



Ontario  
Home Builders'  
Association

# HOW OHBA WORKS FOR YOU



The Ontario Home Builders' Association is the voice of the residential construction industry. We advocate on behalf of our members to make it easier to build and renovate homes. We speak with one voice through local chapters and promote high industry standards through training and education.

**Together we serve our members with one voice**

## Services

- Acts as an industry liaison with all levels of government and stakeholders on advocacy efforts.
- Positively impacts provincial legislative, regulatory and tax policies that affect the residential construction industry.
- Collects, analyzes, and distributes the latest industry news and advocacy work to members.
- Reducing the shortage of skilled trade workers through the implementation of the OHBA Job Ready Program - matching job seekers with membered employers.
- Provide training and education through industry partners, keeping members up to date with the latest industry information.
- OHBA hosts events bringing together members from across the province, including the OHBA Conference, Awards of Distinction, Industry Leaders Day, Local and International Housing Tours, and many more! Association members receive exclusive pricing and offers.
- OHBA.ca provides digital access to Ontario Home Builder and industry information.
- Print subscription to Ontario Home Builder magazine (6x/year)
- Annual Membership Directory & Buyer's Guide

## Member Benefits

- Blueprint Insurance Services Inc. - Insurance Plan
- buildAbility - Education Partner
- Esso Imperial Oil - Fuel discount plan
- Federated Insurance - Commercial and Casualty Plan
- DELUXE - Payroll Services
- NEBS PAYweb - Payroll Services
- NFP - Group Home and Auto Insurance
- Staples Advantage - Stationery & office supply discount
- Training Ontario - Education Partner

## Connect with us

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# ADVOCACY WINS



Provincial housing policy and advocacy were a key focus for OHBA in 2022. With a significant supply deficit, housing attainability was challenging throughout the year. Individuals and families are finding it harder to afford a home in a community where they can live, work and raise a family. Strong association advocacy resulted in all four major political parties committing to the goal of 1.5 million new homes over the next ten years and cemented housing supply as the ballot box issue.

Through OHBA staff and volunteer members, the association was also able to help deliver a number of major advocacy accomplishments for the residential construction sector and, importantly, for new home buyers.

- OHBA worked to ensure that the residential construction sector remained operating as an essential workplace throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and we continue to prioritize the importance of health and safety throughout the industry.
- Delegating site plan control to municipal professional staff best placed to evaluate the issues and deliver approvals in an effective manner.
- Reducing the scope of what can be required as a condition of draft approval for subdivision plans.
- Injecting urgency into the municipal development approval system by implementing an application fee refund structure for site plans or zoning by-law amendments that have passed their legislated timelines.
- Introducing a new tool for municipalities to fast-track housing and community infrastructure through the Community Infrastructure and Housing Accelerator.
- Practical building code changes to incentivize 12-storey mass timber construction, modular multi-unit housing, phased occupancy, and allowing for a single means of egress in four to six-storey buildings.
- An investment of \$19 million dollars to better resource and staff the Ontario Land Tribunal, helping to clear the backlog of cases and unlock more housing.
- Allowing up to three residential units is permitted “as of right” on most land zoned for one home in residential areas without a municipal by-law amendment. Depending on the property in question, these three units could all be within the existing residential structure or could take the form of a residence with an in-law or basement suite and a laneway or garden home.
- Freezing parkland rates on the date that a zoning by-law or site plan application is filed. Freeze remains in effect for two years following approval. If no building permits are pulled in that time, the rate in place at the time the building permit is pulled would apply.
- Ending the requirement of public meetings for applications towards an approval of a draft plan of subdivision.
- Changes to the Planning Act to remove site plan control requirements for most projects with fewer than 10 residential units.
- Calling on the Government of Ontario to audit the collection and use of growth funding charges in major municipalities. Given the accumulation of significant reserves at the municipal and regional levels of government, it is in the interest of the public and new home buyers to ensure that there is transparency and accountability around the collection of growth funding charges and that funds collected are used for their intended purpose.
- Helping incentivize professional renovation by working to secure the Seniors' Home Safety Tax Credit for the 2021 and 2022 Tax years, giving consumers up to \$2,500 off eligible home retrofits.
- Regulatory changes to provide certainty regarding inclusionary zoning rules, with a maximum 25-year affordability period, a five per cent cap on the number of inclusionary zoning units, and a standardized approach to determining the price or rent of an affordable unit under an inclusionary zoning program.
- Affordable and inclusionary zoning units, select attainable housing units, and non-profit housing developments are exempted from municipal development charges, parkland dedication levies and community benefits charges.