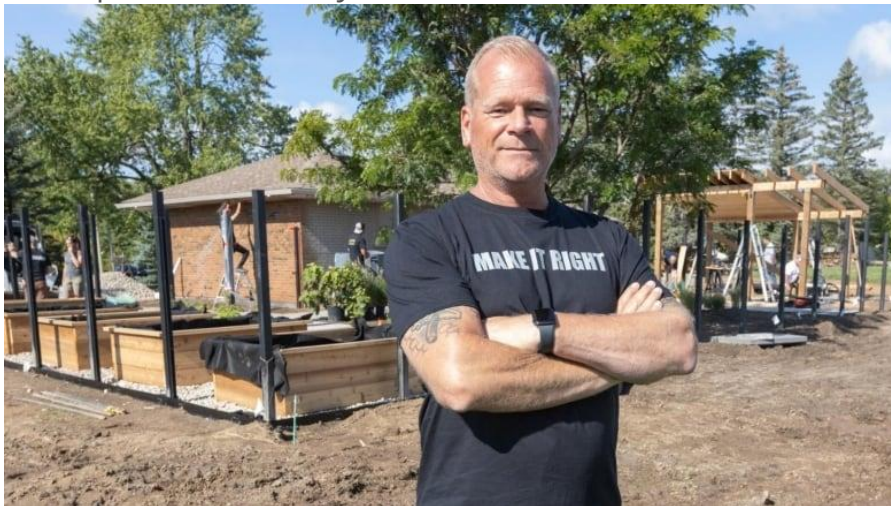


# Mike Holmes responds to CBC News story on demolished 'Holmes Approved Homes'

Celebrity contractor says his company had no access to the houses during construction



[Sophia Harris](#), [Andreas Wesley](#) · CBC News · Posted: Feb 10, 2024 4:00 AM EST | Last Updated: February 10



Mike Holmes broke his silence about a lawsuit involving a "Holmes Approved Homes" housing project in Meaford, Ont., where 14 homes were allegedly built with defects, two of which have been torn down. The project behind Holmes is not the TerraceWood development. (Mike Holmes/Facebook)

For the first time, Mike Holmes has spoken publicly about a lawsuit that alleges houses in a "Holmes Approved Homes" development in Meaford, Ont., were built with defects.

The celebrity contractor and popular TV host posted a statement on his Facebook page four days after CBC News [reported on an update on the lawsuit](#). The suit was launched in 2021 by Tarion, a consumer protection organization for new-home buyers in Ontario.

Holmes said he was "deeply disappointed" by "news reports" about the lawsuit and that "only some" of the statements his company, the Holmes Group, provided to the media "were used, and even those were taken out of context."

Holmes said his company had no access to the development's houses during construction, so it was unable to "assist in verifying or identifying potential problems."

Holmes also said he continues to stand proudly by his record, and that he and his company "will not be deterred in our mission to help homeowners Make It Right."

To all the people I care about

I would like to take this opportunity to clearly state that I am deeply disappointed in the presentation adopted by the news reports posted about a lawsuit brought against my company and a number of others almost two years ago by the Tarion corporation for a project in Meaford ON.

To be clear, my company was not given access to any of the homes in this matter, during the construction of those homes, because no homes in this matter were registered for our inspection services. We do not deny we advertised our inspection services along with recommended material upgrades for the homes, however, no homes were registered or took up our services and better building materials are not the issue. If we are not contracted and given access to construction or construction information, we are unable to assist in verifying, or identifying potential problems with, any installations. I ask that everyone not rush to judgment based on what was said in the media. We provided complete statements to the media, only some of which were used, and even those were taken out of context, and without disclosing the complete history.

I continue to stand proudly by my name and reputation that I have carefully built over more than 20 years of helping people in need. I am confident that the Courts of Ontario will provide an appropriate forum to present our compelling evidence of the events that occurred over an 11 year period. We appreciate the support of those who know us better than what is being publicly portrayed, and will not be deterred in our mission to help homeowners Make It Right.

Mike Holmes posted this statement on his Facebook page in response to CBC News's story last week about a lawsuit involving a "Holmes Approved Homes" housing development in Meaford, Ont. (Mike Holmes/Facebook)

Tarion's \$8-million lawsuit targets the Holmes Group and more than a dozen other parties involved in the development, called TerraceWood. The suit alleges that between 2015 and 2019, 14 TerraceWood houses were built with flaws, including major structural problems.

Tarion says the builder, Third Line Homes, failed to fix the defects, so Tarion has been paying for all the repairs.

CBC News has learned two homes in a Meaford, Ont., development promoted by celebrity contractor Mike Holmes have been demolished because of alleged defects. CBC News's Sophia Harris breaks down what went wrong and Holmes's company's response.

Tarion recently decided demolition was a more reasonable option for three of the houses. Two have already been torn down.

In its lawsuit, Tarion claims the Holmes Group failed to do additional house inspections for homeowners who had commissioned them and misrepresented the builder, Third Line Homes, as competent.

In his post, Holmes said he and the Holmes Group "do not deny we advertised our inspection services" to homebuyers. However, he says, the company inspected no TerraceWood houses, because no one bought the "Holmes Approved Homes" inspection package.

Holmes did not explicitly respond to details in the CBC News report about his endorsement of the "Holmes Approved Homes" project in ads and the involvement of two of his other companies. One of those companies bought and later sold a TerraceWood house with alleged defects, and the other company lent money to Third Line Homes, via private mortgages.

Holmes also did not address comments from homeowners who said they thought they were automatically buying "Holmes Approved Homes," and didn't know the Holmes inspections cost extra.

He also didn't respond to homeowners who complained that, after problems surfaced in TerraceWood, Holmes never returned to help "make it right."

The billboard features a man with tattoos and a watch, wearing a white t-shirt and black overalls, standing with his arms crossed. In the background, there is a framed image of a modern house with a dark roof and large windows. The text on the billboard reads: "TerraceWood MEAFORD", "Very proud to have bought the very first home in Third Line Homes' TerraceWood community in Meaford. They're building healthy Holmes Approved Homes. I love it." - Mike Holmes, "Homes built by THIRD LINE", and "Find out more at terracewood.ca | 519.538.0777".

TerraceWood  
MEAFORD

"Very proud to have bought the very first home in Third Line Homes' **TerraceWood** community in Meaford. They're building healthy Holmes Approved Homes. **I love it.**"  
- Mike Holmes

Homes built by  
THIRD LINE

Find out more at  
**terracewood.ca** | 519.538.0777

Mike Holmes endorsed TerraceWood on a billboard, in a promotional YouTube video, on social media and in this 2015 print ad. (Third Line Homes/Pinterest)

## Allegations of misrepresentation

Holmes said in his post that he's confident the courts "will provide an appropriate forum to present our compelling evidence."

He did not say how the Holmes Group will address Tarion's allegation that the company misrepresented Third Line Homes, as "a competent, expert, reliable builder when that was not accurate."

Paul and Mary-Jo Osborn, principals with Third Line Homes, and the Municipality of Meaford, which inspected the houses, are also defendants in the lawsuit.

Both parties deny any wrongdoing and argue Tarion's decision to condemn three homes was unwarranted.

The Osborns also claim it was Tarion that caused problems by excluding Third Line Homes from dealing with homeowners' complaints about defects.