

THE VANCOUVER SUN

Ovation Awards recognize excellence in residential construction

Innovation and energy efficiency mark winning entries

BY SIMON BRIAULT, SPECIAL TO THE SUN MAY 15, 2015

READ ARTICLE ONLINE:

[HTTP://WWW.VANCOUVERSUN.COM/HOMES/OVATION+AWARDS+RECOGNIZE+EXCELLENCE+RESIDENTIAL+CONSTRUCTION/1058994/STORY.HTML](http://www.vancouversun.com/homes/ovation+awards+recognize+excellence+residential+construction/1058994/story.html)



The award for Best Single Family Home less than 2,000 square feet went to Naikoon Contracting for Nookian House, with associate Insulspan.

The residential construction and renovation business in Metro Vancouver is on a high. For proof, look no further than the 2015 Ovation Awards, held at the Marriott Pinnacle Hotel in downtown Vancouver late last month.

The awards, laid on by the Greater Vancouver Home Builders' Association (GVHBA), are now in their sixth year. They celebrate the very best in home building and renovation and, judging by the fact that entries were up 77 per cent over 2014, showed just how confident the industry is.

A sold-out crowd of 350 people at a gala dinner saw awards given for excellence in design and construction of new single and multi-family homes and renovation of existing homes across Metro Vancouver.

The big winner on the night was Naikoon Contracting Ltd., which brought home seven awards, including Excellence in Innovation and Sustainability in New Residential Construction and the Grand Ovation Award for Custom Homes Builder of the Year.

“It’s great to be recognized for the hard work we’ve been doing over the years,” said Joe Geluch, president at Naikoon Contracting Ltd.

“I think our strong focus on sustainability and energy-efficient homes played a large role in our success at these awards.

“The residential construction industry is really moving forward when it comes to the environment,” Geluch added. “I think over the next 20 years, we’d like to see every house in B.C. being constructed as a net-zero energy home.”

Hot on the heels of Naikoon was My House Design/Build Team Ltd., which picked up six awards, including B.C. Housing’s Award for Excellence in Creating Affordable Housing Choices and the Grand Ovation Award for Renovator of the Year: Large Volume.

The evening saw Graytek Solutions Ltd. with associate Teragon Developments & Construction Inc. win in the new category of Excellence in Technological Innovation in Residential Construction.

They were recognized for The Mayfair, a luxury residence in Shaughnessy that also picked up awards for Best Renovated Room, Best Outdoor Living Space and the People’s Choice Award.

“The Ovation awards have always showcased great innovation in the homebuilding industry and the trend right now is to improve energy efficiency and home automation,” said GVHBA CEO Bob de Wit.

“The Mayfair has a space-age home automation system that is just incredible. It has LED lighting throughout and you can control the particular shade you want to fit your mood, either in the house or remotely.”

“We also award Ovations to builders of smaller homes — townhomes under 1,500 square feet and single-family homes under 2,000 square feet — and in those categories, we’re seeing really innovative use of space,” de Wit added.

With The Georgie Awards recognizing the best in the province and the SAM Awards the best in the country, GVHBA created the Ovation Awards as a local, Metro Vancouver competition in 2010.

“If you’re a homeowner in Burnaby, for example, it’s not as relevant to you if the best home builder in the province is in Kelowna,” said de Wit.

“You want to know what the best one is in Metro Vancouver so that you can make a confident choice about the company you decide to work with.”

Among the choices in Metro Vancouver is Tavan Developments Ltd., which won the Residential Renovator of the Year: Small Volume award and Paramax Homes Ltd., which won in the category of Single-Family Home Builder of the Year.

Bob de Wit expects the awards to go from strength to strength.

“There is likely to be even more intense competition in the custom homebuilding market in the future,” he said.

“It’s already pretty intense, but I think as we’ve raised the profile of the awards, the public recognition has gone up and people know that they can be used as an important indicator of high quality construction.”

The presenting sponsor of the 2015 Ovation Awards was Fortis BC and the patron sponsor was the Homeowner Protection Office, a branch of BC Housing.

A full list of the 2015 Ovation Awards can be found [here](#). © Copyright (c) The Vancouver Sun