



From left to right: MPP Dave Levac (Brant); Mayor Mike Hancock, City of Brantford; Paul Golini Jr., Executive Vice-President Low Rise, Empire Communities; Dan Guizzetti, President, Empire Communities; Paul Golini Sr., Empire Communities; Mayor Ron Eddy, County of Brant; Corey McBurney, Managing Director, EnerQuality Corporation; Peter Love, Chief Energy Conservation Officer of Ontario, Conservation Bureau

Empire makes 100% commitment to ENERGY STAR with the launch of it's "House of the Future"

Empire Communities is building your tomorrow house - today

At a ribbon cutting ceremony in Brantford's award-winning community of Wyndfield, Empire Communities unveiled its ENERGY STAR-qualified "House of the Future." With the launch of this energy-efficient home, Empire Communities, one of the provinces premier builders, has set the stage to build all of its low-rise homes to ENERGY STAR-qualified standards.

On hand to cut the ribbon were Peter Love, Chief Energy Conservation Officer of Ontario; MP Lloyd St. Amand (Brant); Mayor Mike Hancock, City of Brantford; Corey McBurney, Managing Director of EnerQuality Corporation; Mackenzie Adkin, Owens Corning; Daniel Guizzetti, President, Empire Communities; and Paul Golini Jr., Executive Vice-President Low Rise, Empire Communities.

The ENERGY STAR-qualified home, which took almost two years to complete from conception to production, was built as a prototype from which to model all of Empire's new low-rise homes. The aggressive move raises the bar to help combat climate change by reducing CO2 and other greenhouse gas emissions through better energy efficiency. Thanks to improved construction techniques, more insulation, better heating and air solutions as well as energy-efficient lighting and appliances, the home is about 30 per cent more energy-efficient than a home built to minimum building code requirements. The many improvements help reduce annual electricity consumption in the home by approximately 1,000 kWh and greenhouse gas emissions by up to three tonnes per year.

"Our decision to exclusively build energy-efficient homes will offset thousands of tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions every year, while benefiting our customers

through lower utility bills and increased comfort,” said Guizzetti. “For Empire, committing to energy-efficient home-building makes sense from every perspective. The environmental benefits are obvious, but these new homes will also be better all-round – more comfortable, better atmosphere, quieter – and just about every energy-efficient upgrade we’ve employed, pays for itself by reducing monthly expenses, so it’s all good news for our customers.”

During the project, Empire worked with consultants, trades and suppliers to carefully review drawings, material usage and construction practices, all with the goal of building a better, energy-efficient home, further reducing energy usage, thereby generating more savings on utility bills and improving comfort for the homeowner.

Love, impressed by Empire’s House of the Future, presented a coveted Certificate of Recognition, which read, “For your commitment to conserve energy and combat climate change by building a high performance house designed to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.”

“We can’t rely on legislation and regulation to move us toward more sustainable building practices,” said Love during the Certificate presentation. “We need builders like Empire to create opportunities for consumers to buy homes that set higher standards for energy-efficiency and reduced greenhouse gas emissions.”



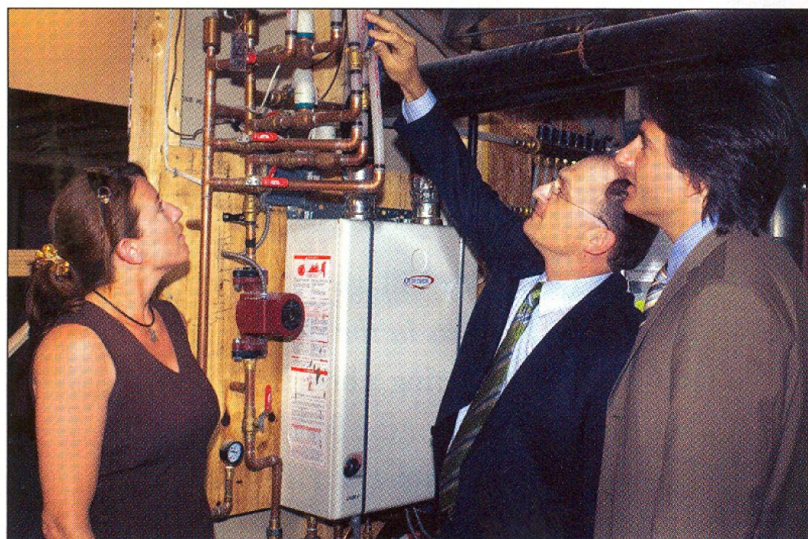
Certificate of Recognition Presentation to Empire. From left to right: Peter Love, Chief Energy Conservation Officer of Ontario, Conservation Bureau; Dan Guizzetti, President, Empire Communities; Paul Golini Jr., Executive Vice-President Low Rise, Empire Communities

The two-storey, 2,597-sq.-ft. home saves energy through an air tight, super-insulated building envelope exceeding ENERGY STAR for New Homes standards, with an integrated mechanical system complete with radiant ceramic flooring and bamboo hardwood floors.

“In an era when Green is both popular and so very important, Empire is leading the way by adopting construction standards that won’t be legislated for years,” said McBurney. “Empire is truly building Green homes of the future, delivering tangible environmental benefits and real cash-in-your-pocket savings, all while making a commitment to do even more.”

A Certificate of Recognition from the Conservation Bureau of Ontario wasn’t the only award Empire received. Adkin presented a certificate on behalf of Owens Corning recognizing Environmental Leadership. Guizzetti, excited with the results of the House of the Future, is proud to be leading a team that has made such a significant commitment to its homebuyers and also to the environment.

The sales office, located at 73 Blackburn Dr. in Brantford, is open from 1 to 7 p.m. For more information, visit www.empirecommunities.com or call 519-756-4554.



Dan Guizzetti (centre) inspects the hydronic piping leading to the radiant floor heating system, with Julia Kierans (left) and Paul Golini Jr. (right)

NEW HOMES