

NEW HOMES

Builder's home project an industry winner

BY PEDRO ARRAIS
Times Colonist staff

Abstract Developments was the big winner at the recent Canadian Home Builders' Association 2007 CARE (Construction Achievements and Renovations of Excellence) Awards in Victoria, winning seven gold awards.

The company's Radius project won gold in six categories, including Best Residential Interior more than 3,000 square feet, Best Bathroom, Best Kitchen over 300 square feet, Best Master Suite over 600 square feet and the coveted Project of the Year. An additional gold — for best single-family detached spec home under 2,500 square feet — went to the company's Carriage Walk project.

"The judges clearly thought Radius was an exceptional project," says Carol Greaves, chairperson of the 2007 CARE Awards.

"Radius combines innovation, quality and an unique look — everything the CARE Awards is meant to encourage," says Casey Edge, executive officer of the Victoria chapter of the Canadian Home Builders' Association. "But a look at the silver finalists will reveal very worthy competitors with outstanding projects."

Judged by industry members from Vancouver, the awards are based on criteria that includes unique design, function, creative use of space, compatibility with the environment, energy efficiency and effective land use.

Radius is the private residence of Abstract owner Mike Miller. He credits the appeal of the house to the fact he was able to create a unique, out-of-the-ordinary house.

"You can do wonders when you don't have to worry about resale," says Miller, 35. "Because it was my home, I was able to do unique things to push the envelope and bend the rules (of design)."

While he is proud of his achievement, Miller also has words of praise for those who did not win gold. "The quality of the competition was spectacular."

Other multiple winners were the Citta Group, Concert Real Estate Corporation, Limona Construction, Three Point Properties, McKinnon and Associates, Fairwest Construction and Genco Construction.

The People's Choice Award went to Wilco Construction for the Stamp residence on Saltspring Island, featured in the New Homes section on Sept. 5. Fairwest Construction and Genco Construction won the Built Green B.C. Builder of the Year award for their Holly Farm project.

The awards cover 39 categories in all aspects of new, renovated homes and commercial projects. Photos of the silver finalists and gold winners can be viewed online at www.careawards.com.

► CARE award-winners list, photos, C11



The winner of a fist full of CARE awards this year for Abstract Developments, the Radius project, top and above, is the home of company owner Mike Miller. As well as being named project of the year, the house won gold for best residential interior more than 3,000 square feet, best bathroom, best kitchen over 300 square feet and best master Suite over 600 square feet. Photos courtesy of Abstract Developments



The People's Choice Award went to the Stamp residence on Saltspring Island, built by Wilco Construction. The home's design reflects the Vancouver owner's desire to create in Canada a bit of the Cotswold-style architecture he grew up with in England.

John McKay
Times Colonist

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> FROM C10: CONSTRUCTION ACHIEVEMENT AND RENOVATIONS WINNERS

Local builders honour top projects

Here are the gold award winners announced at the recent Canadian Home Builders' Association 2007 CARE (Construction Achievements and Renovations of Excellence) Awards:

- > **Best single-family detached custom home under 3,000 sq. ft.:** Limona Construction - Terraces at Thetis Vale, 30 Carly Lane
- > **Best single-family detached custom home 3,000-4,000 sq. ft.:** Gordon Hemsworth Construction - Old West
- > **Best single-family detached custom home 4,000-6,000 sq. ft.:** Città Group & Zebra Design - Vantreight Drive residence
- > **Best single-family detached custom home over 6,000 sq. ft.:** Abstract Developments: Radius
- > **Best single-family detached spec home under 2,500 sq. ft.:** Abstract Developments - Carriage Walk
- > **Best single-family detached spec home over 2,500 sq. ft.:** Ron Egli Construction and Design - Promenade
- > **Best single-family detached planned neighbourhood:** Limona Construction - Turnstone
- > **Best multi-family/townhouse project:** Fairwest Construction Co./Genco Construction - Holly Farm Townhomes
- > **Best outdoor living space:** Denford Construction Management - Berwick Comox Valley
- > **Best residential renovation or restoration \$75,000-\$199,999:** Palladian Developments - Boat Harbour
- > **Best residential renovation or restoration more than \$200,000:** Coastal Construction - Tofino Transformation
- > **Best kitchen (new or renovated) under 175 sq. ft.:** Dan Johnson Woodworking - Lands End
- > **Best kitchen (new or renovated) 175 - 250 sq. ft.:** J.R. Merrill and Associates - Burnette residence
- > **Best kitchen (new or renovated) 250 - 300 sq. ft.:** J.R. Merrill and Associates - Clapper residence
- > **Best kitchen (new or renovated) over 300 sq. ft.:** Abstract Developments - Radius
- > **Best bathroom (new or renovated) under 175 sq. ft.:** Abstract Developments - Radius
- > **Best bathroom (new or renovated) over 175 sq. ft.:** Città Group - Vantreight Drive residence
- > **Best master suite under 600 sq. ft.:** Steve Copp Construction - Lake Life
- > **Best master suite over 600 sq. ft.:** Abstract Developments - Radius
- > **Best residential interior less than 3,000 sq. ft.:** Karen West Design Group - Arizona Heat
- > **Best residential interior more than 3,000 sq. ft.:** Abstract Developments - Radius
- > **Best custom millwork - Residential:** Three Point Properties - Newport residence
- > **Best new commercial project:** Knappett Projects - Ecole Victor Brodeur
- > **Best commercial heritage project:** Three Point Properties - Scott Building Entrance Restoration West
- > **Best assisted living project:** Denford Construction Management - Berwick Comox Valley
- > **Best interior - commercial:** McKinnon and Associates: Old House Village Suites lobby
- > **Best custom millwork - commercial:** McKinnon and Associates - Old House Village Suites lobby
- > **Best condominium/mixed-use development:** Concert Real Estate Corporation - Belvedere
- > **Customer service - builder/renovator/trade:** Concert Real Estate Corporation
- > **Best sales centre or showroom:** Concert Real Estate Corporation - Belvedere
- > **Best website:** Three Point Properties - The Breakwater
- > **Best overall marketing campaign:** McKinnon & Associates - Old House Village suites
- > **Award for outdoor environmental achievement:** Fairwest Construction Co. Ltd./Genco Construction Ltd. - Holly Farm Townhomes
- > **Built Green B.C. builder of the year:** Genco Construction Ltd./Fairwest Construction Co. Ltd. - Holly Farm Townhomes
- > **Project of the year:** Abstract Developments - Radius
- > **Lifetime achievement award:** Dennis Dale, Fairwest Construction Co. Ltd.
- > **Building Better Futures community award:** Dockside Green Limited Partnership
- > **Bill Wansbrough memorial award:** Gordon English, Genco Construction Ltd.
- > **People's Choice award:** Wilco Construction Ltd. - Stamp residence
- > **CHBA student carpentry award:** Jordan Larsen, Victoria High School



Steve Copp Construction won gold in the best master suite under 600 square feet category for the bedroom above while the top honour for best kitchen (new or renovated) under 175 square feet, left, went to Dan Johnson Woodworking.

Photos courtesy Canadian Home Builders' Association Victoria branch

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Gordon English, of Genco Construction, left, and Dennis Dale, of Fairwest Construction, teamed up for the Holly Farm project, above, which won gold in the Built Green B.C. builder of the year category. Dale also took home the lifetime achievement award.

Photos by Bruce Stotesbury/TC

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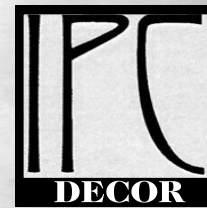
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The Canadian Home Builders' Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to education, professionalism, consumer awareness, and housing affordability. I invite you to send your questions to info@chbavictoria.com.

Global warming is a concern for everyone, and both consumers and industry can engage in sustainable or "green" building practices that better protect the environment. For example, CHBA-BC's new program called Built Green™ promotes buildings that are healthier for the occupants and healthier for the environment.

Why build a Built Green™ home?

- Greater energy efficiency means more comfort and long-term savings for the homeowner.
- Healthier indoor air offers better health and peace of mind for the family.
- Durable materials requiring less maintenance can result in longer life for the home.
- Preservation of natural resources ensures a better environment for future generations.

Informed buyers will recognize the value of greater energy efficiency, reduced water usage, healthier indoor air, and improved comfort. Built Green™ homes also represent a commitment to the environment and future generations.

Here's how the Built Green™ program works. The program concentrates on four distinct target areas:

- Energy efficiency
- Indoor air quality
- Resource use (including waste management)

• Overall environmental impact
Consumers choose from among three "Built Green" achievement levels; Bronze represents the minimum level, Silver the intermediate level, and Gold is the maximum. You have the flexibility to choose which package and point level works best for you, based on an EnerGuide rating.

To complete the EnerGuide rating, a mandatory blower door test is done on each home prior to occupancy. The EnerGuide rating completes the level of achievement, resulting in an official Built Green™ seal, and the knowledge that your home is working to improve the health of your family and the environment.

For more information on building a Built Green™ home contact the following CHBA-Victoria builders:

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More CHBA builders are working to establish their Built Green™ certification. Contact CHBA-Victoria at info@chbavictoria.com or go to www.chbavictoria.com.



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