



**Ontario  
Home Builders'  
Association**

***MEDIA* RELEASE**

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**ONTARIO HOME BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION  
PRESENTS 2011 ANNUAL AWARDS**

September 22, 2011...Toronto, Ontario. The Ontario Home Builders' Association (OHBA) presented **David Horton** (posthumously) with its **Lifetime Achievement Award** at the association's 2011 Presidents' Gala. David was honoured for his long-standing contribution to Ontario's housing industry. As the organization's Executive Director for 25 years, he excelled as an astute strategist, outstanding organizer and skillful communicator. "He served the association faithfully with over 20 volunteer Presidents, endured the up and down cycles of the home building industry and ensured the organization thrived under his watchful eye," noted OHBA President Doug Tarry who added, "David worked diligently to help ensure housing remained affordable and that Ontarians continue to have the best-built homes in the world." David has also been credited with greatly assisting with the creation and success of EnerQuality and earlier this year was inducted into the organization's Hall of Fame.

To further honour David, OHBA established the **David Horton Leadership Award** to recognize exceptional achievement from deserving staff at the local, provincial or national level and presented the inaugural award to **Stephen Dupuis, President & CEO of BILD**. "Stephen has worked tirelessly for BILD, OHBA and the Executive Officers Council. His experience and extensive knowledge is shared fully and openly with anyone who asks for his help or direction and his abilities as a leader and manager are exemplary," said Tarry who added, "I'm told David often remarked that 'Stephen deserves an award every day', so it is very fitting that he is the first recipient of this very prestigious award."

The Greater Ottawa Home Builders' Association (GOHBA) was also recognized for its professional, effective work within the community and the association and was named OHBA's **2011 Local Association of the Year**. Despite some challenging economic years, this local has managed to increase its membership by 10 per cent per year for the last four years while supporting many committees and OHBA programs. "GOHBA also pursued and won a lengthy appeal of Ottawa's official plan with the OMB, reminding politicians that you should not play politics with good planning and providing its members with leadership that will support their future business opportunities," said Tarry. The GOHBA celebrates its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year with many events planned for its members and the community-at-large.

OHBA also awarded **John Meinen of Pinnacle Quality Homes** based in Stratford with its **2011 Member of the Year Award**. A steadfast supporter of the **Stratford Area Home Builders' Association**, OHBA and the industry, Meinen is an active member of OHBA's Health and Safety Committee and serves on the Board of the Infrastructure Health and Safety Association. "John also understands that volunteers can sometimes be in short supply in smaller locals and that means doing double-duty, so this past year he stepped up to the plate and is serving as the president of his local again and doing his best to revitalize the organization.," said Tarry. Meinen was also awarded OHBA's **2011 Rooftopper of the Year Award** for his strong recruitment of new members to his local association.

The **2011 SAMMY** (Sales and Marketing Member of the Year Award) was presented to **Richard Luciani** of Cedar Point Real Estate Corporation in Toronto. Luciani served as chair of CHBA's National Sales and Marketing Committee for several years and continues to serve as Chair of OHBA's Sales and Marketing Committee. "Richard is the consummate professional with a keen interest in helping sales and marketing members upgrade their skills and knowledge," said Tarry who added, "The continued success of the housing tours offered by OHBA as well as our renowned Awards of Distinction program are a credit to Richard and his committee."

The Ontario Home Builders' Association is the voice of the residential construction industry in Ontario representing 4,000 member companies organized into 29 local associations across the province. The industry contributes over \$39 billion dollars to Ontario's economy, employing more than 358,000 people across the province.

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**Ontario** Home Builders' Association

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