

## Home Building Industry Supports Ontario Move to Tighter COVID-19 Restrictions to Combat Rising Cases

**Toronto, December 21, 2020** — Guelph & District Home Builders' Association (GDHBA) and Ontario Home Builders' Association (OHBA) support today's provincial government action to combat rising COVID-19 cases. While new home building and renovations may continue with strict protocols in place, the industry recognizes the important responsibility that comes with being an essential workplace designation.

"The members of the GDHBA have been enhancing their health and safety protocols by providing additional sanitation, applying physical distancing rules, illness reporting and logging the number of workers on job sites. Builders, renovators and suppliers are all working to keep our workers, clients and communities safe." said by GDHBA President, Tom McLaughlin.

Today's announcement is a necessary step to curb the growth in cases and support the health care system while the process of vaccination ramps up. Under the measures announced this afternoon, construction activities and supporting services may continue with enhanced COVID-19 protocols and inspections in place. Sales centres for new developments must move to virtual and/or appointment only.

"We all want to be safe at home and at work," said Joe Vaccaro, CEO of OHBA. "With these new restrictions, the Ontario government continues to make public safety the priority. Across Ontario, industry members have been continuously enhancing their health and safety and COVID-19 protocols. All of our members, from builders to renovators to suppliers, will continue to focus on public and worker safety while ensuring that thousands of families get the keys to the homes they have been waiting for across Ontario."

*The Guelph & District Home Builders' Association (GDHBA) is the voice for the residential construction industry in the Guelph and Wellington County area. We represent members from a wide range of businesses, including home builders, developers, renovators, trade contractors, product suppliers, service professionals, realtors, financial specialists, and more. GDHBA strives to improve new housing affordability and choice for new home purchasers and renovation consumers by positively impacting legislation, regulation, and policy that affect the industry.*

*The Ontario Home Builders' Association is the voice of the residential construction industry in Ontario, representing 4,000 member companies organized into 27 local associations across the province. The residential construction industry contributes over \$51 billion dollars to Ontario's economy, employing more than 330,000 people across the province.*