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Press Release

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CANWEL BUILDING MATERIALS ANNOUNCES FIRST QUARTER 2020 FINANCIAL RESULTS

Q1 2020 Financial Highlights⁽¹⁾:

- Revenues increased 15.9% to \$326.7 million
- Gross Margin was 13.3%
- EBITDA⁽²⁾ increased 9.5% to \$16.5 million
- Net Earnings⁽¹⁾ increased to \$850,000
- Quarterly dividend of \$0.14 per share paid

VANCOUVER, CANADA – May 14, 2020 – CanWel Building Materials Group Ltd. (“CanWel” or “the Company”) (TSX:CWX; CWX.NT.A) announced today its first quarter 2020 financial results⁽¹⁾ for the period ended March 31, 2020.

For the three-month period ended March 31, 2020⁽¹⁾, consolidated revenues increased 15.9% to \$326.7 million compared to \$281.9 million in the same period in 2019. Despite operations slowing down towards the end of March 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, sales increased by \$44.8 million or 15.9%, largely due to the inclusion of the results from Lignum Forest Products LLP (“Lignum”), which was acquired in April 2019, as well as the Company’s continuing focus on its product mix strategies and target customer base. The Company’s sales by product group in the quarter were made up of 62% construction materials, compared to 56% during the same period in 2019, with the remaining balance resulting from specialty and allied products of 32%, and forestry and other of 6%.

Gross margin dollars increased 6.1% to \$43.5 million, compared to \$41.0 million during the corresponding period in 2019. Gross margin percentage was lower at 13.3% of revenues versus 14.6% during the same period in 2019. The year over year increase in gross margin dollars combined with a decrease in gross margin percentage is mainly attributable to this year’s inclusion of Lignum’s sales, which are generally at a lower margin percentage on its construction materials sales, compared to the Company’s overall sales mix of construction materials, allied and forestry products.

EBITDA⁽²⁾ for the period increased 9.5% to \$16.5 million, compared to \$15.1 million during the first quarter of 2019, largely due to this year’s inclusion of results from Lignum, as well as moderately improved overall performance from the remainder of the Company’s operations.

Subsequent to March 31, 2020, CanWel paid a \$0.14 per share dividend on April 15, 2020 to its shareholders of record on March 31, 2020.

“Despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic beginning in March, our first quarter represents strong performance with growth in both revenue and EBITDA,” commented Amar S. Doman, Chairman of the Board. “We are encouraged with our performance in the first quarter, and remain confident that our continued cost management efforts and strong financial position will be of great

benefit as we navigate these evolving market conditions and focus on the health and well-being of our employees while successfully serving our clients, during these unprecedented times. The rapid development and fluidity of the situation presents uncertainty and risk with respect to the Company's future performance and future financial results, which unfortunately precludes any meaningful attempts to predict the impact on the Company. We wish our entire team at CanWel, our suppliers along with our customers, and the first responders the very best and thank them for their relentless efforts and commitment while we live through this global pandemic period."

Reconciliation of Net Earnings to Earnings before Interest, Tax, Depreciation and Amortization (EBITDA):

	Three months ended March	
	2020	2019
(in thousands of dollars)	\$	\$
Net earnings (loss)	850	(356)
Provision for (recovery of) income taxes	330	(128)
Finance costs	5,042	5,116
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	3,134	3,325
Amortization of right-of-use assets	5,415	5,426
Amortization of intangible assets	1,747	1,708
EBITDA	16,518	15,091

COVID-19 Pandemic

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the novel coronavirus ("COVID-19") a global pandemic (the "Pandemic"), resulting in governments worldwide enacting emergency measures to combat the spread of the virus. These measures, which include the implementation of travel bans, government and business closures, self-imposed quarantine periods and social distancing, have caused material disruption to businesses globally and significant economic uncertainty.

At this time, as part of a supply chain for the construction industry, CanWel has been classified as an essential service for the majority of its operations in Canada and the U.S., and therefore has not been required to shut down. However, the Company has taken specific health and safety measures in response to COVID-19, including limiting the number of employees, customers and others on its premises, mandatory self-imposed quarantine periods for employees, team separation and staggered work hours, temporary suspension of all non-essential business travel, heightened hygienic and disinfecting practices, technology enabled remote work initiatives, following government and other safety protocols.

Additionally, the Company has taken steps to mitigate the Pandemic's impact on its customers, operations and cash flows by optimizing its working capital, implementing salary and working hours reductions, initiating employee layoffs, deferring or eliminating certain non-essential operating expenditures, minimizing capital expenditures, evaluating ongoing cost savings opportunities and assessing financial assistance options available under COVID-19-related government programs. Management is actively monitoring the Pandemic, economic and regulatory developments, and their impact on the Company's operations, continually adapting to the changing operating environment.

About CanWel

Founded in 1989, CanWel is headquartered in Vancouver, British Columbia and trades on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol CWX and is Canada's only fully integrated national distributor in the building materials and related products sector. CanWel operates: multiple treating plant and planing facilities in Canada and the United States; distribution centres coast-to-coast in all major cities and strategic locations across Canada; in the United States near Portland, Oregon, San Francisco and Los Angeles, California and in 14 locations in the State of Hawaii through its wholly owned Honsador Building Products Group. CanWel distributes a wide range of building materials, lumber, renovation and electrical products. In addition, through its CanWel Fibre division, CanWel operates a vertically integrated forest products company based in Western Canada, operating from British Columbia to Saskatchewan, also servicing the US Pacific Northwest. CanWel owns approximately 117,000 acres of private timberlands, strategic Crown licenses and tenures, log harvesting and trucking operations, several post and pole peeling facilities and two pressure-treated specialty wood production plants and a specialty saw mill.

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Certain statements in this press release may constitute "forward-looking" statements. When used in this press release, forward-looking statements often but not always, can be identified by the use of forward-looking words such as, including but not limited to, "may", "will", "would", "should", "expect", "believe", "plan", "intend", "anticipate", "predict", "remain", "estimate", "potential", "continue", "could", "might", "project", "targeting", "future" and other similar terminology or the negative or inverse of such words or terminology. These forward-looking statements reflect the current expectations of CanWel's management regarding future events and operating performance, but involve other known and unknown or unpredictable risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of CanWel, including but not limited, to sales, earnings, cash flow from operations, dividends or EBITDA⁽¹⁾ generated or paid by CanWel, or industry results, to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements should therefore be construed in the light of such factors. Actual events could differ materially from those projected herein and depend on a number of factors. These factors include but are not limited to, (i) the risk that CanWel may not be able to operate the lumber marketing and distribution business Lignum Forest Products LLP (the "Lignum Acquisition") or integrate the Lignum Acquisition into its operations successfully, or without negative impact on its business, or without requiring spending significant or unexpected amounts of time, money or other resources thereon, or at all; may not be able to satisfy conditions to the Lignum Acquisition on the expected terms and schedule; (ii) the risk that cost savings and synergies expected to result from the Lignum Acquisition may not be fully realized or may take longer to realize than expected; (iii) the risk that the existing and acquired business from the Lignum Acquisition will not be integrated successfully or that there is an unexpected disruption from, or reaction to, the Lignum Acquisition making it more difficult to maintain relationships with customers, employees or suppliers; (iv) the risk that CanWel may not be able to operate the lumber pressure treating plant and related equipment and business formerly owned by Western Wood Treating, Inc. (the "Plant") or integrate the Plant into its operations successfully, or without negative impact on its business, or without requiring spending significant or unexpected amounts of time, money or other resources thereon, or at all; (v) the risk that CanWel may not be able to obtain the final permits and operational authority to operate the Plant, or on terms and conditions or at a cost satisfactory to it, or at all; (vi) the risk that the construction and completion of CanWel's plant in Oregon (originally announced in quarter 2, 2018 (the "Oregon Plant")) originally expected to be in Q4 2018, may not be able to be completed or operated within expected timelines or costs, or on other terms, conditions or costs satisfactory to it, or at all; (vii) the risk that CanWel may not be able to obtain the final permits and operational authority to operate the Oregon Plant on the terms and conditions satisfactory to it, or at all, or at a cost satisfactory to it; (viii) the acquisition of Honsador Acquisition Corp. ("Honsador") in quarter 3, 2017, the assets of Total Forest Industries Ltd. ("TFI") in quarter 3, 2016, Jemi Fibre Corp. ("Jemi") in quarter 2, 2016, or the assets of California Cascade Industries and California Cascade-Fontana, Inc. ("CCI") in quarter 3, 2015, (collectively with the Lignum Acquisition, the Plant and the Oregon Plant, the "Acquisitions") may result in significant challenges, and management of CanWel may be unable to accomplish the integration of the Acquisitions smoothly or successfully or without spending significant or unexpected amounts of time, money or other resources thereon; (ix) the risk that any inability of management to successfully integrate the operations of the businesses or combined businesses discussed above, including, but not limited to, operational, information technology, financial reporting systems or environmental matters, any of which could have a material adverse effect on the business, financial condition and results of operations of CanWel; (x) the risk that revenues, profits and margins of CanWel may not remain consistent with historical levels or be as expected; (xi) the risk that competing firms which manufacture or distribute competitive product lines will aggressively defend or seek market share, or that potential customers of the Oregon Plant and existing customers or suppliers of the Plant, Honsador, TFI, Jemi or CCI (some of whom are competitors of CanWel) will change, reduce or cease doing business with CanWel, in each case reducing, eliminating or reversing any potential positive economic impact on CanWel of the Acquisitions; (xii) the risk that any cost savings, synergies, increased sales, margin, profit or distributable cash resulting or expected from the Acquisitions may not be fully realized, realized at all or may take longer to realize than expected; (xiii) the risk of disruption from the introduction, implementation and/or integration of the Acquisitions making it more difficult to maintain relationships with customers, employees or suppliers; (xiv) risks related to the operation of pressure treatment facilities, including but not limited to environmental and

remediation risks, labour risks, risks related to maintenance capital expenditures for manufacturing and processing facilities and risks related to capital expenditures for environmental risks; (xv) the potential inability of CanWel to complete the formal documentation and satisfy the other conditions required to complete the Oregon Plant; and (xvi) other statements other than historical facts. As indicated above, completion of the transactions described herein are subject to various conditions, including (among others) obtaining related necessary governmental operating and regulatory permits and approvals. Although CanWel believes that the expectations and the conditions reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, CanWel can give no assurance that each of these conditions will be satisfied to the satisfaction of CanWel or that expectations will prove to be correct. By their nature, forward-looking statements involve risk and uncertainty because they relate to events and depend on circumstances that will occur in the future. There are a number of additional risks and uncertainties affecting or that could affect CanWel, which could cause actual results and developments to differ materially from those described in, expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements, include, among others: regulatory and legal risk, increased debt and interest costs, general economic and business conditions, product selling and prices, product performance, consumer preferences, design and liability risk, environmental risks, remediation risks, software and software design risk, commodity price fluctuations, information systems risk, interest rate changes, operating costs, political or economic instability in local or national markets, chemical or commodity prices, exchange rate risks for product inputs, tariffs and tax risks and general competitive conditions. Factors also include, but are not limited to, dependence on market and economic conditions, sales and margin risk, competition, information system risks, availability of supply of products, risks associated with the introduction of new product lines, product design risk, product liability risks, environmental risks, regulatory risk, trade and tariff risks, differing law or regulations across jurisdictions, volatility of commodity prices, inventory risks, resource industry risks, resource extraction risks, risks relating to remote operations, forestry management and silviculture risks, fire, flood and natural disaster risks, customer and vendor risks, contract performance risks, acquisition and integration risks, availability of credit, credit risks, performance bond risks, litigation risks, interest rate risks, insurance risks, risks related to climate change and risks related to the impact of local, national, and international health concerns, including but not limited to the novel coronavirus COVID-19. A further description of these additional factors and other risks which could cause results to differ materially from those described in these forward looking statements can be found in the periodic and other reports filed by CanWel with Canadian securities commissions and available on SEDAR (<http://www.sedar.com>). In addition, a number of material factors or assumptions were utilized or applied in making the forward-looking statements, and may include, but are not limited to, assumptions regarding the performance of the Canadian and U.S. economies, the relative stability of or level of interest rates, exchange rates, volatility of commodity prices, availability or more limited availability of access to equity and debt capital markets to fund, at acceptable costs, CanWel's future growth plans, the implementation and success of the integration of the Acquisitions, the ability of CanWel to refinance its debts as they mature, the Canadian and United States housing and building materials markets; the direct and indirect effect of the U.S. housing market and economy; international trade and tariff risks, political risks, the amount of CanWel's cash flow from operations; tax laws; and the extent of CanWel's future acquisitions and capital spending requirements or planning as well as the general level of economic activity, in Canada and the US, and abroad, discretionary spending and unemployment levels; the effect of general economic conditions, including market demand for CanWel's products, and prices for such products; the effect of forestry, land use, environmental and other governmental regulations; and the risk of losses from fires, floods and other natural disasters and unemployment levels. There is a risk that some or all of these assumptions may prove to be incorrect. These and other factors could cause or contribute to actual results differing materially from those contemplated by forward-looking statements. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements or information. There are numerous risks associated with an investment in CanWel's common shares or senior unsecured notes, which are also further described in the "Risk Factors" sections of CanWel's annual information form dated March 31, 2020 as well as its other public filings on SEDAR. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this press release. We caution that the foregoing factors that may affect future results are not exhaustive. When relying on our forward-looking statements to make decisions with respect to CanWel, investors and others should carefully consider the foregoing factors and other uncertainties and potential events.

Neither CanWel nor any of its associates or directors, officers, partners, affiliates, or advisers, provides any representation, assurance or guarantee that the occurrence of the events expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements in these communications will actually occur. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. Except as required by applicable securities laws and legal or regulatory obligations, CanWel is not under any obligation, and expressly disclaims any intention or obligation, to update or revise any forward looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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- (1) Please refer to our Q1 2020 MD&A and Financial Statements for further information. Our Q1 2020 Financial Statements filings are reported under International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS").
 - (2) In the discussion, reference is made to EBITDA, which represents earnings from continuing operations before interest, including amortization of deferred financing costs, provision for income taxes, depreciation and amortization. This is not a generally accepted earnings measure under IFRS and does not have a standardized meaning under IFRS, and therefore the measure as calculated by CanWel may not be comparable to similarly-titled measures reported by other companies. EBITDA is presented as we believe it is a useful indicator of a company's ability to meet debt service and capital expenditure requirements and because we interpret trends in EBITDA as an indicator of relative operating performance. EBITDA should not be considered by an investor as an alternative to net earnings or cash flows as determined in accordance with IFRS. For a reconciliation of EBITDA to the most directly comparable measures calculated in accordance with IFRS refer to "Reconciliation of Net Earnings to Earnings before Interest, Tax, Depreciation and Amortization (EBITDA) and Adjusted EBITDA".