

NEW PRESIDENT FOR DRHBA: Heidi Stephenson



Heidi Stephenson thanks outgoing President Victor Fiume for his year of service at the President's Ball on Nov. 21 at Deer Creek Golf & Country Club, while Victor's wife Kim Fiume looks on.

Heidi Stephenson was celebrated as the 62nd President of the Durham Region Home Builders' Association at a gala event last Saturday evening, Nov. 21.

"I am so honoured," said Stephenson as she addressed the full room at Deer Creek Golf & Banquet Facility in Ajax. Stephenson who works as a Controller at Halminen Homes said, "Durham Region is the best place to live, grow and play, I know that because I live in it...and yes in a Halminen Home."

Stephenson thanked the previous President, Victor Fiume, "for his dedication and admirable service as President."

Fiume awarded Marianne Tracey the Presidential Star Award for her decades-long commitment to the board and for chairing the Golf Tournament Committee.

He also thanked his outgoing board which consisted of Past President Jennifer Hurd, 1st VP Heidi Stephenson, 2nd VP Dave Henderson; and Directors: Danielle Bleau, Emidio DiPalo, Mike DiPalo, Stephen Snider, Marianne Tracey and Manuel DeSousa, as well as Presidential appointees Wayne Clarke, Drew Dowling, Peter Saturno and Ken Russell.

DRHBA had a very successful 2014-2015 year of advocating for their members, providing networking opportunities, and keeping them informed and up-to-date on crucial home-building information.

Stephenson is looking forward to even better things to come. "This year I am incredibly excited to have such an amazing board, I believe we will do some incredible advocacy work, as well as have a lot of fun and become a closer more vibrant network."

She echoed the challenge of the new Ontario Home Builder Association President John Meinen that each member should recruit a member and double the association.

“This is my challenge to all of you, make sure your trades and suppliers are members, if you bring in a member, we will award you with a free dinner at one of our events,” said Stephenson.

Stephenson is looking forward to working with her new board, which includes many veterans of the Association as well as new faces: it will be comprised of Past-President Victor Fiume, 1st VP Ken Russell and 2nd VP’s Manuel DeSousa and Dave Henderson, and Directors: Danielle Bleau, Emidio DiPalo, Mike DiPalo, Stephen Snider, Marianne Tracey, Drew Dowling, Lisa Lippai, Jennifer Hurd, Corette Stevens and Michelle Cote; and Presidential Appointee: Peter Saturno.

The MC for the evening was Gemini award-winning HGTV host Ambrose Price. Event sponsors included: Coughlan Homes, Mercedes Benz – Durham, Don & Son Building Supplies Ltd., Bell Canada, Fernview Construction Ltd., Infinity Custom Homes, Moen, Cricket Energy, Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc., and CRS Contractors Rental Supply.



Marianne Tracey is awarded the President’s Star Award for her excellent work for DRHBA over the past number of decades including running a successful Golf Tournament every year.



'Screeching in' the Past President's, from left MC Ambrose Price, Past-Presidents' Scott Jeffery, Victor Fiume, Jennifer Hurd, Emidio DiPalo, Mario Veltri and Stephen Snider.