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## **Creativity celebrated at the Timber Design Awards**

Timber building projects from across New Zealand were celebrated at the 2023 Timber Design Awards.

‘Collectively the winning projects shine a light on the role that wood construction can play to increase the demand for use of our domestically produced timber and addressing our sustainability targets’, said Wood Processing and Manufacturers Association Chief Executive, Mark Ross. ‘Everyone wins when we can support growth in our wood products sector and at the same time tackle our climate change challenges.’

‘As our society develops a deeper understanding of the carbon impacts of buildings, it is clear that greater use of timber as a construction material has a critical role to play in reducing our emissions,’ said Ross.

With timber there is no limit to what can be done, especially with advanced technologies and backing of well-planned research. Globally, the use of wood for construction is rising.

Within New Zealand there are multiple opportunities for wood. With support from government, plus collaboration across the forestry, wood processing and building sectors we can make a difference and grow our timber-based industries.

Greater use of locally harvested timber products in apartments and offices not only significantly reduces the carbon footprint of these building structures, but it also offers the natural characteristic of comfort and warmth to occupants that are rarely found in other building materials.

The Awards program honours the people and organisations that, through design excellence, engineering skills and innovation, are advancing the use of wood in all types of construction.

The Awards are organised through Timber Unlimited with 61 finalists across 12 categories. Entries were judged on materials selected, ensuring that timber was sustainably sourced and manufactured within New Zealand. Timber Unlimited has a key role to play in promoting greater use of an expanding range of timber products available to the construction industry.

The attached [PDF](#) shows all winning and Highly Commended entries.

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### **About WPMA**

*The Wood Processing and Manufacturing Association is the peak representative and advocacy body for the wood products industry. We have a strong focus on promoting wood as the heart of a future zero-carbon economy. Our members are leaders in the New Zealand wood industry converting harvested logs into a wide range of products including sawn*

*lumber, engineered wood products, pulp, paper, panels, laminated products and mouldings through to the development of bioenergy solutions.*