

Nice News



Canada's Home Inspector Certification Authority

June, 2019



The NHICC awarded government contract!

The NHICC was awarded a contract with Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) which involved the development of guidelines for a National Housing Standard for Primary Agriculture Review, Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFWP)

Each year close to 300,000 migrant workers enter Canada to work in the Agricultural Stream under the TFWP.

The NHICC was chosen over other notable organizations based on our vast knowledge of Canada's housing standards, and our impeccable credentials. This undertaking as you can imagine was a very detailed study on the current housing for the temporary foreign workers from across Canada with a draft proposal on how the Federal Government can develop a 'National Housing Standard' for employer provided housing to foreign workers working in agriculture.

Our report is based on an in-depth research, review and analysis of a multitude of policies and regulations from various government agencies, guidelines, municipal meeting reports, discussions with provincial representatives at the housing and health administration management level, a number of inspectors and various reports and academic papers on the topic of migrant worker housing. Since there is a vast array of policies and wide spread variation in what currently exist, it is evident that there is a dire need to adopt a comprehensive, uniform national regulation for accommodations for agricultural temporary foreign workers.

Under this program employers must provide TFWs with adequate, suitable and affordable housing and complete an inspection prior to being approved for the program. Currently without a national standard in place inspections are being performed by various entities across Canada with no one single body qualified to address this requirement.

Provincial, Territorial, Municipal bodies are currently using, Building, Health, Fire, or private home inspectors to meet this requirement, none of which are fully qualified. Areas of the inspection process cover parts of the National Building Code, National Fire Code, Provincial Health Regulations as well as a multitude of related Standards.

Opportunity Abounds!

As a result of our findings we have recommended the private home inspection profession as being best suited to provide these inspections. With this recommendation inspector's wishing

to be considered would have to undergo training to become competent in all aspects of the TFWP inspection process.

We are working on the development of a curriculum and training program with accreditation and certification for the successful applicant. Applications to this program will only be available to our NHICC registrants and poses a great opportunity to expand your business into this field.

NHICC RENEWALS

Well it's that time again, the "R" word – "renewals". Our fees are the lowest and most affordable of any association linked to home inspectors, primarily because we are a federal not-for profit "Certification Body". Our primary focus is "credentialing", thus we are limited in what other perks we can offer. Renewal notices will be emailed over the next 2 weeks.

Well one thing (perhaps perk) that has transpired is the benefit associated with our affiliation with ASHI. Certificate Holders and Registrants are now offered the reduced Canadian discount fee that was afforded to CAHPI and other associations such as OAHPI in the past. In fact we are also looking for current ASHI members that would like to become part of an NHICC affiliate member group. Let us know by emailing your interest in this new initiative.

In light of changes that have been occurring particularly with due consideration of "licensing", the NHICC along with the licensing entities call upon your accountability and readiness for an audit by regulatory authorities. We have successfully completed this task in the past; another review could happen in the near future. To assure reasonable accuracy of our records, and for your own personal/business communications and advertising accurateness we ask for your care in maintaining your information not only with us but also what is presented to the public.

Regional Examiners, Mentors & Committee Members

With the onset of retirements and those that have left the profession, we are in the position of adding to our cadre. We are looking for examiners and experienced practitioners that would be willing to share their knowledge and experience. If you are interested in helping serve the NHICC, we certainly look forward to hearing from you, and will provide additional support in this area.

Regards - NHICC Directors

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