



OHBA ACTIVITY Summary

Keeping Members Informed

AUGUST 2011

DATES TO NOTE

- September 22: Annual Meeting of Members
- September 22: President's Gala /OHBA Awards of Distinction, "Reach Great Heights With OHBAir"



**OHBA
HUMANITARIAN
BUILD**
OHBA Conference
Dominican Republic
November 22 - 29, 2011

www.humanitarianbuild.com

GROWTH PLAN - 5TH ANNIVERSARY REPORT

As 2011 marks the fifth anniversary of the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, the provincial government has released an overview of the Growth Plan's progress five years into its 25-year outlook. The update showcases how the Growth Plan's policies and other initiatives are starting to shape the Greater Golden Horseshoe. OHBA has previously noted concerns to the provincial government that there was a lack of clarity and certainty with respect to the status of the 'white-belt' lands as an urban reserve for the purposes of long-term strategic planning. We believe this five year progress update has brought additional clarity to this concern. Noting that it is early in the Growth Plan's implementation, and that additional work needs to be done in partnership with municipalities and the private sector, the report aims to provide a glimpse into how the Growth Plan's policies may be starting to work and starting to shape the Greater Golden Horseshoe in the following areas:

- Curbing Sprawl
- Revitalizing Downtowns
- Creating Complete Communities
- Increasing Transportation Choice

In addition, the document contains an update on the Growth Plan conformity status of upper- and single-tier municipalities. Visit www.placestogrow.ca to view the report.

FRIENDS OF THE GREENBELT FOUNDATION REPORT

OHBA is supportive of the broad conclusions of the Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation Report: "Inside & Out – Sustaining Ontario's Greenbelt" that suggest that the area between the Greenbelt and urban growth boundaries contains enough land to act to accommodate development for several generations. OHBA notes that the research conducted suggests that the "whitebelt" is an urban reserve that will absorb future employment and population growth and that it is unlikely that there would be pressure to push the Greenbelt's inner boundary further away from Lake Ontario. The new study reports that proposed urban boundary expansion plans for the next 20 years in the regions of Durham, York, Peel, Halton, and the City of Hamilton use approximately 17 per cent of the "whitebelt" for employment and population growth and development, leaving nearly 83 per cent of the "whitebelt", or 120,000 acres of land.

OHBA is supportive of the "Inside and Out" report's additional policy recommendations that promote growth plan implementation through intensification. OHBA supports balanced growth initiatives that do not compromise affordability and recognize the need for the greenbelt plan and the growth plan to work together in support Ontario's economic, social and environmental priorities.

Please contact Stephen Hamilton shamilton@ohba.ca for a copy of the report.

NEW MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT REGS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS

The Ministry of the Environment has published a Guide to Completing a Phase One Environmental Site Assessment under Ontario Regulation 153/04 and a Guide to Completing a Phase Two Environmental Site Assessment under Ontario Regulation 153/04 . The ministry believes these documents will assist Qualified Persons in understanding the new Phase One and Two ESA requirements for the purpose of filing a Record of Site Condition. Both documents are available in the Brownfields section of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing website.

If you have further questions regarding the documents please contact the Ministry of the Environment, Environmental Assessment and Approvals Branch, Brownfields Filing and Review at 416-326-2945.

NEW BUILDING CODE CHANGES - TECHNICAL BULLETIN

The start of 2012 is going to be a confusing time for those who have not been following the regulatory changes that will affect the Building Code and enforcement structure. The OHBA Technical Committee has released a bulletin which will provide some insight and guidance in advance of these changes. As with any regulatory change, please be informed and seek out discussions with the regulator (Chief Building Official) if you have any questions about how the regulation is to be enforced.

The Bulletin includes information on upcoming changes related to:

- Energy Efficiency
- Air Barrier Inspection
- Occupancy Permits

Please visit www.ohba.ca for more information.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR BLITZ: AUGUST 2011

The Ministry will initiate an enforcement blitz on all types of access equipment used throughout construction. Inspectors will focus on the appropriate selection of access equipment and its safe and proper use, such as job-built ramps, ladders, scaffolds and work-platforms, suspended platforms and suspended scaffolds. Be sure that adequate written measures and procedures are in place for safe use of the access equipment that workers have received adequate instruction and training in the safe use or operation of the equipment; and the equipment has been inspected and adequately maintained in accordance with manufacturers' instructions and adequate supervision is put in place.

REMINDERS / AVAILABLE FROM OHBA

- ✓ OHBA Growth Plan Amendment Submission (Simcoe County)
- ✓ Ontario Housing Issues Status Report: Spring 2011
- ✓ OHBA Magazine Summer Issue
- ✓ OHBA Endangered Species Act Submission
- ✓ OHBA 2011 Membership Directory
- ✓ YOUR VOICE – How OHBA Works For You
- ✓ OHBA 10-Year Capital Plan Submission
- ✓ OHBA/BILD Joint 2011 Brownfield Submission



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