



OHBA ACTIVITY Summary

Keeping Members Informed

DATES TO NOTE

- January 18: Economic Forecast Seminar (Ottawa)
- January 20: ESA Bobolink Consultation (Ottawa)
- January 23: Presidents & EOs Seminar
- January 25: Economic Forecast Seminar (Kitchener)
- February 1: OHBA Builders' Council (Collingwood)
- February 1: OHBA Renovators' Council (Collingwood)
- February 1-2: Builder and Renovator Forum (Collingwood)



ONTARIO BUILDING CODE CHANGES TAKE EFFECT

As of January 1, 2012 the Ontario Building Code introduces significant changes in energy efficiency requirements for buildings that fall under Part 9. OHBA has issued a Member bulletin advising of the upcoming energy efficiency changes to the Ontario Building Code highlighted in Supplementary Bulletin 12 (SB-12). The bulletin also discusses recent changes in December 2011 to SB-12.

OHBA is also making available a check list/summary aid that may be used for building permit applications when applying the technical requirements of SB-12. This is not a provincially mandated form, however OHBA developed it in partnership with the Ontario Building Officials Association to facilitate a practical implementation of the new Ontario Building Code requirements across the province.

MANDATORY WSIB COVERAGE

The Province has approved a proclamation date of January 1, 2012 for **Bill 119, Workplace Safety and Insurance Amendment Act, 2008**. The legislation forces independent operators, sole proprietors, some partners in partnership and some executive officers who work in construction will also be required to have WSIB coverage starting January 1, 2013. As part of the implementation, WSIB is allowing businesses to pre-register for coverage. If you pre-register you will not be forced to pay premiums until 2013. WSIB will notify you when your coverage becomes effective.

The following Clarifications are provided by WSIB:

Executive Officer Rate Group: WSIB has committed to a separate rate class for executive officers that do not work "on the tools". This rate will be confirmed and posted with premium rates for 2013. The policies that pertain to Mandatory Coverage have yet to be finalized and will be released in 2012.

Pre-Registration: The WSIB is offering individuals in construction who operate a business and have no workers the opportunity to pre-register starting December 19, 2011 for mandatory coverage that will begin January 1, 2013. Contact WSIB at 416-344-1000 or 1-800-387-0750 to pre-register.

Exemptions to Mandatory Coverage:

Home Renovation - Home Renovators who are contracted directly with the person occupying the residence and work exclusively in home renovation are exempt from the Mandatory Coverage legislation. If this is you, you do not have to register.

Executive Officers, Partners - Businesses can select **one** executive officer or partner to apply for an exemption from coverage. This must be an individual who does not perform any construction work on any building site (including on-site supervision).

OHBA ECONOMIC FORECAST 2012 SEMINARS

OHBA is hitting the road with the new Chair of the OHBA Economic Review Committee, Scott Cameron for two informative sessions on how your business can prosper in challenging economic times. ERC Chair Scott Cameron will moderate two economic forecast seminars with a panel of esteemed economists this coming January.

- January 18: Ottawa – “Goodbye 2011, Hello 2012”
- January 25: Kitchener – “Prospering in Challenging Times”

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

The Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario (COSSARO) has recently assessed 14 species, and classified 13 with changes to the Species at Risk in Ontario (SARO) List anticipated by Jan 13, 2012. Details are provided in the table below as well as on the [Species at Risk Website](#).

At the same time MNR is seeking public comment on a proposed transitional regulation that will allow farmers to continue their current agricultural practices while a longer term approach to Eastern Meadowlark recovery is developed under the Endangered Species Act.

OHBA is represented on the Bobolink Roundtable and is actively engaged with MNR on development related issues and overall benefit permitting for both the Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark. A MNR consultation/presentation on Bobolink/Eastern Meadowlark has been booked for OHBA members in Ottawa at the Greater Ottawa Home Builders’ Association office on Friday January 20th – additional dates in other Ontario locations for OHBA members will be booked in the New Year.

BUILDER AND RENOVATOR FORUM

Join OHBA February 1-2 at the beautiful Village of Blue Mountain in Collingwood at the 2012 Builder and Renovator Forum – the premier conference on building innovation and technical excellence.

Across the province, builder and renovators must adjust to the 2012 changes in the Ontario Building Code. These changes introduce new challenges and opportunities, so OHBA and our partner EnerQuality Corporation are collaborating to bring building experts from across North America to provide participants with timely, vital information to help you and your business thrive in the coming year.

Topics include:

- The new landscape and game changes; What’s costing you time and money; Getting it right – the first time; Back to Building Science Basics; Putting LEEP/TAP to Work; Why building better and high performance homes makes sense

Visit www.ohbaforum.ca for full program details



CHECK OUT THE HUMANITARIAN BUILD BLOG

With the Humanitarian Build in the Dominican Republic now complete, OHBA encourages members and all those that attended to check out everything that we accomplished. www.humanitarianbuild.com



REMINDERS / AVAILABLE FROM OHBA

- ✓ OHBA Growth Plan Amendment Submission (Simcoe County)
- ✓ Ontario Housing Issues Status Report: Fall 2011
- ✓ OHBA Magazine Fall 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



Ontario Home Builders’ Association

20 Upjohn Road #101, North York, Ontario M3B 2V9 (416) 443-1545 Toll Free: 800-387-0109 Fax: (416) 443-9982 info@ohba.ca