



OHBA ACTIVITY Summary

Keeping Members Informed

JULY 2015

DATES TO NOTE

July 14: OHBA Awards of Distinction Judging Day
August 14: OHBA Awards of Distinction Finalists Announced
August 18-28: OHBA [People's Choice Award](#) Opens
September 27-29: OHBA [Annual Conference](#)- Deerhurst

AMM RESOLUTIONS

OHBA has produced a 2014-2015 [Resolutions Update package](#) that is a status report of the resolutions approved at the September 22, 2014 OHBA Annual Meeting of Members in Ottawa. OHBA invites and encourages local associations to submit resolutions to the 2015 OHBA Annual Meeting of Members at 9:00 a.m. on Monday September 29th in Deerhurst. **Please submit resolutions to OHBA by Friday, August 28th**, this will enable us to circulate the material to all local associations for their review in early September, prior to the OHBA AMM. Our 31 local associations have a voice in the policies and priorities of our organization. Please provide us with your input.

PROVINCIAL UPDATE TO LONG-TERM AFFORDABLE HOUSING STRATEGY

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing will soon be wrapping up public consultations to support a renewed Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy to ensure that the document supports the Province's goals of improving outcomes for people and ending homelessness. As referenced in the Poverty Reduction Strategy, the Province is aiming to end homelessness by making investments in homelessness prevention, expanding access to supportive housing, and investing in more affordable housing. The [Consultation Discussion Guide](#) outlines the progress of the current strategy, future goals and areas where more input from partners is needed. Comments can be submitted to the government until July 3rd.

OHBA previously participated in consultations for the original Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy in 2009 and we have drafted an updated 2015 submission. In 2009/10 the government listened to OHBA recommendations and implemented policies supporting secondary suites, while also recognizing OHBA concerns to not include provisions that would allow for inclusionary zoning. The new 2015 OHBA submission will be delivered to the Ministry later this week.

SMART GROWTH FOR OUR COMMUNITIES ACT

Following extensive consultations that OHBA participated in through 2013 and 2014 on the Land-Use Planning and Appeals System and the Development Charges System, new legislation, the *Smart Growth For Our Communities Act* was introduced this spring. The comprehensive 2014 OHBA Development Charges Submission is available [here](#) and the 2014 Land-Use Planning and Appeals System submission is available [here](#). The new legislation proposes to amend both the *Planning Act* and the *Development Charges Act*. OHBA is supportive of proposed amendments to enhance municipal accountability and transparency with respect to development charges, parkland dedication and Section 37 density bonusing agreements. OHBA is also supportive of proposed amendments to the cash-in-lieu of parkland formula. OHBA is however very concerned by proposed limitations to appeals, limitations to minor variance applications and potentially significant taxation increases for new neighbours and new employers. Both OHBA and BILD have had volunteer members appointed to a Planning Act stakeholders working group and a number of members appointed to the *Development Charges Act* technical working groups – OHBA appreciated the hard work and dedication of these members. The OHBA submission to the *Smart Growth For Our Communities Act* (EBR 012-3651) is available [here](#).

LEGISLATURE IN RECESS UNTIL SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

The Ontario legislature wrapped up its spring sitting on Thursday, June 4th and will be returning on September 14, 2015 with the Liberal government continuing the process of implementing several of their campaign commitments. OHBA has been very busy through the first half of 2015 with several significant consultations commencing and/or reconvening including: the College of Trades Tony Dean Review, Co-ordinated Plans Review (Greenbelt & Growth Plan), Construction Lien Act, Condominium Act, Ontario Retirement Pension Plan, Ontario College of Trades Review, Smart Growth For Our Communities Act (both Development Charges Act and Planning Act) and the WSIB Rate Framework Review.

OHBA will continue to advocate, educate and inform decision makers in government while keeping members up-to-date on critical issues at Queen's Park. On June 8th, OHBA provided members with a [detailed list of the current status](#) of a number of pieces of new legislation introduced during the spring session and legislation that was passed in the spring session that directly impacts the businesses of members across Ontario.

PROVINCIAL CONSULTATIONS ON INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES OUTSIDE THE GTHA

The Provincial Government is launching consultations to inform the design of new infrastructure programs and a framework to prioritize needs for communities and regions outside the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA). The province has released a discussion guide, *Moving Ontario Forward - Outside the GTHA*, to provide interested parties with information about these investments and how their voices can be heard. Feedback can be submitted online or in writing by September 18, 2015. Additional opportunities to provide advice will be available through regional roundtable meetings that will be held across the province in the summer of 2015 – OHBA will inform local HBAs once consultation dates have been posted. OHBA intends to make a submission to the Provincial Government and is seeking feedback from members. Please submit any comments or recommendations to OHBA Director of Policy, [Mike Collins-Williams](#).

OHBA 2015 ANNUAL CONFERENCE - DEERHURST

The much anticipated OHBA Annual Conference and Awards of Distinction are just around the corner and you don't want to miss out! This year we will be returning to the beautiful and recently upgraded Deerhurst Resort in Huntsville, from **September 27-29, 2015** for three days of interactive activities, informative sessions and dazzling evening celebrations. This year, based on popular demand, OHBA is bringing back the Trade Show! Make sure to visit the OHBA Conference website often for updates to the schedule, speaker information and exciting offers!



Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to celebrate successes, share ideas and stories, learn about new programs and products, and network with your industry colleagues from across the province – all from Ontario's premiere vacation destination, Huntsville! This year space is extremely limited so act fast and get your registration in today – these are three days you don't want to miss! Register early for reduced rates (ends on September 1, 2015) and visit: ohbaconference.ca Highlights for this year's conference:

1. **Business Sessions:** Expect insightful, interesting and engaging business sessions including: Fire Safety for Six-Storey Wood-Frame Residential Construction with Surrey Fire Chief Garis, The Builders' Den, A Tarion Update, a WSIB Rate Frame Review, Building Leadership with Lisa Von Massow from Sandler Training and much more! Sessions are constantly evolving so visit the website frequently to see new programming as it is added.
2. **Haliburton County for All Seasons!** Our host, the Haliburton County HBA, has planned an exciting opening reception where we will get to experience the thrill of Canada's changing seasons in one evening! Come dressed in theme to your favourite season – winter, spring, summer or fall (and everything in-between) - and remember, hunting is a season!
3. **Awards of Distinction 2015:** The much anticipated Awards of Distinction will be held the evening of Monday, September 28th. OHBA is bringing back the coveted People's Choice Award this year for best project – **voting begins on August 18th** on the Awards website ohbaaod.ca. Space is limited, so register for the conference today and join our host, Dave Hemstad from CBC's The Debaters for a fun celebratory dinner to help cheer on the winners!
4. **President's Gala:** The conference will conclude with the inaugural President's Gala where OHBA will formally welcome our new president.
5. **Additional Activities:** OHBA has organized several additional activities for Monday, September 28th to help make your stay in cottage country all the more enjoyable! Conference delegates can enjoy OHBA's Annual Golf Tournament at Deerhurst Highlands Golf Course, Taste of Haliburton County – a bus tour exploring the culinary and brewery/winery culture in the region, a spa day at Shizen, a Horseback Trail Ride or a Hike through Algonquin. Delegates also have the option to have a free afternoon with a lunch voucher to Steamers.



2014 CODE AND CONSTRUCTION GUIDE FOR HOUSING IS NOW AVAILABLE

Ontario's 2014 Code and Construction Guide for Housing helps users better understand the Building Code as it relates to house construction. Based on the 2012 Building Code Compendium, the illustrated guide provides current, practical and accurate construction information to builders, inspectors, designers, and others in the housing industry. The guide builds upon the success of previous editions. It includes updated material as well as new content. The guide focuses on new detached, semi-detached or row house construction, but does not include new stacked residential housing. Key features of the Construction Guide include:

Content presented in construction sequence rather than Building Code sequence	Colour illustrations clearly depicting Building Code construction requirements	Building insights	Better building practices
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The guide also contains excerpts from the Building Code specifically related to house construction. Key features of the Code portion include:

full updates to the 2012 Building Code	relevant parts of the 2012 Building Code related to the construction of a single family home	an appendix on Building Code provisions
relevant supplementary standard	checklists for plans examination and site inspection checklists	

The 2014 Code and Construction Guide for Housing can be purchased from ServiceOntario at <http://www.publications.serviceontario.ca>.



Ontario Home Builders' Association

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