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## June 2020



# OHBA ACTIVITY Summary

*Keeping Members Informed*

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### Important Dates

- [OHBA Awards of Distinction \(AoD\) Early Bird Submission Window: June 1st-June 26th](#) - For more information, please visit [www.ohbaaod.ca](http://www.ohbaaod.ca)

For the latest updates, please follow our social media [@OntarioHBA](#).

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# AoD OHBA AWARDS OF DISTINCTION 2020

Calling all builders, renovators, marketing and sales professionals, architects and more! Here's your chance to shine. Don't miss out on our early bird special!  
Early Bird Submission Window: June 1st-June 26th.

[www.ohbaod.ca](http://www.ohbaod.ca)   @OntarioHBA

Since 1991, [OHBA Awards of Distinction \(AoD\)](#) recognizes the creativity, innovation and talent of land developers, builders, renovators, designers and marketers within our dynamic industry. This year, OHBA has decided due to the recent COVID-19 pandemic, we will be going virtual to showcase the amazing talent our members have to offer.

The 2020 [OHBA Awards of Distinction \(AoD\)](#) will be here before you know it. Start planning and putting together your submissions now and don't miss the chance to sign up for our early-bird special - June 1st-June 26th!

What's new for 2020? This year we have created a new category as well as allowed for partner submissions in specific categories. For partner submissions, architectural designers, interior specialists, and marketing agencies will be eligible to submit in partnership with a builder/developer/renovator, in **specified categories**. The new category we are featuring is Amenities. This award recognizes the best **single amenity** within a multi-unit residential building by an OHBA builder member. For more information, please visit [www.ohbaod.ca](http://www.ohbaod.ca). OHBA looks forward to another successful Awards of Distinction and appreciates all the time and effort our members put into making this event possible. Here's your chance to shine - do you have what it takes to be the best? #OHBA2020AoD

### Early Bird Submission Window

June 1, 2020 – June 26, 2020

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\$175 per entry

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**Regular Submission Window**

June 27, 2020 – July 17, 2020

\$225 per entry

**No extensions will be permitted.**

## Resuming Construction Activities

On Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, Premier Doug Ford and Minister of Labour, Monte McNaughton, announced that all restrictions on construction would be lifted the following Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. Knowing that our members continue to make significant changes to improve health, safety and sanitation on jobsites in addressing COVID-19, OHBA welcomed this decision by the provincial government. As COVID-19 continues to have varying regional impacts, members should assess their own business situation and proceed with resuming work accordingly. It is still NOT business as usual. It is important that all construction jobsites and construction employers have enhanced COVID-19 Health and Safety policies.

The [Framework document has a link to the government's guidance on these policies](#) and the Ministry of Labour has added inspectors to support enforcement on all jobsites across Ontario.

Your Association membership will continue to provide you with the key information you need to make current and future business decisions. We will keep you up to date as health and safety requirements continue to change in response to COVID-19 public health information and direction. This is the value of your Association membership and we continue to thank you for supporting the Association as we work to support you and the incredible and important work you do to provide [#homebelievers](#) with the keys to their new and renovated homes.

## Health, Safety and Sanitation

OHBA Members continue to make improvements to jobsite health, safety and sanitation to keep all personnel safe. This is not only critical for the jobsite in particular but contributes to how our sector is seen in the broader construction industry. Premier Ford and Minister of Labour, Monte McNaughton have been clear, MOL will and should shutdown jobsites that are

not respecting, fulfilling, or surpassing the necessary health and safety requirements we need to protect our colleagues, employees, tradespeople, and clients. Please visit our [website](#) for some additional information on current policies.

## Ontario Jobs and Recovery Committee

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 "State of Emergency" in Ontario, OHBA members have been stepping up to help flatten the curve and do our industry's part to defeat the virus. Whether it is donating masks and other PPE to frontline healthcare workers, or leading the way in enhanced health, safety and sanitation on job sites, our members have championed the #OntarioSpirit and now there is another way our members can support the fight against COVID-19.

On April 9th, the Ontario government launched the new [Ontario Jobs and Recovery Committee](#) which will focus on getting businesses up and running and people back to work after the COVID-19 pandemic is over. This Cabinet Committee is composed of 12 Ministers headed by Finance Minister Rod Phillips. The Committee will be consulting with a wide range of stakeholders on the economic impact of COVID-19 and develop an action plan to move forward, including business associations, chambers of commerce, municipal leaders, corporate leaders, small business owners, and entrepreneurs. OHBA has organized three virtual meetings for members to engage directly with key Cabinet Ministers in May and early June including Minister Steve Clark, Minister Prabmeet Sarkaria and Minister Lisa Thompson to discuss the role of the residential construction industry in Ontario's economic recovery.

Key Ministers on this Committee who directly impact our sector include:

- Rod Phillips, Chair, Minister of Finance
- Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
- Peter Bethlenfalvy, President of the Treasury Board
- Laurie Scott, Minister of Infrastructure
- Monte McNaughton, Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development
- Prabmeet Sarkaria, Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction

OHBA is calling on members to feed their ideas and perspectives into their local HBAs so that we can provide the best possible policy options to the government on restarting our

sector. The contributions you can make today will help build and stimulate economic growth and job creation in the weeks and months ahead. We appreciate the time and work that members contribute and look forward to hearing your first-hand perspectives on how our industry can build jobs, prosperity and of course homes, for awaiting families and communities across Ontario.

## Bill 189, Coronavirus (COVID-19) Support and Protection Act

On April 14th, the provincial government passed [Bill 189, Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Support and Protection Act](#), 2020. OHBA notes that these are temporary measures regarding expiring DCs and to provide guidance to ensure that municipalities that choose to do so, can continue to process, hold virtual public meetings and ultimately approve planning applications; while also suspending Planning Act timelines. The Ministry has made it clear that municipalities may hold virtual public meetings and should they wish to make decisions on applications during this time, that the province has provided the necessary tools for municipalities to move forward on planning matters. OHBA continues to discuss the further opening for municipal planning departments to ensure projects are able to advance through the approvals process in support of economic recovery.

### Legislative & Regulatory Highlights:

- **Planning Act** - Amending the Planning Act will provide municipalities the time they need to focus on local public health priorities by making it possible to suspend certain planning decision timelines during a declared state of emergency. These changes will temporarily pause the need for municipalities and planning boards to make planning decisions within specified timelines without the risk of appeal. If municipalities choose to process planning applications, they may still do so by holding virtual/electronic public meetings and making decisions on planning matters during the COVID-19 outbreak.
- **Education Act** - Amending the Education Act will allow school boards with an expiring education development charge (EDC) by-law to use their existing by-law for an additional six months after the end of the COVID-19 outbreak, so they can continue to charge the EDC on new construction.

- **Planning Act Regulation** - On April 15th, the government passed [Ontario Regulation 149/20](#) which clarifies that O. Reg. 73/20 under EMCPA does not apply to land use planning timelines. As such, the regulation provides for those notices of municipal decisions and related appeal periods that may have been interrupted by the issuance of O. Reg. 73/20 to be restarted so that those decisions may be finalized. Ontario Regulation 149/20 under the Planning Act identifies those specified planning timelines that are effectively suspended in order to support municipal emergency response activities. OHBA advises members to consult their legal counsel regarding how this may or may not affect your specific applications or appeals. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing has released plain language guidance materials on Ontario Regulation 149/20: <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-1653>

## Provincial Policy Statement

As part of the More Homes, More Choice: Ontario's Housing Supply Action Plan, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing released amendments to the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) at the end of February. The OHBA press release [available here](#) articulated OHBA's support for the new PPS that removes barriers to providing housing in Ontario. The new Provincial Policy Statement was issued under section 3 of the Planning Act and came into effect on May 1st, 2020.

The PPS is an important part of Ontario's land use planning system, setting out the provincial land use policy direction. On October 21st, [OHBA made a submission with recommendations to streamline the PPS](#), reduce red tape and clarify a number of ambiguous definitions to the Ministry. OHBA notes that many of our recommendations supporting increased housing supply have been adopted in the new PPS. More information is available at the [Ministry Press Release](#).

A link to the new PPS which is now in effect: [click here](#).

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## Policy Statement

On April 28th, OHBA and BILD hosted webinars for their members surrounding the impact of COVID-19 on the industry. Andy Jones started the session on behalf of OBOA followed by David Bronskill (Goodman LLP) and Chris Barnett (Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP).

On May 22nd, OHBA hosted an Excess Soils Webinar with speakers: Jeff Goldman (The Durham Group), Laura Blease (MECP), Meghan Coyle (McIntosh Perry) & Kevin Goldberg (SoilFLO).

On May 26th, OHBA hosted a Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) Webinar with speakers: Matt Johnston and Amber Lindsay from Urban Solutions.

The following links will allow members to access the presenter's slide decks:

- [Andy Jones - OBOA Presentation - Permitting and Inspections](#)
- [David Bronskill - Goodmans LLP Presentation - Planning Act Amendments & Regulation](#)
- [Chris Barnett - Osler, Hoskin & Harbourt LLP Presentation - LPAT](#)
- [Laura Blease - MECP - Excess Soils](#)
- [Meghan Coyle - McIntosh Perry - Excess Soils](#)
- [Kevin Goldbery - SoilFLO - Excess Soils](#)
- [Provincial Policy Statement, 2020 - Urban Solutions](#)

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