DIALOG

RIVER DISTRICT – SILVA

Hybrid mass timber living rooted in community and landscape

Mixed-Use Living

LOCATION

Vancouver, BC

CLIENT

Wesgroup Properties Ltd.

Silva is a design intended for a hybrid mass timber residential development supporting a vibrant, multi-generational community within Vancouver's River District. Envisioned as part of the Coast Salish cultural area, the project responds to both its ecological setting and its layered cultural history, where wood has long been central to Indigenous building traditions.

The location is a former industrial mill site. To turn it into the client's vision of a complete, walkable neighbourhood that fosters connection, wellness and sustainable living, DIALOG's proposed design imagines an 18-storey residential tower above a mixed-use podium, anchored by a shared landscaped courtyard and supported by a north-facing residential block. The design prioritizes a balance of private, shared, and open spaces, along with community amenities for health and education, encouraging social interaction and long-term livability.

The project emphasizes low-carbon design through the use of hybrid mass timber and raw, exposed materials, aligning with environmental stewardship values. Sustainable transportation options and a pedestrian- and bicycle-oriented layout further reinforce this approach. The result is a vision for a resilient, inclusive community where residents can age in place while remaining connected to both nature and each other.