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December 2021

ONTARIO HOME BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION



Important Dates:

- **Wednesday, December 8th @ 11 AM** - OHBA Information Session
Webinar: Ontario Building Code Changes for 2022 - Register [HERE](#)

Save the Date:

- **Thursday, January 20th** - OHBA Board of Directors Meeting - TBD

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

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New Report "Baby Needs a New Home" Continues to Gain Momentum!



Did you know that Ontario needs **ONE MILLION** new homes over the next ten years to accommodate our growing population? This is the latest finding from Dr. Mike Moffatt in relation to population growth and new family formations report titled, [Baby Needs a New Home](#). Mike Moffatt is the Senior Director of Policy and Innovation at the Smart Prosperity Institute and Assistant Professor in the Business, Economics and Public Policy group at the Ivey Business School, Western University.

In three virtual sessions for Southwestern, North/East and Central Ontario, OHBA and local HBAs hosted members and local municipal officials to discuss the latest population growth, family formations and housing demands in their communities. Mike's research showcases the significant dynamics playing out across Ontario in communities big and small, with family formations being created but leaving many of these individuals being priced out of their existing communities and driving until they qualify to find attainable and affordable housing

options.

OHBA has made these sessions and the full report available [on our website](#) and encourage all members and elected officials to read the report and see the growing demands that their communities are facing and will continue to face in the years to come. We need to build one million more homes. [#BeAHousingChampion](#)

Amendments to Exempt Low-Risk Sewage Works from Requiring an Environmental Compliance Approval

OHBA has [prepared a draft response](#) to the *Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) posting #019-4456* in support of the Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks (MECP) initiative related to the above matter. These proposed changes represent MECP's continued focus on modernizing the environmental assessment process in order to cut red tape. The proposed changes will avoid confusion and reduce the time required to deal with private lot low-impact developments (LID's).

OHBA views this as a very positive move in that it will be beneficial towards reducing approval timelines and will assist our effort in the creation of much needed housing supply. In addition, OHBA views the proposed changes as encouraging the use of LID's which may have the benefit of decreasing downstream stormwater management requirements. Please contact Larry Kotseff at lkotseff@ohba.ca should you have any questions or suggestions regarding OHBA's draft submission. The ERO posting is open for comment to December 9th, 2021.

Proposed Additional Delegation of Planning Decisions

OHBA has [submitted a response](#) to the *Environmental Registry of Ontario posting #019-4419* in support of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) initiative to provide municipalities with discretionary authority to delegate additional decisions to Committees of Council or municipal staff for minor amendments to zoning bylaws. The amendments proposed by MMAH would provide a new discretionary authority to delegate planning decisions dealing with minor amendments to zoning bylaws subject to criteria established

through official plan policies. This authority could include delegating decisions for temporary use bylaws, the lifting of holding symbols, and other minor zoning bylaw amendments. Such changes would not alter any notice or public meeting requirements or limit appeal rights. Please contact Larry Kotseff at lkotseff@ohba.ca should you have any related questions.

OHBA at Queen's Park



OHBA has been very active at Queen's Park since the legislature returned for the Fall session, speaking on a number of pieces of legislation.

In December 2020, OHBA joined the Ontario Professional Planners Institute along with a number of other key industry associations calling on the government to provide municipal councils with the ability to delegate additional Planning Act approvals to heads of planning departments. In October 2021, Bill 13, *Supporting People and Businesses Act, 2021* brought in by Minister Nina Tangri, helped bring this to fruition and is a measure that is strongly welcomed by the residential construction sector. Municipalities across Ontario have professional planning staff in place who are well situated and knowledgeable to deliver on these measures and free up councils to focus on the significant and major decisions ahead instead of being overwhelmed with minor and administrative decisions. OHBA spoke strongly in favour of this legislation.

OHBA was also a strong advocate for Bill 27, *Working for Workers Act, 2021*. This legislation brought forward a number of measures to help unlock incredible skilled trade career opportunities for workers and make other changes that protect, support, and attract workers to our great province. This legislation will eliminate the Canadian work experience barrier to help internationally trained workers in 23 trades, including electricians, plumbers and

hoisting engineers while ensuring safety standards and competencies remain high. OHBA spoke in support of this legislation which will help employers address the skilled trade labour gap we are facing in communities across Ontario while unlocking countless new in-demand and well-paying career opportunities.

OBC Changes for January 2022

On January 1, 2021, there are new Ontario Building Code requirements related to stairs that come into force which members should be aware of. To assist members with these new requirements, OHBA is hosting buildABILITY President, Michael Lio on Wednesday, December 8th from 11-Noon to help members navigate this change and the impacts it will have on projects. Members are encouraged to register for the session [here](#).

OHBA New Skills Development Program

This Employment Ontario project is funded by the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario.

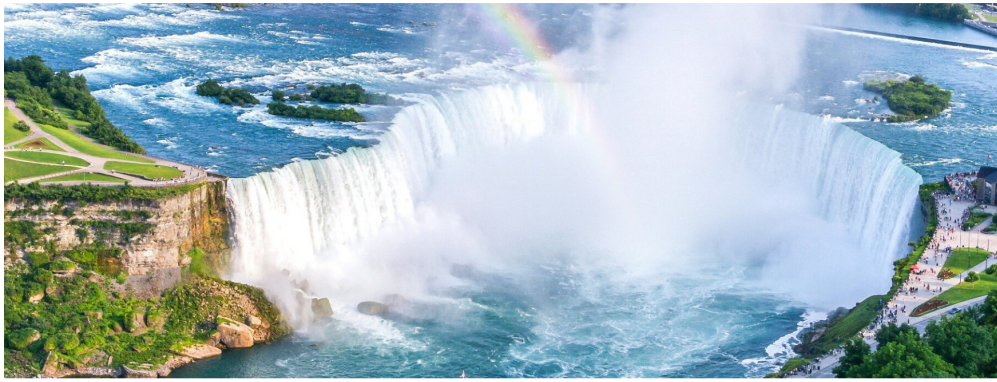


The Ontario Home Builders' Association (OHBA) and EnerQuality are working together to deliver job-ready, unskilled labourers to qualified OHBA members building in the GTA, Niagara, Hamilton, Kitchener/ Waterloo, Guelph, Simcoe, Durham and Ottawa.

Through this program, OHBA and EnerQuality will manage all aspects of employee recruitment, screening, interviewing and onboarding. We will also provide ongoing weekly program support to participating employers and to employees to ensure success for all parties involved. Please click [HERE](#) for more information and learn how we can deliver job-ready workers!

OHBA 2022 Conference - Niagara Falls!

SAVE THE DATE



We can't wait to see you in Niagara Falls!

@ONTARIOHBA **09.18.22** #OHBA2022CONF

The OHBA Conference would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsors, trade show exhibitors and attendees for making this event possible. Save the date for next year's Conference being held in beautiful Niagara Falls! – **September 18th, 2022** – We can't wait to see you there and celebrate in person once again! Stay tuned for more information and visit our website www.conference.ohba.ca.

EnerQuality Upcoming Workshops



EQ Awards

This year's EQ Awards winners have been announced! Thanks to everyone who took the time to send us their amazing submissions, and thanks to those that joined us in celebration! Congratulations to all the Finalists and Winners! For a full list, please visit our website [here](#).

Education

Join us for our final workshop of the year! December 15th & 16th, we're offering the CHBA Net Zero Renovator course. For more information, please visit our website [here](#) for a full list of educational courses.

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



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