



## **State Leadership Idea Exchange: New Hampshire**

### **GREEN REAL ESTATE SYMPOSIUM**

The 2017 Green Real Estate Symposium, scheduled for March 28 in Nashua, is designed to increase awareness among Realtors of public policy issues in the energy efficiency green real estate sector as well as to provide practical information on green construction and energy efficiency. The day-long symposium will be open to New England Realtors and is sponsored by New Hampshire REALTORS in cooperation with the New Hampshire Green Alliance, an organization designed to educate and influence the public on the goods they purchase and to make more sustainable choices.

Over the past several years, New Hampshire REALTORS has engaged legislators and other public policy makers on issues of residential net metering in the solar energy generation. Other issues such as state weatherization programs, energy scoring and efficiency construction through our state building codes have all been legislative debates at both our State House and at local town hall meetings.

The NHAR Green Symposium will educate our members about these issues so they can in turn be advocates for homeowners in both their local community and on a state level with elected officials on green housing issues. It will be followed by a two-day Green Designation course.

### **LEADERSHIP ACADEMY**

The New Hampshire Realtors Leadership Academy was instituted in 2016 to enhance the leadership skills of members considering service in Realtor leadership positions at the local, state or national level, while augmenting their personal and professional lives as well.

For the inaugural class, nine members were selected from a pool of applicants, and going forward a limited number of members will be selected each year. Those members must commit to serve on an NHAR standing committee within the following two years.

The Academy is open to all New Hampshire Realtors and there is no charge to students, with the only requirement being an interest in strengthening individual leadership skills. Completion of the Leadership Academy is a qualification requirement for the NHAR offices of Second Vice President, First Vice President, President-Elect and President.

### **BROKER FORUMS**

In order to bridge the gap between members and the state association and provide additional transparency, New Hampshire REALTORS provided three broker forums, at three geographically diverse locations, to encourage two-way communications with membership. The outgoing message focused on broker supervision, legislative activities, a legal update and general information from the state office.

### **LEGISLATIVE SUCCESS**

After more than a year of discussions with NHAR, the Department of Environmental Services agreed to alter its radon in the water guidance to homeowners. Prior to the change, New Hampshire had strictest radon in the water guidance in the country, which Realtors believed was misleading consumers and ultimately causing deals to fall through and/or homeowners to unnecessarily install mitigation systems.

The new guidance is now more in line with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recommendations.