

Vision Action Committee Recommendations

Approved by the Board of Directors

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In support of the CHBA's Policy Position on the Environment and Guidelines, the Board of Directors has approved the following recommendations:

- 1.) That CHBA act rapidly to propose an updated R-2000 Standard in order to renew the Standard's status as the industry's voluntary, market-driven, leading-edge environmental standard, encompassing both energy-efficiency and other environmental features. This work to be overseen by the R-2000 Builders' Committee in consultation with R-2000 builders, and with input from the TRC Management Committee.
- 2.) That the CHBA continue to endorse regional industry initiatives, such as Built Green and Energy Star, and support the on-going up-dating of their energy-efficiency and environmental requirements.
- 3.) That the CHBA call upon the Minister of Natural Resources Canada to act on the recommendations he has received from the CHBA for the future of the R-2000 Initiative, which he requested and endorsed. These recommendations address serious capacity problems, including the availability of qualified service providers and efficient and effective support systems.
- 4.) That the CHBA develop a tool-kit, based on the Association's LEED Assessment Report, which presents the significant shortcomings of the LEED approach and the regulatory objectives of the Canada Green Building Council.
- 5.) That the CHBA carry out an evaluation of Green Globes to determine its merit as a voluntary, market-driven initiative for large buildings (e.g. multi-unit and high-rise) worthy of endorsement by the CHBA.
- 6.) That CHBA seek the agreement of the Institute for Research in Construction to manage the development of an Environmentally Responsible Community Labeling Program encompassing guidelines from CHBA and based on research, cost analysis and a transparent development process that includes consultation with affected parties.
- 7.) That CHBA seek the agreement of Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation to develop Best Practice Guides for the Development of Environmentally Responsible Communities based on research, cost analysis and a transparent development process that includes consultation with affected parties.

- 8.) That the CHBA step up its efforts to disseminate the Association's Evaluation of EnerGuide and the fact that this Guide is not suitable as a regulatory instrument.
- 9.) That the CHBA request the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes to respond to the CHBA President's letter which seeks clarification of the criteria and processes to assess proposed new objectives for the Model National Building Code.
- 10.) That the CHBA recommend to the Prime Minister that steps be taken to establish a coordinated and focused approach within the federal government with respect to the housing industry and the government's environmental strategy. This is necessary because of the increasing array of uncoordinated and overlapping activities emanating from various government departments and agencies. The centres of responsibility should be Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the Institute for Research in Construction.
- 11.) That the CHBA develop a proposal for the federal government for the reintroduction of InfraGuide, with a focus on the need for Best Practice Guides and support for innovation in technology, delivery and integration of infrastructure services.
- 12.) That the CHBA work with CMHC on the development of a Virtual Showcase for Housing Excellence, presenting projects which have proven to be commercially viable and replicable.
- 13.) That the CHBA prepare a protocol and criteria for considering the endorsement by the CHBA of innovative housing projects, and ensuring that the results are disseminated to the housing industry in an effective manner.
- 14.) That the CHBA make representations to the Minister of Natural Resources Canada that renovated homes be eligible for an R-2000 designation, it being understood that such designation would depend on the renovation work being examined and measured and meeting R-2000 requirements.
- 15.) That the CHBA carry out an analysis of what has been achieved through R-2000 and the industry's regional initiatives for the purpose of showing the progress that is being made by the industry on the environmental front. This to be based on facts and figures for each of the initiatives.
- 16.) That the CHBA explore the desirability of preparing Guidelines for Environmentally Responsible Renovations.