



Land Development • Custom Homes • Project Management • Design-Build

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

7th annual URBANA: An ongoing light for housing rights

(Ottawa, ON) An interactive evening of illumination will shine the spotlight on the need for decent, affordable housing, when the seventh annual URBANA hosts its epic party/fundraiser on April 21, this year at Ottawa's trendy Orange Art Gallery.

URBANA is an annual fundraising party event that has so far raised an impressive \$80,000 for community programs that work toward preventing homelessness in Ottawa. This year, proceeds from the event will be handed over to Action Housing/Action-Logement, a local charitable organization that helps low-income people find and maintain safe, affordable and adequate rental housing.

Over the years, URBANA's popularity has soared; the event is now one of *the* Spring parties to attend with guests representing government, the private sector and local service organizations. This year, a special student-priced ticket will enable a younger crowd to also enjoy the event.

Traditionally, URBANA parties have showcased some of the area's highest calibre artists and this year is no exception. Attendees will be treated to an interactive light installation by The Latest Artists, Andrew and Deborah O'Malley. The 3D piece, which resembles an abstract apartment tower, will enable live audience interaction, designed to illustrate the need for sustained community support and involvement in order to address real housing solutions. The piece was created specifically for URBANA 2011 by the collaborative, creative couple.

"Each year, we are struck by the growing interest in URBANA and the number of supportive people who make our events possible. Our sponsors are second to none and the artists we showcase, are truly generous of their time and supportive of our goals," said Akash Sinha, president of Dharma Developments and co-founder of the URBANA event. "We are also humbled as we work along side organizations that work so hard to ensure that there is decent, affordable housing for those in need. URBANA celebrates their accomplishments along with the support of our guests who attend our annual event and make all things possible."

The evening will also include urban rhythms by Ottawa's well-known DJ Memetic, hors d'oeuvres and some tempting raffle prizes.

Hosted by Dharma Developments, sponsors for the event include Hydro Ottawa and Gowlings, Community Champions; Welch LLP and Uniglobe, Heart & Soul Donors; and Enbridge, Ace Sponsor. The Ottawa Sun and 24H Ottawa are the event's Media Partners.

Event Details:

Thursday, April 21st, 2011
6 to 9 p.m.

Orange Art Gallery, 233 Armstrong St., Hintonburg, Ottawa
Tickets: \$85 available online at www.DharmaDevelopments.com

CONSCIOUS CONSTRUCTION



Land Development • Custom Homes • Project Management • Design-Build

About Action Housing/Action-Logement

Action Housing/Action-Logement is an Ottawa-based charitable organization that assists low-income individuals and families to find and maintain safe, affordable and adequate rental housing.

The organization addresses housing issues on many levels, from ensuring that people who are homeless or victims of domestic violence find emergency shelter, to finding longer term housing solutions on the private market or through subsidized housing. The group advocates on behalf of those who are facing evictions and represent tenants in legal situations.

There record speaks for itself: as a result of their prevention services, 86% of the vulnerably housed have managed to keep their housing.

About URBANA

Now in its seventh year, URBANA is an annual event that raises funds to help people find and keep decent, affordable housing. Founders of the event, Akash and Katy Sinha, who co-own Dharma Developments, believe it is important to give back to the community. Making a contribution to improve the community by supporting organizations that contribute to creating decent, affordable housing for those in need is where the couple agreed to focus. To date, URBANA has raised over \$80,000 to this worthy end.

The couple gets its inspiration from the many organizations that work tirelessly and without accolades to improve the quality of life of those less fortunate. Organizations that have benefited from URBANA in previous years include The Alex Munter Foundation, Habitat for Humanity, the Ottawa Youth Services Bureau, Cornerstone Housing, Raising the Roof, and Options Bytown.

For more information about the event, visit www.dharmadevelopments.com

30 –

Additional information can be obtained by contacting:

Akash Sinha, Dharma Developments, 613.482.2800

CONSCIOUS CONSTRUCTION

45 Armstrong Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 2V6 • t 613.482.2800 • f 613.482.7069 • www.DharmaDevelopments.com