

Building industry crowns GTA's best at 2011 BILD Awards

It was a momentous evening for the building and development industry on April 29, 2011 as 34 of the GTA's premier homebuilders ascended to the stage at the BILD Awards in front of their colleagues, which included nearly a thousand builders, designers, sales and marketing professionals.

With over a thousand submissions and only 46 categories, the annual BILD Awards – presented by the Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD) – recognize the very best of the GTA's new home construction industry. Now in its 31st year, the Awards also mark the 90th anniversary of the Association's inauguration.

Mattamy Homes reclaimed its title as Home Builder of the Year, earning the prestigious award for the fourth time since its inception in 1998. The winner of this award is determined based on the Association's survey of the builder's recent occupants in various communities, and Mattamy came through with outstanding results.

The High-Rise Green Builder of the Year award once again landed in the hands of defending champion Tridel, who is now 'four for five' in this category. This Award's low-rise counterpart was captured by Empire Communities, a rookie in this category but a well-deserved winner.

Other pinnacle awards this evening were more development-oriented, including the Places to Grow Community of the Year – which recognize a development most reflective of the goals of the provincial Places to Grow legislation – and the Project of the Year awards.

World on Yonge, the mixed-use office, retail and residential condo community in Thornhill by Liberty Development Corporation, was crowned Places to Grow Community of the Year in the high-rise sector.

Mason Homes' Peterborough community Avonlea won top honours as Places to Grow Community of the Year Low-Rise for its combination of smart growth and new urbanism with green building initiatives.

MOD Developments and Graywood Developments, whose Five St. Joseph development earned a leading four awards when the night was over, were awarded High-Rise Project of the Year. Meanwhile, Mattamy Homes was victorious on the low-rise side for its Mount Pleasant Village community.

The evening was made extra special with a presentation of BILD's rare and very prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award. "This is an award that has been more than 80 years and 70,000 units in the making," said BILD Chair Paul Golini Jr. as he presented the award to Angelo, Elvio and Leo DelZotto of Tridel. "This is truly a lifetime of achievement."

The Riley Brethour Award for outstanding and consistent professional achievement in residential sales and marketing was presented to Jeanhy Shim of Streetcar Developments via video by Andy Brethour of PMA Brethour Realty Group.

"As Chair of BILD, it brings me great pleasure to lead an Association that has operated on a level of such professionalism and dedication for the past 90 years," Golini said. "As I look around the room and see so many of the industry's most respected faces, I can truly say that those walking out of this room with trophies in hand really are the best of the best."

Throughout the night, BILD's social media team documented the event's proceedings with live updates via Twitter (twitter.com/bildgta), Facebook (facebook.com/bildgta), Youtube (youtube.com/bildgta) and BILD's official online blog (bildblogs.ca). For a complete list of recipients, as well as winners from previous years, visit www.bildawards.com.

With more than 1,350 members, BILD, formed through the merger of the Greater Toronto Home Builders' Association and Urban Development Institute/Ontario, is the voice of the land development, home building and professional renovation industry in the Greater Toronto Area. BILD is proudly affiliated with the Ontario and Canadian Home Builders' Associations.



Mattamy Homes was named 2011 Home Builder of the Year by BILD



Great Gulf Homes was the recipient of BILD's Best Newspaper Ad – High-Rise for One Bloor



BILD's Best Public Relations Campaign went to Geranium Homes for The Neighbourhoods of Cardinal Point