



ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF HOME INSPECTORS

Established by the Ontario Association of Home Inspectors Act, 1994

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Notes from the Board of Directors

June 2003

The most important concern facing us at the moment is risk management and insurance coverage. As you are aware Encon cancelled the CAHPI policy effective September 1st, 2003. There are two developments that show promise and we are hopeful they will be in place by September.

CAHPI has been working on a new insurance proposal with the brokerage firm Morris and MacKenzie. They have offices across Canada and have promised to develop a national policy that can be administered regionally. CAPHI is confident that the program can be developed to ensure continuing coverage. More specific details should be available after the CAPHI meeting on July 20th. Our CAPHI reps have been doing an excellent job of keeping us informed.

The proposal from Morris and MacKenzie is not just an insurance policy but a program that would include work with members on Risk Management and working toward a greater control of the program by the Association. One component of this may be an arbitration policy that would contractually commit the parties to binding arbitration. To that end the OAHI responded to a member initiative by forming an ad hoc ADR Committee to look into this possibility. OAHI has asked the Alternative Defence Resolution (ADR) Institute of Ontario to call for tenders for an arbitration program that would be specifically tailored to the needs of our members. If this is successful we will have a program in place that should reduce the number of nuisance claims and, while not eliminating the possibilities of huge claims, lower the risk of them.

The ADR program can be a stand alone program but we will be looking at the potential for it to be a complimentary program to the CAPHI insurance program being negotiated with Morris and MacKenzie. If that is the case then the ADR program may be able to be transposed to other areas of the country if they wish to adopt it.

For the people working of these programs there is still a lot of work to do and a lot of details to be determined. We can't give a lot of information until that work has been done. The Insurance Committee has been asked to study the CAPHI proposal, liaise with the Ontario Morris & MacKenzie representative and to seek alternatives within Ontario.

Depending on circumstances and the success of our committees, we may need to make changes to the Bylaws in order to accommodate insurance requirements. To that end we have set in process the review of the Bylaws and the drafting of amendments. This will require the ratification of the members and we will have to have a Special Meeting to make changes. If that happens, we will, as with the AGM, be sending you ballots and asking you to respond either directly or by proxy. You will be informed in a timely fashion as per the Bylaws.

In other news, the Board of Directors is conducting an ongoing review of the Policies and Procedures manuals of our numerous committees; we plan to make this a yearly regiment. We are examining the possibility of promoting a Disability Package for the members. We have initiated a schedule of having the Executive visit the Regional Meeting Groups with Ottawa being visited in June. Kingston and Southwestern Ontario are scheduled for the Fall of 2003. Many thanks to the Ottawa members for organizing an educational and social event of the highest magnitude.

We look forward to seeing all members at the National Conference in Toronto in November. There are many excellent activities planned and well over a year's worth of CEUs to be collected at the Conference. Register now!

George Webb
OAHI BOD Secretary