

Media Release

EQ Awards Handed Out to Ontario Best Green Builders

(TORONTO, ON. Feb 23, 2017) Today, an extensive series of high quality presentations about sustainability in the housing industry took place at the EnerQuality (EQ) Housing Innovation Forum. This was followed by an evening of celebration as the EQ Awards Gala took centre stage at Universal EventSpace in Vaughan.

Corey McBurney, President, EnerQuality, when introducing the EQ Awards said, “Innovation is ideas brought to life. Ideas that change the world. With these awards we celebrate the change-makers – the innovators and leaders who have put their ideas into practice.”

The theme of the Innovation Forum was *New, Now, and Next* and focused on new thinking, new products, and new techniques for advancing green building performance. In addition to presentations by leading green building thinkers and doers, there was also the highly competitive and ever-entertaining EQ Innovation Gauntlet (IG). The IG is where an all-star panel of builder “dragons” ask the tough questions to vendors seeking a thumbs-up for new products.

With winners in 16 categories (see below), the Awards Gala saw an evening that combined suspense and waves of applause as the “best of the best” EQ builders were recognized. The loudest applause was for EnerQuality Hall of Fame Award inductee Paul Golini Jr., Co-Founder and Executive Vice President of Empire Communities. Empire Communities is one of Canada’s largest real estate developments companies, having built more than 10,000 new homes and condominiums in Canada and the U.S.A.

New this year was the Impact Award, recognizing a builder’s significant voluntary progress in reducing carbon emissions and outstanding achievements through energy efficiency and sustainability practices. The recipient of the inaugural Impact Award was Mattamy Homes, one of North America’s largest privately-owned home builders.

2016 EQ Award Winners:

Building Innovation – Low Rise

Award winner: Arista Homes – *Vaughan, Ontario*

Building Innovation – Mid/High Rise

Award winner: Times Group – *Valleymede Towers, Richmond Hill, Ontario*

ENERGY STAR for New Homes Builder of the Year - Small

Award winner: Castleform Development Inc. – *Toronto, Ontario*

ENERGY STAR for New Homes Builder of the Year - Mid

Award winner: Mason Homes – *Concord, Ontario*

ENERGY STAR for New Homes Builder of the Year - Large

Award winner: The Minto Group – *Toronto and Ottawa, Ontario*

Best Green Marketing Campaign

Award winner: Great Gulf Homes – *Active House Centennial Park, Toronto, Ontario*

Green Renovation Project of the Year

Award winner: RND Construction – *106 Bayswater, Ottawa, Ontario*

Ontario Green Builder of the Year

Award winner: Reid's Heritage Homes – *Head Office Cambridge, Ontario*

ENERGY STAR Champion of the Year

Award winner: Lisa Bergeron, JELD-WEN – *Quebec City, Quebec*

R-2000 Builder of the Year

Award winner: Slood Construction – *Guelph (Arkell), Ontario*

Net Zero Home Builder of the Year

Award winner: Reid's Heritage Homes - *Head Office Cambridge, Ontario*

Evaluator of the Year

Award winner: Jack Zhou – *Markham, Ontario*

Builder Achievement Award

Award winner: Doug Tarry – *St. Thomas, Ontario*

Leader of the Year

Award winner: Jennifer Weatherston, Reid's Heritage Homes – *Head Office Cambridge, Ontario*

Savings by Design

Award winner: Geranium Homes – *Markham, Ontario*

Impact Award

Award winner: Mattamy Homes – *Toronto, Ontario*

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For more information, to schedule interviews or secure high-resolution award presentation photos, please contact: Don Huff, ECO Strategy, huffd@ecostrategy.ca, 416-972-7401 or (C) 416 -805-7720

EnerQuality is Canada's #1 certifier of energy efficient homes and the market leader in delivering award-winning residential green building programs. Founded in 1998 by the Ontario Home Builders' Association (OHBA) and the Canadian Energy Efficiency Alliance (CEEA), EnerQuality's mission is to accelerate housing innovation to improve building performance.

Sponsors Include:

Enbridge, Save on Energy, Owens Corning, Union Gas, BILD, Canadian Energy Efficiency Alliance, Cricket Energy, Dettson, Eddy Home, GeoSource Energy Inc., Jeld Wen, Ontario Home Builders' Association, Redmond/Williams-Bosch, Reliance Home Comfort, Velux, Avid Ratings Canada, Sun-Brite Drapery, Torlys Smart Floors