



**CHBA Fall Meetings in Ottawa** – The CHBA’s Board of Directors, Standing Committees and Councils held their fall meetings this month at the Ottawa Marriott Hotel. In addition, the CHBA Vision Action Committee met to review strategic priorities, the status of recommendations from 2009 and develop new recommendations to the Board of Directors for approval. Members will get a full report from the Vision Action Committee at the Annual Meeting of Members in Banff in February, 2011.

**Successful Summer MP Campaign** - In all, 52 MPs were met face-to-face over the course of the campaign. E-mail letters and policy documents were sent to the remaining 255 MPs, along with estimates of economic impacts of the industry. Concern about the underground cash economy in particular resonated well with most MPs. They were clearly interested in the CHBA proposals and by the prospect of increased federal tax revenues.

**Water Heater Efficiency** - In a policy paper released in June, the federal government laid out plans for raising the minimum requirements for energy efficiency for domestic water heaters. This was to involve levels of efficiency in storage tank gas water heaters by 2016 that do not currently exist. Following concerted action by the CHBA, along with the Canadian Institute for Plumbing and Heating and the Canadian Gas Association, the federal government has agreed to more realistic targets and a longer time table. A public announcement is expected later this year.

**National Building Code (NBC) Requirements for Energy Efficiency for Houses and Small Buildings** - The Task Group developing energy efficiency requirements for houses and small buildings for Part 9 of the National Building Code met in Ottawa on October 13 and 14. The group considered the recommendations of its various sub-task groups that had met over the summer and received a presentation of the results of a survey of current practices across the country. The task group will meet again in January, by which time the new requirements will have been prepared for review and approval by April 2011. There will be a public consultation in the fall of 2011 leading to the release of the revised Code in 2012.

**2015 National Building Code (NBC)** - The Standing Committee on Housing and Small Buildings will meet in November to consider changes to the Part 9 requirements in a number of areas including stair geometry and noise separation between units. It is expected that the long awaited studies on sprinklers and on the safety of guards and balustrades will be available for that meeting.

**National Energy Code for (large) Buildings** - The public consultation on the new Energy Code for large buildings is now underway. The CHBA has developed a “Roadmap” to assist members in reviewing the new Code. Through a series of RED ALERTS, the CHBA has notified builders of the significance of the new Code for high rise builders and encouraged them to submit comments directly to the Canadian Code Centre by November 27, 2010.

**2010 CHBA National SAMs** – The deadline for entries in the 2010 CHBA National SAM Awards is fast approaching. Everything you need for the 2010 CHBA National SAM Awards – presented by Schlage and Trane is available through [www.chba.ca/SAMS](http://www.chba.ca/SAMS). The Competition is open to all CHBA new home builder, renovator and developer members. The deadline for entries is November 5.

**National Conference in Banff**– Register now for the CHBA’s 2011 National Conference from February 25-27 at the spectacular Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel. All Conference delegates who have registered and paid by December 14 will be eligible to win a fabulous prize – a DeWalt 18V XRP 4-Tool Combo Kit. The prize includes a 1/2” hammerdrill/drill/driver, a circular saw, a reciprocating saw, and a flexible floodlight, as well as two 18V XRP batteries and a one-hour charge unit. And take advantage of early registration fees. Visit [www.chba.ca/conference](http://www.chba.ca/conference) for online registration and more information, including details on speakers and social events.