

Durham Homes breaks ground with GreenHouse

Durham Custom Homes hosted a groundbreaking ceremony on Tuesday, September 16th at their Kingsway Forest neighbourhood, for Canada's first GreenHouse Certified home.

"We are proud to be the first to build one of these homes and to offer this as a standard feature of all of the homes we will build in the future," said Victor Fiume, General Manager for Durham Custom Homes.

Durham Custom Homes has made a name for themselves both in the home building industry and with their customers for building Energy Star[®] homes, and staying on top of the latest technology.

The GreenHouse Certified construction initiative takes Energy Star even further.

"The GreenHouse project is a logical extension for us," says Jeff Goldman, principle of Durham Custom Homes.

To achieve the GreenHouse certification, the home must meet Energy Star standards, which requires a home to achieve a minimum rating of 80 on the Energuide scale. In comparison, a home built to the current Ontario Building Code has an Energuide rating of approximately 75. These standards result in a reduction of one third of the utilities normally used in a typical home. In addition to meeting the Energy Star requirements, a GreenHouse must also meet other specifications.

The builder must submit a plan to an independent, government certified consultant that includes information on how the home will be constructed, the materials it will use and how the construction waste will be reduced and diverted. During the building process, all materials that are recyclable must be separated at the source,

and the intent is to divert 25 per cent of the normal waste from a construction project. The home must use 10 per cent less lumber than a conventionally built home, and many of the materials, including the paint, garage doors, shingles, concrete, window frames and drywall must contain a significant level of recycled content.

A GreenHouse must also achieve higher indoor air quality, and reduce the potential for problems down the road. The builder must use furnace air filters which cleanse the air effectively and ensure all of the air in the house is directed through the filter. There are stringent requirements which ensure no unwanted moisture is allowed to enter the home thus reducing the potential for mould growth.

Water conservation is another component of a GreenHouse, and is achieved through the use of dual flush toilets, flow restricting aerators and showerheads, and Energy Star dishwashers.

"This program is only possible because we have leaders," said Peter Love, Ontario's Chief Energy Conservation Officer. "It's my firm belief that the home building industry is a leader."

"We're rebuilding a future," said Brian Nicholson, deputy mayor of Oshawa. "Today we're building a GreenHouse, tomorrow a green neighbourhood, then a green city."

A GreenHouse will not only reduce emissions and use less raw materials in its construction, but it will also save homeowners thousands of dollars in electricity and natural



From left: Victor Fiume, General Manager, Durham Custom Homes; Corey McBurney, President, Enerquality Corporation; Michelle Goldman, Durham Custom Homes; Marvin Goldman, Durham Custom Homes; Brian Nicholson, Deputy Mayor, City of Oshawa; Jeff Goldman, Principal, Durham Custom Homes; Nat Goldman, Durham Custom Homes; Anne Goldman, Durham Custom Homes; Peter Love, Chief Conservation Officer, Ontario Power Authority; Jerry Oulette, MPP.

gas bills.

"This house will cost no more than any other house we are building," said Victor. "It's a program that is affordable for the vast amount of Ontarians out there."

The Kingsway Forest sales office is located in the Hampstead model home at 591 Oxbow Crescent (Townline Rd. north of Adelaide to Kettering, west on Kettering

to Aldershot then follow signs to model homes). The sales office is open Monday to Friday 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Weekends & Holidays 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

For more information, please call (905) 576-6771 or visit the website at www.KingswayForest.ca.

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builders of Canada's first

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The Icynene Insulation System • Owens Corning

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www.durhamregion.com

NEW HOMES & INTERIORS

is published bi-weekly, with a total pressrun of 367,700 copies at 865 Farewell St., Oshawa (telephone number 579-4404) and is one of the Metroland Media Group of suburban newspapers with distribution in Oshawa, Whitby, Ajax, Pickering, Port Perry, Clarington, and Scarborough. Reproduction in whole or in part without prior written permission from the publisher is prohibited. The publisher reserves the right to classify or refuse any advertisement based on his sole discretion.

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