



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

March 9, 2004

To All Members of the OAH:

The Board has met twice since we last communicated and there are several items to update you on. The first item will be a hearty congratulations and thank you to the Ottawa Regional Meeting Group for hosting and organizing a very successful 2004 Winter Workshop. The events were all attended at capacity, very informative and were a tribute to the skills of primary organizers Ray Seguoin, RHI and Laurel Harris, RHI.

Nominations For Election To The Board of Directors:

The time for self-nomination for election to the Board of Directors (BOD) for the 2004 year has passed. All those interested in running for election have until March 18th to have a colleague nominate them. All nominations should have a platform statement for distribution to the members. We plan to distribute all documents relevant to the 2004 AGM on the 20th. Any association needs new blood and ideas to remain vital, so we encourage any member interested in the ongoing affairs of the association to consider running for election. Please send the nominations and platform statements to the Office, c/o The Secretary.

Nominations are accepted from the floor on the night of the AGM but only those present (including their Proxy A's, if applicable) would be able to vote for a member nominated from the floor. Graham Clarke, George Webb, Carl Inglis, Roy Chan, Alrek Meipoom and Andrew Dixon from the current BOD will be seeking re-election. The Elections Committee will be chaired by Mark Goddard, RHI.

OAH voting members elect a BOD, the BOD elects the Executive – President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. At present only RHIs are eligible voting members.

A note to the interested - being on the BOD requires many attributes, which should include, but are not limited to the following: a thick skin to repel the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune, ideas and a coherent way to express them, a willingness to compromise, an open mind, the good graces to accept a vote against your wishes, Time Management Skills, the ability to soldier on and a belief in the good of the association. The current BOD members work in a way that incorporates presentation of their views, discussion of the issues, and have, for the vast majority of decisions, used a consensus pattern to move forward. The current BOD regards this model as a good thing for themselves and the membership at large as work gets done in an efficient manner. The typical BOD meeting lasts a bare minimum of 4 hours (the average is closer to 6), once a month. We plan to change that schedule to an 8 hour meeting every second month.

2004 Annual General Meeting:

The 2004 AGM will be a time to reflect on the past activities of the association, present some well deserved awards, discuss some relevant issues, approve some Bylaw changes and elect a new BOD. We will present a balanced budget for the 2004 fiscal year for the members' approval.

The BOD will put forth a Policy designed to facilitate presenting motions to the membership. The current Bylaw is exacting and time consuming and the BOD recognizes that ideas need to be able to flow upward and on to all the membership for consideration. We plan to accept motions for presentation at any AGM with 10% of the eligible voters in favour. Passage of any such motion will still require the current approval numbers; motions with such backing will need to be directed to the BOD by the December 1st previous to the next AGM. That allows for ample time for review and distribution of the motion.

The BOD also plans to put forth a Bylaw revision that will extend voting rights to members with Associate status (effective the day after the AGM).

The BOD plans to put forth a motion to limit the 2004 BOD to ten (10) members. The current Bylaw requires a minimum of five (5), a maximum of fifteen (15). Ten was chosen as desirable as experience over the last year has taught us it is a reasonable working number allowing for full discussion of issues. Any less and representation from the membership is curtailed, any more and the BOD becomes unwieldy.

Membership Renewal Extension:

Due to the Special Meeting of February 17th we have extended the 2004 membership renewal period to March 15th, 2004. Any members who have not renewed by that date will be removed from the Register and website. In order to vote at the AGM or receive membership services you must be an eligible member. Late renewal fees will apply after March 15th.

Website:

The BOD recognizes that we have not had success in getting our current web-host to complete their responsibilities. We saw the need to change service providers and acted accordingly. We have hired TTW.net to take over website hosting, functionality, and mass electronic communication with the members. The association will soon have greater flexibility with all inter-communications; one of TTW.net's first responsibilities will include implementation of a Members Only Section to include forums for technical and general discussions. The forums will not be activated until we develop a code of conduct for their use.

The "new and improved" website will also allow us to accept online payments for memberships and courses, post the minutes from the RMGs and make available the latest Bylaws. We will also be posting the DPPC complaints procedure and form on the website for the public to see

CAPHI Updates:

We will be sending out a bulletin with the latest CAHPI news shortly.

Sincerely,

George Webb
OAH BOD Secretary