

# SUSTAINABLE HOUSE



**A COMPETITION SEEKS SUSTAINABLE HOUSING DESIGN PROTOTYPES, PROVIDING PROGRESSIVE LEADERSHIP AND DIRECTION FOR OUR RAPIDLY EXPANDING URBANIZED ENVIRONMENTS.**

**COMPETITION** ARCHETYPE FOR THE LIVING CITY: SUSTAINABLE HOUSE, WOODBRIDGE, ONTARIO  
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The results of the Archetype for the Living City competition hosted by the Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA) in partnership with the Design Exchange (DX) were revealed last month, and seven design teams were recognized in a variety of categories.

In response to anticipated explosive growth of the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) over the next 25 years in addition to the atrocious air quality resulting from ever-increasing carbon dioxide emissions, the competition asked architects, engineers and designers across the country to consider environmental responsibility and affordability in the design of a single-family home that would be used as a prototype for future development. As such, the competition promised the construction of the winning design as a demonstration centre for both builders and buyers, with the clear didactic function of creating awareness and fostering an understanding of sustainable design, technology and building processes. The house will be constructed on the Living City Campus at the Kortright Centre in Woodbridge, north of Toronto, and hopes to stimulate community transformation towards sustainable living through its holistic and interactive approach to design.

Stipulations for the detached four-bedroom house plus garage included provisions for adaptability to change and use over time. Standards to be met included a minimum of LEED-H 1.71 Gold rating and EnergyStar for New Homes designation, along with clear suggestions for innovative waste-water treatment. Proposals had to consider the possibility of the mass production of a south-backing house on a 50' x 120' lot.

Requirements for each team included a minimum of one of each of the following: registered architect, registered mechani-



