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WoodWorks Announces Interfor Senior VP as 2021 Chair

Diverse Board includes representation from the wood industry and building design community

WASHINGTON, DC (December 16, 2020) – [WoodWorks – Wood Products Council](#) has announced that Bart Bender, Senior Vice President, Sales and Marketing at Interfor, has been elected to Chair the program for a two-year term beginning in 2021 and Keith O’Rear, Senior Vice President, Wood Products, at Weyerhaeuser, will join the Board as the company’s new representative.

A non-profit staffed with architects, structural engineers, and construction experts, WoodWorks helps developers and design/construction teams successfully use wood in commercial and multi-family buildings—including mass timber, light wood-frame, and hybrid projects. Its Board is strategically balanced to lead a well-rounded program, with members from large and small companies reflecting lumber, engineered wood, and panel manufacturers, the private sector and government, different parts of the United States and Canada, and WoodWorks’ core audience of design and building professionals.

“We are honored to welcome Bart Bender as the new WoodWorks Chair and Keith O’Rear as the new Weyerhaeuser Board representative,” said Jennifer Cover, President and CEO of the WoodWorks program. “Bart has more than two decades of experience in the wood products industry and a keen eye for building value through quality offerings. Keith has been with Weyerhaeuser since 1989, holding a succession of leadership positions before joining the company’s senior management team in 2018. We look forward to their insights as WoodWorks continues to support the evolving needs of the design and construction community.”

Board members who will continue in their roles through 2021 include:

- Ryan Flom, Chief Marketing Officer, Softwood Lumber Board
- Chris McIver, Vice President Sales and Marketing, West Fraser Timber Co (representing Forestry Innovation Investment)
- Joe Patton, Vice President and General Manager Wood Products, The Westervelt Company
- John Beers III, Vice President Sales – Structural Panels, Georgia Pacific Corporation



*Bart Bender, Senior Vice President,
Sales and Marketing at Interfor*



*Keith O'Rear, Senior Vice President,
Wood Products at Weyerhaeuser*

- Tom Chung, AIA, LEED AP BD+C, Principal, Leers Weinzapfel Associates
- Tanya Luthi, PE, Vice President, Structures, Entuitive
- Jeff Morrow, Independent (formerly with Lendlease)

WoodWorks extends its grateful appreciation to its outgoing Chair, Chris McIver, Vice President, Sales and Marketing at West Fraser, who will continue to serve on the Board, and outgoing Board member Shannon Hughes, Sales Director, Lumber at Weyerhaeuser.

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About WoodWorks

[WoodWorks – Wood Products Council](#) provides education and free technical support related to the design, engineering and construction of commercial and multi-family wood buildings in the U.S. A non-profit staffed with architects, structural engineers, and construction experts, WoodWorks has the expertise to assist with all aspects of wood building design. For assistance with a project, visit www.woodworks.org/project-assistance or email help@woodworks.org.