



Dec. 2016

## Update on the Development of Canada's National Housing Strategy

Earlier this year, the Government of Canada reached out to all Canadians to ask them to share their opinions and ideas for the future of housing in Canada. Here is the link to the full report about what was heard: <https://www.letstalkhousing.ca/pdfs/what-we-heard.pdf>.

CPBH provided input to this consultation concerning the need to enhance the quality of newly built homes to at least meet the existing building codes. While this was not referenced in this report, we are pleased that the Opportunities section included amending national codes, standards and requirements for building new homes to achieve increasing levels of performance in line with national targets.

CPBH will continue to communicate with federal officials about the need to ensure that all newly built homes at least meet the existing building codes. Failure to enforce codes during construction results not only in undue hardship for the owners in terms of getting violations fixed, but violations can present health and safety risks for the families living in these homes, including children and seniors. Further, some purchasers "stuck" with building code violations in their newly built home are of the view that this is a form of white collar crime. Clearly, continuing to allow building code violations in newly built homes is unconscionable.