



Ontario
Home Builders'
Association

***MEDIA* RELEASE**

ONTARIO HOME BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION PRESENTS 2015 ANNUAL AWARDS

September 30, 2015 Huntsville, Ontario.... The Ontario Home Builders' Association's (OHBA) President's Gala welcomed the incoming president John Meinen and paid tribute to association members and delegates who have gone above and beyond for the industry.

OHBA presented the **Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD)** with its **2015 Local Association of the Year Award**. Among BILD's list of outstanding achievements was their community engagement, member services, exceptional leadership and successful advocacy work. Most notable was their Toronto Star Civic Awareness campaign "Building Complete Communities – Live, work and play" serving to engage, educate and inform readers as BILD continues to change the conversation regarding development, building and renovation issues in the GTA. BILD has secured over \$35 million in Development Charges (DCs) savings in GTA by demanding accountability, transparency of municipalities and defending previous OMB victories. In addition to BILD's advocacy work, the association is also known for being one of the top charitable groups in the industry. Since 2003, the association has raised more than \$825,000 for Habitat for Humanity GTA and, this year, will be building its 12th Habitat home. BILD hosts five marquee events to assist in raising funds for this cause, including Stephen's Ride for Humanity, named in honour of the late Stephen Dupuis who served as BILD's President and CEO. "BILD has always been the first to volunteer when any new issue presents itself, and you can always count on them to provide tools, knowledge and resources to assist with any advocacy work pursued by OHBA," said John Meinen, President of OHBA. "BILD does exceptional work on behalf of the association and industry and is a champion within their community as well. Their members are a huge asset to our association."

Doug Tarry, Director of Marketing for Doug Tarry Homes, was named **2015 OHBA Member of the Year**. Tarry, past president and member of the St. Thomas-Elgin Home Builders' Association (STEHBA) and past president for OHBA, was recognized for his ongoing support and dedication to the industry and the association. Tarry has played an active role within the association for several years and has served on several Boards and Councils, including: the OHBA-EnerQuality Technical Committee, the CHBA Net Zero Energy Council, MMAH's Building Code Conservation Advisory Council and the Code and Construction Guide for Housing Steering Committee. Tarry has championed many builder issues concerning the Ontario Building Code including chairing the OHBA/OBOA.LMCBO SB-12 Joint Working Group to provide recommendations to the Ministry on the energy efficiency requirements for housing as of January 1, 2017. In addition to the positive advocacy work Tarry does for the industry, he is also an active member within the industry, always offering to lend support to the network of 31 local associations and has taken the initiative to visit local associations to present updates on Building Code changes as they come. "Doug

Tarry has been a longtime industry champion and consistent leader within his local, provincial and national association,” said Meinen, who added, “He has lent his talent and expertise wherever and whenever asked and continues to play a significant role in the success of our organization.”

Lois Langdon, Executive Officer of London Home Builders’ Association (LHBA) was awarded the **David Horton Leadership Award** recognizing her outstanding contributions to the industry and her fellow association professionals. With two decades of experience, Langdon has served LHBA through many industry changes and has led the association gracefully and seamlessly through local, provincial and federal elections as well as any issue that may arise and affect the industry. Langdon has emerged and remained a strong force within the association and a true leader within her local. Langdon is also greatly admired by her fellow Executive Officers and is always willing to lend a hand and her expertise when asked. In addition to her leadership within her local association as well as within the provincial association, Langdon has acted as mentor to each incoming LHBA president arming them with the tools and knowledge necessary to jump into their new roles quickly and effectively. Langdon has also spearheaded several charitable initiatives within her community and LHBA the only local association to try to meet OHBA’s 50 Good Deeds initiative to celebrate OHBA’s 50th Anniversary with London’s own local 50 good deeds. “We have truly benefited from having Lois as part of our association,” said Meinen, who continued, “Her commitment to her local is inspirational and her devotion to the industry has led to the success of many events and initiatives across the province. Never one to shy away from a task, Lois is known for her can-do and hard-working attitude, her passion, her creativity and her professionalism and she always supports her peers at all levels of the association.” The award honours the memory of David Horton who served as Executive Director of OHBA for more than 25 years.

Gerry James, an Honourary Lifetime member of the Stratford and Area Home Builders’ Association was honoured with a Special recognition award for his long-serving, dedicated contributions to the local and provincial association from OHBA president John Meinen. **Mair French of Bert French & Son Limited, Patti Tallman of Contractors Rental Supply Limited Partnership (CRS) and Susan Thomas of Francis Thomas Contracting** were honoured with a special recognition awards for their contributions to their local association, the **Haliburton County Home Builders’ Association (HCHBA)** who hosted this year’s conference and have been instrumental in organizing this year’s event.

The Ontario Home Builders’ Association is the voice of the building, land development and professional renovation industry in Ontario representing 4,000 member companies organized into 31 local associations across the province. Our members have built over 700,000 homes in the last ten years in over 500 Ontario communities. The industry contributes over \$43 billion to Ontario’s economy, employing over 300,000 people across the province.

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