# WARRANTY SCENE

# April 2020

# **NEW FORMS:**

For Updated, printable Enrollment Forms, Foundation Enrollment Forms, Renovation Warranty Forms and Site Validation forms, please go to: <a href="https://ahwp.org/builders/download-forms">https://ahwp.org/builders/download-forms</a>





By Cardinal Homes Limited 2019 Customer Choice Winner

# **Support for Business During COVID 19**

### Temporary wage subsidy program

• Temporary wage subsidy for eligible small employers of 10% of remuneration paid for a period of three months to a maximum of \$1,375 per employee and \$25,000 per employer.

https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/campaigns/covid-19-update/frequently-asked-questions-wage-subsidy-small-businesses.html

- The new Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy that would cover 75 per cent of salaries for qualifying businesses, for up to 3 months, retroactive to March 15, 2020.

https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan/covid19-businesses.html#wage subsidies

### **Employment Insurance - additional programs**

- Supplementary unemployment benefit program
- This program enables the employer to top-up the EI benefits paid to your staff to keep their earnings close to what it would otherwise be, but EI covers a portion.
- See the attached documents for additional information and the link below. <a href="https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/ei/ei-list/ei-employers-supplemental-unemployment-benefit.html">https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/ei/ei-list/ei-employers-supplemental-unemployment-benefit.html</a>
- Avoiding Layoffs Employee work sharing with El Benefits
- This program is designed to help employers <u>avoid layoffs/maintain a work-force</u> while <u>improving cash flow for employees by supplementing reduced employment income with EI</u> when there is a temporary reduction in normal business activity
- $\,^\circ\,$  Employees work a temporarily reduced work week while their employer recovers
- Please see attached summary of key terms and conditions <a href="https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/work-sharing.html">https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/work-sharing.html</a>

### Interest Free Loan - Canada Emergency Business Account

• Provides interest-free loans of up to \$40,000 to small businesses and not-for-profits through their financial institutions. Up to 25% of the loan will be forgiven if repaid by December 31, 2022. More details to follow.

https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/03/additional-support-for-canadian-businesses-from-the-economic-impact-of-covid-

19.html# New Loan Programs



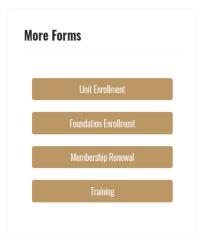
# AHW Website Shopping Cart



### Make a Payment

Our new store is set up with a Shopping Cart that will now allow you to enroll multiple units at one time and have one Transaction at the Check Out.

# Unit Enrollment CAD488.75 each Select Type of Unit Detached - Regular Company Name Member Number Phone Civic Number of Unit \*



Our <u>Shopping Cart Function on the AHW Website</u> is up and running. You can now pay for several different items at the same time and pay with only one transaction on your credit card. You can enroll multiple homes and home types, all at once. Please visit <a href="https://ahwp.org/builders/payment-form">https://ahwp.org/builders/payment-form</a>

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Home by Maisons Levesque - 2019 Customer Choice Winner

**Atlantic Home Warranty** 

# **NOVA SCOTIA CUSTOMER CHOICE WINNERS! 2019**

**Category: 9 Homes or Less** 



A.W. Allen & Son
Featured in Picture above:
Bob Upshaw

Category: 10 Homes or More



**Pinehurst Builders Limited**Featured in Picture Above:
Todd Ching

# **NEW BRUNSWICK CUSTOMER CHOICE WINNERS! 2019**

Category: 9 Homes or Less Category: 10 Homes or More



Maisons Levesque

Featured in Picture above:

Joel Levesque & AHW CEO, Ian Lezama



**Wesco Construction** 

Featured in Picture above:

Kevin Maillet and Robert Melanson



# **Frost Heave and Proper Drainage**

Above ground surface water and roof water around the perimeter of the home needs to be managed properly. You will have to educate your new homeowners, that without proper drainage, structural damage can occur.

This past winter, we have seen harsh weather conditions in certain parts of Atlantic Canada which has resulted in structural damage from frost heave.

The damage caused by frost heave is usually significant and impacts the load-bearing elements of the home that it can render it unliveable. For example, frost heave can impact the entrance door area of the home so that it can no longer be used.

In most cases, frost heave is associated with improper surface water drainage around the area impacted (concrete pier, foundation wall, etc.). In order to avoid problems, proper landscaping with positive slopes (8% or greater) to divert water away from the foundation or pier is recommended. Other areas of concern such as drain spouts, should always be properly piped and diverted to prevent the soil adjacent to them from becoming saturated in the fall and causing frost heave next to the foundation and/or pier.





Good building practice would suggest discussing any possible problem areas such as concrete piers supporting buildouts, porches, decks, etc. with the owner beforehand. Budgeting for proper drainage and frost protection (rigid foam) is critical in assuring the permanent frost depth foundation will stay intact and not be impacted by frost heave.

Adding rigid foam to areas potentially problematic with frost heave is a good solution to preventing structural damage from occuring in the foundation and/or pier. Placing the foam in a slanted position will shed the water away and placing sufficient soil on top

of it, will let grass grow.



Landscaping is usually a homeowner responsibility, but as Builder Member you should discuss with them the importance of keeping the surface water away from the home's foundation and piers. It usually involves creating swales, ditches and in some cases a "French Drain" to divert and keep the water from getting too close to the home. Frost heave is limited when the soil has a good drainage capacity and no surface water ponds or accumulates next to the foundation. Keep it dry and prevent problems.

HECTOR DOIRON - TECHNICAL MANAGER - NB & PEL



A FRENCH DRAIN CAN HELP REDUCE THE WATER PONDING OR ACCUMULATING NEXT TO THE PROBLEMATIC AREA.





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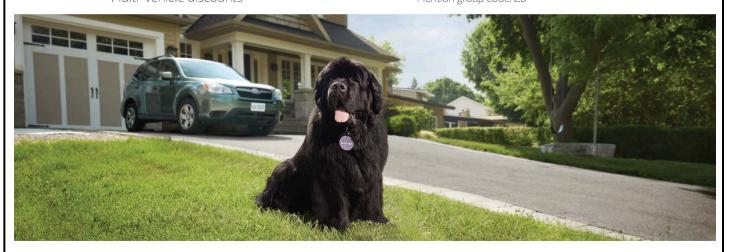
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¹Enhanced water coverage not available in SK, YK, NT. ²Bundled savings applied to home insurance policies where home and car policies are underwritten by Unifund. 
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# **Continuing Education News**

Thank you for your support and the opportunity to serve you. We are aware that some members have decided to close temporarily or have reduced hours.

To assist members during this unprecedented and evolving situation, Atlantic Home Warranty will be offering webinars to members to aid their educational requirements. The courses are being offer at a discount and are available On Demand through the internet.

To find out more information, please give me a call at 1-800-320-9880 extension 104 for details.

Thank you for your continued business,

Jenn Howard -Continuing Education Manager

### Webinar Recordings Available:

Foundations Project Management

Water Penetration Marketing & Sales

Financial Management Construction Law

**Business Management** 

## Additional Webinar Recordings (For NB Master Builder):

Flooring, Doors & Windows

Ventilation and Drywall Application

# Noteworthy Items...

- Atlantic Home Warranty's Annual General Meeting has been postponed to May 29, 2020 due to current restrictions regarding COVID-19, please watch for updates.
- Please don't forget to <u>get those Certificates of Possession in to our office</u>.

Your Homeowner's Warranty only starts if we receive the document. Send them to info@ahwp.org

• Although the <u>AHW Staff Members are working from home</u>, we are still working Monday to Friday, 8am to 4pm. Conciliations and MSD investigations are still taking place, but while following Social Distancing and other protocols. Bear in mind that we may have to postpone these visits, depending on Provincial Government restrictions. It is still important for your homeowners to submit their 1st year items and MSD Claims.



Home by Terry Walsh Contracting - 2019 Customer Choice Winner