



Jamie Adam,
WRHBA President 2011-12

Creating a Better Waterloo Region

Looking to buy a new home or renovate your existing home? Look no further than the Waterloo Region Home Builders' Association (WRHBA), a dynamic Association committed to creating beautiful, well-planned neighbourhoods in our region. Comprised of dedicated professionals from all disciplines related to Home Building and Renovating, the WRHBA has been the authoritative voice in this industry for 65 years.

WRHBA continuously advocates on your behalf, working closely with local, provincial and federal governments to help keep government imposed costs as low as possible. Various liaison committees work with regulators so that new housing communities are built to the highest standard and offer the services required at affordable prices.

Provincially, WRHBA works with the Ontario Home Builders' Association, and in preparation for the fall provincial election, WRHBA representatives met with local PC, Liberal and NDP candidates on August 29th, 2011 to help them understand housing issues and re-affirm a position of working together, not against each other.

Working with regulatory bodies is just one aspect of building great communities. Without skilled trades, community plans and blueprints would simply remain on paper. Education is a corner stone of the Association's mission, and as such, WRHBA has a close working relationship with the Conestoga College School of Trades and Apprenticeships. WRHBA and Conestoga College have developed a Student Ambassador Program, aimed at giving students the opportunity to meet and learn from professional builders and renovators at monthly dinner meetings.

Taking the education aspect a step further, WRHBA's Renovation Council holds an annual "Ask the Expert" seminar, also in conjunction with Conestoga College. The seminar gives homeowners the opportunity to hear from industry professionals on how to ensure a successful renovation as well as meet building suppliers and other trades. This year the renovation seminar will be held on Saturday, October 1st at Conestoga College's Roofing Centre, 108 University Ave. East, Waterloo.

The building and renovating of homes involves professionals with expertise in various fields. These professionals must stay abreast of new products, technology and services. The WRHBA meetings provide that opportunity, with keynote speakers and a chance to meet, network and learn from other members each month.

Supporting our local community is another cornerstone of WRHBA. Over the years, through various fundraising events and volunteer hours, WRHBA has supported many local, provincial and national charities such as Supportive Housing of Waterloo, Habitat for Humanity, Heartwood Place, The Food Bank of Waterloo Region, United Way, Children's Wish Foundation of Canada, Paralympics, March of Dimes, Canadian Cancer Society, Heart and Stroke Foundation, Canadian Red Cross and

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dozens of other worthy organizations. Through last years "Education House" build, WRHBA was able to provide a donation to support the future building of charitable projects through the Conestoga College Centre for Construction Trades Outreach Program – a perfect fit for community support and the promotion of education. As we work hard to make a global impact, WRHBA is proud to be a part of the Ontario Home Builders' Association initiative to build houses for six impoverished families in the Dominican Republic this November.

As a home owner, WRHBA is your voice - whether you are renovating your home or purchasing a new home, look for the WRHBA logo proudly displayed by member companies. When you renovate or purchase from a member company, you support the local economy and the vision of WRHBA in creating communities with long lasting value – a place you will be proud to call home for many years.

If you are a builder or renovator, it's time to join forces with WRHBA. Professional development, networking, education, and volunteer opportunities abound. Support an industry that does so much more than build houses. Have your voice heard, contribute your expertise and help build our industry to new heights.

Established in 1946, the Waterloo Region Home Builders' Association (WRHBA) is the official voice of the residential construction industry in Waterloo Region. WRHBA is actively involved in all facets of the new home construction and residential renovation industries. As a voluntary association with over 250 member companies, WRHBA's network of professionals effectively manage industry issues across the region including the cities of Kitchener, Waterloo, Cambridge, and the Townships of North Dumfries, Wellesley, Wilmot and Woolwich. WRHBA's primary goals are to promote housing affordability and choice; and to build vibrant, prosperous and healthy communities through encouraging innovations and excellence in the planning and building of sustainable communities and in the redevelopment and renovation of existing communities. WRHBA works with and regularly facilitates discussions between the industry and the federal, provincial, regional, and local governments to establish fair and effective policies that affect development, building, and home ownership in Waterloo Region.

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