



YWCA SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

BY ELEMENT5 LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

ABOUT THIS PROJECT

A 41-unit supportive housing project is currently under construction in Kitchener by the [YWCA](#). The development - located on 1470 Block Line Road - will become home to single women experiencing homelessness or at risk of experiencing homelessness in the Kitchener region.

The building was developed in partnership with Element5 and Edge Architects, and represents an innovative solution in affordable housing through the use of mass timber. The project will be assembled on site in record time thanks to the panelized and optimized mass timber design.



HOW IT WORKS

The \$6.9 million affordable and supportive housing project is funded by the federal government's [Rapid Housing Initiative \(RHI\)](#) and financially supported by the City of Kitchener, which approved a 50-year lease on city land that is valued at \$2 million, to the YWCA for \$1.

A core requirement of the RHI funding is that the development be built quickly. While the city offering the land certainly helped fast track the project, which is slated for occupancy by the end of December this year, it is the optimized, prefabricated cross-laminated timber solution, developed by the project team of Melloul Blamey, Edge Architects, and Element5, that will be the key to the successful, rapid delivery of the project.



IMPACT

The building will provide a place for 41 women to have access to life-changing resources 24/7.

Already a 2-storey version of this project is being repeated for a transitional housing development in York Region.

MASS TIMBER AS A SOLUTION FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Mass timber as a method of construction hasn't been readily available in Ontario because up until now there hasn't been a local CLT manufacturer. Now that CLT and glulam are being manufactured in the province, housing providers who are starting a construction project can [benefit from the advantages of mass timber](#) - sustainability, quality, prefabrication - while enjoying the advantages of a local supplier, including shorter construction timelines, just-in-time delivery, cost savings and more.



ABOUT SUSTAINABLE & AFFORDABLE HOUSING BY ELEMENT5

Element5 specializes in the design, fabrication and assembly of modern timber buildings. They offer prefabricated, panelized building solutions to address urgent housing needs in Canada.

www.elementfive.co

To learn more about the YWCA Supportive Housing project, contact Sarah Hicks at sarah@elementfive.co



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