



OHBA ACTIVITY Summary

Keeping Members Informed

December 2013

DATES TO NOTE

- December 5: Provincial Government DC/OMB Consultations in Mississauga
- December 9: Provincial Government DC/OMB Consultations in Toronto
- December 9: OHBA DC/OMB Consultation at GOHBA
- January 27: Presidents' and Executive Officers' Seminar Day
- February 26-28: OHBA/EnerQuality Builder and Renovator Forum

DEVELOPMENT CHARGES AND LAND-USE PLANNING ACT CONSULTATIONS

On Friday, November 29th, OHBA held an industry consultation in conjunction with the London Home Builders' Association With the aim of opening discussion and receiving feedback from members on the DCA and Land-use Planning Act review. The meeting was well attended by members in the local association, OHBA received good feedback to include in a submission.

OHBA will continue with the consultation process with the next industry consultation taking place in **Ottawa on Monday, December 9th at the Centurion Centre from 9:15 AM – 11:15 AM**. OHBA is looking for feedback and a wide range of ideas that will inform the content of the OHBA submissions to the provincial government. This is your opportunity to get engaged and provide your advice. Following these internal consultations at local HBAs, there will be other opportunities for member engagement with the ad-hoc committees. OHBA is seeking advice and recommendations from our members across the province. For more info on how to get involved with the Planning Act contact OHBA's Director of Policy, Mike Collins-Williams mikecw@ohba.ca. For more info on how to get involved with the Development Charges Act contact Stephen Hamilton shamilton@ohba.ca.

In addition, the provincial government is continuing to hold [a series of public consultations](#) in the evenings at a number of locations across Ontario. The meetings will be open to municipalities, industry stakeholders and the general public to provide feedback to the provincial government. OHBA strongly encourages members to attend and provide industry examples and perspectives. The next meeting will be taking place in **Mississauga on Thursday, December 5th** and an additional consultation will be taking place in **Toronto on Monday, December 9th**. For more information on specific locations and to RSVP for the public workshops please visit the provincial land-use planning appeals system [consultation website](#). The government deadline for submissions is **January 10, 2014**.

OHBA DAY AT QUEEN'S PARK – NOVEMBER 6TH

On Wednesday, November 6th, OHBA hosted a day at Queen's Park for our network of 30 local associations and their delegates. The day consisted of the OHBA Board of Directors meeting, a series of meetings for delegates to inform and educate MPPs on important OHBA and industry issues and ended with an evening reception that was attended by numerous Cabinet Ministers and MPPs.

The OHBA Board was joined by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing at lunch, where delegates were addressed by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Hon. Linda Jeffrey who noted how important the ongoing consultations on the Development Charges Act and the Land-Use Planning System are for the province of Ontario. The Minister restated how important the dialogue with the new housing and land development industry is for the consultations and that she welcomed OHBA's recommendations.

The MPPs meetings held throughout the day with OHBA Board members and Executive Officers were key opportunities for direct engagement between OHBA's network of local associations and our elected representatives from across Ontario.

The well-attended MPP reception provided yet another opportunity to provide decision makers with industry perspectives on development charges, parkland dedication, section 37 agreements and the land-use planning and appeals system.

To view more photos from the day at Queen's Park, please visit our [Facebook page](#).



ONTARIO WSIB MANDATORY COVERAGE DEADLINE IS JANUARY 1, 2014

Mandatory WSIB Coverage refers to the policies outlined in the *Workplace Safety and Insurance Act, 2008*. This legislation mandates independent operators and executive officers to purchase WSIB insurance. The legislation provides limited exemptions for residential renovations and executive officer not performing construction work. The legislation has been in force since January 1, 2013, with a one year transition for those in violation with the policies. On January 1, 2014, WSIB will begin issuing fines for anyone working without WSIB clearance certificate in construction. Exceptions to the Mandatory Coverage include home renovators who are contracted directly by the person occupying the residence and work exclusively in home renovations. Businesses can also select one executive officer or partner to apply for an exemption from coverage. For more information, please visit the [WSIB website](#).

SPRINKLER AND FIRE PROTECTION INSTALLER REVIEW DELAYED

The deputations for the Sprinkler and Fire Protection Installer Trade have been postponed until January. Prior to the scheduled oral consultations on November 27th, the chair of the Review Panel notified stakeholders that he had once acted as legal counsel to United Association Local 853, who are a party advocating for compulsory certification of the sprinkler and fire protection installer trade. Several participants at the deputation, including OHBA, noted that this may constitute bias and affect the ruling. As a result, the Review Panel adjourned the oral consultation to give individuals who made submissions to the trade classification review a chance to provide comment on whether there is bias that would affect a ruling by the Chair. Any objections to the Chair's involvement will be heard on January 6th.

NATIONAL BUILDING CODE PROPOSED CHANGES ON WOOD-FRAME CONSTRUCTION

The [public review on proposed changes](#) to the National Model Construction Codes has been extended until December 23, 2013. In November, OHBA hosted two sessions with CHBA in GTA and London to review the changes on six-storey wood frame construction. To address emergency responder concerns, provisions allowing greater access for firefighting were proposed; for example, requiring that a minimum of 25 per cent of the building perimeter be directly accessible by fire responders. Other requirements include mandatory sprinklers (conforming to NFPA-13) throughout the building; a fire-resistance rating of no less than one hour for floor and roof assemblies as well as mezzanines; and non-combustible cladding on roofs that are inaccessible to fire hoses.

As the technical discussion at the national level on six-storey wood frame construction will inform Ontario's building code development, OHBA encourages members to participate in the review process and submit comments either directly to the [Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes \(CCBFC\)](#) or to OHBA. CHBA's draft comments on the six-storey wood frame construction changes may be [found here](#).

For more information please contact [Pauline Lip](#).

REVISED ENERGY EFFICIENCY DESIGN SUMMARY FORM AND FAQ

In response to OHBA 2013 Resolution #11, EEDS (Energy Efficiency Design Summary) Form Update, OHBA worked with OBOA, LMCBO and MMAH to revise the EEDS form and the accompanying FAQ. The key changes on the revised EEDS form incorporate amendments to SB-12 as of March 2013, including the following items:

Section B. Prescriptive trade-off options used

Section D. Efficiency of drain water heat recovery (DWHR) units

Additional clarifications have also been made to Section C, "windows, skylights & glass" to reflect the wording in SB-12.

Revised EEDS form: <http://www.oboa.on.ca/news/article/?id=249>

Revised FAQ: <http://www.oboa.on.ca/news/article/?id=250>

Main OBOA website: www.oboa.on.ca

OHBA continues to build a strong working relationship with OBOA, LMCBO and MMAH through this joint working group.

SAVE THE DATE: OHBA/ENERQUALITY 2014 BUILDER AND RENOVATOR FORUM

Join us February 26 – 28th at the spectacular *Hilton Hotel and Suites Niagara Falls* for the 2014 Builder and Renovator Forum – your premiere conference on building innovation and technical excellence. OHBA is partnering with EnerQuality to provide a relevant program designed to help your business grow and evolve with the upcoming regulatory changes.

The program will include round table discussions, educational seminars, engaging industry speakers, a trade exhibit and EnerQuality's Awards of Excellence gala. Topics include:

- Ontario Building Code 2014 Update
- CMHC Economic Housing Forecasts
- Discovery Homes from the Optimum Home Program and Savings by Design
- Institute of Building Excellence
- Tax-related Issues for Builders and Renovators

But it is not all work and no play- Lace up your skates at our charity 'fun on the ice' event celebrating OHBA's 50 Good Deeds initiative, featuring hockey legends Steve Ludzig, Marcel Dionne, and Rick Vaive. This is your opportunity to rub elbows with some of the hockey legends while raising money for the Steve Ludzik Centre for Parkinson's Rehab.

Visit the OHBA website for more information – registration will be opening soon!

OHBA INSTITUTE OF BUILDING EXCELLENCE

Looking for current information on ever-evolving building practices, code changes or legal issues? Or do you want to improve your expertise around financial management or sales and marketing? OHBA's [Institute of Building Excellence](#) (IBE) can help.

The Institute provides web-based, online learning that focuses on best practices in business management, building and renovation technologies, building codes, legal issues and many other topics. You can enrol in courses that:

- Are available 24/7/365 - anywhere you are;
- Are supported by subject-matter expert instructors who provide online guidance, mark assignments, deliver a half day, in-class review and a supervised written exam;
- Allow students to learn at their own pace. Register online and choose the date and place for the one day class within a twelve month window allowed.

Member engagement, province-wide is paramount, so OHBA, through the Institute, has ensured the courses are readily available, achievable and affordable.

For more information and to view the spring course calendar, visit the [Institute of Building Excellence section on the OHBA website](#) or call or email [MJ Whitemarsh](#), the IBE Registrar toll-free at 1-855-818-0449.



Ontario Home Builders' Association

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