

# The CAHPI Inspector



**JANUARY 2026**

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## CAHPI Charts Course for 2026: Professional Unity and Consumer Protection

As the Canadian Association of Home & Property Inspectors (CAHPI) advances into 2026, its leadership has reaffirmed a bold set of strategic priorities aimed at strengthening the home inspection profession across Canada while enhancing consumer confidence in one of the country's most critical real-estate-related services. CAHPI — the national non-profit body that represents professional home inspectors and sets national standards in the industry — has positioned unifying standards, professional advocacy, and enhanced education and certification at the centre of its agenda for the coming year.

### *Advocacy on Licensing and Consumer Protection*

CAHPI's advocacy work remains a cornerstone of its 2026 priorities. The association is dedicated to engaging provincial governments and industry partners to expand licensing frameworks, such as the 2017 Home Inspector Act of Ontario, where they are absent or inconsistent, suggesting that mandatory professional credentials would significantly improve public protection and trust. Reports and internal newsletters from CAHPI highlight ongoing efforts to address trends like 5-Point Inspections and virtual inspections, which the association views as dilutive to professional standards. These efforts align with broader calls from stakeholders for greater consumer safeguards in real estate transactions, where the purchase of a home is often the largest financial commitment a Canadian household will make.

### *Strengthening Member Support and Education*

Another priority for 2026 is professional development for our members. CAHPI continues to emphasize continuing education, mentoring, and peer networking as essential tools for elevating inspector competence and career longevity.

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NCH  
Sarah Orendt  
NCH, RHI  
Leslie Tripp  
NCH, RHI

## CAHPI Charts Course for 2026: Professional Unity, Consumer Protection, and National Standards

CAHPI's e-learning platform, webinars, and annual national conference provide forums where inspection professionals share best practices and stay current with evolving industry expectations. The association also highlights the value of volunteer committee involvement, encouraging experienced inspectors to help shape the profession's future through leadership and governance roles.

### *Building Public Awareness and Trust*

Closely tied to its internal development goals is CAHPI's commitment to public education. By helping Canadians understand the benefits of hiring Registered Home Inspectors (RHI)<sup>®</sup> — one who adheres to recognized standards and ethical practices — CAHPI aims to increase the use of qualified inspectors in real

estate transactions. This public messaging also aims to counter misinformation about inspection services and underscore the value of professional, unbiased reporting.

### *Looking Ahead: National Cohesion and Industry Impact*

As 2026 unfolds, CAHPI's priorities reflect a balanced approach: one that supports its members' professional advancement while championing consumer protection and industry recognition. With a focus on standardization, advocacy, education, and public engagement, CAHPI is positioning the home inspection profession for greater cohesion and impact in the years to come.



*Alan Carson, Darin Germyn, Graham Clarke, Peter Weeks*



**CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF  
HOME & PROPERTY INSPECTORS**

**CANADA'S VOICE OF THE HOME INSPECTION INDUSTRY**

# The CAHPI Inspector

## Message from the CAHPI President...



**Peter Weeks NCH, RHI**  
**CAHPI President**

As we step into 2026, I am filled with optimism and pride for the direction our association is taking. CAHPI has always been committed to professional excellence, consumer protection, and the advancement of home inspection across Canada, and this year is no exception. Our 2026 priorities reflect a renewed focus on strengthening national standards, advocating for fair and consistent licensing, expanding educational opportunities, and increasing public awareness of the value of professional home inspections.

The heart of CAHPI is our membership — dedicated professionals who demonstrate daily the integrity, skill, and knowledge that define our profession. Your commitment to maintaining high standards, pursuing continuous learning, and providing reliable, ethical inspection services is what allows us to confidently advocate for the profession on a national scale. It is also the reason Canadians can trust in the work of a CAHPI RHI® and NCH® qualified home inspector.

Equally important is our focus on education and professional development. This year, we are expanding opportunities for learning through webinars, workshops, and our national conference. These initiatives ensure that all CAHPI members have access to the tools, knowledge, and peer networks necessary to excel in a profession that is both rewarding and continually evolving. We encourage every member to engage fully with these resources, to share your insights, and to contribute to the ongoing growth of the profession.

As President, I am deeply grateful for the dedication, expertise, and passion of our members. Your contributions — whether in the field, through committee participation, or by mentoring others — are what allow CAHPI to thrive. I am hopeful that certain professional home inspector associations will recognize the immense value of working collaboratively to the benefit of our respective memberships. Once we all work together to the fullest potential of the RHI® trademark, our professional designation will be the gold standard for consumer protection both provincially and across Canada. I am confident that 2026 will be a year of growth, collaboration, and achievement, and I look forward to working alongside each of you to continue elevating our profession and protecting the interests of Canadian homeowners.

Thank you for your commitment to excellence and for being an essential part of the CAHPI community. Together, we are shaping the future of home inspection — one home, one inspection, and one professional at a time.

## Does a Virtual Annual Conference Makes Sense? Do Regional In-Person Meetings Matter Now More Than Ever? **HAVE YOUR SAY!!**

As CAHPI continues to evolve as a truly national association, it's important that we regularly assess how we best serve our members—professionally, financially, and geographically. One key discussion for the coming year is the format of our Annual Conference, and there is a strong case for transitioning this annual event to a virtual format for 2026 ONLY, while strengthening in-person engagement at the regional level.

We value the investment of time and money of those who regularly attend our in-person conferences and we want to ensure that we continue to provide these invaluable in-person connections that serve our members so well. How do we plan to offer both a more accessible virtual conference but maintain the in-person connections? Read on!

### Greater Access for More Members

A virtual Annual Conference removes many of the barriers that prevent members from participating. Travel costs, time away from work, accommodation expenses, and geographic distance can make attending an in-person national conference difficult—especially for inspectors in remote or underserved regions.

By going virtual, we ensure that all members, regardless of location, can benefit equally from high-quality education, national updates, and meaningful engagement. This aligns with CAHPI's commitment to inclusivity and equal access to professional development across Canada.

A virtual conference also allows for more flexibility to accommodate our members' individual interests and training requirements at lower costs. Themed daily programming and flexible registration options (full, daily, multi-day) will allow for more targeted support for our members' needs.

### Focused, High-Quality Education

Virtual conferences allow for targeted, efficient, and relevant educational content without the logistical constraints of physical venues. Sessions can be recorded and made available on demand, giving members flexibility to learn at their own pace and revisit valuable material long after the event concludes.

This approach also allows CAHPI to attract a broader range of expert speakers—without the limitations of travel schedules or costs—enhancing the overall quality and diversity of content.



### A More Responsible Use of Member Resources

Hosting an in-person national conference requires a significant financial investment. By shifting to a virtual format, CAHPI can redirect resources toward initiatives that deliver lasting value to members, such as enhanced education programming, advocacy efforts, tools, and regional engagement.

A virtual conference offers greater return on investment while maintaining the professionalism and impact members expect from a national event.

## Does a Virtual Annual Conference Makes Sense? Do Regional In-Person Meetings Matter Now More Than Ever? **HAVE YOUR SAY!!**

### **Doubling Down on What In-Person Does Best: Regional Meetings**

While a virtual Annual Conference makes sense nationally, face-to-face interaction still plays a vital role—and that's where regional meetings truly shine.

Local and regional in-person events provide opportunities for:

- Stronger peer-to-peer networking
- Hands-on education and practical demonstrations
- Meaningful discussions around regional issues and regulations
- Building relationships within local inspection communities

By emphasizing and expanding regional in-person meetings,

CAHPI can foster stronger connections where they matter most—among inspectors who work in the same markets and face similar challenges.

### **A Balanced, Forward-Looking Approach**

Temporarily moving to a virtual Annual Conference does not diminish CAHPI's sense of community—it enhances it by making participation more accessible, more efficient, and more sustainable. At the same time, prioritizing in-person regional meetings preserves the personal connections and local collaboration that members value.

This balanced approach reflects where our profession is today and positions CAHPI for a stronger, more connected future.

Together, we can stay nationally unified—while growing stronger locally.

## **Have Your Say: Shape CAHPI's 2026 Conference!**

CAHPI is exploring a virtual Annual Conference for Fall 2026 - but we want to hear from YOU!

- Do you want a virtual conference?
- Decide how sessions are scheduled and themed
- Help us design registration options that fit your needs
- Tell us what you want to see!

A graphic with the words "TAKE SURVEY" in large, bold, teal letters with a blue glow effect, set against a dark blue background.

Your feedback will directly shape the conference experience for all members.

# The CAHPI Inspector

## It's Back...Join us for CAHPI's 2026 Weekly Wednesday Webinar Series!

CAHPI is excited to announce the return of our [Weekly Wednesday Webinar Series for 2026](#)—your opportunity to stay informed, sharpen your skills, and stay connected with Canada's home inspection community.

Building on the success of previous years, our 2026 lineup will deliver a fresh mix of technical training, business development insights, and emerging-issue briefings—all designed to help you stay ahead in a rapidly evolving industry.

### Learning Delivered One Wednesday at a Time

Every week, CAHPI brings together knowledgeable experts, seasoned inspectors, industry partners, and professional educators to share practical information you can apply immediately in your day-to-day work.

Our 2026 series will continue this tradition, featuring sessions on topics such as:

- Advanced building science and defect recognition
- New construction and renovation trends
- Energy efficiency, climate resilience, and environmental risks
- Tools, technology, and reporting innovations
- Health and safety best practices for inspectors
- Business management, marketing, and client communication
- Legal updates, risk mitigation, and professionalism

Whether you're a new inspector building your confidence or a seasoned professional looking to stay sharp, there will be something for everyone in this year's schedule.

### Why Attend?

- Stay current with industry standards, regulatory changes, and emerging issues.
- Earn Membership Renewal Credits (MRCs) simply by showing up and engaging.
- Learn at your convenience—sessions are virtual, accessible, and recorded for later viewing.

- Ask questions in real time and gain insights directly from subject-matter experts.
- Connect with peers from across Canada and strengthen our national inspection community.

### Shaping the 2026 Lineup Together

This year, CAHPI is putting an even greater emphasis on member-driven content. Have a topic you want covered? A challenge you'd like guidance on? An expert you want to hear from? We want to hear from you!

Your input helps us ensure each Wednesday session is relevant, practical, and valuable for inspectors working in every region and every type of home.



### Mark Your Calendar

The CAHPI 2026 Weekly Wednesday Webinar Series kicks off in January 2026, with new sessions posted as confirmed on the [CAHPI website](#). Registration is always simple—just log in and reserve your spot.

Make 2026 your strongest professional year yet by joining us every Wednesday for focused, timely, industry-leading education.

Let's continue raising the standard of home inspection in Canada—one webinar at a time.

## CAHPI 2026 Weekly Wednesday Webinar Series

### Electrical for New Home Inspectors

Wednesday, January 21, 2026  
8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. EST

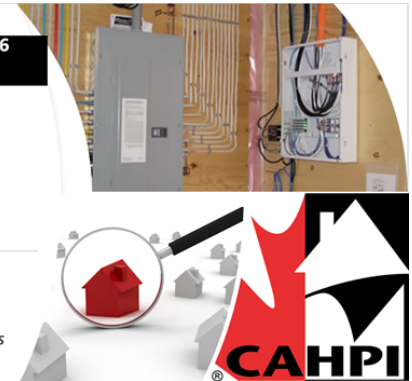
**Kelly Baziuk, C.E.T., RHI®, NCH®, Owner/Chief Inspector,  
Welcome Home Inspection Services**

Designed specifically for newer home inspectors, this presentation offers a practical introduction to inspecting residential electrical systems. You'll learn what to look for during an electrical inspection and how it aligns with the CAHPI Standards of Practice. Through clear explanations and real-world photos of common electrical defects, this session will help build your confidence and sharpen your on-site inspection skills. A must-attend for anyone looking to strengthen their foundational knowledge in home electrical systems!

Wednesday, January 21, 2026  
8:00pm – 9:00pm EST

ELECTRICAL FOR  
NEW HOME  
INSPECTORS

**Kelly Baziuk, C.E.T., RHI, NCH,**  
Owner/Chief Inspector  
Welcome Home Inspection Services



CAHPI members - log in for comp rate

Non-Member registration (\$28.25)

### Getting Started with Drones: Adding an Aerial Perspective to Your Inspection Business

Wednesday, January 28, 2026  
8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. EST

**Ian Wills, President, Coastal Drone Co.**

Drones are rapidly changing how home inspectors assess roofs, chimneys, towers, and other hard-to-reach areas. But what does it really take to add drone technology to your inspection operations?

In this introductory webinar, we'll explore the basics of using drones in home inspections—from equipment and setup to operational considerations, limitations, and compliance. Learn when an aerial perspective can enhance safety, improve documentation, and add value for clients, and when it may not be appropriate. We'll also discuss common pitfalls, liability considerations, and best practices to ensure drone use supports—not complicates—your inspection workflow.

Whether you're drone-curious or actively considering integrating drones into your services, this session will give you the foundational knowledge to make informed, responsible decisions before taking to the skies.

Wednesday, January 28, 2026  
8:00pm – 9:00pm EST

ADDING AN AERIAL  
PERSPECTIVE TO  
YOUR INSPECTION  
BUSINESS

**Ian Wills**  
President, Coastal Drone Co.



CAHPI members - log in for comp rate

Non-Member registration (\$28.25)

## CAHPI 2026 Weekly Wednesday Webinar Series

### Power Up Your Knowledge: Inspecting Generac Backup Generator Systems

Wednesday, February 4, 2026  
8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. EST

**Adam Wachtel, Master Electrician,  
President, Platinum Electrical Contractors  
Inc.**

In an age of increasing power outages and extreme weather events, more homeowners are turning to standby generators for peace of mind. But how prepared are you to evaluate these systems during a home inspection? Join us for a specialized educational session focused on Generac residential backup generators, one of the most commonly installed systems in Canada and the U.S. This session is designed specifically for home and property inspectors who want to expand their knowledge and confidently assess the condition and safety of these systems.

#### What You'll Learn:

- A basic overview of how Generac generators operate including the main components of the system (standby vs. portable, transfer switch functionality)
- Key components to identify during an inspection
- Signs of wear, improper installation, or maintenance issues
- Common installation errors and red flags, including the most common reasons for denied warranty claims
- Safety considerations and what's outside your scope
- How to clearly document generator observations in your inspection report
- Checklists and generator keys will be provided on request

Whether you're seeing more generators in newer homes or dealing with retrofits in rural properties, this session gives you the tools to speak confidently and report responsibly.

Wednesday, February 4, 2026  
8:00pm – 9:00pm EST

POWER UP YOUR  
KNOWLEDGE:  
INSPECTING  
GENERAC BACKUP  
GENERATOR SYSTEMS

Adam Wachtel  
Master Electrician, President, Platinum Electrical Contractors Inc.



CAHPI members - log in for comp rate

Non-Member registration (\$28.25)

## CAHPI 2026 Weekly Wednesday Webinar Series

### Anatomy of a Home Inspection Claim: From First Call to Final Outcome

Wednesday, February 11, 2026  
8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. EST

**Kris Gaetano, CRM, Vice President and Associate, BFL CANADA**  
**Gina Seitz, Vice President, Client Executive, BFL CANADA**

Every home inspector hopes they'll never face a claim—but understanding how claims unfold is critical to protecting your business.

In this webinar, we'll walk through real-world home inspector claims from start to finish: the lead-up, the initial phone call, the common missteps that make matters worse, and the final outcome. Learn what went wrong, what could have been done differently, and practical steps you can take to reduce liability, respond appropriately, and safeguard your reputation when a claim arises.

Wednesday, February 11, 2026  
8:00pm – 9:00pm EST

ANATOMY OF A  
HOME INSPECTION  
CLAIM:  
FROM FIRST CALL TO  
FINAL OUTCOME

**Kris Gaetano**  
CRM, Vice President and Associate, BFL CANADA  
**Gina Seitz**  
Vice President, Client Executive, BFL CANADA



CAHPI members - log in for comp rate

Non-Member registration (\$28.25)

### Inspecting Residential Wells: What Home Inspectors Need to Know

Wednesday, February 18, 2026  
8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. EST

**Sarah Orendt, Registered Home Inspector, Licensed Well Technician, Licensed Septic Installer, Sarah's Home Inspections Inc.**

Residential wells can present significant health, safety, and liability concerns if not properly evaluated. This practical webinar is designed specifically for home inspectors and will walk through best practices for inspecting private water wells, identifying red flags, and understanding the limits of a visual inspection.

We'll cover common well types, components, and site conditions, how to recognize signs of contamination or system failure, and how to properly document findings and recommendations in your report. The session will also address when sampling is appropriate, how to communicate water quality concerns to clients, and how to reduce risk through clear disclaimers and referrals.

Whether you encounter wells regularly or only occasionally, this webinar will help you approach properties with private wells more confidently. This session provides a clearer understanding of scope, limitations, and professional responsibilities when a private well is present.

Wednesday, February 18, 2026  
8:00pm – 9:00pm EST

RESIDENTIAL WELLS:  
WHAT HOME  
INSPECTORS NEED  
TO KNOW

**Sarah Orendt**  
Registered Home Inspector,  
Licensed Well Technician, Licensed Septic Installer  
Sarah's Home Inspections Inc.



CAHPI members - log in for comp rate

Non-Member registration (\$28.25)

## Reminder: Complete Your 2025 Member Renewal Credits (MRCs)

As a friendly reminder, one of CAHPI's objectives is to establish and advance a national standard for professional development, education, and advocacy for home and property inspectors across Canada. To this end, members are required to complete 20 Member Renewal Credits (MRCs) each calendar year. CAHPI has been lenient on this requirement since COVID but we will be implementing member audits to ensure compliance.

### Why MRCs Matter

Member Renewal Credits are an essential part of maintaining your membership in good standing. A total of 20 MRCs is required each calendar year (January–December) and is reviewed at the time of membership renewal in June. Staying current with your MRCs not only ensures uninterrupted membership, but also reflects your ongoing commitment to professionalism, competence, and continuous learning within the home inspection industry.

### What Counts as an MRC?

MRCs can be earned through any education related to home inspection, whether technical, professional, or risk-management focused. As a general rule:

- 1 hour of education = 1 MRC
- Education may be completed in-person or online
- All CAHPI webinars, courses, conferences, and approved training sessions all qualify
- Relevant non-CAHPI courses that advance your knowledge of home inspection

Members are encouraged to explore the [CAHPI e-learning portal](#), which offers a wide range of 1-hour, on-demand webinars covering relevant inspection topics. These webinars are free to members, accessible at your convenience, and are an easy way to complete outstanding credits on your own schedule.

### Record-Keeping and Audits

Please note that supporting documentation is not required at the time of renewal, unless you are selected for a random audit. When completing your renewal, you will simply be asked to enter the total number of MRCs completed between January 2025 and December 2025. We do, however, recommend that members retain their own records in case verification is requested.



### Need Help?

If you are unsure how many credits you have completed, need help accessing the e-learning portal, or have questions about what qualifies as an MRC, assistance is always available. Our team is happy to help guide you through the process and ensure you are on track before the deadline.

### Thank You

Thank you for your continued professionalism and your dedication to advancing the home inspection profession. Your commitment to ongoing education strengthens not only your own practice, but the credibility and reputation of our profession as a whole. We appreciate your efforts and look forward to another successful year ahead.

## RECO announces governance overhaul, new executive team

REM Editorial Team | Jan 08, 2026

The Real Estate Council of Ontario (RECO) has announced a series of major organizational and strategic changes as it seeks to rebuild trust and modernize its operations following significant criticism of its regulatory performance.

In a statement released Jan. 8, RECO administrator and acting CEO Jean Lépine outlined eight initiatives that he says will guide the regulator's work in 2026, alongside a new corporate structure and a newly appointed executive leadership team.

The announcement comes amid heightened scrutiny of RECO after a provincial review and an external audit criticized its handling of the iPro Realty Inc. trust account scandal, which left thousands of real estate agents with unpaid commissions. The Ontario government placed RECO under administration in November, granting Lépine oversight of the regulator.

### Eight transformation initiatives planned for 2026

According to RECO, the transformation plan is intended to address cultural, operational and governance challenges identified through recent reviews.

The eight initiatives include:

- Culture renewal plan underpinned by a new performance management system
- Regulatory modernization plan
- Stakeholder engagement strategy reconnecting RECO to consumers and the professional sector on key topics like trust account oversight, annual financial filings, insurance program reforms, and education
- Digital and technology modernization roadmap and implementation plan
- Financial sustainability strategy based on cost recovery principles

- Renewed governance approach
- Public awareness campaign
- New strategic plan for 2027–2030

RECO said it will provide regular public updates on progress across these initiatives.

“These initiatives represent significant and bold change, and it’s very clear that we need to prioritize meaningful and consistent engagement with our stakeholders, including the real estate services sector and consumers,” Lépine said in a press release. “I have been impressed by the insights, ideas, and collaboration to date in some of my first sessions and look forward to continuing this work in the coming weeks and months.”

In an interview with Real Estate Magazine on Monday, Lépine said he will be inviting “sector leaders” to a summit this month to discuss measures that ensure brokerages are safeguarding funds placed in trust accounts, though he did not specify who would be invited to the summit.

### New organizational structure and leadership

To support its transformation agenda, RECO says it will adopt a revised organizational structure built around four areas of accountability: Strategy & Corporate; Regulatory Modernization; People, Culture & Technology; and Finance and Risk.

Two senior executives have been appointed and will report directly to Lépine, effective Jan. 19: Emilee Escobar has been named Chief Strategy & Corporate Officer. Escobar previously served as Chief Corporate Officer at the Condominium Authority of Ontario.

Samantha Pinto has been appointed Chief Regulatory Modernization Officer. Pinto has more than 20 years of public-sector experience, including senior regulatory roles at the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery.

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**REAL  
ESTATE  
MAGAZINE**

## Top Five Real Estate Newsmakers that Defined 2025

Courtney Zwicker | Dec 31, 2025



For Canada's real estate industry, 2025 was a year that tested adaptability and fortitude.

Market turbulence from persistent affordability pressures, an uneven mix of inventory droughts and deluges depending on the city, and client uneasiness in the face of U.S. tariffs and other economic factors shaped day-to-day business.

Shifting interest rates and cautious buyers made transactions more complex and expectations harder to manage, as the adoption of advanced technology tools and AI became more mainstream, with more agents looking to data to close deals.

At the same time, the industry faced a broader reckoning. Regulatory action, legal decisions and high-profile controversies sharpened the focus on governance, professional standards and safeguarding consumer trust.

Together, these forces reshaped how agents operate. The following are the five stories that most significantly influenced Canadian real estate in 2025, counting down to number one.

### 5. Realtor.ca's transition and leadership shift

In 2025, [Realtor.ca's transformation](#) into a standalone, taxable subsidiary of the Canadian Real Estate Association (CREA) became one of the industry's most significant structural developments. Early in the year, the newly formed entity appointed longtime executive Patrick Pichette as interim CEO and began recruiting a permanent board and chief executive to guide its next phase.

Later in 2025, Realtor.ca announced that [Scott Neil](#), former CEO of major digital marketplace Kijiji Canada, will take over as CEO effective January 2026.

The shift gives Realtor.ca greater operational flexibility to pursue innovation, new revenue streams, and technology investments, says CREA.

### 4. Cowichan land title decision

The Cowichan land title decision was one of the year's most significant legal developments affecting real estate in British Columbia.

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**REAL  
ESTATE  
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Courtney Zwicker | Dec 31, 2025

The ruling, focused on Indigenous land rights and title issues in parts of the Cowichan region, introduced new complexity for affected transactions, and was viewed by some as a possible signal of what's to come for other areas across the country with land claims.

Even with a limited scope, the decision prompted agents, lawyers and lenders to [re-examine due diligence practices and title certainty](#). It also highlighted how historical land claims can cross with modern real estate in ways that are not always apparent to buyers and sellers.

### 3. Condo pressure in Toronto and Vancouver

Downtown condo markets in Toronto and Vancouver [remained in the spotlight](#) in 2025 as pricing, investor confidence and project viability came under strain.

Slower sales, elevated interest rates, and concerns around investor saturation prompted some developers [to pause or rethink projects](#), while resale conditions stayed steady.

Many experts in the field agree that micro units, which had a moment in the early 2020s, are out of touch with today's buyer demands, as the market has shifted from investors to end users.

While both cities remain central to Canada's housing landscape, 2025 marked a clear reset for downtown condos.

### 2. Eric Drinkwater scandal in Calgary

The Eric Drinkwater scandal became a major national story after the former Calgary agent [admitted to defrauding](#) about 71 people through a Ponzi scheme, from which he collected \$3.5 million.

In September, the Real Estate Council of Alberta (RECA) [banned Drinkwater](#) from Alberta's real estate industry for life, following an investigation and hearing.

In its decision, the independent hearing panel de-

scribed his conduct as "among the most severe" RECA has ever addressed.

Drinkwater's conduct led Remax Canada [to drop the longstanding Calgary brokerage](#) where he worked, formerly known as Re/Max Central.

Civil lawsuits and criminal charges brought by the Calgary Police Service remain ongoing and are separate from RECA's disciplinary process.

### 1. iPro Realty scandal and industry fallout

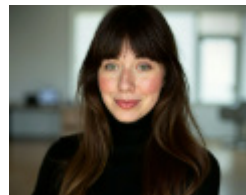
The iPro Realty Ltd. scandal was one of 2025's most closely watched stories, sending shockwaves through Ontario's real estate community after a \$10.5-million shortfall was detected in the trust account of the major brokerage.

Criticisms of the handling of the situation by the Real Estate Council of Ontario (RECO) ultimately led the government to [take control of the regulator](#) by way of an administrator.

Affected agents are currently set to be compensated for [50 per cent](#) of what they've lost in commissions.

The affected agents – some of whom are claiming six-figure losses – have been pushing for justice since iPro's trust account shortfall was revealed and the brokerage was shut down in August, three months after RECO became aware of the breach.

For many, the concurrent Drinkwater and iPro scandals represent a [collective reckoning for the industry](#), with industry leaders emphasizing that the damage extends beyond the individuals involved, threatening the integrity of the entire profession.



**Courtney Zwicker**

*Courtney Zwicker is a digital reporter and associate editor for REM. Based in Atlantic Canada, she has over a decade of experience covering daily business news.*

## How to Travel Safely With Lithium Batteries

By Grant Dong for Divers Alert Network , Divers Alert Network | Published On September 4, 2025

### Keep these safety tips in mind when using lithium batteries on dive trips.

Lithium batteries have revolutionized scuba diving by powering a wide range of devices, from dive computers and underwater lights to cameras and scooters. Their high energy density and long life span make them ideal for marine environments. However, lithium batteries also pose unique hazards. Understanding how to properly handle, store, transport and charge these batteries is essential for diver safety and equipment longevity.

#### Potential Dangers of Lithium Batteries

While lithium batteries are generally safe when used correctly, they can become hazardous if damaged or handled improperly. The primary risk is a runaway reaction or short-circuit that generates intense heat, potentially leading to fire and releasing toxic fumes. In the confined spaces of an airplane or dive boat, a lithium battery fire can be catastrophic. Additionally, water intrusion into battery casings can lead to corrosion, leakage and electrical failure.

### Proper Storage, Transportation and Handling

Battery safety begins with choosing high-quality batteries from reputable manufacturers. Always inspect batteries for swelling, discoloration or damage before each use as these may be signs of compromise. If any issues are detected, the battery should be recycled at designated locations.

Because of their fire risk, transporting lithium batteries—especially by air—is strictly regulated. Most airlines require that lithium batteries be carried in carry-on luggage and easily accessible. Batteries over 100 watt-hours require airline approval, and no single battery may exceed 160 watt-hours for passenger aircraft. Check with your airline and local regulations as rules may vary.

When not in use, store lithium batteries in a cool, dry and well-ventilated location, away from direct sunlight and heat sources. Best practices include keeping batteries at about 50 percent charge if stored long-term and never

storing them fully charged or completely drained, as both extremes can reduce lifespan and increase instability.

I like to store all my batteries with terminal covers or in designated boxes to prevent short circuits. When transporting batteries, a drop-and-water-resistant container such as a Pelican case can ensure you avoid damage.

### Best Practices for Charging Lithium Batteries

Charging is one of the riskiest activities involving lithium batteries. To minimize hazards:

#### » Use Manufacturer-Approved Chargers

Only use chargers designed for your specific battery and voltage (which vary across the globe). Mismatched chargers can cause overcharging or short-circuits.

#### » Charge in a Fire-Safe Area

Never charge batteries near flammable materials. Choose a fireproof surface, such as ceramic tile or metal. Live-aboards in particular often have specific rules on where and how many devices can be charged at the same time to prevent overloading the vessel's circuits.

#### » Monitor Temperature

Batteries should never be charged without direct supervision. Batteries that become excessively hot during charging may fail. Immediately disconnect them and move them to a safe location.

#### » Invest in a Battery Charging Safety Bag or Box

Fire-resistant charging boxes/bags can mitigate flame and smoke if a battery does catch fire. However, these products should not be used as a substitute for direct observation.

Lithium batteries are indispensable tools in modern scuba diving, offering compact power for critical equipment. By understanding the risks and adhering to best practices in handling, storage, transportation and charging, inspectors can safely harness the power of this technology. Battery safety should always be part of your dive plan.

# The CAHPI Inspector

## WELCOME to CAHPI's NEW MEMBERS

First Name	Last Name	City	Prov	Designation
Tim	O'Connor	Carp	ON	Candidate
George	Eastwood	Dundas	ON	NCH, RHI
Les	Carr	Kingston	ON	NCH
Chris	Erb		ON	Candidate
Jordan	McTavish	Ilderton	ON	Candidate
Rodney	MacGillivray	Baden	ON	NCH, RHI
Arthur	Field	Uxbridge	ON	Candidate

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The Drone Zone newsletter is a platform that the RPAS Task Force uses to communicate monthly with stakeholders (drone operators, industry, law enforcement, other government departments (OGDs), provincial/territorial contacts, academia, etc.) and serves as a central mechanism for outreach and engagement. The newsletter was first launched in 2019 and has since grown to over 1200 subscribers.

Topics covered each month typically include any news on engagement efforts and the RPAS Task Force's presence at major events (e.g.: International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) meetings, summits, conferences, etc.), regulatory program updates, and any other items of interest for stakeholders. On occasion, "special editions" of the newsletter will be sent out if something needs to be communicated outside of the regular publication cycle."

# The CAHPI Inspector

## VOLUNTEER WITH CAHPI!

CAHPI is calling all volunteers! We have recently restructured our Committees in the hopes of encouraging more members to participate. Our doors are open and we want to hear what you have to say.

Joining a CAHPI committee is a fantastic opportunity to contribute to the home inspection industry in Canada. Whether you're passionate about professional development, training, mentoring, public relations, or marketing, there's a committee that aligns with your interests and expertise. By volunteering, you not only help advance and protect the home inspection profession but also gain access to valuable industry information, networking opportunities, and best practices.

If you're interested in learning more about available volunteer opportunities and finding the best fit based on your interests and availability, you can [review the options here](#) and reach out to Anne at [anne@cahpi.ca](mailto:anne@cahpi.ca) for more information. Your voice and expertise can make a significant difference in shaping the future of the home inspection industry in Canada.



### CAHPI AFFILIATE MEMBERS



EMSL CANADA, INC.  
LABORATORY • PRODUCTS • TRAINING



CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF  
HOME & PROPERTY INSPECTORS

CANADA'S VOICE OF THE HOME INSPECTION INDUSTRY

# The CAHPI Inspector

## CAHPI MEMBER BENEFITS

### VALUE OF CAHPI MEMBERSHIP

The Board of Directors strives every year to continuously build a professional association and create meaningful value that leads to a sustainable organization. The home inspection profession is changing, CAHPI is monitoring and responding strategically to meet the association's key objectives. The association has many valuable assets and benefit.

As a CAHPI member, you'll be recognized as belonging to a respected professional association.

### CAHPI BRANDING

**Canada's Voice Of The Home Inspection Industry** – CAHPI is a professional National association with recognized standards.

**Registered Home Inspectors (RHI)® Designation** - Home Inspectors meeting CAHPI membership criteria earn this valued and recognized RHI designation.

**Highest Industry Membership Qualification** - includes respected training institutions providing high quality educational programs; written examination; field training and mentorship; peer-evaluation and field testing. Because CAHPI members meet these high qualification they are the primary source of competent home inspectors across Canada.

**Media** – CAHPI is seen as the industry leader that the media seeks out when reporting home inspection news.

### ADVOCACY

**Government Relations** – CAHPI collaborates with government through participation on expert panels and technical advisory committees. As a National association our connection with stakeholders gives CAHPI a unique ability to add value, provide our insight and expertise to Provincial and Federal Governments.

**Industry Stakeholders** – CAHPI continues to build a network of industry stakeholders; real estate, appraisers, insurance, mortgage professionals, standard development, franchises and home builders. This is evidenced by the signing of a memorandum of understandings with Canadian Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists.

**New Business Services** – CAHPI advocates on behalf of the members with stakeholders to develop new opportunities to provide new services in new markets.

**Consumer Protection** – CAHPI maintains a professional website providing Canadian homebuyers with the resources they need to feel confident when looking to hire a professional home inspector.

**THIS COULD BE  
YOUR PHOTO!**



We're always looking to feature 'Photos from the Field' from our members. Share with us a photo from your repertoire that tells an interesting story about a recent home inspection. Please include your name and a brief (50 word) overview explaining the photo to [info@cahpi.ca](mailto:info@cahpi.ca). Do you have home inspection content you've authored and would like to share? Contact us to see how you can get involved [info@cahpi.ca](mailto:info@cahpi.ca).

# The CAHPI Inspector



**Get social & stay connected!  
Follow CAHPI on social media...**



*Please take a few minutes to leave us a Google review,  
we'd be so happy!*

Health Canada warns that various Radon Gas Detectors sold on Amazon.ca may pose a health and safety risk due to inaccurate detection of radon levels

Sampling and evaluation by Health Canada's Radiation Protection Bureau has determined that these products measure inaccurate radon levels and likely pose a danger to human health or safety.

[More information here.](#)



Vesta Tankless Hot Water Heater recalled due to carbon monoxide poisoning hazard

Product: Vesta Tankless Hot Water Heater  
Issue: Poisoning hazard  
What to do: Immediately stop using the recalled product and contact VESTA.DS to have a certified technician install the free repair.

[More information here.](#)



# The CAHPI Inspector

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