



Adera's Eric Andreasen, left, and Dennis Rithaler accept the award for Built Green BC Multi-Family Builder of the Year from GVHBA past chairman Peter Roskell.

Future is bright for local builders

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The lack of inventory in the region is another reason to build, Chrystal said, and noted there are currently 2,600 unsold homes, or a two-and-a-half-month supply, in Metro Vancouver.

"That's not a lot," he said.

Chrystal pointed to Canada's strong banking system as reason No. 7, and the fact that because of the country's stringent rules and stricter lending practices, "for the most part, you can get a loan ... try doing that south of the border."

Reason No. 8, said the apparent hockey fan, is that Vancouver is the "future home of the Stanley Cup Champions," at least, according to the *Hockey News*, a publication that predicted the Vancouver Canucks will win Lord Stanley's cup in 2011.

Ninth on Chrystal's list was B.C.'s annual immigration rates.

While many U.S. markets are faltering, British Columbia's market keeps "chugging along" due to the province's high immigration rates.

"We're going to end up around 50,000 this year," he said.

"If we didn't have these levels of immigration, the market would be in serious trouble."

And the No. 10 reason it's a great time to be a homebuilder in Metro Vancouver, Chrystal said, is the still-low quarterly interest rates related to mortgages.

"These are some of the lowest rates we'll see in our lifetime," he said.

Chrystal's view that the Metro Vancouver region is a bright spot in North America was applauded by a full house of his contemporaries.

GVHBA president and CEO Peter Simpson then announced the annual Association Awards of Excellence – **Black Press** (*New Local Home*, *RenoNation*, *U40 Special Edition*, *Open House*) was winner of the Marketing award, as was HomeTrader.ca, for their promotion of the GVHBA and its goals – and held its annual election.

The GVHBA elected **Todd Senft** as its 2010/2011 Chairman at the association's Annual Election Meeting in Coquitlam Oct. 6.

Senft is president of Vancouver-based reVISION Custom Home Renovations Inc., a prominent award-winning Lower Mainland RenoMark renovation professional.

Elected to the 2010/2011 GVHBA Executive Committee were First Vice-Chairman **Ben Taddei**, ParkLane Homes Ltd., Vancouver; Second Vice-Chairman **Blake Hudema**, Genstar Development Company, Burnaby; and Secretary/Treasurer **Avtar Johl**, Platinum Group of Companies, Surrey.

Immediate Past Chairman is **Peter Roskell**, Polygon Homes Ltd., Vancouver.

Elected to the 2010/2011 GVHBA Board of Directors were **Rob Currie**, Basement Systems Vancouver Inc., Delta; **Michelle Essery**, Walker Door & Window (International) Inc., Vancouver; **David Fisher**, Mitsui Homes Canada Inc., Langley; **John Friswell**,



Polygon Homes president and CEO Neil Chrystal addresses the crowd last week at a GVHBA dinner, awards and election event. *Christine Reid photos*

CCI Renovations, North Vancouver; **Rob Grimm**, Portrait Homes, Richmond; **Ross Gurney**, TD Financial Group, Vancouver; **Lynn Harrison**, Advanced Energy Group, Port Moody; **Richard Kaufmann**, Pacific Rim Cabinets Ltd., Delta; **Don Stratford**, Mosaic Avenue Construction Ltd., Vancouver;

and **David Worthington**, McQuarrie Hunter LLP, Surrey.

■ The GVHBA comprises more than 700 member companies representing developers, builders, renovators, sub-trades, suppliers, manufacturers and other industry-related professionals.

Awards given at dinner event

The Greater Vancouver Home Builders' Association presented its annual **Association Awards of Excellence** at the Executive Plaza Hotel in Coquitlam last week.

"The awards honour association members for their exceptional level of volunteer commitment and dedication to enhancing the professionalism of the homebuilding and renovation industries in the Metro Vancouver region," said GVHBA president and CEO **Peter Simpson**.

GVHBA Association Awards of Excellence

- Chairman's Award of Honour
Simone Sunderland, Green Sheet Construction Data Ltd., Port Moody
- Builder Member of the Year
ParkLane Homes Ltd., Vancouver
- Corporate Member of the Year
Dick's Lumber & Building Supplies, Burnaby
- Association Marketing Award
Black Press and **HomeTRADER.CA**, Surrey
- Technical Excellence Award
Ron Rapp, **Morningstar Homes Ltd.**, Coquitlam
- RenoMark Renovator Member of the Year
Jeff Bain, **JKB Construction Ltd.**, Port Coquitlam
- Supplier Member of the Year
Monarch Floor and Window Coverings, Burnaby
- Community Service Member of the Year
Scotiabank, Surrey
- Gary Santini Education & Training Award
MAC Marketing Solutions, Vancouver
- BuiltGreen Multi-Family Builder of the Year
Adera Development Corporation, Vancouver
- BuiltGreen Single-Family Builder of the Year
Springbank Development Corp., Vancouver
- Handshake Award (conducting business with the most GVHBA members)
Ralph Belisle, **TQ Construction Ltd.**, Burnaby