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October 18, 2005

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

Dear Mr. Kenward:

I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with an update on a number of items that CHBA has raised with CMHC over the past months. I hope that this information will be useful to you and your staff in preparation for the upcoming fall CHBA Board of Directors and committee meetings. Once again, CMHC staff will be participating in a number of these meetings and will be able to provide information for CHBA members on particular initiatives.

#### Industry Environmental Performance Review

I am encouraged to learn that CHBA is considering a proactive environmental agenda. Conducting a comprehensive environmental performance review would be a major undertaking and would therefore require a carefully considered plan. CMHC would like to learn more about CHBA's proposal. A useful step would be for CHBA staff to meet with the appropriate CMHC research staff to consider what would be involved in undertaking such a review, what some practical first steps might be, and what would be an appropriate role for CMHC and other parties. Leigh Howell, Director, Socio-Economic Research, Policy and Research Division, would be the appropriate contact. He can arrange for CHBA to present additional details of this proposal to CMHC policy and research staff.

#### Insurance Guide

An invitational Request for Proposals was launched during the week of October 10. The planned completion date of the guide is early February 2006.

Taxes, Fees & Levies

A Request for Proposals will be launched via the MERX online system the week of October 31.

Customizing CMHC Research Results for Builder Use

Currently, CMHC produces Research Highlights for all our research reports to provide a concise summary of findings for use by industry, NGOs or other interested parties. We have also produced enhanced publications of particular interest to the builder audience. Nevertheless, we are always looking for ways to improve the usefulness of our products. CHBA should contact Patricia McDowell to discuss other options for disseminating research results to address the needs of home builders.

I hope that the above provides you with answers to your questions. I wish you a productive set of meetings this month.

Sincerely,



Douglas A. Stewart  
Vice-President  
Policy and Planning