



Table of contents

Highlights

- New Secretary General
- Seminar @Ecobuild
- Active House General Assembly
- CEO meeting in Brussels

Updates from members

- Markets
- Projects
- Policies

Timeline

Highlights

Passing the baton

The first General Secretary of the Active House Alliance, Kurt Emil Eriksen, is now passing on the baton to new Secretary General: Lone Feifer, Programme Director Sustainable Living in Buildings at the VELUX Group.

We had a brief chat with Kurt on his past achievements as Active House Secretary General - find out below what he had to share!



Interview with Kurt Emil Eriksen

AH: *First of all, we wanted to thank you for your hard work and engagement during the past years as Active House Secretary General. Looking back, what would be your most exciting achievement?*

KEE: Being the Active House Secretary General has been a great experience for me and I would like to thank all the Active House members for the collaboration we had in these years. It has been a great journey! I have enjoyed very much launching the very first Active House label contest! This gave the Alliance the opportunity to discover new projects and get in touch with more architects and designers. I also had the possibility to collaborate with renowned architects and professors who kindly took part as jury to our project.

AH: *Are you still going to be involved in the Active House Alliance?*

KEE: I will not go far way! I will still be collaborating with the Active House members, oversee the policies operation area, and coordinate the advocacy work of the Alliance. I am very excited about this new task and the work ahead!

Welcome on board Lone and thank you so much to Kurt for all your great work and achievements as the first General Secretary!

Active House takes part to Ecobuild with its open seminar and General Assembly

On 7 March, the Active House Alliance organized its annual General Assembly in the framework of the Ecobuild 2017 Conference, which took place in London, UK.

Additionally, Active House also organized a seminar on 'rethinking in a holistic approach' open to all interested participants. The seminar focused on designing and developing sustainable, healthy and comparable buildings and was opened by Michael K. Rasmussen, Chair of the Active House Advisory board.

During the seminar, the very first house receiving the Active House label was presented, along with the winners of the 2016 Active House label contest, who had the possibility to introduced their projects. To

2017
07 MARCH
2017

ACTIVE HOUSE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

and

ACTIVE HOUSE SEMINAR

at Ecobuild 'Rethinking in a holistic approach'
on design and development of sustainable, healthy
and comfortable buildings



conclude Lara Anne Hale, M.Sc., Marie Curie PhD Fellow, presented her PhD study which reviews the Active House model as innovation platform.

Find the presentations [here](#)



Active House Alliance General Assembly

List of BACs & BoDs

Current Board of Advisory Committee (BACs) members, following the Active House Alliance General Assembly of 7 March 2017:

- Michael K. Rasmussen (Chair), VELUX Group
- Per Heiselberg, Aalborg University
- Peder Vejsig, Cenergia
- TadPutyra, Great Gulf Homes
- Carsten Østergård Pedersen, Grundfos Holding
- Rory Bergin, HTA
- Oliver Rapf, Building Performance Institute Europe
- Mirella Vitale, ROCKWOOL International
- Morten Schmidt, SHLarchitects

During the Active House GA it was agreed on the following Board of Directors:

- Yves Lambert, *Renson (Chair)*
- Connie Enghus, ROCKWOOL International (Vice-Chair)
- Wandrille Henrotte, SOMFY
- Emmanuel Valentin, Saint Gobain Glass
- Carsten Rodem, DTU-Byg
- LindaHildebrand, AktivPlus
- Emilia-Cerna Mladin, AAEC
- Bas Hasselaar, SBRCURnet

- Michael Walters, VELUX Austria
- Franz Hauk, VFF
- Shaun Joffe, Great Gulf

Yves Lambert from Renson was elected chairman of the BoD:



Yves Lambert, New BoD Chairman
Renson

Yves Lambert, public affairs manager at Renson group is the Chairman of the Active House Board of Directors. In this role he presides the meetings of the Board of Directors and the Board of Advisory Committee, as well as monitors the implementation of decisions made by the General Assembly. Besides the Secretary General, Mr Lambert has also full representation rights on behalf of the Association towards third parties.

CEO Meeting with Climate and Energy Commissioner Arias Cañete



On 2 February, three large member companies of Active House – including VELUX, Saint Gobain and Somfy – took part in a high-level meeting day in Brussels to discuss the future of sustainable buildings. On this occasion the CEOs/SVP of the companies met, among others, European Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy Arias Cañete and MEP Bendt Bendtsen (EPP/Denmark), rapporteur on the revision of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive. Commissioner Cañete was pleased to see commitments from the highest level of the industry and expressed his interest in the Active House concept.

The meeting day helped the Alliance build a case for the importance of its vision. Additionally, Active House gained exclusive access to relevant high level European platforms and expert groups, as well as to an important European consumers conference as speaker.

Markets updates

News from Canada

SUN NEW HOMES & CONDOS

4 things that make Active House stand out



RICHARD LYALL
RESCON

(This is the conclusion of a two-part series on Active House, a Scandinavian-style home design that strives to provide industry-leading comfort, energy efficiency and environmental conservation. Part 1 was published Jan. 27 & 29.)

Russell Ibbotson lines up three hand-held gadgets on the kitchen island at the Centennial Park Active House.

The engineer scoops up his cellphone with temperature-measurement attachment and aims its camera lens at the family room wall.

Even on a blustery, winter day in west Etobicoke, it's 20.4 Celsius. Ibbotson has been measuring the temperature,

humidity, energy, daylight and wind at the 2,900-sq.-ft. house during a six-month live-in experiment.

He says that, compared to living in his 130-year-old house, the super-home's performance has been a revelation.

"This is changing the paradigm on how we look at space," says Ibbotson, an engineer and technical manager of building industry for Velux Canada.

Here are four features of Centennial Park Active House that make it special.

1. **Windows.** Triple-pane windows, including floor-to-ceiling, and skylights throughout the home allow a lot of light while sealing in heat during winter or cool during summer, and providing a sense of well-

being for the occupants (the Velux skylights and sun tunnels also provide a view of the stars at night).

2. **Air quality.** The home was designed to reduce the amount of energy needed for air conditioning and to remove stale air. Natural ventilation is driven by either cross-ventilation via the wind or "stack effect" (hot air rises, cold air sinks). The windows and operable skylights facilitate natural air flow.

3. **Energy.** It is produced by a heat pump and gas furnace. Gas and electricity is supplied by Bullfrogpower, which delivers energy from renewable sources. The home also features a Tesla Powerwall rechargeable battery in the basement which powers the refrigerator, HVAC, LED lighting and a few plugs during the day and recharges during off-peak hours. Low-flow plumbing fixtures keep the water bills down, and few of the lights need to be on during the day because of the natural light pouring in through the windows.

4. **Courtyard.** There is a two-storey, C-shaped outdoor courtyard with a tree built into one

side of the house which is visible from the family room at the back of the home through to the front door, giving a feeling of the outdoors being inside. It's also a focal point on the second floor.

This single-detached home is only the beginning, says Great Gulf president Christopher Wein. The future for the concept is in intensification, including the creation of an "Active Block" — a group of six to eight Active House townhomes. Or maybe something taller. "Multi-family living is the future. I'd love to build an Active Tower ... an Active House skyscraper, or even an office building," Wein says. "The iPhone wasn't wanted until it was built; sometimes I believe if you build it, they will come."

As for the future of the Centennial Park house, it eventually will be put on the market for sale. Any offers?

For more on this home, check out activehouse.ca.

— Richard Lyall, president of RESCON, has represented the building industry since 1991. He can be reached at media@rescon.com.



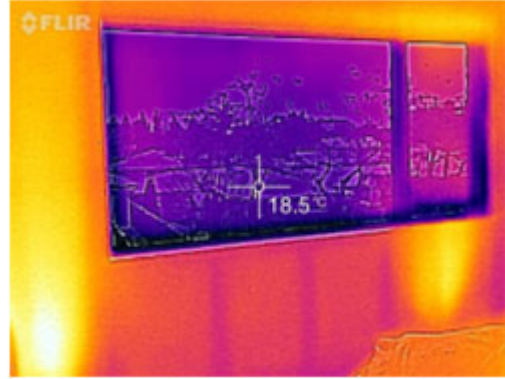
Triple-pane floor-to-ceiling windows and skylights throughout the home allow a lot of light in.

Updates from the Ibbotsons family and their experience living in the [Great Gulf Active House Canada](#) for a year. Now it is time to go back in their previous home in the outskirts of Toronto. They tell us how the Active House experience was and what they miss the most from living in a comfortable, healthy and energy efficiency environment:

Back to Dundas

February 21, 2017 | By Russell

In early January, we moved back from Active House Centennial Park in Toronto to our 1880s Victorian house in the picturesque town of Dundas. The weekend we moved was -15°C. I of course took out the thermal camera to see how our old character filled house performed with a little cold weather. Well, it didn't do so well. The inside surface of the exterior walls were 15°C and the inside of the windows were closer to 10°C with a 21°C ambient air temperature. In the Active House the difference between wall, window and air temperature was only 2-3°C. So, the slippers came out and we unpacked some sweaters for everyone. Getting ready for bed that first night, we noticed the how much static the girls' hair was producing. The house was dry, 28% relative humidity dry. That's refill-your-water-glass-in-the-middle-of-the-night dry. By day 2 we were unpacking moisturizer to relieve itchy dry skin and looking in the basement for the humidifier. Continue to read.



Project updates

2017 Active House Label Competition launched

During the 2017 Active House General Assembly, the new edition of the 2017 Active House label competition was launched!

The Active House Alliance invites professional house builders, developers, and architects to submit their project on sustainable buildings. This will be evaluated based on the Active House vision and the winner will be awarded with an Active House label.

Active House Label



The Active House label is a worldwide quality stamp for comfortable and sustainable buildings. It advises on elements that are important to humans life and living in their home.

The Active House label can be issued to buildings that has been evaluated in accordance with the Active House specifications and meet the minimum demands for indoor comfort, energy efficiency and environment. Buildings that have received the Active House label have been designed and evaluated with a combined focus on your comfort, smart use of energy and minimum impact on the environment.

Submission deadline: 15 June 2017.

Stay tuned for more info!

Policies updates

European institutions are revising rules on sustainable buildings

On 30 November 2016 the European Commission published several energy related initiatives comprised in its so-called “Clean Energy Package”. Among others, the package foresees actions to accelerate clean energy innovation and to renovate Europe’s buildings. Notably, the package launched by the Commission treats buildings as an essential part of Europe’s clean energy transition.

In line with this, the package includes a legislative proposal for a revised Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD), as well as an initiative to accelerate clean energy in buildings through specific financial measures. As of January, the European Parliament and the European Member States have been leading intensive negotiations on the file with the view to present a revised framework directive with new rules on sustainable buildings by the end of this year.

Timeline

Events with the participation of Active House

27 March, seminar on “Architecture and Sustainable Technique” organized by the Macao Engineering Association and by the Macao Architects Associations, Macao, China, Marco Imperadori from Politecnico di Milano will participate.



London Consumers Forum 30-31 May

Discussions will be led on:

- Empowering consumers to make better choices on the market
- Local energy communities
- Innovative products and services



Healthy Buildings Europe 2017 (HB Europe 2017)

Lublin, Poland

02 Jul 2017 - 05 Jul 2017



**PASSIVE LOW ENERGY ARCHITECTURE
DESIGN TO THRIVE
PLEA**

Edinburgh conference 3rd to 5th July 2017



Members

Active House members:



Partner organisations:

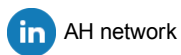
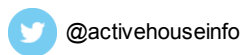


National alliances:

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Become a member of the Alliance

Press and communication



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NETWORK AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING

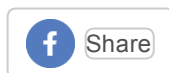
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