

Canadian Home Builders' Association



NATIONAL
AWARDS *for*
HOUSING
EXCELLENCE

SUBMISSION GUIDE

CHBA National Awards for Housing Excellence

2026

Canadian
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Association



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CHBA NATIONAL AWARDS FOR HOUSING EXCELLENCE

The CHBA National Awards for Housing Excellence is Canada's most prestigious competition celebrating outstanding achievements in the residential construction industry. These awards recognize excellence in new homes, renovations, community development, and residential marketing. With over 49 categories, the program showcases the best work from builders, renovators, and developers across the country. **Winning or being named a finalist is a mark of distinction and credibility in the industry.**



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BENEFITS OF ENTERING

More Than an Award — A Strategic Spotlight for Your Brand

Submitting to the CHBA National Awards for Housing Excellence is more than a chance to win — it's a powerful marketing opportunity that puts your company in front of the industry's most influential voices.

With nearly 500 guests in attendance, including top builders, renovators, developers, and stakeholders from across Canada, the gala offers unmatched visibility and prestige.

Amplify your impact. Whether you're a builder, renovator, or marketing professional, participating in the Awards is a strategic move to showcase your excellence, gain exposure, and grow your business.

Why Submit?

- **Elevated Brand Visibility:** Finalists and winners are featured in national media coverage, social media campaigns, and event materials.
- **Onstage Recognition:** Your work is celebrated in front of a national audience, positioning your brand alongside the best in the industry.
- **Business Growth:** Award recognition helps attract new clients, build trust, and open doors to future collaborations.
- **Competitive Advantage:** Being honoured by CHBA strengthens your credibility and sets you apart in a busy marketplace.





CATEGORIES

Marketing Awards

Celebrating creativity and effectiveness in residential marketing includes signage, brochures, websites, and digital campaigns.

Home Renovation Awards

Recognizing exceptional renovation work, from single-room updates to full-home transformations, across various budgets and scopes.

New Home Awards

These categories recognize excellence in newly constructed homes, including production and custom builds across various size ranges.

New Home Spaces Awards

These awards recognize outstanding design and functionality in kitchens, bathrooms, and bedrooms.

Adaptiv Home Award

Honours projects that showcase accessible, adaptable design tailored to individual needs.



Net Zero Home Awards

Honouring innovation in energy-efficient home building, including both production and custom/renovated Net Zero homes.

Community Development Awards

These awards honor outstanding planning and development of communities that improve livability and sustainability.

THE BIG 3

Design

Excellence Award

Recognizes a builder or developer for outstanding overall marketing performance across multiple categories.

Marketing

Excellence Award

Honours a renovator for exceptional achievement in residential renovation across several categories.


Renovation

Excellence Award

Celebrates a builder or developer for top-tier new home design across multiple categories.



CATEGORIES TO CHOOSE FROM

MARKETING AWARDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Signage • Best Brochure/Kit • Best Website • Best Digital Advertising Campaign • Best Print Ad • Best Virtual Tour Experience • Best Sales Office • Best Short Video (less than 45 seconds) • Best Long Video (45 seconds and longer) • Best Interior Decorating (Model/Showhome) • Best Renderings • Best Branding and Identity
HOME RENOVATION AWARDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Kitchen Renovation – under \$70,000 • Best Kitchen Renovation – \$70,000 to \$100,000 • Best Kitchen Renovation – Over \$100,000 • Best Bathroom Renovation • Best Basement Renovation • Best Exterior Renovation • Best Single Room Renovation • Best Whole Home Renovation – under \$200,000 • Best Whole Home Renovation – \$200,000 to \$300,000 • Best Whole Home Renovation – \$300,001 to \$500,000 • Best Whole Home Renovation – \$500,001 to \$800,000 • Best Whole Home Renovation – over \$800,000
NEW HOME AWARDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Mid- to High-Rise Building (Completed) • Best Mid- to High-Rise Building (Planned) • Best Attached Low-Rise Home under 1,500 square feet • Best Attached Low-Rise Home 1,500 – 1,800 square feet • Best Attached Low-Rise Home 1,800 square feet and over • Best Detached Production Home Under 1,800 square feet • Best Detached Production Home 1,800 to 2,100 square feet • Best Detached Production Home 2,101 to 2,400 square feet • Best Detached Production Home 2,401 to 2,800 square feet • Best Detached Production Home Over 2,800 square feet • Best Detached Custom Home Under 2,500 square feet • Best Detached Custom Home 2,501 to 3,000 square feet • Best Detached Custom Home 3,001 to 4,000 square feet • Best Detached Custom Home 4,001 to 5,000 square feet • Best Detached Custom Home Over 5,000 square feet • Best Entry-Level Home Award
NEW HOME SPACES AWARDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Production Kitchen • Best Custom Kitchen • Best Bathroom • Best Bedroom / Primary Suite
ADAPTIV HOME AWARD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adaptiv Home Award 
NET ZERO HOME AWARDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Custom or Renovated Net Zero Home • Best Production Net Zero Home
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AWARDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best New Community • Best Growing Community

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ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible:

- Entrants must be members of the Canadian Home Builders' Association (CHBA) through their local home builders association.
- There is no nomination process—entries are submitted directly by the applicant.
- Projects do not need to be finalists in local awards to qualify.
- All submitted projects must be completed and meet the specific criteria outlined for each category.

ENTRY FEES

The entry fee is **\$255** + tax, payable by Visa, MasterCard, or AMEX, and entries are only considered complete once payment is received; if deemed ineligible before judging, a \$50 administration fee per entry will be deducted from any refund, and all payments must be submitted by **December 4, 2025 at 6:00 PM EST** to qualify.





SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Each submission must include:

- A detailed project description that clearly outlines objectives, challenges, and outcomes.
- High-resolution images that showcase the project's quality and design.
- Floor plans or layouts where applicable.
- Acknowledgement of other companies involved in the project.
- A completed online submission form through the awards platform.

Ensure all materials are properly formatted and meet the technical specifications provided by CHBA. Incomplete or improperly formatted entries may be disqualified.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Entries are evaluated by a panel of industry experts based on:

- Design innovation and creativity
- Functionality and use of space
- Integration with existing structures (for renovations)
- Marketing strategy and effectiveness (for marketing categories)
- Overall execution and appeal

Judges rely heavily on the quality of your visuals and clarity of your written submission, so make sure both are strong.





TIMELINE

- **Entry Period:** Submissions are now open for the 2026 competition.
- **Submission Deadline:** December 4, 2025 at 6:00 PM EST
- **Finalists Announced:** Spring 2026
- **Winners Revealed:** May 2026 during CHBA's Home Building Week in Canada

Mark your calendar and plan ahead to ensure your submission is completed on time.

HOW TO ENTER

- Visit chba.ca/housing-awards
- Create an account on the awards submission platform
- Select your categories and complete the online forms
- Upload all required materials and visuals
- Submit your entry and pay the applicable fees

For questions or support, contact CHBA directly or attend an upcoming info session listed on the awards page.

HELPFUL TIPS

Start early:

Begin gathering materials and reviewing category criteria well before the deadline.

Be clear and concise:

Use straightforward language to describe your project's strengths.

Use professional visuals:

High-quality photography can significantly enhance your entry.

Tell a story:

Highlight challenges, solutions, and the impact of your work.

Follow all guidelines:

Adhere to formatting and submission rules to avoid disqualification.

Attend info sessions:

CHBA offers webinars and resources to help you prepare a winning submission.