

# National Home Inspector Certification Council

## National Certification - Commentary

With the global crises and all the doom and gloom happening in the world I am reminded of the classic Molson Canadian commercial: *"My name is Joe and I'm a Canadian"*

I recall the first time I ever heard about the National Certification Program (NCP). As the program was introduced to the audience, I was captivated by the speaker, as what he was presenting actually made sense for our profession. **Competency, accountability and a national standard was the theme**, and more important a Made in Canada solution. There were no association loops to jump through, it was and still is available to any Canadian home inspector.

I have never had a lot of time for politics and the infighting that seems to be everywhere and within every home inspection association. I also feel that if we as a profession are to ever succeed we need to unite and cut the tie we have with the Real Estate Profession by offering the consumer a true national credential.

As I watch the Canadian economy struggle from the recent worldwide recession and more importantly our neighbors to the south, I can't help but wonder what is wrong with this picture. Although President Obama has not come out and said that he has introduced protectionism measures to stabilize the American economy, it is becoming crystal clear that that is exactly what is happening. Just look at the recent announcement by Caterpillar closing its London ON plant, and moving it to Illinois. Similar moves are happening throughout Canada however we as Canadians remain passive and optimistic.

I also wonder if as a profession we are ever going to take control of our destiny and rightful position in the real estate transaction. When the National Certification Program was introduced it immediately was embraced by over 500 inspectors from across Canada, and for the first time in our brief history we began to unite. We had the support and backing of every major stakeholder in Canada and the future looked bright.

Provincial politics and the insurgence of an American association was all it took to derail the Canadian dream. The National Certificate Program was never intended to be a standalone credential but was created and designed to complement any home inspection association's designations. Your fundamental rights have always been protected under the NCP and you do not have to belong to any association, Canadian or American to achieve this designation.

It seems to me that every association is trying through self-preservation to reinvent the wheel and create a national standard that already exists. The National Home Inspector Certification Council has preserved the NCP and it has been recognized for licensing in both British Columbia and Alberta and has made huge gains in Quebec. In two short years the NCP is back and gaining strength across Canada.

The Construction Sector Council, the legal owner of the National Certification Program has granted the National Home Inspector Certification Council (NHICC) administrative rights to this program ensuring its availability to every Canadian home inspector.

Under the guidance of the Construction Sector Council the National Certification Program was created by every major Canadian home inspection association, CMHC, HRSDC, CSC, CREA, FNNBOA, ACBOA, CHBA, Inspection franchise

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operators, National Research Council, Consumers, Governments at all levels, Assembly of First Nations, mortgage insurers, lending institutions, home warranty programs and Canadian Federation of Municipalities and they all can't be wrong.

I can only imagine what a voice and impact we would have if we were united.

***National Certification: 'Be part of the solution'.***

***"My name is Joe, and I am a Canadian"***