



OHBA ACTIVITY Summary

Keeping Members Informed

October 2018

DATES TO NOTE

- October 15 - 18 – CHBA Meetings

OHBA 2018 Conference Thank You and Round-up

From September 23 – 25, hundreds of conference delegates gathered in Ottawa for the annual OHBA Conference. Thanks to each of you who participated, and to all out 2018 sponsors, and we hope that it was a fruitful time of learning and networking.



Highlights from the event include special visits from the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, the Hon. Lisa MacLeod during the Opening Reception presented by Enbridge Gas, and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Hon. Steve Clark during the President's Gala presented by Union Gas, Cogeco, and Enercare.



The 2018-2019 OHBA Executive Committee was also elected and sworn in during the Annual Meeting of Members, with special guest CHBA President Nathan Stone:

- President, Rick Martins, Brantford and Waterloo Region
- 1st Vice President, Bob Schickedanz, Simcoe County
- 2nd Vice President, Louie Zagordo, Sudbury and District
- 2nd Vice President, Dave Depencier, Chatham-Kent
- Treasurer, Alex Callahan (7 locals)
- Secretary, Jackie Caille (16 locals)
- Michael Pozzebon (BILD), Jamie Adam (Waterloo Region), Peter DeBasio (BILD) President's Appointees
- Immediate Past President, Pierre Dufresne, Greater Ottawa

Please view the full photo album by selecting "2018 Conference" in the photo albums: www.ohba.ca/conference/



2018 Awards of Distinction Winners Honoured

The winners of the annual OHBA 2018 AoD sponsored by Delta, Rogers, Federated Insurance Services and Moen, were also crowned on stage at Great Gatsby-themed gala. Prestige award winners include:



- Great Gulf, 2018 Ontario Home Builder of the Year
- OakWood, 2018 Ontario Renovator of the Year
- Minto Communities for Glen Agar – Etobicoke (credit to: Montana Steele Advertising, NAK Design Group, RN Design Ltd.), 2018 Project of the Year – Low Rise
- North Drive Investments Inc. for One Forest Hill – Toronto (credit to: kg&a, The Walsh Group/Printserver Inc.), 2018 Project of the Year – High or Mid Rise
- Paradise Developments for High Point – Brampton (credit to: Ryan Design International), 2018 People's Choice Award

Read [the full list and press release on our website](#) and [view the photos](#) – congratulations to Ontario's top talent!

OHBA 2018 Resolutions

On September 24, 2018 at the OHBA Annual Meeting of Members, 16 resolutions were passed, covering a broad range of policy positions to the new provincial government. OHBA is consulted broadly with our membership and with local associations and will now be advancing a robust set of industry policy positions for the new provincial government. The OHBA resolutions process is an important opportunity for members and local associations to have a direct role in setting OHBA's government relations agenda in the coming years.

Resolutions passed include positions on:

- LPAT / OMB
- Inclusionary Zoning
- Growth Plan Intensification and Density Targets
- Growth Plan Agricultural and Natural Heritage System Mapping
- Modernizing College of Trades – Ratios
- Modernizing College of Trades – Enforcement
- Modernizing College of Trades – Scopes of Practice & Compulsory Certification
- Modernizing College of Trades – Eliminating the Apprentice Trades Tax
- Conservation Authorities
- Updating HST Threshold
- Amending the Construction Act for Small Business
- Modernizing Approvals – EAs and ECAs
- The Paper Burden
- Ontario New Home Warranty – Competitive Model

Significant WSIB Premium Rate Cut for 2019

WSIB announced significantly lower premium rates for 2019. Starting January 2019, the premium rate for home builders (RG 764) will decrease from \$7.24 for every \$100 of a worker's income to \$4.33, a decrease of 40.2%. For all industries, WSIB rates will decline an average of 29.8% next year.

This rate decrease is equivalent to a savings of up to \$2,694 per worker based on the 2019 maximum earnings ceiling of \$92,600. Combined with the 2017 and 2018 rate decrease, these changes will save professional renovators and home builders up to \$4,417 next year compared to rate levels in 2016.

Visit WSIB for more information on 2019 rates and additional information on their new 2019-2021 Strategic Plan.

Key numbers for home builders and renovators:

- 40.2 % premiums will be reduced in 2019
- 52.4 % premiums have declined since 2016
- \$2,694 in potential savings per worker in 2019 compared to 2018
- \$4,417 in potential savings per worker compared to 2016 if rates remained flat

OHBA continues to call on WSIB to modernize premium groups by implementing their Rate Framework plan which is scheduled to begin in 2020. These changes will provide fairness across construction rate groups.

Growth Plan Implementation Working Groups

The Ontario Growth Secretariat (OGS) has recognized industry and municipal concerns regarding some key implementation challenges of the 2017 Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe. Notably, the OGS has established five implementation working groups to address key areas that have been identified as potential barriers to meeting the objectives of the Growth Plan. The five implementation working groups reflect the following topic areas:

- Employment Area Conversions
- Natural Heritage System and Agricultural System Mapping
- Major Transit Station Areas
- Settlement Boundary Expansions
- Density and Intensification Targets

Workshops for each of these working groups commenced in September 2018 with the aim of putting forward viable, practical and workable solutions that respond to the "on the ground" challenges. For more information please contact OHBA Director of Policy, Mike Collins-Williams.

[View the archive](#) of OHBA Government Relations newsletter, Activity Summary.