

Built Green Canada

Quarterly Newsletter
Q1 2015



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Need Help with the New Building Code?

As the industry faces building code changes, this increase in energy requirements puts builders on a more even playing field—all builders now have to build more energy efficient homes, and, therefore, that opportunity for your competitive advantage is gone.

Those receiving this newsletter are already sustainable-minded and active with regard to sustainable building practices through strong programs, such as EnerGuide (also part of Built Green's program), Energy Star, R2000, Net Zero, and so forth. So which program to choose? That depends on what you want to achieve and how far you want to go.

Built Green is a great program for builders who want to take the next step and focus beyond energy efficiency, continuing on the path to building better—and maintaining their edge. We can help you meet code requirements and successfully certify your home with Built Green, as our programs complement the new energy requirement and *go far beyond energy efficiency*, incorporating the EnerGuide label, and include the preservation of natural resources, reduction of pollution, ventilation and air quality, and improved home durability—we look at the house as a system.

This gives our builders a leading edge, a **competitive advantage in two ways**:

- 1) we include the EnerGuide label *in addition to* energy efficiency; materials and methods; indoor air quality; ventilation; waste management; water conservation; and business practices.
- 2) as code continues to change, BUILT GREEN® builders will remain ahead because they're already building to a higher standard than code-built homes and because they have the resource—in the BUILT GREEN® Checklist and Guide—to see where they can improve in each category.

The Benefit of Building BUILT GREEN® and Your Association with Built Green Canada

Built Green offers members the means to remain competitive and to increase their homes' credibility and quality with third-party certification in a program that goes beyond energy efficiency toward a more holistic approach to sustainable building practices. Through our programs, builders offer their homeowners **valuable benefits**, including healthier, more durable homes that are saving them money in monthly operating costs and fewer renovations. A **BUILT GREEN® certified home includes a two-in-one**: the EnerGuide label and the BUILT GREEN® seal.

Our programs complement the code changes and go far beyond energy efficiency... giving our builders a competitive advantage.

Financially, our programs are less to participate in, and are easier to administer, than many other programs, offering four levels of certification, which means the builder can work with the consumer to customize their home based on budgets and priorities.

Further, we offer our members the opportunity to show leadership in sustainability, differentiate themselves in the marketplace, and create goodwill within, and for, the construction sector.

Are you Utilizing the Full Benefit of Belonging to the BUILT GREEN® Community?

Whether you've been an active BUILT GREEN® member for a while, or are new and still learning about Built Green and how it sets you apart from others, we encourage you to look at the **renewal package** sent in the mail, which includes a letter confirming your membership, our engagement checklist, and a BUILT GREEN® member decal. By completing this, you will assist us in strengthening the benefits you receive for building to a BUILT GREEN® certification and for being a part of sustainable building community. Please take a few minutes to review this and respond back in whatever format works for you—an email with your scanned copy or just an email with your comments.

Additionally, we encourage you to familiarize yourself with the **2015 Membership Package** sent via email and the tools it offers, as it will assist you in strengthening the benefits you receive for being a part of a sustainable building community—these include:

- Engagement Checklist
- Built Green Canada Outline
- Electronic Membership Certificate
- Marketing Toolkit: Logo Package, Message Map, No Cost to Low Cost Tips to Promote Built Green, Brochure, Display proof, and more.



This is also posted on the BUILT GREEN® Portal where BUILT GREEN® members may view their BUILT GREEN® projects, access marketing tools, and learn about important updates.

Letters of Endorsement: For Builder Members & Homebuyers

As part of our effort to ensure we're reaching as many of the critical touch points as possible for the builder, we have developed a builder letter of congratulations on the BUILT GREEN® certified project, as well as a homeowner letter to be passed on and included in the builder's welcome package for the homebuyer—this highlights the benefits of the BUILT GREEN® certified home they've just purchased and the quality builder they've just purchased from—it reinforces to the consumer that they've made a good purchase and is an endorsement for the builder.

These will be going out with your BUILT GREEN® seal. If you would like this sent directly to your sales office, or another department within your company, do let us know—we've heard from some of you on this and will be directing these accordingly.

Training Opportunities

Building Science/Construction Techniques for Energy Efficient Homes

Free Seminar for Victoria Residential Builders Association Members

- Building Science/Construction Techniques for Energy Efficient Homes – RDH Engineering
- Building Envelope Issues Arising in our Climate—Jim Patterson, Travelers
- Achieving Energuide / Built Green / Energy Star Ratings—Wendy Smith, Performance Energy Advisors

Wednesday, May 13, 8:30 am to 12 noon; RDH Engineering Classroom; 5th floor, 3795 Carey Rd., Victoria

RSVP to: admin@vrba.ca

BUILT GREEN® Technical Workshop: Exterior Insulated Sheathing Systems

*Presented by Owens Corning Canada
Mid-Summer*

Mark your calendar for this upcoming on-site workshop tentatively scheduled for mid-summer from 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon. Builders, Energy Advisors, Municipalities, and more are invited. Stay tuned for more information.

Did You Know

Supporting Members & You: here is a group working in the same industry as you, with similar goals: they could end up being very useful to your business, so be sure to check them out, and make mutually beneficial connections! Supporting members are those responsible for products or services they sell or provide for housing construction. They, like our builders, met a list of criteria to be included in the BUILT GREEN® community.

Georgie Awards® Reflect an Industry that Continues to Raise the Bar

On February 27 British Columbia's residential building industry came together to highlight and celebrate excellence in the industry at the 2014 Georgie Awards®,



BUILT GREEN® Past Chairman, Bard Gollightly, awarding Naikoon Contracting Ltd. the Built Green Canada sponsored "Best Environmental Initiative" award.

presented by the Canadian Home Builders' Association of British Columbia. The list of finalists was impressive and moreover the number of BUILT GREEN® builders in the finalists' and winners' circle was a nod to an industry committed to sustainability—a big congratulations and kudos to all of you who continue to raise the bar in the residential building sector, making sustainable development a priority, to the benefit of industry, builders, homebuyers, and the environment.

As an industry that continues to progress, there was an increase in submissions this year, seeing many inspirational and high-calibre projects submitted. Built Green Canada would like to congratulate all those finalists and award winners. And, a special shout out to **Naikoon Contracting Ltd.**, a builder out of North Vancouver, building to the highest certification levels. They're creating innovative and sustainable development, and they were recognized for it at the Georgie Awards® with many titles, including Best Environmental Initiative, Best Affordable Certified Home, and Best Innovative Certified Home.

Landmark Homes Wins National SAM Award



The achievements of Canada's leading home builders, renovators and developers were celebrated at the Canadian Home Builders' Association (CHBA) National Awards in Halifax on March 6, recognizing Canadian housing excellence.

Among them was the coveted Green Home Award, this year won by Edmonton-based Landmark Homes—well-known for their innovation and leadership in sustainability. [Read more here.](#)

Built Green sees massive growth in Calgary

A certification program for environmentally responsible homes saw soaring growth from Calgary and area builders last year.

The number of BUILT GREEN® certified single-family homes completed in the Calgary area last year jumped 47 per cent, says Executive Director, Jenifer Christenson. [Read more here.](#)

BUILT GREEN® Builder Feature: An Industry Statesman—Driving an Industry toward Sustainability

In the early 2000s many industries began to recognize public support for “green” products. Leaders in the building sector began utilizing sustainable technology and becoming involved in green building programs. Jay Westman, President and CEO of Jayman BUILT® in Calgary, went a step further and imported then reworked a green building program that would become known as Built Green Canada.

Jay believed that a green building program could work in Alberta, but to be effective, it would have to be industry-driven. With CHBA Calgary, he committed to the development and launch of such a program and had one of his people, David Bengert, spearhead the project. With input from industry professionals, such as builders, manufacturers, developers, and trades, along with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), SAIT Polytechnic, Natural Resources Canada (NRCan), and the Alberta Research Council and Climate Change Central, by 2003 the organization was formed. [Read more here.](#)

A BUILT GREEN® First—Carstairs Heritage Centre & Visitor Information Centre enrolled for BUILT GREEN® Certification

The Carstairs Heritage Centre & Visitor Information Centre’s enrolment into the BUILT GREEN® program marks this as the first project type with Built Green Canada.

After the Carstairs’ Historical Society’s Board asked Gold Seal Homes to take on this project, BUILT GREEN® Board member and Gold Seal President, Murray Pound, put together a design and budget, based on a several factors. The building is styled after a pre-1900 ranch house, the Scarlett’s Stopping House, so this historic design was honoured, while Pound endeavoured to maximize energy and space efficiency with the least money spent. Pound is donating his time and equipment to this project.

The decision to have this BUILT GREEN® certified was based on two factors: Murray’s passion and Mike Dougherty’s (Carstairs Heritage Centre Curator) work on the Sustainability Work Group (SWG) of the Alberta Museum’s Association. The SWG looks at five facets of sustainability, one being environmental sustainability—working to ensure “the surroundings in which an organization operates, including air, water, land, natural resources, flora, fauna, humans, the built environment, and their interrelations” are supported successfully for the long-term.

Mike says the Society knew they wanted this project to work within a sustainability framework, and Murray’s passion for Built Green made their decision an easy one. He goes on to say that Murray’s knowledge, leadership, and guidance has been a huge asset to this project.

THE ESSENTIAL ROLE OF AN ENERGY ADVISOR

With the building code changes and the increased emphasis on energy efficiency, the role of a Energy Advisor (EA) becomes ever more imperative. Experts in energy efficiency, they’re certified by Natural Resources Canada to deliver the EnerGuide Rating Service for new homes.



These folks have honed strong energy advising skills through years of related practice and their role is invaluable in sustainable building practices. Built Green Canada and those builders involved in our programs are lucky to work with some very knowledgeable, experienced Energy Advisors. We encourage you to fully utilize these folks in your builds; they have so much to offer you and your customers.

Einar Halbig’s 15 year career has been focused on energy-efficiency and construction. Following his Civil Engineering studies, Einar worked for several local companies before starting his own consulting business in 2003. In 2007, Einar partnered with Troy Glasner to form E3 Eco Group Inc. Always learning and gaining experience in the field of sustainability, it is Einar’s passion to share this information with others. A firm understanding and belief in the concept of a “high performance” house guides the actions of Einar and E3 Eco Group. Practicing what he preaches, Einar enjoys living in his own high performance house which he recently renovated. In addition to consulting to homeowners, builders, architects and government with E3, he instructs the Building Science for New Homes course—a course that earns points on the 2015 BUILT GREEN® Checklist—as well as the Energy Advisor training.

For a list of Energy Advisors in your area please contact the Built Green Canada office.



The ground-breaking ceremony for the new museum building and tourist information center on March 19, 2015.

Did You Know

We do monthly builder features and distribute to media; keep us posted on your activity—grand openings of BUILT GREEN® projects, blogs, special events, internal staff event focused on sustainability, whatever it is you’re doing. Have news releases? We’re interested in those too! The more we’re aware of your activity, the more we can help put you in the spotlight. Let’s collaborate to increase your exposure.

PROGRAM UPDATES

2015 BUILT GREEN® Single Family Checklist Revised —Reminder

Further to our communique on December 18, this is just a reminder that the 2015 Single Family Checklist released on December 2 has had two revisions—the first based on a query from industry and the second a programming error.

- 1.1.17 – This has been revised to: “Install doors that are minimum R6, and any doors with glass (including french or sliding doors) that are minimum ENERGY STAR Zone D (or minimum R4) rated.”
- 1.2.11 – This has been corrected; the drop down now allows 1 or 2 points; it was defaulting to a zero value.

We issued a communique on this and posted onto the landing page of Canada Green Homes and the BUILT GREEN® portal—it was not reissued at that time in an effort not to confuse our members. If you would like us to send directly to you, please email info@builtgreencanada.ca, and we'll promptly email to you.

Keeping it Simple: Required EnerGuide Files Update

In partnership with Natural Resources Canada (NRCan), we are streamlining our process. From here on in, for BUILT GREEN® Single Family projects, certification will require the following be uploaded onto the BUILT GREEN® portal:

- BUILT GREEN® completed checklist
- Scan of EnerGuide label
- Scan of NRCan confirmation email

You will no longer be required to upload the TSV file or the data collection file—NRCan performs quality assurance on these files related to the ERS rating, and therefore, to upload these onto our portal is a duplicated effort. We will continue to do our own quality assurance check with the remaining files required for certification. This supports Built Green Canada's commitment to “keeping it simple”.

Renovation Program: Seeking Industry Input—Last Call

Over the last several months, Built Green Canada, in consultation with industry, has been examining our Renovation Program. As such, a provisional Renovation Advisory Group, comprised of renovators and industry professionals, has been reviewing the BUILT GREEN® Renovation Checklist. This input will be assessed in consultation with the Technical Standards Committee for recommendations on revisions to ensure relevancy, rigour, and program integrity are maintained.

Should you be interested in participating or providing your feedback, please contact the Built Green Canada office by the end of April.

BUILT GREEN® Liaison in British Columbia

Welcome Andrew MacDonald, who is working with us to engage with builders in the BC market. He is reaching out with the intention of meeting with you, face-to-face, to review our checklists and identify opportunities for you, as a builder, to increase your profile and competitive advantage.



Andrew brings over 20 years' experience working in the area of corporate sustainability integration and is a licensed Energy Advisor with NRCan, working in British Columbia. This will enable him to offer insight and tips to builders on successfully—and cost effectively—building to BUILT GREEN® certification.

And we believe his expertise will also drive more business to Energy Advisors working hard for their builders and supporting Built Green Canada. Andrew is a founding member of the Canadian Association of Certified Energy Advisors, committed to the integrity of his fellow EAs and the residential building sector—all of this for a more sustainable province. If you would like to contact Andrew directly to set up a meeting, please do so. He may be reached at 604.418.1400 or by email at amacdonald@builtgreencanada.ca.

Need more information?

The BUILT GREEN® programs are overseen by the Built Green Canada office with administrative support provided by Enervision. Program changes and direction, policy, membership, and so forth are directed through the Built Green Canada office.

Should you have any questions about our programs, please contact the Built Green Canada office at 780.485.0920 or Toll-Free 1.855.485.0920.

Sponsorship: Increase your visibility as a leader & true supporter of sustainability

Built Green Canada is committed to doing our part to build a sustainable, healthy future for generations to come. We invite you to become a sponsor and join us in inspiring sustainable building practices. We're asking you to invest in the preservation of natural resources within the residential building sector. For more information and to review the associated benefits, click [here](#).

Did You Know

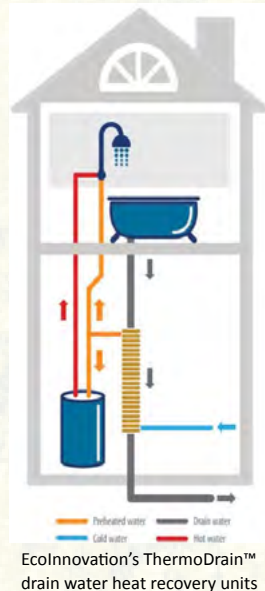
The [Product Catalogue & You](#): this could be a major tool for you. The catalogue provides builders and renovators access to products for use in sustainable residential construction. Based around the BUILT GREEN® Checklist, the Catalogue is organized the same way, and each product earns you Checklist points. These products have been reviewed and approved by our Technical Standards Committee.



Built Green Canada in the News

Over the first quarter of 2015, media coverage focused on builders (including Bedrock Homes, Birkholz Homes, Effect Homes, Excel Homes, Jayman BUILT®, and Vivid Homes), updates at Built Green Canada, as well as those companies involved within the BUILT GREEN® ecosystem, including All Weather Windows. Some of the outlets include: BC Building Bulletin, BCHomeowner.com, Calgary Herald, Canadian Design & Construction Report, Construction & Building Materials—MultiBriefs, DialogDesign.ca, Ecohome.net, HomeBUILDERCanada.com, HomesExtra.ca (Edmonton Sun), Edmonton Journal, NEW Homes & Condos Edmonton magazine (x3), Sustainable Building News, and more.

We're seeing more and more inclusion of "Built Green" as a key selling feature in real estate listings. Several of the local CHBA affiliates have posted Built Green supplied content onto their website: National Research Council and the Victoria Residential Home Builders' Association. Thank you to all for their continued support in spreading the word. Integrating key messages about the benefits of a BUILT GREEN® certified home into your sales and marketing efforts goes a long way in raising the profile for your builds, for sustainable building, and for the industry.



Built Green Canada: A Year in Review

The past year saw a number of changes, including the introduction of Single Family Verifications, another component of our quality assurance process to increase the rigor of the BUILT GREEN® certification process; the launch of a new, online training module offering improved accessibility, convenience, and program-specific orientation; the welcome of our first Saskatchewan-based builder, who out of the gate achieved a BUILT GREEN® Platinum certification; the declaration of June 4 as BUILT GREEN® Day, coinciding with National Environment Week, alongside the launch of an annual challenge to municipalities to encourage green building as part of their sustainability building policies; the start of the Renovation Program consultation process; the release of the 2015 Single Family and High Density Checklists after a one-year public consultation, alongside the release of the first-ever High Density Guide; a change in program delivery in British Columbia to improve operational efficiencies and to continue harmonization of our delivery model; the introduction of small builder rates and payment options; reach out into the Ontario market; an increase in outreach to existing members, leads, municipalities, as well as select government relations work—including municipality incentives; and enhanced marketing communications activity, including significant website updates to how we feature our members, the development of new tools, and increased media relations activity.

Product Catalogue Connection

The BUILT GREEN® Product Catalogue provides builders and renovators access to products for use in sustainable residential construction. It is based on the BUILT GREEN® Checklists and therefore is organized by the same categories. Only products and services that have been accepted by Built Green Canada are listed in the Product Catalogue, and they are selected based on a list of criteria.

Below, our featured Product Catalogue contributors are listed with their BUILT GREEN® approved products. If used in your BUILT GREEN® project, these products earn checklist points.

Drain Water Heat Recovery Giveaway: ThermoDrain™

Built Green Canada is running a contest and this is your chance to win a is happy to have the free ThermoDrain™ drain water heat recovery units in our upcoming social media contest! We'll be posting questions to Twitter in May, July, and September and will award one unit per month to those BUILT GREEN® members with the best answer. Check out @BuiltGreenCan starting May 1.

ThermoDrain™ is a BUILT GREEN® Approved Product in our Product Catalogue that earns you two points in the BUILT GREEN® Checklist towards your home certification! This giveaway contest is a great opportunity for builders to try out this sustainable product at no cost.

ThermoDrain™ passively extracts heat from waste water to preheat incoming cold water; at a value of \$350, it's a cost-effective way for builders to meet energy efficiency requirements and achieve BUILT GREEN® Checklist points. The Canadian-manufactured ThermoDrain™ is 100% copper, requires no maintenance, and has no moving parts.

*EcolInnovation Technologies (ThermoDrain™ manufacturer) is the exclusive supplier for Manitoba Hydro's various Power Smart energy efficiency program initiatives over the next three years (beginning in 2015).

A big thank you to EcolInnovation Technologies for donating these units.

Eligibility Requirements: @BuiltGreenCan must be used, you must be a BUILT GREEN® Member, and post to Facebook or Twitter (or send to us via email). Note to Facebook users: You will have to notify us of your submissions.

Mike Holmes on BUILT GREEN® Approved AirRenew®

Check out Mike Holmes on AirRenew®: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Knmbn0L3Xzo

AirRenew® Essential Drywall actively removes formaldehyde from the air, protecting homeowners from harmful VOCs. It's the only drywall that improves air quality by capturing and converting formaldehyde into a safe, inert compound. AirRenew cleans indoor air for up to 75 years, even through paint and wallpaper.

This product earns points related to checklist item 2-18 recycled and/or recovered content gypsum wallboard, minimum of 15% post-consumer recycled content.