVEMBER

13-15: AFCA annual Gala dinner & conference -**Launceston, Tas.** For more information visit: https://www. afca.asn.au/Events/afca-2023conference-photo-gallery

SAVE THE DATES 2025

MARCH 22: NTHA SA/NT/WA State Awards - National Wine Centre, Adelaide. Join us in celebrating the SA, NT & WA Timber and Hardware Industry. Contact Tahlia at events@ntha. com.au

MAY 30: NTHA QLD State Awards - Brisbane City Hall, Brisbane. Join us in celebrating the New South Wales & ACT Timber and Hardware Industry. Contact Tahlia at events@ntha. com au

JUNE 22-26: World Conference on Timber Engineering -Brisbane. WCTE is the world's leading scientific forum for the presentation of the latest technical and architectural solutions and innovations in timber construction.

OCTOBER 20-22: International Woodchip and Biomass Seminar and Networking Event - Singapore.

OCTOBER 23-24: Field Trip -Vietnam.

SEPTEMBER

Join us in celebrating the



Queensland budget weak on future timber material needs for housing

QUEENSLAND'S peak body for the forest and timber industry is warning of a looming building materials crisis by a lack of policy and budget measures for increasing future timber supply to help meet the state's rising housing demand.

"While we support the critical need to accelerate housing and building projects for a growing population, the 2024-25 budget is weak when it comes to supporting essential supply chains such as timber for meeting the future construction of houses," said Timber Queensland CEO Mick Stephens.

"Up to 90% of homes in Queensland rely on local plantation softwood for timber framing and Queensland native hardwood and cypress is used extensively for structural beams and posts, flooring, cladding and decking products as well as for furniture and cabinetry."

"With high forecast housing demand, the state budget does not address longer term measures to expand investment in farm forestry and new plantations for future timber supply while the government is dragging its feet on securing future hardwood supply from stateowned and private native forests," Mr Stephens said.

"Back in 2019 the Queensland Government committed to a Native Timber Action Plan to secure jobs and a long-term future for the hardwood industry. It's now 2024 and we have no action other than one line in the budget papers to implement the plan with no funding commitments."



Queensland home needs are rising. It is essential to secure a long-term future for the timber supply needed to make these beautiful homes. Image: Shutterstock

"Lack of action on the plan is putting in jeopardy an ability to guarantee essential building materials from a \$700 million hardwood industry supporting 6000 jobs across the state," Mr Stephens said.

"Over \$140 million in new mill investment is stalled as hardwood supply contracts from state forests expire at the end of 2024."

Key measures to increase future hardwood supply we have recommended to Government include:

- implement new 20-year hardwood supply contracts from existing state forests and other crown land for processors as soon as possible;
- provide certainty for native forest owners to manage and invest in the responsible management of their forests by providing a long-term right to harvest, in accordance with the appropriate code of practice or management plan, to remove sovereign risk; and

 provide greater support for private forestry education and extension services so that farmers and landowners, including traditional owners, can implement best forest management practices to increase timber yields, profitability and related environmental benefits.

"Recent research¹ has found that state forests in South and Central Queensland generate better long-term environmental and social outcomes compared to if they were managed as national parks, with sustainable timber production an important benefit," Mr Stephens said.

A shortage in native timber will put additional pressure on the housing and construction sector which is

WE SUPPORT THE
CRITICAL NEED
TO ACCELERATE
HOUSING AND
BUILDING PROJECTS

struggling to keep up with demand in the middle of a housing crisis.

The Homes for Oueenslanders program has a target of 1 million new homes by 2046 (or 45,000 homes per annum, compared to Queensland average of 30,000 per annum), together with a forecast national deficit in housing supply until at least 20282.

"During COVID the housing and construction sector experienced materials supply shortages which led to blow outs in completion times as well as higher building costs and issues regarding the higher risks of imports with low environmental compliance," he said.

"Lack of action on a serious and sensible plan for the local timber industry will only increase these risks and exacerbate the ability for the state government to meet housing targets."

¹ Indufor & Natural Capital
Economics (2022). The study
adopted an ecosystems approach,
by incorporating regulating
services such as biodiversity
conservation and carbon
sequestration, provisioning
services such as timber and honey
production and cultural services
such as recreation and tourism.
The report can be found here.

² National Housing and Finance Investment Corporation, State of the Nation's Housing 2022-23

Minns Government's record social housing surge bends NSW's catastrophic trajectory

By THE McKELL INSTITUTE

THE social housing surge, announced by Treasurer Daniel Mookhey in the New South Wales budget, represents a dramatic pivot from the state's alarming slide over the past decade.

Mr Mookhey today announced the government would invest \$5.1 billion into social housing, the biggest investment into public and community housing in the state's history.

The budget announcement came after the St Vincent de Paul Society NSW and the McKell Institute took the unprecedented step of issuing a joint state budget submission to call on the NSW Government to commit to a social housing surge. The submission pointed

out that there were some 57,600 households – 125,000 individuals – awaiting social housing, with wait times averaging five to ten years.

McKell had called for a \$5 billion dollar investment to address the challenge.

The submission also detailed how the habitability of NSW social housing had been tumbling much faster than the rate of other states. Habitable public houses in NSW decreased from 74 per cent to 60 per cent between 2014 to 2023 – a rate of decline unique to NSW.

"The Treasurer has repeatedly noted he's committed to running a tight ship, but he should be congratulated for also recognising the moral and economic imperative to make a generational investment in social housing today," said McKell Institute chief executive Edward Cavanough.

"It is currently common for people to remain in refuges for up to four years, due to limited exit options. This prolonged duration hinders recovery journeys and exacerbates trauma. It also constrains the Society's ability to assist other clients in urgent need of support.

"It is not the Minns Government's fault that the



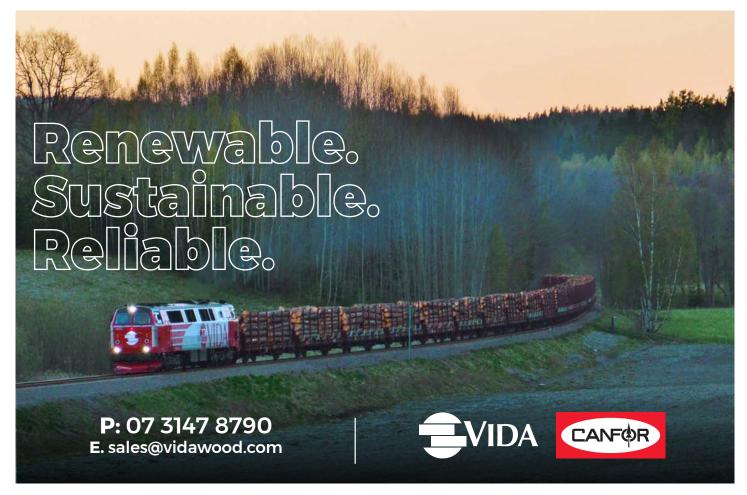
Edward Cavanough CEO of The McKell Institute.

situation has reached crisis point, but it falls to the Minns Government to fix it.

"If the government failed to take urgent action now, New South Wales would become an entirely different society within a decade.

Children who could have been economically productive would end up trapped in the justice system. Communities that could have been safe and prosperous would become dangerous and miserable.

"This is the trajectory we were on, and this is the trajectory the government is admirably attempting to bend today."



FSC represents sustainable forestry at major wood industry event in France

A DELEGATION from FSC® (Forest Stewardship Council®) attended the 17th Carrefour International du Bois, the major event for forestry and timber industry professionals, from 28 to 30 May in Nantes, France. It was an ideal opportunity to connect with stakeholders and to promote certification among wood industry players through a true wooden construction: a fully-certified booth made of several timber species. During these three days dedicated to wood as a material, more than 150 visitors came to the FSC stand to discuss many subjects, such as traceability, new EU regulations, ecosystem services, and more.

FSC-CERTIFIED WOOD: THE BENEFITS EXPLAINED BY COMMITTED STAKEHOLDERS

FSC organised five events throughout the fair to present the benefits of sourcing FSC-certified materials and construction and wood industry operators.

FSC-certified companies attending the Carrefour du Bois had an opportunity to take part in a business matching session for tropical timber. This event created new business relationships for FSC-certified companies attracting 50 visitors in the tropical wood value chain and establish connections with key organisations such as the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

FSC also held four regional events at its booth designed to bring together exhibitors from Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin





1/ More than 150 attendees visited FSC's booth at the Carrefour International du Bois.
2/ The FSC team presented on the importance of stewarding our forests well.

America. Organisations such as the FAO, Rainforest Alliance and Interholco participated.

PROJECT CERTIFICATION: FSC BOOTH

While FSC certification assures the end user that their wood supplies come from legal sources, and are respectful of resources, biodiversity, and people, it is possible to go a step further by having a construction, renovation, or fittings project certified - a specific traceability standard has been set up: project certification.

To live the mission, the FSC France team applied this certification to the booth created specifically for the Carrefour du Bois. They sourced all parts according to the standard and were granted a full FSC project certification by the certification body FCBA.

All the wood materials used for the booth are FSCcertified. The pergolas and sample displays are made



from Douglas
fir from certified
forests in the
Limousin region.
Two lesser-known
tropical species,
Muiracatiara and
Itauba, were used
for the terraces.
The remaining
elements of the
booth are made
from European
species such as
Birch and Ash.

This project showcases a variety of species, origins and types of wood products and will enable project managers, builders and end users in the wood industry to better understand FSC project certification and all its advantages and to position themselves as pioneers in a fast-changing market.

To find out more about this certification project or the various FSC highlights at the Carrefour International du Bois, see the complete FSC programme of the event.

NTHA's EOFY opportunity

Boost your skills with timber systems design and frame & truss manufacture training!

AS we approach the end of the year, NTHA Training wishes to advise industry of the fantastic opportunity for the timber and hardware industry. Timber Systems Design and Frame & Truss Manufacture have been added to Australia's Skills Priority List for training, bringing an array of benefits to businesses and employees alike.

Louise Kinloch, General Manager of NTHA Training, highlights the significance: "This end of financial year opportunity is a golden opportunity for our members and businesses. Until June 30, 2024, companies can seize the chance to benefit from wage subsidies and tax deductions by enrolling their staff in our

specialised courses."

COURSES OFFERED

Take advantage of our toptier courses tailored to meet industry demands:

- FWP30920 Certificate III in Frame & Truss Manufacture
- FWP31220 Certificate III in Timber System Design

These programs are designed to provide a perfect blend of practical skills and theoretical knowledge, catering to both the intricacies of timber design and the precision of frame and truss manufacturing.

AUSTRALIAN APPRENTICESHIP INCENTIVES: WAGE SUBSIDIES UP TO 10% Enrolling in these courses may qualify you for a range of incentives, including wage subsidies of up to 10% through Australian apprenticeship programs. Eligibility checks apply, making this a valuable financial benefit for those who qualify.

MAXIMISE TAX
BENEFITS WITH
SMALL BUSINESS
SKILLS AND TRAINING
BOOST: UP TO 20%
DEDUCTIONS

Small business owners can enhance their tax benefits through the Small Business Skills and Training Boost program, claiming deductions of up to 20% on training investments. This initiative not only boosts productivity but also yields substantial financial rewards during tax season. Ensure you meet the eligibility criteria to take full advantage of these benefits.

For more details on the Small Business Skills and Training Boost program, visit business.gov.au.

DON'T MISS OUT!

For more information on the above or any other training enquiries for your business, contact General Manager Training Louise Kinloch on 0455 459 915 or the training team on 1800 822 621.

NTHA Training is a Registered Training Organisation (RTO #5343).



Revolutionising fashion: FSC roundtables lead the way to forest friendly style

AMIDST mounting global concerns regarding environmental sustainability, the fashion industry stands at a critical juncture. The Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) is leading the charge with its world first Fashion Roundtable Series across Australia and New Zealand. Hosted in Melbourne on 21 May and

Sydney on 5 June, these sold-out events captivated industry leaders and enthusiasts, promoting responsible sourcing to support sustainable forestry. Brands participating in

these events have contributed to a pivotal movement, inspiring the Australian fashion industry to embrace a future where fashion and forests thrive together.

The FSC Fashion Roundtable sessions offered a unique opportunity for attendees to gain valuable insights from industry leaders and experts at the intersection of fashion and sustainability. These sessions went beyond mere discussions; they served as a rallying call for action. Participants explored the crucial link between fashion and forests, delving into successful case studies and discussing opportunities to promote forest-friendly fashion. The interactive format encouraged attendees to





engage with the material, fostering collaboration and inspiring practical changes within the industry.

The significance of these roundtables extends far beyond their immediate success. For the first time, fashion's leading minds from diverse retail and manufacturing backgrounds came together to explore the transformative power of FSC certification. But why is FSC so vital for fashion, and what makes this series of events so newsworthy?

FASHION'S FOREST FRIENDLY FUTURE: WHY FSC MATTERS

FSC certification represents a commitment to responsible forest management, ensuring that the forest-based products 1/ FSC Fashion Roundtable panellists Linda Reid (Winc Australia), Greg Taylor (Step One), and James Felton-Taylor (Australian Sustainable Timbers + FSC ANZ Board Director). 2/ FSC Fashion Roundtable, Sydney session attendees and speakers.

we use, and wear contribute to the health of the world's forests rather than their destruction. For the fashion industry, FSC certification means that the fibres used in garments come from forests managed with respect for the environment, the rights of workers and communities, and the economic

viability of the forestry industry.

FSC Australia and New Zealand CEO Melanie Robertson notes, "As consumers become more environmentally conscious, the demand for sustainably sourced products is increasing. Fashion brands are under mounting pressure to prove their commitment to sustainability, and FSC certification offers a clear and credible way to meet this demand. Together, we hope to champion a future where fashion and forests coexist in harmony."

LOOKING AHEAD TO AUCKLAND

Building on the success of Sydney and Melbourne, FSC Australia and New Zealand are now gearing up for their final roundtable session in Auckland on 25 June. This event promises to be just as impactful, offering New Zealand-based fashion brands, retailers, and manufacturers a unique opportunity to elevate their sustainability efforts.

What's on the Agenda:

- The Vital Connection between Fashion and Forests: Exploring how FSC certification supports environmental, social, and economic outcomes.
- Deep Dive: Successful Case Studies: Learning from brands that have successfully integrated FSC practices.
- Interactive Session:
 Discovering opportunities for your organization to support forest-friendly fashion.
- FSC 101: Understanding the meaning behind the label.
- Circularity: Transitioning from fossil-based to bio-based materials.
- A Call to Action: Overview of the Fashion Forever Green Pact and the benefits of becoming a signatory.

For more information and to register for this event, click here. To find out more about the speakers click here. For further questions and to contact FSC Australia and New Zealand email: info@au.fsc.org



A leader in sustainable forestry with a common goal: protect healthy, resilient forests for all, forever.

Visit us at fsc.org

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3XN GXN shares design for Mahler 1

A new office project in Amsterdam's Zuidas District.

3XN GXN is proud to announce their vision for Mahler 1, a multi-functional office building in Amsterdam's Zuidas district. The 15-story hybrid-timber structure targeting BREEAM Excellent, is developed in collaboration with owners Victory Group, Icon Real Estate (part of Victory Group) and Erik Dhont Landscape Architects. It marks the start of the redevelopment of the existing ABN AMRO complex.

"Mahler 1 is a key project in Zuidas, carefully shaped to fit the existing composition of buildings while also signalling a new beginning for the area built around the values of wellbeing, approachability, and transparency," says 3XN Senior Partner Stig Vesterager Gothelf. "We're proud to work with Icon Real Estate and Victory Group on such an exciting and ambitious project."

A NEW TYPOLOGY FOR AN EVOLVING ZUIDAS

Established as a hub for business in the early 1980s, Zuidas is packed with offices and headquarters for the best-known Dutch and global companies. Central among these is the ABN AMRO complex, built for the Dutch bank in the 1990s and acquired by Victory Group in 2021.

"We are proud to unveil our vibrant new vision for the Zuidas, where innovative architecture meets open, community-focused design," says Erik Moresco, Founding Partner of Victory Group and Icon Real Estate. "We are embracing the unique identity of the area and prioritising a community-based approach through an integrated permeable podium level. This development is set to be a lively hub, offering ground-floor





The designs for the Mahler 1 building showcase its stunning and inventive design and how it will fit into the surrounding area. Images: 3XN

public amenities that cater to both office workers and local residents "

For 3XN GXN, appointed to the project in 2023, this has meant designing a building that is conscious of the human-scale and employing biophilic and sustainable design strategies to ensure its longevity. The 25,000m², 59-metre-high tower building subdivides in two portions; a podium composed of stepped, horizontal volumes that twist around the building, and the scalloped-edge office floors

that comprise the building's upper levels. The building's upper portion, which will be timber structure, comprises clustered vertical volumes, breaking down the building's mass and giving it an elegant profile. Vertical louvers attached to the windows further streamline the design and will be clad in photovoltaic panels.

"The architecture of Zuidas is as world-class as its tenants, reflecting the area's importance as a widely recognized business district. Our design introduces a stronger differentiation of scale, building volume, and façade detail than is commonly found in traditional offices. Mahler 1 emphasizes orientation to Mahlerplein, activating the human eye-height level. It includes abundant green office amenities throughout and a three-dimensional play of its facade elements, uniquely shaping the entire building. With Mahler 1, we aim to create a new Zuidas icon that fosters a social, green, and healthy work environment absolutely worth the daily commute," says Christian Veddeler, Partner and head of 3XN's Amsterdam studio.

The ground level is open and transparent, giving passersby a glimpse inside and extending Mahlerplein in through the building both visually and physically. The lobby unfolds over two levels, connected on the inside by a large tribune that serves as both stair and gathering space for the tenants. Columns marking the building's perimeter are capped with unfurling capitals that branch out to form a "canopy" – the floor above.

"Approachable design moves across the project – from the tree-like columns to the green terraces planted to attract pollinators and increase biodiversity in the area – these all bring a softness and vibrancy to Mahler 1 that will foster a sense of wellbeing for the users," says Gothelf.

LIVABLE AND LOVABLE

Across the world, buildings built in the middle of the 20th century are becoming obsolescent, no longer able to cater to the needs of

Cont P 15

WFTN Rize-Up to the challenge

ON Wednesday, 19 June, Women in Timber & Forestry Network (WFTN) hosted their quarterly breakfast at Hunter & Scout Cafe in Graceville.

This quarter's gathering was dedicated to supporting RizeUp, an organisation that provides lifechanging practical assistance to families affected by domestic and family violence. Attendees were encouraged to bring donations to help RizeUp furnish a new





 $1/\,$ Meryl McKenzie from Rize Up shared with passion about the challenges facing families affected by domestic and family violence.

2/ L-R: Jenni Day (Versace Timbers), Meryl McKenzie (RizeUp), Haily Wood (Woodhouse), and Tahlia Bellotti (NTHA) pictured at the quarterly breakfast for WFTN.

DEEPLY MOVED
BY THE
GENEROUSITY
SHOWN

dwelling for a displaced family member, offering muchneeded security and comfort to those beginning anew. Meryl McKenzie, ambassador for Rize Up, came along to explain what the organisation does practically. She spoke with passion and emotion about fitting out a dwelling with all the basic needs, including linen, bathroom essentials and stocked cupboards; they average 6-12 a week! We are very pleased to be supporting such a great cause. If you

would like to further donate, click the link for Donate — RizeUp.

WFTN were deeply moved by the generosity shown, and would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to this important cause. We would also like to thank our Annual Partner, Woodhouse, for their support.

Additionally, during the breakfast, the date and location of our highly anticipated

annual charity cocktail event was announced. This year, it will be held at The Loft in West End on Saturday, 7 September, from 2 PM to 6 PM. We can't wait to see you there. Save the dates coming soon.

From P 14

their users. With Mahler 1, the ambitious sustainability strategy comprises two parts: an environmental strategy and a behavioural one, both of which are fully embraced by owner Victory Group.

"There are many ways for a building to be sustainable, but sustainability at its core is the ability to last," explains Gothelf. "A building that is much loved and thus, much used by its inhabitants, is an important way to consider sustainability. To craft a building that is sustainable to its core and not just a representation of its time – it takes boldness and vision from both designer and client."

The tenancy floors are designed for maximum

flexibility, allowing different users to change their space in the way that best suits them. In the lower levels, terraces cap the extruded horizontal volumes, giving users the opportunity to step outside without having to leave the building. These terraces will be planted with carefully selected flora to both attract pollinators and increase biodiversity in the area.

Construction of Mahler
1 is currently expected to
commence in the first half
of 2025 and conclude in late
2027. The project will be
3XN's second in Amsterdam,
following the completion of
the Muziekgebouw aan t'IJ in
1997. 3XN opened an office in
Amsterdam in 2023; the office,
led by Christian Veddeler,

focuses on projects in the Benelux region and Germany. ABOUT 3XN

Across diverse typologies and scales, 3XN's work is driven by the conviction that architecture should give something back - to people, to communities, and to our planet. Since its founding in Aarhus, Denmark in 1986, the architecture firm has specialised in transformational projects: projects that give obsolete structures new form and character, that transform dormant neighbourhoods into thriving cultural hubs, or that unite disparate organisations into collaborative communities. A commitment to the highest standards of sustainability and design excellence unites the studio's portfolio. Form

and performance are not at odds, but rather continuously enhance and shape one another.

Among 3XN's most highprofile projects are Olympic House – the International Olympic Committee (IOC) headquarters in Lausanne (Switzerland); the new Fish Market and Quay Quarter Tower in Sydney (Australia); and Royal Arena and The Blue Planet National Aquarium in Copenhagen (Denmark).

With offices in Copenhagen (HQ), Stockholm, Sydney, New York, London, and Amsterdam the diverse perspective of 3XN's global practice gives greater depth to its holistic methodology which prioritises behaviour, curiosity, and circularity.

Send a loud message to NSW MPs in support of native timber harvesting

By TIM LESTER, AFCA

15 OPERATIONS in NSW were stood down without notice on 27 May 2024 as a result of rule changes by the NSW EPA late on Sunday 16 June. To show your support, click here to send a short letter to members of the NSW Parliament and join the campaign!

During the last few months AFCA has been engaging Timber NSW in an ongoing campaign to build support for the native timber harvesting industry.

We again need your support to send a loud message to the NSW state government MPs by email.

The system will only require you to click here – fill in your name, address and an email address and press



Native timber harvesting operations in NSW have been stood down since the end of May.

submit. That will then send to all members of parliament in NSW except The Greens.

The short letter is about the stand downs due to the Southern Greater Glider

protocol altered without notice by the EPA. It addresses the lack of payment to contractors and no payment to haulage companies and drivers. Then it addresses the short supply to mills.

The theme is they all get paid – MPs, public service, FCNSW and EPA – but the industry is left hanging.

The NSW treasurer handed down the state budget this week and we need to start sending a loud and clear message that we all support native forestry and consider the actions of the NSW EPA and the bullying of FCNSW totally unacceptable.

Take a minute and fill it in and get your family and friends to do the same – all it takes is one click.

Once done a designated group will start posting to the MPs social media sites. Many thanks to Maree McCaskill at Timber NSW for pulling this together.

FWPA Board opportunity

FOREST and Wood Products Australia Limited (FWPA) is seeking to appoint 3 non-executive directors to its skills-based Board at the next Annual General Meeting (to be held in November 2024). An independent Director Selection Committee established under the Company's Constitution will consider proposals for candidates to be voted in by members.

Innovation and collaboration are at the core of FWPA's mission, and best

achieved through diversity of experience and thinking styles.

THE OPPORTUNITY

To ensure the Board is well balanced, interest is sought from individuals with knowledge and experience in some or all of the following areas:

- Conservation and management of production forests and/or other natural resources.
- Forest and wood products manufacturing.

- Construction industries and how they use wood products in Australia and internationally.
- Market dynamics and competitive landscape for wood products.
- Leveraging industry insights to inform strategic decisions to maximise the production and utilisation of forest and wood products.
- Marketing and promoting forest and wood products including product promotion

- and retail marketing.
- Technology, innovation and commercialisation of research and development.

APPLICATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

Learn more about about the non-executive director positions and apply by clicking here. For any questions, please contact Richard Evans from Talent Nation, richard@talentnation.com.au. Expressions close at 11.59pm on Friday, 5 July 2024.



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Please like and share our page so we can get the timber and forestry message out to a bigger audience. If you like our publication, please leave us a review.



The skilled migrant system will never work for construction

"AUSTRALIA is not bringing enough skilled migrants into Australia to build 170,000 homes per year let alone the 240,000 homes that we need to be building to address the acute housing shortages being faced," HIA Managing Director, Jocelyn Martin said today.

"The skilled migrant system needs a complete overhaul. The visa options available for construction are not working.

"Data from the Department of Home Affairs shows just 1,346 workers in construction trades have been granted temporary work visas in the nine months to March 2024.

"The shortage of skilled workers is a major impediment to the supply of housing. Labour shortages are resulting in project delays which add to the cost of construction.

"Risks associated with labour shortages are causing businesses to shelve projects that could deliver the housing that Australia needs.

"The residential building industry is just one part of Australia's construction landscape. Businesses in the housing industry are competing with businesses delivering commercial buildings and infrastructure construction projects, and the mining industry.



Skilled migrants are an important part of Australia's workforce and will make a huge difference in the deficit of trades currently plaguing our nation. Image: Shutterstock

"This competition has become even more fierce given the growth in government investment in projects linked to the transition to clean energy, and the long list of other infrastructure projects underway around the country.

"Australia's 1.2 million housing supply target can only be achieved if the capacity of the construction industry continues to grow and meet the needs of all these sectors.

"Providing career opportunities for local workers should always be the priority, however, this alone will not see the workforce grow quickly enough.

"The skilled migration system has a role to play

VISA OPTIONS
AVAILABLE FOR
CONSTRUCTION
ARE NOT
WORKING

in enabling businesses to source workers from overseas to supplement the local workforce and fill skills gaps when they arise.

"The temporary work visa system was touted as a demand driven system; however, it is anything but.

"The rebound in immigration as borders reopened included a lift in the number of construction trades workers with temporary work visas returning to Australia. However, the numbers arriving are still very small and very few are sponsored by businesses in the residential building industry.

"If the Government is truly committed to seeing the Housing Accord target achieved more must be done to train local workers and enable industry to make better use of the skilled migration system," concluded Ms Martin.



Timber & Forestry enews an authoritative and rapid deliverer of news and special features to the timber and forest-based industries in Australia, New Zealand and internationally. *Enews* is delivered weekly, every Thursday, 48 weeks of the year. Advertising rates are competitive with other industry publications. *Timber & Forestry Enews* hits your target market – every week, every Thursday!

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Go to www.timberandforestryenews.com/post-a-job/ to place a job vacancy. *Book by 12noon Tuesday prior to publication*. Job ads are for individual positions. If more than one position is to be advertised, separate ads will need to be created and advertised accordingly.

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