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Excel Homes: Celebrating the Past, Present & Future 35 Years and Still Ahead of the Curve



Excel Homes' team with 25 BUILT GREEN® Platinum plaques.

Excel Homes has been celebrating their 35th anniversary with new housing models commemorating this milestone, sale pricing and bonuses, customer appreciation events, giveaways and more. Meanwhile, their Edmonton division jumped to BUILT GREEN® Platinum, plus capping off their anniversary year being named Best Employer in North America for 2023!

Over this past year, Excel Homes has been celebrating their 35th anniversary with new housing models commemorating this milestone, sale pricing and bonuses, customer appreciation events, giveaways and more. Meanwhile, their Edmonton division jumped to BUILT GREEN® Platinum, plus capping off their anniversary year being named Best Employer in North America for 2023!

Kincentric Best Employers partners with organizations to improve their health from the inside, transform at scale, and achieve Best-Employer levels of performance. As part of this, they perform a robust assessment that measures and identifies organizations that have transformed their people practices, driving better results.

This genuine commitment to their people is part of Excel Homes' core values—playing into their larger theme of responsibility: to their people, their customers, and the environment. They consider the impact of their actions and aim to be an industry leader in areas like human resources, sustainability, and inclusivity. It's a forward-looking perspective that has pushed them ahead of the curve.

Since 2007, they've voluntarily verified their energy performance—and green features beyond energy. They're a long-standing Built Green builder: among a handful that were early adopters of Built Green's third-party certified sustainable building programs. These programs support builders in achieving code compliance and building beyond it. Built Green Canada provides performance-based pathways to enable improvements in energy efficiency for code and across seven other critical aspects of sustainability, also addressing materials, air quality, water, waste, wellness, durability, and more, including encouraging greenhouse gas reductions and carbon reporting.

In June, Built Green Canada awarded 25 BUILT GREEN® Platinum third-party certifications for Excel Edmonton homes—an outstanding achievement and jump in certification levels that reflects their efforts across all those aspects of Built Green's holistic green building program. [Read more.](#)

“By remaining focused on our customer and supporting our teams, we're able to drive innovative solutions to prepare for our changing landscape. Building BUILT GREEN® homes is just the right thing to do for our people and for future generations to come.”

- President and CEO, Sean Nolan, Excel Homes and APEX Group of Companies

Naikoon Achieves BUILT GREEN® Net Zero Energy+ on Vancouver Renovation!

A truly impressive, high-performance renovation, this began to create greater accessibility: accommodating intergenerational living, courtesy of one of our longest standing members, [Naikoon Contracting Ltd.](#) This North-Vancouver-based builder / renovator certified through our BUILT GREEN® Net Zero Energy+ program, which maintains energy as its fundamental component, then goes beyond to address other pillars of sustainability, including the preservation of natural resources, reduction of pollution and GHG emissions, ventilation and air quality, water and waste, home durability, and more—this is represented in the program's title, with the “+” sign.



Not only did they reach net zero energy, Naikoon addressed other critical areas of sustainability, while enabling aging in place. This started with renovations for an accessible lower floor suite for aging family members, and continued to enhance indoor air quality and occupant comfort using VOC-free, non-toxic materials and installing a high-efficiency HRV. This project also incorporates induction cooktops, heat pumps and a rooftop solar array with energy storage—helping the home achieve zero carbon emission operation. The rooftop solar array offsets electrical usage, including dual car charging ports, and supplies excess electricity to [BC Hydro's](#) net metering program. It's also the first [CHBA](#) Net Zero Renovation in Vancouver, and one of first in British Columbia.

Naikoon's exemplary achievement as a high performance, sustainable renovator reflects their ongoing efforts and outstanding leadership in progressing sustainability practices!

A Year in Review



2023 saw war, weather-related disasters, and interest rate hikes. During the year, Canadians focused on the war in Ukraine, as well as the ongoing war in Israel and Gaza, destructive wildfires and flooding, and the ever-rising interest rate hikes—a total of three, after seven [Bank of Canada rate hikes] in 2022.

Meanwhile, industry faced building code changes; the ever-present problematic inflation and interest rates; sustained supply chain issues; and our safety, between the outcomes of climate disasters, as well as the ongoing influenza and COVID-19 threat, though less severe. The collision of these challenges, alongside increased material prices, labour shortages, and an ongoing affordability crisis, meant we all faced another year of economic uncertainty. As well, some areas of the country were heavier hit with surprising growth, due to a resurgent energy sector and population growth.

We continue to be reminded of both the fragility and resilience of the human condition; issues like COVID and weather disasters have also shone a light on another health emergency—climate change and its impact on our health, safety, and well-being. Many of 2023's challenges were inextricably linked with climate change, sharing our need for improved health and sustainability practices that support this.

In parallel, Energy Step Code requirements increased, and National Energy Tier Code's adoption is planned for most jurisdictions across the country through 2024—builders need to be ready. Compliance is achieved through a performance or a prescriptive route, but minimum energy efficiency is required: a base level that all builders must achieve.

With standardized energy performance, the differentiator for builders that was originally associated with energy alone is gone (beyond cases of exceptionally high performance). Our third-party certification programs take a holistic approach, with eight pillars of sustainability: Energy & Envelope, Materials & Methods, Indoor Air Quality, Ventilation, Waste Management, Water Conservation, Occupant Wellness, and Business Practices.

Building code fits into just one of these sections, and it refers to the minimum requirement that everyone must do. We can help industry reach those targets and address sustainability beyond energy—beyond status quo.

Built Green's approach recognizes the house as a system: an interconnected sum of its parts, which affect each other and contribute to the occupant's quality of life and environmental impact. It's within this holistic approach and third-party verification, that you can find that important differentiator: your competitive advantage.

The path forward will see increased attention on sustainable living—economical, societal, and ecological factors will all be considered to a greater extent because these can impact our welfare, security, and health. This offers the residential building sector an important opportunity: to build on its sustainably efforts—to take another step forward in building better. This means consideration beyond energy performance to other critical areas, which are addressed in our programs.

For **Activity Highlights**, [read more](#).

Success Indicators



As at December 31, we had a five per cent increase in membership and a total of 4,449 new certified homes, including high density units. That means there are this many more living spaces added to the country's housing stock that are more energy efficient, sustainably built, as well

A Year in Review cont.

as tested and verified through third-party certification! This represents an increase of 20 per cent over previous year. There was also a six per cent increase in single family enrolments and a six per cent increase in high density projects during 2023, reflecting certification intentions moving forward.

These numbers are a continued testament to builders' ongoing leadership in progressing sustainable building practices and meeting the demand for high-performance homes, while faced with socio-economic challenges and policy changes. **Moreover, 2023's numbers pushed our cumulative total over 50,000 BUILT GREEN® certified homes since our origins in 2003!**

2023 Builders Certifying BUILT GREEN® Projects

Congratulations to all our Built Green builders, listed below, who certified during 2023. Thank you for choose to go beyond building code and beyond status quo—we're grateful to partner with industry leaders, and we look forward to another year working alongside you to progress sustainability practices in the residential building sector!

1326037 Alberta Ltd.	Hasler Homes Ltd.
Agius Builders Ltd.	Heatherbrae Builders Co. Ltd.
Allaire Construction Inc.	Highstreet Ventures Inc.
Allweather Builders	J. Zsiros Contracting Ltd.
Aquila Homes Ltd.	Jayman BUILT
Averton Group	Kanas Holdings Corporation
British Pacific Properties	Kang and Gill Construction Ltd.
Brookfield Residential	Khataw Development Ltd.
Buildiko Homes & Construction Ltd.	Klair Custom Homes Ltd.
Canvas Custom Homes	Landmark Homes Inc.
Cardel Lifestyles	Laval Developments Ltd.
Carrera Management Corporation	Legacy Signature Homes Inc.
Castera Properties Inc.	Lenel Construction Co. Ltd.
Christenson Developments Ltd.	Logel Homes
Citimark Development Corp.	LWE Builders
Città Construction Ltd.	McKee Homes Ltd.
City Homes Master Builder Inc.	Melcom Homes
CKDESIGN Licensed Int. Design	Modern General Contractors
Coast Essential Construction Ltd.	Naikoon Contracting
Colbray Homes Ltd.	Paramax Homes Ltd.
Crystal Creek Homes Inc.	Partners Development Group Ltd.
Devonian Properties Inc.	Pioneer Luxury Homes Ltd.
Distinctive Homes Inc.	Paulsun Holdings Ltd.
Effect Home Builders	Posh Builders
Ellenwood Homes Ltd.	Rococo Homes Inc.
Excel Homes	Rosecrest Homes Ltd.
Fine Built Homes Ltd.	Savanna Homes
GableCraft Homes	Scagliati Homes Ltd.
Gary Sandhu Developments Ltd.	Sidhu Homes
Gemwood Construction Ltd.	Spring Creek Mountain Village
Generations Master Builder Inc.	Sterling Homes Ltd.
GNB Builders Inc.	True Home Construction
Grace Projects Inc.	Truman Homes
Green City Homes Ltd.	Tyee Homes
Greener Homes Ltd.	Upland Developments Ltd.
GW Developments	Urban Pioneer Infill Inc.
H K Homes Ltd.	Verity Construction Ltd.





Spotlight on Greenhouse Gases & Carbon Reporting with Built Green



A greenhouse gas (GHG) is any that absorbs and re-emits heat, thereby keeping the planet warmer than it otherwise would be. The main GHGs in the earth's atmosphere are water vapour, carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), and ozone.

GHGs occur naturally in our atmosphere; however, human activities—such as burning fossil fuels, cutting trees, industrial activity—exacerbate the process: increasing GHG levels, which prevents ground heat from dissipating into space. This phenomenon is called the greenhouse effect: causing global warming and climate change.

CO₂ is the most common GHG emitted by human activities in terms of the quantity released and the total impact on global warming. Carbon is a chemical element present in many gases and compounds (e.g. carbon combines with oxygen to create carbon dioxide). The term “carbon” is used in various ways when talking about greenhouse gas emissions, and therefore tends to be ambiguous and potentially confusing—it's used as a shorthand expression to refer to either just CO₂ or to greenhouse gases in general (although not all GHGs contain carbon) (*Matthew Brander, ecometrica*).

Meanwhile, there's increased focus on GHGs related to the home's construction. Embodied carbon refers to the greenhouse gas emissions associated with materials and construction processes throughout the lifecycle of a building including emissions from material extraction, manufacture, transportation, construction, replacement, refurbishment, demolition, removal, and other processes. This does not include emissions from the building's energy use.

We Encourage GHG & Carbon Awareness & Reductions



Currently, GHG carbon reporting is an option in our programs and not a requirement; however, select municipalities are already setting target reduction requirements, while the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes is expected for 2025 National Building Code. Embodied carbon requirements are expected for 2030 codes.

Built Green strongly encourages GHG and carbon reporting to support industry's readiness for incoming requirements. For 2024, we have expanded the opportunities to earn points through the Energy & Envelope section of our program as listed below:

Calculate and provide the GHG emission reductions, based on the energy modelling results (see tab on BUILT GREEN® Checklist to calculate):

- 10% reduction from [ERS] reference house for 1 point;
- 20% reduction for 2 points;
- 30% reduction for 3 points.

And / Or

Builder performs life-cycle analysis (Operational + Embodied Carbon). Life-Cycle Specialist conducts a Cradle-to-Gate analysis for 2 points; a Cradle-to-Grave analysis for 4 points, or a Cradle-to-Cradle analysis for 6 points. Builder may use a recognized Material Carbon Emissions Estimator (MCE2) such as Natural Resources Canada's Material Carbon Emissions Estimator (MCE2).

Or

Builder provides Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) for materials used in the house (1 point for 2 EPDs to maximum of 4 points).

Operational & Embodied Carbon: Checklist Items



Throughout our programs, there are checklist items that contribute to the reduction of GHGs, both operationally and embodied carbon. To raise awareness of these checklist items and encourage builders to consider impacts, we've identified them in a separate checklist. Reviewing these will assist you in directly equating your checklist item choices to reductions.

For more information on these checklist items, please [contact us](#).

Built Green Launches Inaugural Maverick Awards

Niche awards profiling trailblazers in sustainability

Over the last 20 years, it's been Built Green Canada's mission to progress green building practices towards a more sustainable future in the built environment—and this new awards program recognizes industry leaders embodying that work.



Have you faced challenges in your projects that require innovative solutions? Maybe you've sustainably transformed a project, build site, or your company? Do you discuss the BUILT GREEN® programs with other industry members—or perhaps you advocate for BUILT GREEN® certification within your own company?

The Mavericks focus on three exclusive categories:



- **Innovation Award** recognizes creative ways sustainable building is happening and progressing industry.
- **Transformational Award** recognizes the impact sustainability practices can have in driving real change.
- **Ambassador Award** recognizes those on the ground, encouraging and promoting sustainable building.

If you're an individual / organization that meets the criteria—or you have a project that does—submit for your chance to be profiled as a sustainability trailblazer: a Maverick! You can also nominate someone else.

Our Maverick Awards take a non-traditional approach in that they don't culminate with an event—neither in person nor online; rather, the profile of our winners is celebrated through the development of professional asset creation—including short-form videos and feature articles—and extensive promotional activity, with both paid and earned media that spotlights our Mavericks and sponsors. The benefits go well beyond the confines of an event, and marketing and communications activity will occur throughout the entire year! More information [here](#).

Entry Deadline: February 15, 2024

Request entry package: mavericks@builtgreencanada.ca

Sponsorship Opportunities



We're committed to partnering with businesses working towards a more sustainable future, and with our new Maverick Awards, we offer a few sponsorship opportunities—including Awards Categories at \$2,500 each or Title Sponsor at \$7,500—and extend the comprehensive benefits. By teaming up to support our mission to continue progressing sustainable building practices, your customers will see your values in action! If you're interested in exploring this opportunity, please [contact us](#).

Your Pathway to a Competitive Advantage



Our programs are affordable and offer ease of navigation and the flexibility for you to choose from a number of green features, depending on what best suits your build, customer, and budget.

Whether you're in a jurisdiction that's adopted 9.36, Energy Step Code, or Energy Tier Code, all builders face increased energy performance requirements—the competitive advantage originally associated with energy alone is gone (beyond cases of exceptionally high performance).

Through BUILT GREEN® certification, you gain an advantage over other builders—our programs take a holistic approach that includes the preservation of natural resources, reduction of pollution, ventilation and air quality, and the improvement of home durability. Yours is a more sustainable build: verified with certification!

Our third-party certification programs support builders in building more sustainable homes. Our five levels of certification allow builders at varying stages to progress incrementally.

Many builders certifying BUILT GREEN® are long-time leaders and innovators who have been with us since our beginning, while others have chosen to certify their builds along the way. We acknowledge their collective contributions to progressing sustainable building and providing healthier, more sustainable homes for their homebuyers!

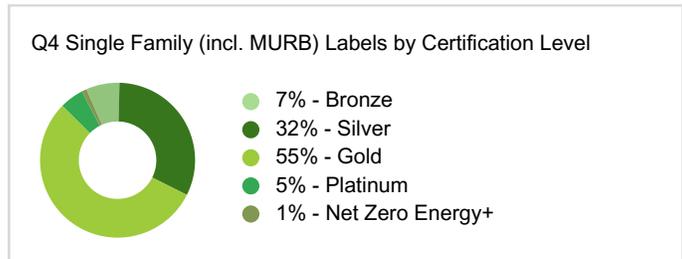
Single Family Program

The origins of our flagship program, [Single Family New Construction](#), are in 2003, when the organization was formed. It's a two-in-one certification: the EnerGuide label through [Natural Resources Canada](#) and our BUILT GREEN® label.

Certification Numbers

Congratulations to all builders who verified their builds through BUILT GREEN® certification this quarter:

Allweather Builders, Averton Group, British Pacific Properties, Brookfield Residential, Carrera Management Corporation, Città Construction Ltd, City Homes Master Builder, CKDESIGN Licensed Int. Design, Crystal Creek Homes, Effect Home Builders, Excel Homes, Fine Built Homes, GableCraft Homes, Garry Sandhu Developments Ltd, Hasler Homes Ltd, J. Zsiros Contracting Ltd, Jayman BUILT, Kang and Gill Construction Ltd, Klair Custom Homes, Kanas Corporation, Khataw Development, Klair Custom Homes Ltd, Legacy Signature Homes Inc, LWE Builders, McKee Homes Ltd, Naikoon Contracting Ltd, Partners Development Group, Rococo Homes Inc, Rosecrest Homes Ltd, Sterling Homes Edmonton, Sterling Homes Calgary, True Homes Construction Ltd, Tyee Homes, Urban Pioneer Infill Inc, and Verity Construction.



Net Zero Energy+ Homes Highlighted



Built Green's Net Zero Energy+ certification is the highest certification level a project can achieve. On their EnerGuide label, these projects earned 100 per cent lower than reference house, while achieving incremental improvement across the other seven areas of our programs—verifying energy efficiency and green features!

Special shout out to all who achieved BUILT GREEN® Net Zero Energy+ certification on their single family projects this quarter!

Congratulations to Greener Homes Ltd. (1), J. Zsiros Contracting Ltd. (1), Naikoon Contracting Ltd. (1), and Rosecrest Homes Ltd. (2).

Check out some of these Net Zero Energy+ projects.

Greener Homes Ltd.

- Energy Advisor: Green Wave Consultants Ltd.
- Lethbridge, AB



[Greener Homes Ltd.](#) was able to optimize energy efficiency while increasing occupant comfort by incorporating green features such as an HRV system for a constant supply of fresh, filtered air; solar panels on the roof that generate enough power to cover all household needs; the use of geothermal systems for cooling and heating; triple-pane, passive solar windows; and more. Additionally, the project was designed for aging-in-place, including features like wheelchair accessibility through the garage and back entrance, raised laundry machines, and a walk-in shower.

J. Zsiros Contracting Ltd.

- Energy Advisor: Enertech Solutions Ltd.
- Qualicum Beach, BC



[J. Zsiros Contracting Ltd.](#) continues to demonstrate their environmental leadership by consistently achieving BUILT GREEN® Platinum, but this quarter they were awarded BUILT GREEN® Net Zero Energy+! This project was built using environmental, low-formaldehyde, VOC-free, durable products with sustainably sourced lumber. During construction, they implemented a recycling program and encouraged their suppliers and trades to responsibly dispose of their own waste.

Rosecrest Homes

- Energy Advisor: Enerspec Energy Consulting and Home Inspections Inc.
- Edmonton, AB



Rosecrest Homes Ltd. was awarded two BUILT GREEN® Net Zero Energy+ certifications this quarter! Guided by their mission to construct energy efficient, high-quality homes that will last a lifetime, this project includes durable materials, sustainably sourced lumber, solar panels, air source heat pump and hot water tank, DWHR unit and more green features and sustainable building practices.

Platinum Homes Highlighted



Next to Built Green's Net Zero Energy+ certification, Platinum is the highest certification level a project can achieve. On their EnerGuide label, these projects earned at least 30 per cent lower than reference house, while achieving incremental improvement across the other seven areas of our programs—verifying energy efficiency and green features!

Special shout out to all who achieved BUILT GREEN® Platinum certification on their single family projects this quarter!

Congratulations to Effect Home Builders (3), Excel Homes (17), Legacy Signature Homes (2), LWE Builders (1), Melcom Homes (1), Naikoon Contracting Ltd. (2), Rococo Homes Inc. (4), Sterling Homes Calgary (1), Sterling Homes Edmonton (6), True Homes Construction Ltd. (1), and Tyee Homes (1).

Check out some of these beautiful, sustainably built projects!

Effect Home Builders

- Energy Advisor: Sun Ridge Residential Inc.
- Edmonton, AB



Optimizing space and functionality, this project includes a superior building envelope with an ICF foundation, additional insulation, a high-efficiency furnace, and an HRV system for improved comfort and air quality. This home by Effect Home Builders is situated in a secluded location with optimal views, providing a serene environment to enjoy nature.

Excel Homes

- Energy Advisor: Oasis Engineering and Enerspec Energy Consulting and Home Inspections Inc.
- Edmonton, AB



Committed to building their homes to a higher standard, Excel Homes certified an impressive 17 BUILT GREEN® Platinum homes this quarter! They include many green features in each of their homes such as EnergyStar rated appliances, high-efficiency combo furnace and hot water system, smart thermostats, and more. (See more in cover page feature).

Legacy Signature Homes

- Energy Advisor: Enviromatics Group Ltd.
- Edmonton, AB



Legacy Signature Homes certified two BUILT GREEN® Platinum homes this quarter. As is standard across all their builds, this project includes triple-glazed windows, EIFS insulation, HRV and high-efficiency mechanical systems. This home also features a rooftop balcony with views from both the front and rear!

Melcom Homes

- Energy Advisor: 4 Elements Integrated Design Ltd.
- Calgary, AB



Located in EchoHaven, a sustainable community in northwest Calgary, this project by Melcom Homes has a lower environmental impact, as it relies on renewable energy sources, utilizing a six-kilowatt solar panel system and is absent of natural gas on-site. The home has triple-pane windows, an energy-efficient heat pump and a tankless water heater—all minimizing energy consumption.

Rococo Homes Inc.

- Energy Advisor: Enviromatics Group Ltd.
- Spruce Grove, AB



This home by **Rococo Homes Inc.** is solar and EV-charging ready with many other green features like low-E, triple-pane windows, HRV system, high-efficiency boiler and furnace. It also includes natural design elements like wood floors and stone, big windows that optimize natural light, and heated floors in the basement. Rococo Homes Inc. builds quality homes with stand-out craftsmanship that goes into each project—plus they're affordable. They certified four BUILT GREEN® Platinum homes this quarter!

Sterling Homes Edmonton

- Energy Advisor: Enviromatics Group Ltd.
- Edmonton, AB



Sterling Homes Edmonton certified six BUILT GREEN® Platinum homes this quarter! Using locally manufactured, durable and sustainably sourced products, these homes also include low-VOC and formaldehyde-free materials, and energy-efficient, ENERGY STAR windows and appliances.

True Home Construction Ltd.

- Energy Advisor: Enertech Solutions Ltd.
- Sooke, BC

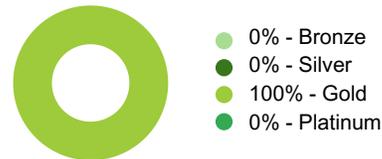


Improving occupant comfort and indoor air quality, this project by **True Home Construction Ltd.** has a thermostat and HRV controller, HEPA filtration system and used a carpet free design with all vinyl plank floors GREENGUARD gold certified. This project also had more than a 20 per cent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions!

High Density Program

Our **High Density New Construction** program applies to multi-storey, residential tower, and mixed-use projects. During the fourth quarter, high density projects were completed and are featured here. These progressive builders demonstrate leadership in the residential building industry and verify their exemplary work with certification.

Q4 High Density Labels by Certification Level



Congratulations to Città Group and Kang & Gill Construction Ltd.

Città Group – The Gables

- 17 units, condominiums – Qualicum Beach, BC
- BUILT GREEN® HD Verifier: Roger Chayer, Talus Green Building Consulting



Città Group was awarded BUILT GREEN® Gold on The Gables! Improving indoor air quality and ventilation, this project includes an air filtration system, HRV and HVAC system with humidity control for each unit, with low-VOC and low-formaldehyde products. These sustainably built homes are near urban amenities and are great for occupants who desire the island lifestyle and the scenic beauty of the west coast.

Kang and Gill Construction Ltd. – The Affinity

- 68 units, condominiums – Saanich, BC
- BUILT GREEN® HD Verifier: Roger Chayer, Talus Green Building Consulting



Kang and Gill Construction Ltd. achieved BUILT GREEN® Gold on The Affinity! The project has extensively landscaped grounds with close proximity to parks and walking trails. It also includes a recycling collection room, an EV charging station, programmable thermostats, and energy-efficient appliances—encouraging an eco-friendly lifestyle for its occupants.

2024 Program Updates

Our annual checklist updates are a result of input received from industry, code changes, new technologies, alongside our Technical Standards Committee and the Board of Directors. These changes are not substantial: some items were removed because they were no longer applicable, while others were updated for greater clarity.

Spotlight on GHG & Carbon Awareness & Reductions



Over the last few years, we have encouraged GHG reporting for points, based on reduction results. While this is an option in our programs and not a requirement; however, select municipalities are already setting the target reduction requirements, while the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes is discussing this for 2025 National Building Code.

Built Green strongly encourages greenhouse gases and carbon reporting to support industry's readiness for incoming requirements. For 2024, we have expanded the opportunities to earn points through the Energy & Envelope section of our programs to include providing GHG emission reductions; and/or builder performing life-cycle analysis—whether that be Cradle-to-Gate, Cradle-to-Grave, or Cradle-to-Cradle; or providing an Environmental Product Declaration for materials used in the house.

**Contact your NRCan licensed Energy Advisor regarding a recognized Material Carbon Emissions Estimator (MEC2).

Raising the Flag on Government's Increased Focus on the Preservation of Our Natural Resources

Water Security



The wild card in the water world is climate change, which most experts predict will exacerbate water-quality and water-availability problems. Demand will increase, while changes in rainfall patterns and increased evapotranspiration will reduce resource availability. The likely result will be an increase in water-stressed areas across Canada. Water transfer from the land to the atmosphere by evaporation from the soil and other surfaces and by transpiration from plants.

Provincial governments have the constitutional responsibility for water supply. In varying degrees, the provinces are increasingly monitoring conditions and working closely with water users and local governments to help manage and conserve water where possible.¹

¹Policy Options

Please revisit our Water Conservation section for further consideration.

Waste



Meanwhile, environment ministers from the federal, provincial, and territorial governments work together to improve waste reduction policies and practices across Canada. Built Green Canada has received increased inquiries from municipal governments on waste diversion. Please revisit our Waste Management section for further consideration.

Municipal governments manage the collection, recycling, composting, and disposal of household waste, while provincial and territorial authorities establish waste reduction policies and programs, approve and monitor waste management facilities and operations.

Other Areas of Focus



Please consider checklist items related to disaster preparedness and home modifications for aging in place, as well as the [Water Efficiency Rating Score](#) (WERS) certification, which is an option for Water Conservation.

2024 Program Checklists

- Single Family New Construction (incl. *Net Zero Energy+ & **Restorations)
- Single Family MURB New Construction
- Single Family Renovations
- Single Family Small Home Improvement (incl. Bathroom, Basement & Kitchen)
- High Density New Construction (multi-storey, residential tower, mixed-use + Renovations)
- Communities – Pilot
- Small Commercial – Pilot

For full list of checklist updates, [click here](#).

*For BUILT GREEN® Net Zero Energy+, BUILT GREEN® Gold or Platinum projects that reach net zero energy (home produces as much energy as it uses) Built Green recognizes this achievement, providing additional eligibility requirements have been met:

- 1) Builder has passed [Built Green Net Zero Energy for New Construction](#) training.
- 2) Builder is working with an Energy Advisor who has also successfully taken this training.

Built Green's Net Zero Energy+ is the highest level of certification. It isn't just about the energy; rather, the "+" represents all the other areas achieved beyond the energy performance. [More here](#).

**Our Restorations program, included in the Single Family New Construction checklist, follows the same format as our Single Family program's approach which is a two-in-one certification: the EnerGuide label through Natural Resources Canada and the BUILT GREEN® label through Built Green Canada. [Learn more](#).

Program Reminder: Enrolments - March 31 Deadline



Projects using the 2023 checklists must be enrolled by March 31, 2024. Should there be extenuating circumstances, [contact us](#).

Multi-Generational Housing – Calling for Industry Input



If you build multi-generational housing, does this automatically mean you're creating a secondary suite? If not, how are you addressing the ventilation and mechanical systems to accommodate an increased hot water load? How are you addressing indoor air quality?

According to the last census, we know that the number of Canadians in 2021—living with multiple generations, two or more families under one roof, or a family living with additional people—was close to 1 million and numbers continue to increase. Meanwhile, the building code is ¹ based on two adults and one child.

We'd love to hear from you, [contact us](#).

¹ [More Canadians living with multiple generations in fastest-growing housing arrangement](#).

COMING SOON – Renovation Program Relaunch: Encouraging Professional Renovations



We know renovations are notoriously challenging and unique—and not always straightforward... but we want to ensure our programs continue to be! In our mission to meet industry where they're at, our programs are designed to add value to any kind of renovation—and provide proof of sustainability gains.

Expanding our holistic, practical pathways to sustainability practices, we're offering professional renovators and restorers more options to enhance their projects, regardless of location, budget, or priorities.

Single Family Renovations

- Whole House (75% or more)
- Renovations (40 - 70%)
- Small Home Improvements

High Density Renovations

- Mixed-Use
- Repurposed
- Heritage

Built Green in the News



Over the fourth quarter of 2023, Built Green-related media coverage was picked up by a number of outlets, including:

BEC Green, Calgary Herald, Canadian Business Journal, Canadian Family, Canadian Geographic, Canadian Industry Online, Canadian Insider, Canadian Underwriter, CEO. CA, Construction Marketing Ideas, Corporate Knights, Daily Guardian, Daily Hive, Masthead, Terra Daily, Terrace Standard, Western Built Magazine, Yahoo Finance Canada, and more.

Attention all Asset Managers

GRESB recognizes **BUILT GREEN®** projects for ESG Reporting



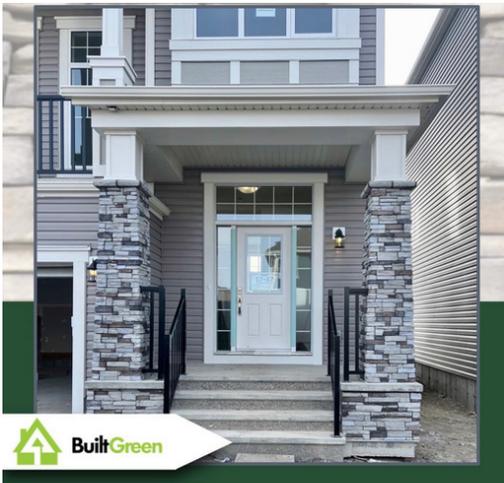
Built Green Canada has been recognized through the international organization, **GRESB**—it's a mission-driven and industry-led organization that provides actionable and transparent environmental, social, and governance (ESG) data to financial markets. They collect, validate, score, and independently benchmark ESG data to provide business intelligence, engagement tools, and regulatory reporting solutions for investors, asset managers, and the wider industry. Increasingly, those holding assets want to report on their environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria to help their stakeholders understand how their organization is managing risks and opportunities.

We've been approved for full points through their Design / Construction category!

GRESB provides a rigorous methodology and consistent framework to measure the ESG performance of individual assets and portfolios based on self-reported data. Performance assessments are guided by what investors and the wider industries consider to be material issues, and they are aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Climate Agreement and major international reporting frameworks. Data is reported to the relevant GRESB Assessment each year on a regular cycle and are validated by a third party and scored before being used to generate the following ESG benchmarks.

Featured BUILT GREEN® Approved Product Post

selkirkstoneca
...



❤️
💬
📌

selkirkstoneca Consumer demand for sustainable homes is increasing. That's why we are proud that our products are BuiltGreen-approved! ✅

With a BuiltGreen home, you will enjoy a healthier, more durable home with a lower environmental impact and economic benefits.

Featured Post

vivendagroup
Calgary, Alberta, Canada
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vivendagroup Vivenda Group just added a 4th @builtgreencanada certified building to our portfolio! We're so excited to have reached another milestone in our commitment to the environment and sustainably managed properties!

We believe training is essential.



Built Green offers affordable online training that guides builders through practical methods that foster continuous improvements to building practices.

Our builder membership requirements include updated training every two years—plus, checklist points (Business Practices) can be earned for extra staff and trades undergoing training! The below courses are valuable for new or long-standing members.

[Register now](#)



BUILT GREEN® Program Fundamentals – NEWLY UPDATED

\$150 for members / \$250 for non-members

Even for long-time members, this is a great refresher: on what Built Green is about and how you can leverage the benefits. A requirement for new builders, this course focuses on the fundamental aspects of the program to orient participants on how to work with Built Green; introduce you to the administrative and technical requirements; prepare you to successfully navigate our quality assurance processes; and offer resources to help you be successful at building BUILT GREEN® homes. We strongly recommend building science training as a natural progression.

- 3 CPD points – BC Housing
- Master Building training credits – PHBI



Construction Technology for Built Green

\$276.50 for members / \$395 for non-members

An excellent building science course by Blue House Energy, it addresses the house-as-a-system concept; the role of sustainable development in construction; how building science affects building durability and occupant comfort; the signs, symptoms, and solutions for good indoor air quality; building envelope details and how they control or contribute to heat, air, and moisture flows; and mechanical systems.

- 20 CPD points – BC Housing
- Master Building training credits – PHBI



Built Green Net Zero Energy for New Construction

\$276.50 for members / \$395 for non-members

For those working toward net zero, this series of training modules supports our Net Zero Energy+ certification program. It introduces concepts and techniques for developing high performance and net zero energy new construction projects. In addition to advanced envelope and mechanical system content, the course includes discussion on how occupant behaviour impacts the overall energy use in a house and affects the sizing of renewable energy systems.

- 20 CPD points – BC Housing
- Master Building training credits – PHBI



Built Green Whole-House Energy Retrofit – NEW

\$276.50 for members / \$395 for non-members

This course is a partnership between Built Green Canada and Blue House Energy. It builds on industry's knowledge, providing the bigger picture of an "envelope-first" approach. It encompasses the basement to attic, assessing energy usage and building envelope, air leakage and drafts, insulation levels, heating / cooling problems, and how to identify and address dampness and mold or mildew, which could lead to structural and / or health problems. This course aligns with our Renovation Programs but is valuable to any professional renovator.

- 20 CPD points – BC Housing
- Master Building training credits – PHBI



Webinar Recordings: Free of Charge for Members

Valuable online resources to improve on your projects' certification level and to find practical tips for building upon your sustainability efforts!

Develop a Deeper Understanding of Our Program Sections

- Energy & Envelope, Part I
- Energy & Envelope, Part II
- Materials & Methods
- Indoor Air Quality & Ventilation
- Waste Management & Water Conservation
- Business Practices

More Webinar Recordings with Great Tips

- Cost-Effective Ways to Improve Building Performance
- Under-Utilized Technology that Makes a Difference

Upon request, these are available for members at no charge—[contact us!](#)



What are you interested in learning about? We have upcoming webinar slots and want to ensure topics are valuable to you!



BUILDER PRESENTATIONS

Helping You Sell the Benefits of BUILT GREEN®

Built Green offers you a pathway to your competitive advantage—we talk to sales teams on ways to communicate the benefits to customers! [Contact us](#) to learn more; we're accepting bookings from January on.

There are other valuable courses related to sustainability, which may meet our membership training requirements. For instance, we acknowledge Building Science for New Homes courses through Service Organizations licensed by Natural Resources Canada, alongside other training providers. Please [contact our office](#) to confirm.

Importance of Showcasing Your 3rd-Party Certification

Show you're not greenwashing: verify your work

Without certification, it's difficult to know whether requirements are met; certification removes perceptions of greenwashing. Putting the BUILT GREEN® label on the electrical panel tells homebuyers you're credible. Show off your label—in the home and showhomes, in your advertising, on social media, through both your sales team and realtors.

This is about your competitive advantage. It's about you being a progressive builder who's building more sustainably, with a label to verify this. It's about being a builder who does more than code. And, it's about [pass-along benefits](#) you can offer your homebuyer.

Increasingly, we receive calls from customers asking if a home they're considering has been certified. Homebuyers are becoming more discerning about the legitimacy of "green feature" claims.

Covid reminded us of the importance of healthy living; it remains on our collective minds, so showcase green features that make your homes healthier and more sustainable—it's more than energy.

[Contact us](#) for assistance highlighting green features.

1. Display Your 2-in-1 Home Certification

These labels provide verification to the home's energy efficiency and green features and reinforce to homebuyers that they've purchased from a quality builder who goes beyond code.

2. Project Labels – on Electrical Panel

Affix BUILT GREEN® label on electrical panel with EnerGuide label from Natural Resources Canada.



EnerGuide is an official mark of Natural Resources Canada: used with permission.

3. Generic Label – Showhome, Sales Package, Office

A commitment to certification before seal level is confirmed



Highlight your commitment to verifying your projects' energy performance + holistic approach to sustainable building, with a generic label!

**Generic label available to promote certification from the start: for projects enrolled for certification / if builder includes certification as an option (there's no certification level identified). It's not to be used for equivalency standards. Available on request—[contact us](#).*

4. Metal Plaques – Projects, Showhomes, Office



\$35 [Metal certification plaques](#) are a conversation starter that further feature home certification—install in sidewalk, gate, project exterior / interior wall, plus in showhomes! Available in Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum, Net Zero Energy+ and generic (no level).

Show Customers the Value of Your Build Being 3rd-Party Certified



We provide a [homebuyer benefits overview](#) to help you promote your BUILT GREEN® project: include benefits when talking to customers—ensure they know why your product is superior! Plus, integrate this into your marketing efforts.

You offer economic benefits; a healthier, more efficient, comfortable home; increased durability; alongside verification of green features and energy efficiency—which can result in rebate eligibility!

Social Media: Tag Us & Use Hashtags



Show customers you go beyond status quo—include: [#BuiltGreenBuilder](#) [#PutALabelOnIt](#) [#BuiltGreenCertified](#)

Connect with Us to Be Featured



- Social media
- Website
- Newsletter
- Webinars
- And more...

Incentives & Rebates



Green home incentives mean benefits you can pass to customers—putting money back in their pocket. Rebates are available across the country and vary based on project type (single family, renovation, high density, etc.).

Mortgage Rebate Eligibility

Single family new homes certified BUILT GREEN® Gold, Platinum, and Net Zero Energy+ are eligible for a partial mortgage loan insurance **premium refund of 25 per cent** (minimum 20 per cent improvement in energy performance).

- Canada Mortgage & Housing Corporation: [Eco Plus Program](#)
- Canada Guaranty Mortgage Insurance Company: [Energy-Efficient Advantage Program](#)
- Sagen™: [Energy-Efficient Housing Program](#)
- and others



Remind your homebuyer – contact Built Green Canada for their Certificate of Authenticity to receive the rebate!

In the fourth quarter, we responded to 156 homebuyer requests for Certificates of Authenticity. This document, issued out of the Built Green office, enables them to access mortgage insurance rebates. Shout out to mortgage providers who incentivize homebuyers to buy greener homes, verified through certification. By providing substantial rebates, they increase demand for sustainably built homes—providing builders with an added selling feature and rewarding homebuyers who choose a greener future!

Connect with Us!

Follow and engage with us on social media:



@builtgreencanada



builtgreencanada



@builtgreencan



builtgreencanada

Built Green Celebrates Industry Achievements at CARE Awards

On October 20th, Built Green was thrilled to attend the 32nd Construction Achievements & Renovations of Excellence (CARE) Awards of Vancouver Island at the Fairmont Empress Hotel, alongside 280 builders, designers, trades, and suppliers. This year's gala saw more than 50 awards presented to industry, many of whom are BUILT GREEN® members.

We were thrilled to present awards to these deserving winners:



Award: Best Heritage Award

Winner: Goodison Construction and Jenny Martin Design – Laurel Park



Award: Best Traditional Kitchen under \$100,000

Winner: Bowcey Construction – Cathedral



Award: Environmental Achievement

Winner: Rannala Freeborn Construction – Hemp House project.



Award: Green Builder of the Year

Winner: Verity Construction, Built Green builder out of Victoria.

Photos courtesy of VRBA, with BUILT GREEN® Marketing Coordinator, Esther Bodoarca.

While all winners are worthy of note, we want to spotlight a special few:

- Project of the Year – Single Family went to Built Green builder, **GT Mann Contracting** and Spaciz Design Company for Water's Edge.
- Project of the Year – Multi-Family was awarded to Built Green builder, **Abstract Developments** for Bellewood Park.
- The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Wilf Gorter, Gorter Construction for his leadership in the industry and community.
- Building Better Futures Community Award – Aryze Developments for developing much-needed missing-middle housing for young families, and to Denford Construction Management for their creative retirement communities, serving a growing senior's population.
- Bill Wansbrough Memorial Award was presented to FortisBC for their partnership with the Capital Regional District creating renewable natural gas from waste/biogas at the Hartland Landfill, addressing both climate change and housing affordability.
- Excellence in Creating Housing Affordability was won by Chard Development for their innovative partnership with BC Housing creating more affordability in two multi-family projects – Haven and Vivid at the Yates.

Congratulations to all finalists and winners, who represent some of Canada's leaders in west-coast home design and construction. Thank you to the VRBA, its board of directors and staff, sponsors, and volunteers, for this truly special event, where leading west-coast projects are showcased.

Shout Out to Other Industry Awards

We want to acknowledge all those building better—as well as the associations that work to showcase their achievements and provide ongoing learning opportunities. Congratulations to all whose excellent work was recognized as finalists and winners at the following awards that took place during the fourth quarter:

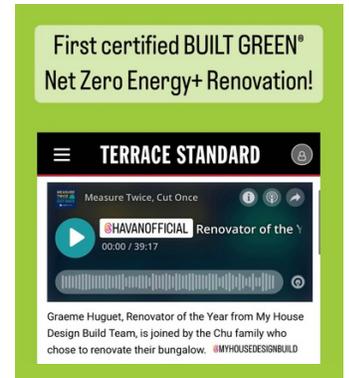
- **Island Build Awards**, CHBA-PEI
- **Housing Design Awards**, Greater Ottawa Home Builders' Association

Homebuilders Association Vancouver Awards – Renovator of the Year

Check out a recently released episode of the Measure Twice, Cut Once podcast, "HAVAN Awards Renovator of the Year"! It features **My House Design/Build/Team** and their Vancouver renovation that became the first across Canada to be awarded BUILT GREEN® Net Zero Energy+!

What a great example of builder and client coming together to deliver a dream home! Listen in to hear what the builder had to say about this project and why they do BUILT GREEN®, and what the homeowners have to say about this fantastic builder and their new home that they love so much they never want to leave!

This project won two **CHBA National** awards: Best Single Room Renovation and Best Custom or Renovated Net Zero Home, and three **HAVAN** awards: Best Character Home Renovation, Best New or Renovated Space, and Residential Renovator of the year.



Habitat ReStore – Donate Excess Home Materials

Habitat for Humanity Edmonton operates the **Habitat ReStore**, a social enterprise that offers donated home furnishings, appliances, and other renovation materials to the public at a discounted price.



Shopping and donating to ReStore reduces collective carbon footprint by diverting items from needlessly going to the landfill. Every item donated to ReStore is given a second life and provides ReStore shoppers with quality, well-loved items. In 2023, their team picked up over 3,000 donations.

Shoppers will find building supplies, furniture, appliances, tools, electrical, plumbing, and more. There are also other treasures to be found on their shelves. With four locations in the Edmonton area, there is a ReStore near you. Donors can drop off items at any location or request a pickup from your home or business by phone or an online form. The Habitat ReStore also offers a charitable tax receipt for your donated items.

The Habitat ReStore is healthy for the environment, offers a new home for unwanted items, and provides a discounted shopping experience for the public. And best of all? All proceeds from every purchase at the Habitat ReStore are reinvested into the Habitat for Humanity program to empower families across northern Alberta through affordable homeownership.

Attention All Estimators!

Save Time on Product Sourcing

The BUILT GREEN® Product Catalogue is an online resource for builders and renovators: of building materials, for use in sustainable construction. Products have been approved by Built Green's Technical Standards Committee, giving builders peace of mind and saving them time sourcing materials.

Earn Points Towards Project Certification

Our checklists guide builders to achieve certification, and products featured are organized into the program sections where they have been approved to help earn points towards project certification.



Section 1: Energy & Envelope

Air Barrier Membrane

Blueskin® VP100 – Henry Company Canada

Earning checklist point: 1.2.10

- Improving building longevity, thermal performance, occupant comfort with reduced energy costs, this fully adhered, peel-n-stick eliminates air leakage while functioning as a water-resistant rain barrier.

ICF Block

Nudura® Insulated Concrete Form – Tremco Canada

Earning checklist points: 1.2.3, 1.2.4 & 8.1.4

- Largest ICF block in the industry at 8' long by 18" high, it folds flat, providing cheaper shipping and more room on the job site. Nudura Duralok technology allows the ICF webs to lock together vertically, eliminating form uplift and settlement and providing peace of mind when bracing walls.

Insulated Panels

ICE Panels – Greenstone Building Products

Earning checklist points: 1.2.5 & 8.1.4

- A combination of EPS and galvanized steel, these sustainable, efficient, and economical ICE panels eliminate thermal bridging, enabling an incredibly efficient building envelope.

Smart Device

Swidget

Earning checklist point: 1.6.6

- With integrations for Control 4, Home Assistant, and an API for custom development, it can participate in many different eco-systems—all while providing smart solutions for IAQ, ventilation, energy management, lighting, safety, and more.

Tankless Hot Water Heater

syncFURNACE Tankless™ – Gradient Thermal Inc.

Earning checklist points: 1.3.6, 1.3.8.2, 8.1.3 & 8.1.4

- Featuring a 192 MBH high-efficiency tankless water heater, capable of up to 5 GPM at a 70-degree rise, with optional built-in recirculation. Available in five sizes from 500 CFM to 2200 CFM with BTU heating output ranges from 30 MBH to 99 MBH.

Windows & Doors

All Weather Windows

Earning checklist points: 1.2.16, 2.3.5 & 8.1.4

- Designed to suit Canada's climate zones these award-winning, quality crafted products are energy efficient (up to R8), cost-effective, and CSA certified.



Section 2: Materials & Methods

Concrete

General Use Concrete – Lafarge

Earning checklist points: 2.1.7 & 2.2.7.1

- Uses by-products from other manufacturing industry such as fly ash and slag, at a 30 per cent cement replacement, reducing the overall environmental impact of these industry waste by-products and reducing the overall carbon footprint of the concrete.

Shingles

Royal Estate Shingle – IKO Industries

Earning checklist points: 2.3.1.1, 2.3.1.2 & 8.1.4

- IKO's Royal Estate shingles come in a range of subtle color variations that evoke the look of true slate. Contemporary materials and advanced technology make Royal Estate a lasting investment. Featuring algae-resistant granules, these shingles are easy to install and boast a limited lifetime warranty.

Stone

Northern Ledgestone – Selkirk Stone Distributors Ltd.

Earning checklist points: 2.3.4 & 8.1.4

- This pattern was designed to create an installer-friendly stone that does not require grout joints. Comprised of 4" tall panels in varying lengths, this pattern mimics the appearance of an intricate dry stacked installation. Perfect for commercial or residential applications, this profile helps even less experienced installers achieve a beautiful end result.



Section 3: Indoor Air Quality

Paint

Graphenstone

Earning checklist points: 2.11, 3.18, 3.19 & 3.20

- Graphenstone is the ultimate ecological range of products, composed of natural elements like lime, it purifies the air we breathe inside our homes. It is suitable for people suffering from chemical intolerance, recommended for indoor enclosures, hospitals, nurseries, retirement homes, hotels, environments or rooms for infants and children.

Builders receive a **35% discount** on all BUILT GREEN® Approved Graphenstone products.

Insulation

AP™ Foil-Faced Foam Sheathing – Johns Manville

Earning checklist points: 2.2.4, 3.10 & 8.1.4

- Available up to RSI 5.09 (R-28) and offer a reflective foil facer on one side and a non-reflective facer on the other. AP Foil provides exceptional heat, moisture and air control and, when installed correctly, eliminates all major thermal bridges that cause heat loss. The rigid board sheathing has a one-inch layer of continuous insulation for maximum wall and worksite efficiency.



Section 4: Ventilation

Humidifier

Model 400MK Evaporative Bypass Humidifier – AprilAire

Earning checklist point: 4.6

- The humidifier captures and stores water in its reservoir, which is then heated into a vapor and dispersed throughout the home. 100 per cent of the captured water is used. The unit delivers up to 17 gallons of moisture to a home per day. A manual humidistat is provided with all 400MK models, for applications where an automatic control is not practical.

Use Your Sustainable Building Resources: Supporting Members Can Help You!

- ✓ Achieve green building goals & meet energy code requirements
- ✓ Save time sourcing services / products
- ✓ Contribute to project certification

Our Supporting Members deliver products and services that builders and developers need—they're a useful resource for all working in sustainable development.

Demonstrating commitment to sustainability through their business practices, Supporting Members also are required to meet membership criteria to be part of our community. They're invested in green building and ready to support our builders' projects.

Types of Supporting Members:

Associations | Consulting Services | Energy Advisors
Building Suppliers | Architects & Engineers | Financial & Other Service Providers

Make the Connection: Find a Supporting Member

Join the BUILT GREEN® Community

The BUILT GREEN® Community is a network of industry professionals committed to more responsible building practices and third-party certification. Each group is comprised of valuable resources for those interested in green building.

Be sure you're making mutually beneficial connections; you can help build on each other's sustainability goals.

Connect with Us

✉ info@builtgreencanada.ca

☎ 780.485.0920 | Toll-Free 855.485.0920

🌐 <https://builtgreencanada.ca/become-a-member>

View Full Catalogue of BUILT GREEN® Approved Products

