

CHBA BC Announces B.C.'s First Certified Master Residential Builder



Larry Clay

BURNABY — The Canadian Home Builders' Association of BC (CHBA BC) is proud to announce that **LARRY CLAY**, president of **Clay Construction Inc.**, is the province's first certified Master Residential Builder.

To earn this certification, Clay successfully completed all required courses in the CHBA BC Continuing Education program. The courses focus on many of the important aspects of the residential construction industry in British Columbia, including the BC Building Code, energy-efficient building methods, site safety, and construction law. The certification program is designed for students who want to stay current on industry trends, technical advances, code developments and best practices.

"Damage has been done by inexperienced and unscrupulous contractors. The industry needs professional development for builders, renovators and contractors in addition to consumer education and protection," said Clay. "CHBA BC provides ample opportunities for builders to develop their business skills to better serve the consumer."

Clay's participation in this program demonstrates his commitment to continuing education and professional development in his field. Clay is also recognized as a Certified Housing Professional and a Certified Renovation professional.

"The Master Builder Certification is the highest level offered by our Association, and we congratulate Larry Clay of Clay Construction for being our first builder member to achieve this designation," said **NEIL MOODY**, CEO CHBA BC. *Submitted by Alycia Coulter, CHBA BC.*

CHBA PEI Takes a Stand Against Proposed HST Increase

CHARLOTTETOWN — The P.E.I. Standing Committee on Education and Economic Development got an earful from people involved in the home construction and real estate industries in early March. Home builders and realtors filled the meeting room to tell government about the impact of the HST on their businesses. CHBA Prince Edward Island provided figures from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation to show a 40.7% decrease in housing starts in the province from 2011 to 2015, noting that the introduction of the HST on April 1, 2013 was a big factor behind the decline.

SCOTT COSTAIN, director CHBA PEI, and owner of a construction company in Summerside, said that the 14% tax on new homes is driving some business underground, and has cost the province thousands of jobs and millions of dollars in lost tax revenue because of the impact it's had on the industry. He further noted that, "raising HST to 15% can't do anything but hurt."

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