



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Real Estate Institute of Canada endorses BOMA BEST**

*The Real Estate Institute of Canada formally endorses BOMA BEST, Canada's leading environmental certification program for commercial buildings.*

**(Toronto)** The Building Owners and Managers Association of Canada (BOMA Canada) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Real Estate Institute of Canada (REIC) for their formal endorsement of the association's BOMA BEST program and its promotion to REIC members.

BOMA BEST (Building Environmental ) is a national assessment program launched in 2005 by BOMA Canada. It addresses an industry need for realistic standards for energy and environmental performance of existing buildings based on accurate, independently verified information. The four-level performance certification program also identifies key best practices and provides members educational and on-line assessment tools, independent data audits and more. There are 1200 buildings now BOMA BEST certified, with some already entering a recertification cycle.

"REIC is an industry leader in real estate education," said Ian M. Stewart, Chair of BOMA Canada, "and now with the addition of BOMA BEST to their offerings, REIC will be able to provide their members a powerful tool for benchmarking not currently available to them,"

The Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) of Canada is the voice of the Canadian commercial real estate industry with over 2,500 members in regional associations across Canada. On behalf of the building owners, managers, developers, facilities managers, asset managers, leasing agents, brokers, and the product and service providers to over 1.9 billion square feet of commercial real estate in Canada, BOMA Canada addresses issues of national concern, and promotes excellence in the industry through information, education, advocacy and recognition.

"The BOMA Canada - REIC strategic alliance built around the BOMA BEST program is a big step for us," said REIC National President William McCarthy. "We are very careful with our endorsements. BOMA BEST is an excellent program that will be extremely useful to our members."

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REIC is a leader in advanced real estate education that has been educating and certifying specialists in real estate since 1955. Its 1900 members come from various disciplines in real estate including finance, brokerage, sales, leasing and property management. Members are governed by the Institute's *Code of Professional Standards* to ensure the Institute's values are upheld for both its members and the consumer.

The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding took place in Vancouver at the REIC National Board meeting on November 20<sup>th</sup> 2009. BOMA Canada president Diana Osler-Zortea and REIC Executive Director Maura McLaren were on hand for the signing.

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REIC Executive Director Maura McLaren signs the MOU on November 20<sup>th</sup> in Vancouver while BOMA Canada President Diana Osler Zortea and REIC National President William McCarthy, FRI CPM® CLO look on.

Hi- Resolution copies of this photo as well as additional photos are available upon request.