

MEDIA RELEASE

Saturday, November 5, 2016

Waterloo Region
Home Builders'
Association



*Promoting building excellence and tradition
in Waterloo Region since 1946*

WRHBA Recognizes Industry Achievers at its 70th Anniversary Gala

WATERLOO REGION, ON (November 5, 2016) - The Waterloo Region Home Builders' Association (WRHBA) celebrated its 70th Anniversary while hosting this year's Sales and Marketing (SAM) Awards of Distinction Thursday night at Bingemans. As the premier housing event for the Region, the SAM Awards pays tribute in honouring the creativity, innovation and talent of builders, renovators, designers and marketers within the new home building and renovation industry. Industry stakeholders and members, community leaders and dignitaries attended the grand gala event, presented in partnership with the Waterloo Region Record.

WRHBA's President Kevin Fergin (Stantec Consulting Ltd.) stated, "Tonight is a celebration of many things - our 70 year history, our achievements, our successes and most importantly our Association and its members who are the most creative and innovative in this region. You can see from the line-up of finalists and winners that they do an exceptional job, and they all deserve to be applauded for their outstanding accomplishments!" Fergin went on to say that "This evening is an opportunity for WRHBA members and industry partners to come together and celebrate their triumphs not only over the last year, but also our collective achievements spanning seven decades in developing and building the finest communities and homes in the region.

Guests mingled during a cocktail reception before dinner, all the while taking in association and industry highlights. Among them, of course, was notable information about the association from its founding fathers, James Braby and Lyle Hallman, to the eventual growth as the 10th largest home builders' association in Canada and the fourth largest in Ontario. The evening also served to recognize long standing member companies, such as Hallman Construction Limited, a member for 70 years, as well as member companies and individuals that give back to the industry and the community at large.

"The residential development and construction industry is a driving economic force in Waterloo Region – our members deserve recognition" stated Marie Schroeder, WRHBA's Executive Officer. "A SAM award is the industry's stamp of quality. Both industry watchers and consumers alike look for SAM Award recipients when reviewing new home construction and renovations, as there is no recognition more respected in distinguishing top-quality construction, design and innovation". "Tonight's gala is our way of celebrating this dynamic sector, Schroeder added, that provides homes for the Region's residents and jobs for tens of thousands – it was also an excellent opportunity for members and guests to honour the Association's role as the "voice of the industry" and to reflect on its incredible 70 year history in creating the communities that we live, work and play in.

"An event of this caliber and magnitude takes a great team to pull it off, especially the support of our volunteers and sponsors", noted Hayley Hopkins, the Association's Event and Marketing Coordinator, "To that we add the professional team of Straight Street Event Services who saw our vision and was able to bring it to life through lights, sound, video, entertainment and decor. One-step into Marshall Hall tonight, and guests new that they were in for a spectacular evening."

"The Association presented over 30 awards recognizing outstanding professionalism from all industry sectors." commented Melissa Jonker, WRHBA's Membership Coordinator. The competition is open to member companies, and all finalists and winners were chosen with objectivity and anonymity by an esteemed panel of judges that conducted on-site judging for a number of the entries before making their final decisions.

WRHBA's 2016 SAM Awards of Distinction Recipients

Grand SAM Builder of the Year - Single Detached Home
Sunvale Homes

Grand SAM Builder of the Year - Multi-Unit Home
Fusion Homes

Grand SAM Reurbanization Project
Savic Homes, Garden Ridge Townhomes

Grand SAM Green Builder of the Year
Mattamy Homes

Bill Gies Presidential Award
Past President (2015-2016) Graem Jackson, New Lifestyle Homes Inc.

Builder Member of the Year
Reid's Heritage Homes

Lyle S. Hallman Award
McCarter Grespan Beynon Weir Professional Corporation

Vic Sellner Award
Tony Giovinazzo, Activa

70 Year Member Award
Hallman Construction and Land Development

Most Outstanding Industry Partner
Centric Engineering Corporation

Most Outstanding Two Storey Design (Single Detached Home up to 2,500 sq. ft.)
Kenmore Homes, Norway Pine

Most Outstanding Two Storey Design (Single Detached Home 2,501 sq. ft. and Over)
Slotegraaf Construction, Modern Living

Most Outstanding Low Rise Multi-Unit Design (Up to 2,000 sq. ft.)
Fusion Homes, Tribeca

Best New Homes Sales Office
Kenmore Homes, Heritage Preserve

Best Interior Decorating – Model Home/Suite (Over \$30,000)
Sunvale Homes, The Ceremony

Most Outstanding Home Renovation or Conversion (Under \$150,000)
Slotegraaf Construction, 3-Seasons Art Studio

Most Outstanding Home Renovation or Conversion (Over \$150,000)
Slotegraaf Construction Inc., The Country House

Most Outstanding Kitchen
Slotegraaf Construction, Culinary Kitchen

Most Outstanding Bathroom
Kenmore Homes, Norway Pine

Best Colour Ad
Kenmore Homes, Heritage Preserve

Best Branding
Fusion Homes, Explorer's Walk

Best Project Signage
Aberdeen Homes, Fit on Lancaster

Best Project Logo
Sunvale Homes, Grandeur

Best Project Sales Brochure
Aberdeen Homes, Fit on Lancaster

Since 1946, the Waterloo Region Home Builders' Association (WRHBA) has been "the voice of residential development and construction industry"—one of the most vital and enterprising industries in Canada. WRHBA represents over 200 member representatives comprised of all disciplines involved in residential construction. WRHBA is built on a vision to be a leader in supporting our industry by fostering a vital membership through advocacy, resource sharing and education and in its commitment to improve new housing affordability and choice for new home purchasers and renovation consumers through positively impacting legislation, regulation and policy that affect the industry at all levels of government.

For further information, or to arrange an interview contact Marie Schroeder, Executive Officer at Marie-Schroeder@wrhba.com