

National Home Inspector Certification Council

Autonomy

In 1996, a study was conducted that notes: “CMHC research has shown that currently there are a number of private inspection associations and organizations across the country each with different inspection standards and levels of qualifications. The difference in standards for certifying private inspectors in Canada has caused confusion in the minds of consumers as well as within other sectors of the housing industry. In the research it notes - the considerable variation in the availability and quality of the home inspection service offered across Canada, with large regional differences.”

“The private inspection industry is highly fragmented, comprised of a number of associations, franchises and individual firms with varying qualifications. There is no national organization with which the housing sector can interact. This has been an issue for the sector and has received CMHC attention for almost a decade.”

Moving forward, there has been some progress, but very little has changed. Perhaps one highlight is the licensing requirements (Spring 2009) in British Columbia to practice home inspection. But even with licensing there is no real fail-safe magic response that will cure the mistakes or negligence of being on the receiving end of a bad home inspection or perhaps a home inspection nightmare. As an example, even with voluntary certification test results of approximately 500 home inspectors, the data points to the fact that 1 out of 5 home inspectors failed to meet even an 80% competency rate in a practical home inspection “test house” setting.

Our Mission:

- Establish and maintain an independent national certification program for home inspectors and property inspectors in Canada.
- Recognize a benchmark standard for training and education for home and property inspectors in Canada.
- Represent and promote the interest of Canadian home and property inspectors earning National Certificate Holder* designation.
- Establish and maintain the status of a National Certificate Holder* – home inspector with consumers, governments, and all stakeholders across Canada.

* National Home Inspector (NHI) is the new certificate holder designation

* National Certificate Holder (NCH) is owned by CAHPI

From the NCCA Standards: Standards for the Accreditation of Certification Programs

Autonomy in the management and administration of certification protects certification programs from undue influence. *Autonomy is required in order for certification programs to serve stakeholder interests, primarily those of consumers of professional services. However, since certification programs take different forms for different professions and occupations, a variety of structures may be effectively employed to prevent undue influence from competing interests.*

The term stakeholder has been used to refer to candidates and the public, as well as to members of a profession, occupation, or regulatory body. The term denotes the primary interest of the public and other consumers of the certification program. The term also encompasses certificants and the entities offering certification, as well as educators, and employers. It is appropriate to acknowledge the legitimate influence of all stakeholder bodies.

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