

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

P O L I C Y

SUBJECT: <i>Wood First Policy for RDN Facilities</i>	POLICY NO: B1.20 CROSS REF.:
EFFECTIVE DATE: February 22, 2011	APPROVED BY: Board
REVISION DATE:	PAGE: 1 of 1

PURPOSE

To ensure the use of wood products as primary building materials, and to give consideration to wood-based biomass as a renewable energy source wherever practical and appropriate in the design and construction of building and renovation projects owned or funded by the Regional District of Nanaimo, and in a manner consistent with the BC Building Code and the Green Building Policy for RDN Facilities.

POLICY

1. For this policy, *wood product* refers to wood that has been prepared for use in construction or energy production and may include but is not limited to sawn and dressed timber, plywood, fabricated wood, wooden structural components, fittings and joinery, oriented strand board, trusses, preservative treated wood, glulams, and engineered wood products such as laminated veneer lumber and wooden furniture; as well as pelletized wood or other wood-based biomass fuel sources.
2. For this policy, *primary building material* refers to a building material that is used as a structural component or as a major architectural component in the design of a facility or structure.
3. In Requests for Proposals (RFP) for Regional District of Nanaimo construction and renovation projects, staff are to include as a key criterion provisions that require respondents to detail expertise, experience and excellence in the use of wood as a primary building material, and how the use of wood could be incorporated in the project for which the RFP has been issued. This includes the potential use of wood as a renewable energy source.
4. In evaluating proposals, staff may give favourable consideration to respondents that demonstrate:
 - The best understanding of the potential use of wood as a primary building material or energy source for the specific project;
 - The highest level of experience and innovation in the use of wood products; and
 - How the use of wood is a cost-effective choice for the construction project.
5. Where practical and appropriate, the use of certified sustainable forest products is preferred. At the outset of the project, and as part of the requisite Integrated Design Process, the project team will establish a goal for the percent content of certified wood for the project.