

**Kevin Below – Owner, Douglas Consultants :**

Kevin Below is president of Douglas Consultants, specialising in structural engineering. He worked for over 36 years in the fields of education, engineering consulting and construction in Canada. During those years, he served primarily as project manager and design engineer in the field of construction. His accomplishments include the design and / or construction of several buildings in Quebec, Australia and elsewhere. He began his career as an engineering professor and researcher on the behaviour of the CN Tower at the University of Toronto. With his interest in sustainable development and the development of the local economy, as well as his taste for innovation, he leans more on wood structures. He participates in research programs and development at the national level on the use of Canadian and Quebec woods. He also conducted a study of the technical and economic feasibility of the ideal timber frame for buildings up to eight storeys in collaboration with FPInnovations (Forintek) to facilitate government objectives in increasing the use of wood in Quebec construction. He is currently involved in the development of powerful new connections to the ribs of the wooden frame, in order to improve efficiency, increase ease of installation at the site, as well as lower the cost.