

From repeat winners to brand-new entrants, the style and ingenuity of the 2010 Georgie Awards® finalists put them at the top of residential construction in B.C.

By Leslie Peterson

me and time again, our residential home builders have proven themselves among the best in the country, whether creating single-family custom homes or monumental high-rises. Their style and ingenuity is showcased twice a year, first in the fall with the release of the Georgie Awards® finalists, then in the spring when the winners are revealed.

Last month the Canadian Home Builders' Association of British Columbia kicked off the 2010 awards season with finalists announced in 39 categories. Recognizing the best of the best in construction, renovation, design, development and sales/marketing, the competition proves increasingly challenging each year. This year's event attracted 320 entries from 77 companies.

And the names given to these marvellous creations themselves seem to get better and better — Stealth, Synergy, Mystic Pond, California Dreaming, Eclecticity, High Rise Harmony and Laneway Lovely. One member company calls itself The Sky's the Limit Design; there's also B Cubed Construction and Upward Construction & Renovation.

Two new categories have been added this year, namely Best Outdoor Living Space and Best Condo Renovation. Many of the finalists are first-time entrants and some, such as Concord Pacific, absent for a few years, have come back to test themselves.

Always a strong contender, MAC Marketing Solutions returns in full force this year with 19 finalist designations in nine categories, including Marketing Campaign of the Year and Salesperson of the Year in New Home Construction. Portrait Homes, a repeat winner over the years, is an 11 time finalist, while Quiniscoe Homes, a relative newcomer to the Georgie scene, also earned 11, including Custom Home Builder of the Year.

Solterra Development Corporation's Vita at Symphony Place, one of BC Children's Hospital lottery homes, is responsible for five of the company's 14 finalist designations, while its Sun at 72, 89 modern Surrey townhomes, is represented in each of the seven sales and marketing categories, including Marketing Campaign of the Year. Five companies will vie for the lofty \$200,000,000 and over designation, including Whistler newcomer Craig Ross.

Finalists for the Builder and Renovator of the Year awards and the Customer Choice Georgie Awards® powered by AVIDTM will be announced in January 2011. The 2010 Georgie Awards® black-tie gala will be held on March 5, 2011, in Vancouver. For a complete list of finalists and more information including photos of their entries, visit www.georgieawards.ca.

Message from the Honourable Rich Coleman



he Province is proud to partner with the Canadian Home Builders' Association of BC (CHBA-BC) in sponsoring the annual Georgie Awards. We recognize the importance of the home building industry to British Columbia and the contributions that CHBA-BC members make to our economy and the development of safe, liveable communities.

The Georgies celebrate outstanding achievements from a wide range of industry specialists who are committed

to excellence and the highest standards in residential construction. These awards showcase the latest advancements in home design and construction

technology and contribute to British Columbia's reputation for having one of the most dynamic and innovative residential construction sectors in North America.

On behalf of the Province, it's my pleasure to extend congratulations to all 2010 Georgie Award finalists and to offer my best wishes for your continued success in the year ahead.

Sincerely yours,

Rich Coleman

Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and Minister Responsible for Housing



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Ltd. has been named a 2010 Georgie

Awards® finalist four times over for three different projects. The development firm, led

by founder Ottavio Boffo and his son Michael

Boffo, prides itself on craftsmanship. And its

shortlisted projects, the Via, the Jewel and

Jewel II, are real-life residential architectural gems. Company spokesperson Karen West says

when Boffo builds, it doesn't skimp on anything.

"We choose the best finishings that we can. We

build large and livable units," she says. "Boffo's

portfolio, consistency in quality and furnishings

has built them a great name

Queensborough is a finalist

in the Best Multi-Family Low

Rise Development. While

West says the area is still

emerging, Boffo recognized

its potential as the newest

hot spot in Lower Mainland

real estate. Indeed, put a

pin smack in the centre of

the Lower Mainland, and you'll likely hit Via. "It's

quite amazing what they

have planned in the official

community plan for the area.

With the uniqueness of the

surrounding water — it's actually a peninsula

The construction of Via itself not only

boasts large units, offering one, two and three

bedroom homes, but there's an urban chic to the project, with lots of natural wood on the

exterior. "We build for the end user in mind,"

says West. "Nine-foot ceilings are standard and

so are overheight doors, all natural products

and wood veneer cabinets." The result is an

— it's a quaint and up-and-coming area."

Its Via development in

organically."

Boffo Developments Ltd. Via, Jewel, Jewel II here's a reason Boffo Developments

Go big, go Boffo

By Margaret Jetelina

inviting airy space with lots of natural light from expansive windows.

Its Jewel project in Burnaby overlooking Central Park, a finalist in the Best Multi-Family High Rise Development is also a winner in terms of location and finishing. "I would say

Jewel is the signature project of Boffo to date," West says. "It's a very upscale, hotelfeeling like project. It's pretty outstanding." Not only is it located in a sought-after Burnaby location, it offers homebuyers panoramic views of the park. "There are only five units per floor and each one feels like a corner unit," she adds. Like the Via, it also boasts top finishings, including premium appliances. With oversized windows, overheight ceilings and doors, it embodies the epitome of open space

living. It also combines indoor and outdoor living spaces, with massive covered decks and lushly landscaped grounds. The project is not surprisingly also a finalist in Best Multi-Family

The second tower, Jewel II, hasn't even been built yet, but has been recognized as a finalist in the category of Best Interior Design Display Suite. Jewel II is due for completion in Spring 2012.





