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Solutions for construction practitioners

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For more information contact Renee Tomlinson, director of training and testing at tel. 847-759-4044.

Canucks Aplenty at ASHRAE AGM

Four Canadians were among the members of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) to be recognized during the society's annual general meeting, held in Kansas City, MO from June 28 to July 2.

Carolyn Kerr, Ph.D., a partner with InAir Environmental Ltd. in Ottawa, ON

received a distinguished service award. Port Elgin, ON's William Colborne, an ASHRAE fellow and life member of the society received a 50-year member award.

University of Waterloo professor John Straube, Ph.D. received the journal paper award, in recognition of the best paper or article to be published in the *ASHRAE Journal*. His paper, *Moisture in Buildings*, was published in the January 2002 issue.

Michel Bernier, Ph.D., who teaches in the department of mechanical engineering at L'Ecole Polytechnique de Montreal in Montreal, QC, received the ASHRAE student activities achievement award for his

Solutions for Construction Practitioners

The National Research Council's Institute for Research in Construction (IRC) has made some improvements to its web site (<http://irc.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca>). The site receives over 120,000 "hits" each month. "With so many people coming to the site for publications, we decided to make more of them available and make them easier to find," said Mike Culhane, IRC's head of library and internet services.

A new feature of the IRC web site is the A-Z index, which allows users to find information quickly on IRC's 5,000 plus web pages. The IRC site contains over 2,000 publications. Visitors can sign up to receive the list of new publications by e-mail or subscribe to the electronic version of the newsletter *Construction Innovation*. Reports of innovative products evaluated by IRC's national evaluation service (CCMC) can be found in the Registry of Product Evaluations.

work to further the goals and growth of student activities.

ASHRAE also announced its new officers and directors. Elected to a one-year term was vice-president Darryl Boyce, P.Eng. He is the director of the department of the physical plant at Carleton University in Ottawa, ON.

Serving a three-year term as the director and regional chair of Region II is Jean Bundock, P.Eng., an engineer with Roche Ltd. Consulting Group in Ste-Foy, QC. Also serving until 2006 is director and regional chair of Region XI, Bill Dean, P.Eng. Dean is the facility manager with the National Research Council of Canada, Plant Biotechnology Institute in Saskatoon, SK.

Needs and Actions A Mismatch

Despite the belief that a home's maintenance impacts its market value, few homeowners in Ontario actually have plans in place to maintain the air quality, drinking water, heating and cooling systems in their homes.

While 90 per cent of the

650 people who took part in the Decima Research Inc. poll, funded by Direct Energy Essential Home Services, responded that maintenance impacted market value, almost 2/3 reported that they are without a service plan for their furnace or air conditioner.

Of those who have taken steps to increase the efficiency of their heating and cooling systems, most have only gone so far as to install a programmable thermostat, leaving many opportunities for contractors to suggest upgrades to the current systems.

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