



*Community Builders – Building Communities*



## MARCH 2021 NEWSLETTER

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## CARE AWARDS

The 2021 CARE Awards Call for Entry is underway! The entry deadline is Wednesday, June 30 at 4 pm. Visit <https://careawards.ca/2021-care-awards/> for more info. Thank you **BC Housing, FortisBC, Hourigan's Flooring, McLaren Properties, Travelers Insurance (Gold), Coast Capital Savings and Trail Appliances (Silver), and Mike Geric Construction (Bronze)** for confirming commitment to sponsorship. *Support our sponsors supporting the CARE Awards!* Through their support, the CARE Awards is the premier industry awards showcasing Canada's leaders in sustainable West Coast design and construction.

### 2020 Gold Sponsors



## BUILDERS COUNCIL – WED APRIL 21

The next Builders Council meeting is Wednesday, April 21 at 12 noon via Zoom.

“Building/Entering a Home in the 2021 CARE Awards” presented by Debra Dahlgren, CARE Awards Manager. Learn how to submit an entry, including maximizing your potential for points in the categories. Find out what’s new for 2021.

The CARE Awards program represents a valuable marketing opportunity for members, especially during uncertain times. This short webinar **provides members with important information necessary to submit a successful entry.** This is an interactive webinar with Q & A.

This webinar has been submitted for one hour of CPD credit to BC Housing, Licensing and Consumer Services.

RSVP [admin@vrba.ca](mailto:admin@vrba.ca) to receive the Zoom link.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

## NEW MEMBERS & APPLICANTS

New Member:

White Wolf Homes Ltd. – Kyle Velikovsky and Ashley Barry

## 2021 VRBA MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY & DISCOUNT CARDS FOR MARK’S WORK WEARHOUSE

VRBA’s 2021 Membership Directory is hot off the presses and will be mailed out to all members, as well as distributed by VRBA suppliers. Attached to each directory is a 10% off discount card for **Mark’s Work Wearhouse** which may be used by VRBA members until June 30, 2023.

If you would like to distribute VRBA directories from your location contact Debra at [admin@vrba.ca](mailto:admin@vrba.ca) Copies will also be available at the CARE Awards’ People’s Choice display in September at Hillside Centre. Thank you advertisers for your support!

## WHEN TRAVEL PERMITTED - PREFERRED GOLD CORPORATE RATES FOR VRBA MEMBERS AT ACCENT INNS AND HOTEL ZED

Non-essential travel is not recommended as per orders by Dr Bonnie Henry, BC’s Public Health Officer in the battle against COVID-19. However, if travel is necessary for medical reasons or when travel again opens up, we have secured Preferred Gold corporate rates for VRBA members at [accentinns.com/](https://accentinns.com/) & Hotel Zed [hotelzed.com/](https://hotelzed.com/)

Vaccinations are underway and at some point travel will be permitted and many will need a well-deserved vacation!

Attached are the hotel rates from now to April 30 & from May 1 to June 24, 2021.

For the promo code, contact Debra at [admin@vrba.ca](mailto:admin@vrba.ca)



## JOIN BCCA EMPLOYEE BENEFIT TRUST

Does your company need a benefits program? VRBA partners with BCCA Employee Benefit Trust, to take advantage of a great flexible package designed for the construction industry. Plans are affordable and easy to set up. Contact Laura Bonney at [info@bccabenefits.ca](mailto:info@bccabenefits.ca).

## VICA FOCUS GROUP ON MENTAL HEALTH & DRUG ADDICTION

VICA is launching a focus group to develop a program to address mental health and drug addiction. This was covered in the TC <https://www.timescolonist.com/business/construction-association-project-aims-to-help-workers-struggling-with-drug-addiction-1.24295862> If you have an interest in participating, contact Emily Percival-Paterson at [harmreduction@vicabc.ca](mailto:harmreduction@vicabc.ca)

## CENTRAL SAANICH & NORTH SAANICH OCPs

Central Saanich is undertaking an OCP Review and you can participate in the survey here: <https://letstalkcentralsaanich.ca/ocp>

North Saanich is developing a new OCP and has a survey located at <https://www.connectnorthsaanich.ca/ocp>  
In addition, Mark Holland, a development consultant, is interested in gathering more input from the builder community. Mark can be contacted at:



Holland

Planning Innovations (250) 713-9789 [www.hollandplan.com](http://www.hollandplan.com)

## SAANICH HOUSING STRATEGY

A new Saanich Housing Strategy report was presented to council on March 22, and they are now conducting a survey on the recommendations. More information and a link to the survey is here

<https://www.saanich.ca/EN/main/community/community-planning/policy-initiatives/housing-strategy.html>

Key recommendations requiring support include:

- Amend the Zoning Bylaw or pre-zone to allow ground oriented infill housing such as duplexes, tri-plexes, four-plexes, and townhouses in single family residential areas within the Urban Containment Boundary. (Action 3.1 B)
- Complete a Development Process Review (DPR) that will assess Current Planning Division's practices and procedures in order to implement improvements to the approval process, with a key goal to reduce application processing times. (Parallel initiative) (Action 4.1 A)
- Subsequent to the completion of the DPR, implement a second phase to find further improvements and efficiencies. The second phase may include a review of other Departments, Divisions, Sections or external agencies/groups who participate in the planning application referral process, or who support applications through the Council review process or the preparation of legal documents.
- When implementing the Development Process Review (DPR), consider streamlining the development application process with an online "one-stop shop" approach that provides self-serve functions, includes online applications and plan submission, and delivers an open data format with schedules that is available for public viewing. (Action 4.1 D)
- Undertake a Land Capacity Analysis supported by market data and other metrics in order to calculate and plan for sufficient land capacity and density to absorb growth and stabilize housing prices.
- Consider developing a new Housing Advocate role that will advocate for good urbanism and processes in order for projects to get effectively delivered. The Housing Advocate would remain politically neutral when providing subject matter expertise.

That said, a strategy is only as good as the people executing it. A big part of Saanich's decades-old problem is their municipal culture, which must also change. A good start would be council and staff reading and buying into the classic book on organizational efficiency and customer service "In Search of Excellence" by Tom Peters and Robert Waterman.

<https://www.harpercollins.com/products/in-search-of-excellence-thomas-j-petersrobert-h-waterman?variant=32132827545634>

A big thank you to VRBA member Greg Gillespie, Mike Geric Construction for his important contributions on the Task Force.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

April 7 – Board Meeting

April 21 – Builders Council [admin@vrba.ca](mailto:admin@vrba.ca)

May 19 – Builders Council [admin@vrba.ca](mailto:admin@vrba.ca)

June 16 – Builders Council [admin@vrba.ca](mailto:admin@vrba.ca)

June 30 – CARE Awards Entry Deadline

## EDUCATION & TRAINING



**Licensing & Consumer Services Branch of BC Housing** approved offerings for CPD builder licensing [click here](#)

**Murray Frank's Building It Right Courses** [www.buildingitright.com](http://www.buildingitright.com) 65 CPD points available online! Also have a look at Course in a Box for 20 CPD points <https://buildingitright.com/course-in-a-box.html>

**Building It Right** has a wide range of courses including **Building the House of Tomorrow** at <https://buildingitright.com/houseoftomorrow.html>

Here is their course schedule for 2021 - <https://buildingitright.com/schedule.html>

Here is their latest spring newsletter -

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/CPD-POINTS---Breakfast-Series-Part-3-Now-On-Demand.html?soid=1122971036909&aid=ziFbjP18EkA>

**Professional Home Builders Institute: Online courses for BC Builder Licensing** are available at the **Professional Home Builders Institute** at <https://www.phbi.ca/bc/programs-and-courses/builder-core-competency/#?browseby=346241cb-1a6e-ea11-a811-000d3af33756> VRBA is now recognized as an exam proctor for the Professional Home Builders Institute. Members are able to take exams that qualify for CPD and BC Builder Licensing at our office. There is no charge for this service – it is another benefit of VRBA membership.

**VICA:** A wide selection of Builder Education Courses is available from the Vancouver Island Construction Association. To get the VRBA member discount contact: Chenelle Falconer, Education Coordinator, Ph: 250-388-6471 [education@vicabc.ca](mailto:education@vicabc.ca) The course list is below and at <https://www.vicabc.ca/training/2020-2021-course-listing/>

### MARCH

RESPONDING TO AN RFP | March 25, 26 & 29 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATING | March 29 - 31 & April 01 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

MASTERING CHANGE ORDER MANAGEMENT | March 30 - 31 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

### SPRING 2021

GOLD SEAL INFO SESSION | April 08 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

CONSTRUCTION 101 | April 13, 14, 15 & 16 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

LEAD TO SUCCEED w. 1-1 COACHING | April 13, 15, 20 & 22 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

EFFECTING MEETINGS & MEETING MINUTES | April 15 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

PROJECT PLANNING FOR SUCCESS | April 19 - 20 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

PROJECT ACCOUNT & COST CONTROL | April 26 & 27 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

PLANNING FOR FOREPERSONS & CREW SUPERS | April 27 & 28 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

MASTERING CHANGE ORDER MANAGEMENT | April 28 & 29 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

EFFECTING MEETINGS & MEETING MINUTES | May 3 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

PROJECT MANAGEMENT | May 3 - 6 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

PROJECT PLANNING FOR SUCCESS | May 04 & 05 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

GOLD SEAL INFO SESSION | May 13 | WEBINAR | [INFO & REG](#)

PLANNING FOR FOREPERSONS & CREW SUPERVISORS | May 18 & 19 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

PROJECT CLOSE-OUT | May 26 & 27 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

CONSTRUCTION BUSINESS MANAGEMENT | May 31 & June 1 - 3 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

## SUMMER 2021

CONSTRUCTION 101 | June 1 - 4 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

TRADE CONTRACTS | June 9 & 10 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

GOLD SEAL INFO SESSION | June 10 | WEBINAR | [INFO & REG](#)

PROJECT CLOSE-OUT | June 14 & 15 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

CONSTRUCTION LAW | June 14 - 17 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

RESPONDING TO AN RFP | June 17, 18 & 21 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

TRADE CONTRACTS | June 9 - 10 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

MASTERING CHANGE ORDER MANAGEMENT | June 23 - 24 | LIVE-ONLINE | [INFO & REG](#)

GOLD SEAL INFO SESSION | July 08 | WEBINAR | [INFO & REG](#)

GOLD SEAL INFO SESSION | August 12 | WEBINAR | [INFO & REG](#)

GOLD SEAL INFO SESSION | September 09 | WEBINAR | [INFO & REG](#)

GOLD SEAL INFO SESSION | October 14 | WEBINAR | [INFO & REG](#)

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