



Nov. 16, 2016

## **Concerns about Manitoba deferring the implementation of The New Home Warranty Act**

CPBH was pleased to participate in the development of Manitoba's New Home Warranty Act and the related regulations. Unfortunately, CPBH received a letter from the Director of Manitoba's Consumer Protection Office, Ms. Dyce, dated November 10, 2016 that advised that implementation of The New Home Warranty Act, which was supposed to be effective January 1, 2017, is being deferred until January 1, 2018. In this letter, Ms. Beatrice Dyce said: "...*The Consumer Protection Office....is confident that the later date will benefit all stakeholders....*" However, in a subsequent telephone conversation, when asked how this deferral will be of benefit to a key stakeholder, Manitoba's purchasers of newly built homes, Ms. Dyce did not have a response to that question. She simply responded by saying that the new Manitoba government reviewed all of the priorities and commitments, and decided that this initiative will be postponed for a year.

This is a very disappointing decision on the part of the Government of Manitoba. The purchase of a home is the largest purchase most consumers make, and all Canadians need adequate consumer protection. There have been numerous reports in the media of the serious hardships for some Manitobans due to inadequate consumer protection for newly built homes. CPBH has also heard directly from Manitobans on this issue. CPBH has written to Manitoba Premier Pallister about this important issue.