



Biggest Home Built Here

Williams Lake will soon be in the record books.

The lakecity has earned the honor of being the 'birthplace' of a log home that will be the largest ever constructed in the world.

Pioneer Log Homes of B.C. has been busy for the last nine months constructing a 52,000 square-foot home from B.C. grown Western Red Cedar logs.

"this is a real feather in Williams Lake's cap," said Andre Chevigny company co-owner.

Mandrell's log home in Nashville Tennessee is 27,000 square feet and currently holds the world record for the largest log home in the world.

But all that's about to change.

The house will serve as a "legacy lodge" for an American family and will eventually be moved to its permanent location at Moberly Lake in northern British Columbia.

"People only dream of getting the opportunity to work with people like this," he said of the homeowners.

According to Chevigny the logs used are, on average 20 inches in diameter but most have a butt diameter of 30 inches. The trees, that dwarf the employees who work on them, have come from the Interior and some are from coastal areas, but all have been harvested from B.C. forests.

Twenty-Three labourers are working on this massive structure which, when finished, will be disassembled and moved in 35 truckloads to its new location.

When completed the house will rise majestically three floors and will cost approximately \$6.5 million.

Previously the closest Chevigny had come to building a home of this size was a mere 28,000 square-foot abode, but he maintained that he wasn't daunted by this project when he was initially approached.

"A lot of people go to work hating what they do and we feel fortunate that we can do something that we love," he said of his brother's passion for building log homes.

Chevigny and brother Bryan Reid, who jointly own the company, are well known the world over and have done work in the southern United States, as well as Germany and Australia.