

## **MLF Meeting – December 6, 2011**

### **OPA Update – Scott Armstrong and Dan Stone**

As part of the MLF's ongoing outreach to municipal practitioners, Dan Stone and Scott Armstrong provided the group with a preview of their Sustainable Communities "Regionalization" presentation that was prepared for the AMO Conference on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

Most of the group discussion was centered on the web-based functionality of the "Regionalization" project. By having the "Regionalization" project exist online, the content can be actively managed in order to provide the users with the most relevant and up to date material. While there were some suggestions of how the users could best access the data, it was understood that the intent is to have an online portal where municipalities can access specific examples of sustainable design polices that have been created within the legislative frame work of Ontario and the GTA.

### **OBC SB-12 Update – Larry Brydon**

Larry Brydon presented the group with an update on how the home building industry is preparing for the upcoming changes related to the OBC's minimum energy efficiency requirements that will come into effect in January 2012.

Larry noted that about 20% of the home builders are already building to a level that exceeds minimum code requirements. As such, the focus has been to provide the middle tier of homebuilders with the education and training necessary to design and construct code compliant homes. Larry also highlighted how code changes related to the continuity of the air barrier is moving the industry towards providing exterior insulation separate air barriers; the result of which should help to dramatically improve the overall air tightness of a typical home. It was estimated that the costs associated with designing to constructing to the new code requirements represent about a \$6k premium on a new home.

Finally, Larry gave a brief overview of the various Green Building labeling systems available for homes. In broad terms, it was noted that the OBC energy efficiency requirements (Energuide 80) represented the minimum in terms of overall scope (Energy, Water, Materials, Air Quality and Community) while LEED represented to most comprehensive.