



January 30, 2008

Mr. John Kenward
Chief Operating Officer
Canadian Home Builders' Association
150 Laurier Avenue West, Suite 500
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 5J4

Dear Mr. Kenward:

Further to our meeting January 24th with our respective presidents, I am writing to confirm the way forward with respect to best practice advice on environmentally sustainable communities and respond to your request for a status report on the feasibility study on the creation of CHBA's proposal to create a "Virtual Showcase" of exemplary housing projects in Canada.

Environmentally Sustainable Best Practice Advice

CMHC agreed to do the following:

- 1) Create an inventory of available information on the development of sustainable communities. This will include material from all relevant sources.
- 2) Assess each item in the inventory with respect to its usefulness to various users, including builders, developers and governments.
- 3) Determine with CHBA if identified material warrants and is capable of being packaged into a compendium of best practices.
- 4) Determine gaps in the information and inform CHBA of material CMHC will produce to fill gaps within its mandate for which it has the capability to fill.
- 5) Provide advice (where appropriate) to CHBA and other organizations it may be working with to produce material to fill gaps not being filled by CMHC.

It is recognized by both organizations that while CHBA and CMHC at times have overlapping objectives, at other times differences in objectives and mandates, in particular CMHC's need to produce information for a variety of end users, may mean that CHBA may not be able to rely solely on CMHC products.

Feasibility of a Virtual Showcase of Housing in Canada

Following conversations with yourself and David Crenna, terms of reference were finalized on January 10th and will be issued in the next week. We expect to have a final report by the end of second quarter.

Sincerely,



Douglas A. Stewart
Vice-President
Policy and Planning