



**February 7, 2011**  
**For Immediate Release**

The Atlantic Chapter of the Canadian Association of Home and Property Inspectors (**CAHPI-Atlantic**) held its annual general meeting in Moncton, NB over the past weekend. The meeting was used to present educational sessions for the member home inspectors, to discuss association strategies in a number of important areas and to elect directors and the executive members for the next year.

CAHPI-Atlantic is a self-regulated body of Home and Property Inspectors that is a part of the Canadian Association of Home and Property Inspectors. CAHPI-Atlantic defines the qualifications and performance requirements of its members and grants the designations of "**Associate Member**" and "**Registered Home Inspector**" to qualified practitioners in the provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland & Labrador and Prince Edward Island.

One of the main goals of the CAHPI-Atlantic is to enhance the technical and professional performance of home inspectors through education.

The Canadian Association of Home and Property Inspectors (CAHPI) was formed in 1982, and is the national organization of member operated provincial/regional associations. CAHPI-Atlantic was formed in 1997 and is the Atlantic Canadian regional member of CAHPI.

Current strategies centre on gaining recognition for its members as a critical element in the consumer protection aspect of home purchase and ownership. A large percentage of home buyers will engage a professional home inspector to assist in determining the physical qualities of the largest purchase they are ever likely to make. CAHPI-Atlantic ensures that its members are well-prepared to provide that service to the highest possible standards. With its nationally recognized **Standards of Practice** and a rigid **Code of Ethics**, its members represent the very best of their profession.

At present, home inspectors work in an unregulated environment in all four Atlantic provinces. While British Columbia is currently the only province that has mandated the licensing of home inspectors, in an effort to eliminate the presence of under-qualified inspectors, other provinces are actively pursuing the licensing of that profession.

"Each of the four Atlantic provincial governments has been approached for preliminary discussions of licensing" says CAHPI-Atlantic President Blaine Swan, "but we are anxious to take those discussions to the next level. We know we can present the assurance of a high standard of consumer protection, but we want elected MLA's to understand that need. We're hoping consumers, bankers and REALTORS® will press their representatives to move forward with us." Although membership in the Association is voluntary at present, CAHPI-Atlantic believes it has all the infrastructure in place to take a lead role in effecting a licensing program for the profession. This could eliminate some of the need for, and expense of, a new government bureaucracy.

The recently elected Executive for CAHPI-Atlantic consists of Blaine Swan as President, Brian Hutchinson as Vice-president, Michael Guihan as VP-Newfoundland & Labrador, Sam Lorefice as Treasurer, Lawrence Englehart as Registrar and Armand Defresne as Secretary. Information for consumers and other interested parties is available through their web site at [www.cahpi-atl.com](http://www.cahpi-atl.com).

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