



Building Envelope Council Ottawa Region

Lunch and Learn Seminar

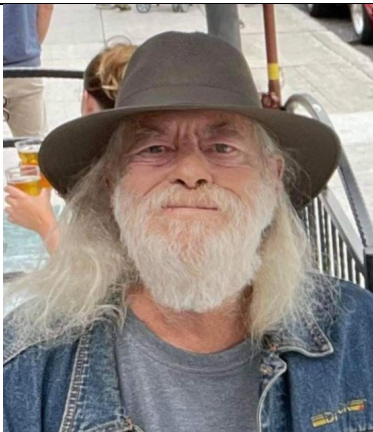
Lunch & Networking: Noon – 1:00 pm

Presentation: 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

[Sala San Marco, 215 Preston Street, Ottawa](#)

Jacques Rousseau Brag Session

Jacques Rousseau passed away this year and in his honor BECOR would like to revive the tradition of the BRAG Session in his name. Jacques was one of the founding members of BECOR 35 years ago. He was one of its greatest promoters and fundraiser in the early years. Through his efforts BECOR established itself as a leading promoter of the fledgling building science industry in the late 80's. He had a personality greater than life that was exemplified through his bellicose laugh. One of his most lasting initiatives for BECOR was the format of the BECOR BRAG Session. Designed to take place in December, it was meant primarily as a social session with short presentations from members. These presentations were to be only 10 minutes in length with minimal questions. Presentations were meant to brag and highlight something that presenters were most proud of that would benefit the building industry as a whole. They were meant to be an unapologetic announcement of achievement. We wanted to hear success stories from our members. The primary stipulation was that there would be no negative questions or criticism from the audience.



Jacques was the Director of Building Research at CMHC through the 80's and 90's when the Building Science industry started to come into existence. He was responsible for the development of existing CMHC technical guidelines for residential buildings. He worked with other building research groups at NRCC, PWGSC, NRCAN from the public sector and architectural and engineering firms and contractors in the private sector to establish best practice guides for the residential sector. He put CHMC on the map internationally for their technical guidance to cold weather design and construction. He was a founding member of both OBEC (1986) and BECOR in 1988. His unwavering commitment to research and technology transfer found a perfect fit to the mandate of BECOR. He put the full resources of his department to the establishment of BECOR. Within the first five years BECOR generated considerable cash surplus to allow to comfortably carry out its mandate without financial pressures. He was always a figure larger than life itself as demonstrated by his infectious personality and incredibly loud laugh. It is fitting that one of his gifts to BECOR is the Brag Session format. It started as a self-promotion session generally set for the month of December that included an open bar and refreshments.