



JUNE 2015

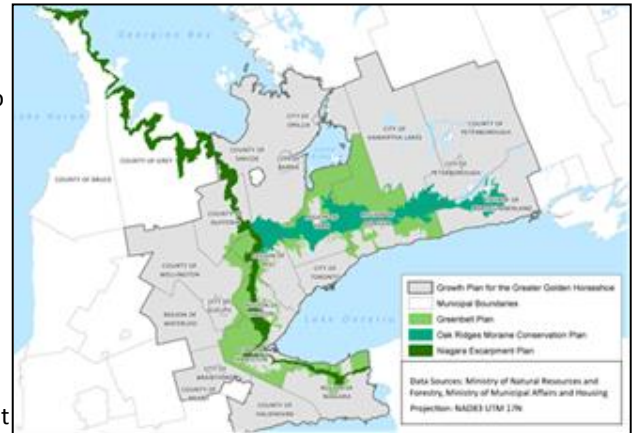
DATES TO NOTE

- June 11: OHBA Board of Directors Meeting
- June 24: [OHBA Awards of Distinction](#) Submissions Website Closes
- September 27-29: [OHBA Annual Conference and Awards](#) - Deerhurst

CO-ORDINATED REVIEWS: GREENBELT, GROWTH PLAN, OAK RIDGES MORAINES, NIAGARA ESCARPMENT

In February, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing announced the launch of a co-ordinated review of the Greenbelt and the Growth Plan. Along with the public consultation process, an expert panel chaired by former Toronto Mayor David Crombie and including Leith Moore – Past OHBA and BILD President – VP at Fieldgate Homes, will be responsible for a report to the government at the end of the Phase One process. OHBA and a number of our locals are scheduled to meet with the expert panel this week to present our recommendations to improve and enhance the Growth Plan, Greenbelt Plan, Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan and the Niagara Escarpment Plan. As mentioned in the OHBA media release, OHBA is going to continue to connect all the dots starting by respecting the principle of the Greenbelt and proposing positive ideas to ensure the Growth Plan and the Greenbelt work for Ontario families and the success of the province.

OHBA has [made a submission](#) to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry as part of the first phase of the Co-ordinated Review. OHBA will continue to keep members up-to-date through the summer and into the next phase of consultation. This review has the potential to impact 14 local associations including: BILD, Brantford, Durham Region, Greater Dufferin, Grey-Bruce, Guelph & District, Haldimand-Norfolk, Hamilton-Halton, Niagara, Oxford, Peterborough & the Kawarths, Quinte, Simcoe County and Waterloo-Region. OHBA will be actively working to keep locals and members up-to-date on this important review.



CONDOMINIUM ACT LEGISLATIVE CHANGES

The government has introduced the *Protecting Condominium Owners Act, Bill 106* which will create significant changes to the province's condominium laws. The changes are the result of nearly three years of consultation with condo stakeholders and the public. OHBA members and staff dedicated significant time and resources in all stages of the consultation. Throughout the process there were vocal advocates that requested numerous changes that would have negatively affected the affordability and marketability of condominiums in Ontario. The next phase is second reading, where each party is allotted three hours of debate for a total of nine hours of debate on the bill. After this time, Bill 106 will proceed to a standing committee where OHBA will request to make a deputation on the legislation.

As we prepare for a comprehensive process to deal with complex legislation, OHBA will work with all three parties to provide comments on the bill. Based on the busy legislative calendar, we expect the committee work to take place later in the Fall. A full policy outline of the legislation can be found [here](#) (Proposed condo reform in Ontario: A policy outline). To view Bill 106 [click here](#). OHBA has prepared numerous submissions throughout the condo act review consultation process which can be found on the OHBA website.

SMART GROWTH FOR OUR COMMUNITIES ACT: DEVELOPMENT CHARGES AND PLANNING ACT

New legislation (Bill 73) has been tabled in the Legislative Assembly in response to the co-ordinated public consultations on Ontario's Land-Use Planning and Appeals System as well as the Development Charges Act, Parkland Dedication policies and Section 37 (density bonusing policies). This provincial announcement and proposed legislation supports the findings of the consultations as well as 2014 Liberal Party election campaign commitments. There are a number of OHBA supported improvements to enhance municipal accountability and transparency in both the Planning Act and Development Charges Act as well as a number of concerns that propose to limit appeal rights and increase taxation on new neighbours. OHBA also produced a detailed synopsis of the proposed legislation in a Builder Advocate sent to members on March 10th. OHBA in conjunction with BILD hosted a technical briefing from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing scheduled on both the proposed amendments to the Planning Act and the Development Charges Act in early May. The meeting also featured industry perspective commentary and what the proposed amendments will mean for OHBA members from lawyers David Bronskill (Goodmans LLP) and Lyn Townsend (WeirFoulds LLP).

OHBA is [finalizing a submission](#) to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing on the proposed legislation to respond to the Environmental Registry Posting (EBR Registry Number: 012-3651). Please submit your feedback and recommendations to OHBA Director of Policy, [Mike Collins-Williams](#).

REGISTER NOW - THE 2015 OHBA ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND AWARDS!

OHBA's Annual Conference is just around the corner! This year, OHBA is excited to welcome everyone back to the beautiful Deerhurst Resort in Huntsville from September 27-29, 2015. Don't miss out on this exciting event and register at www.ohbaconference.com.

OHBA has been busy planning an exciting conference; here are a few of the events to look forward to:

1. **Haliburton County for All Seasons** - HCHBA has planned an exciting opening reception that pays tribute to the four seasons that makes Ontario such a great place to live, work and play— remember, hunting is season!
2. **Awards of Distinction 2015** - The much anticipated Awards of Distinction will be held on Monday, September 28th. The website for **submissions closes on June 24th** so hurry and get your projects in! Visit: www.ohbaaod.ca
3. **Business Sessions** - OHBA is working hard to bring you insightful, interesting and engaging sessions, Highlights include: Six-Storey Wood with the Surrey Fire Chief, A Tarion Update, WSIB Rate Framework Review and much more!
4. **President's Gala** - Our conference will conclude with the inaugural President's Gala where OHBA will formally welcome our new president!



REVISED BUILDER BULLETIN 20 EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

Following Tarion's public consultation process in 2014, a revised **Builder Bulletin #20** is available and will take effect on July 1, 2015. For more information - [click to review](#) the consultation summary.

PROVINCIAL CONSULTATIONS TO UPDATE LONG-TERM AFFORDABLE HOUSING STRATEGY

Ontario is launching 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. Ontario is updating the Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy so that housing policies are relevant to current realities and reflect new research, best practices, and the housing needs of Ontarians. The Consultation Discussion Guide outlines the progress of the current strategy, future goals and areas where more input from partners is needed. Participants can submit their views to the government online, by telephone or in writing by July 3, 2015. OHBA previously participated in consultations for the original Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy – our original submission from 2009 can be viewed [here](#). 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](#).

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](#).

RESOURCES FOR ONTARIO MID-RISE WORKSHOPS

Earlier this spring, Ontario Wood WORKS! published a new reference guide titled "Mid-Rise Wood Construction in the Ontario Building Code" and developed a series of workshops based on the guide. Due to the popularity of the sold-out sessions, two additional workshops are being presented. The workshop speakers will explain the new provisions to the OBC that affect mid-rise wood-frame construction, present case study examples and discuss design strategies and special considerations specific to mid-rise. To register, [click here](#).

- **June 16: Toronto** - Paramount Conference & Event Venue, Taylor Room, 222 Rowntree Dairy Road
- **June 17: Sudbury** - Laurentian University, SE-305 (Education Building), 935 Ramsey Lake Road

OHBA INSTITUTE OF BUILDING EXCELLENCE – NEW FALL 2015 COURSE CALENDAR

The Ontario Home Builders' Association and our Institute of Building Excellence is committed to providing professional development opportunities for the residential construction industry. With a focus on updating and development of new training programs, we continue to raise the level of professionalism and set a high standard for entry into this important economic sector. The most effective way this can be done is through a certification program, providing builders and renovators with something tangible they can use to promote their business and keep a competitive edge in today's economy. To review the new 2015 Fall course calendar please [click here](#) and to register please visit www.learnyourliving.ca.

Institute of Building Excellence
LEARN YOUR LIVING



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