



**PRESS RELEASE**



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## **Minister Solberg Announces CMHC Housing Studies Achievement Award Winners**

**OTTAWA, Ontario, November 06, 2007** — Royal Galipeau, Member of Parliament for Ottawa – Orléans, and Deputy Chair of Committees of the Whole, on behalf of the Honourable Monte Solberg, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development, and Minister responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), today announced the five winners of CMHC’s Housing Studies Achievement Award. Five prizes of \$10,000 — three at a master’s level and two at a doctoral level — were presented by Mr. Galipeau at an awards event held in Ottawa.

“The Government of Canada is proud to recognize Canadians whose work contributes to the understanding and advancement of quality, affordable housing in our country. I want to congratulate this year’s winners of the CMHC Housing Studies Achievement Award,” said Mr. Galipeau.

The CMHC Housing Studies Achievement Award, presented for the first time this year, was unveiled in 2006 in commemoration of CMHC’s 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The 2007 award recipients represent the future of housing research and policy development in this country. The theses that are being recognized contribute significantly to the understanding and advancement of housing in Canada, whether in social, economic, design or technical aspects of housing.

Attached is a backgrounder profiling the CMHC Housing Studies Achievement Award winners and their work.

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) has been Canada's national housing agency for more than 60 years. CMHC is committed to helping Canadians access a wide choice of quality, environmentally sustainable, affordable homes, while making vibrant, healthy communities and cities a reality across the country. For more information, call 1-800-668-2642.

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## **Backgrounder**

### **2007 CMHC Housing Studies Achievement Award Winners**

#### **“We Are Not All the Same”: The Differential Migration, Settlement Patterns and Housing Trajectories of Indian Bengalis and Bangladeshis in Toronto**

Sutama Ghosh

Doctor of Philosophy in Geography

York University

This study examines similarities and differences in migration, settlement patterns, and housing trajectories by comparing two ‘South Asian’ immigrant groups in Toronto – Indian Bengalis and Bangladeshis. The author contends that the reasons people migrate, where they live within the destination city and the characteristics of the housing they occupy are interconnected themes. This study reveals the symbiotic relationships between these three themes. It shows how immigrant housing experiences are often initiated even before the household arrives in the migrant city and may continue to influence where and how they live for many years after.

#### **Protocol and Assessment Tool for Performance Evaluation of Light-frame Building Envelopes Used in Residential Buildings**

Miljana Horvat

Doctor of Philosophy in Building Studies

Concordia University

The purpose of this thesis was to develop a protocol and an assessment tool for evaluating the performance of wood-frame building envelopes as integrated subsystems of entire buildings. The work was undertaken using a holistic approach to performance evaluation which would provide a more realistic representation of the overall performance of building envelopes. Traditional approaches evaluate either specific components of the building envelope and/or specific aspects of performance, such as air tightness or thermal performance, and energy performance, which is not always sufficient to understand how building envelopes really perform.

#### **Effectiveness of Energy Wheels from Transient Measurements**

Oyeto Abe

Master of Science

University of Saskatchewan

This research focuses on a new method for the transient testing and control of air-to-air energy wheels used as energy recovery devices in building ventilation systems. The testing of energy wheels is very important after manufacturing to determine if they will deliver optimum performance as designed and after they are installed and operating to see if they are still operating to specifications. This new test method is less expensive and only requires the use of a small simple-to-use experimental apparatus that is able to get performance data rapidly.

#### **The Integration of Natural Infrastructure into Urban Design: Evaluating the Contribution of the Urban Forest to Neighbourhood Sustainability**

Joshua Engel-Yan

Master of Applied Science

University of Toronto

This research focuses on three key questions: (1) How do neighbourhood design and housing construction affect the potential heating and cooling energy savings provided by the urban forest? (2) How have these benefits changed as approaches to housing construction and neighbourhood design have evolved? (3) How can neighbourhoods be designed

or retrofitted to maximize the benefits provided by the urban forest?

**An Architecture of Daily Life: The Continuing Evolution of Toronto's Residential Fabric**

Stephanie Vermeulen

Master of Architecture

University of Waterloo

Based on a study of housing in the Netherlands, a country that has successfully and creatively adapted to the demands of housing in a climate of rapid immigration and a diversifying population, this thesis proposes new, high density urban housing typologies for the city of Toronto. This new vision for the city adds necessary density to existing neighbourhoods, fosters a strong community life, and provokes new ideas about urban living.