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South Vancouver Island Zone Report – May 2009

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South Vancouver Island, like the rest of Canada, has been greatly affected by the struggling world economy. Building permit applications, housing and commercial starts are slower than most of us would like to see.

Membership on South Vancouver Island continues to show strong support for the BOABC with high attendance numbers at regular monthly meetings. Monthly meetings provide a great opportunity for members to educate themselves on matters contained in the BC Building Code and provide an opportunity for members to discuss how certain parts of the code are interpreted. The aim of the monthly meetings is to promote consistent application of the BC Building Code. Monthly meetings also provide an opportunity to network with other inspectors and stakeholders within the construction industry.

In January, the Town of View Royal hosted a three day seminar on Fire Sprinkler's. The seminar was facilitated by the Canadian Automatic Sprinkler Association. The first two days of the seminar concentrated on an overview of fire suppression systems, plan review and compliance with NFPA 13. The third day of the course was focused on the testing and maintenance of fire suppression systems and compliance with NFPA 25.

In my last zone report, I stated that the South Vancouver Island Building Officials continued to express concern with Education and Certification. I am pleased to report the South Vancouver Island Building Officials support the direction of the Executive with respect to providing an additional exam sitting per zone per year. We are also excited that the Executives are looking into the prospect of training invigilators to proctor examinations. While members have expressed concern with the transition of the Level Three Exams from a ten-paper format to a five-paper format, the membership supports the direction.

BOABC Head Office
Suite 205, 3740 Chatham Street, Richmond, BC V7E 2Z3
604-270-9516 ph / 604-270-9488 fax / email: info@boabc.org
www.boabc.org



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The South Vancouver Island Building Official's as well support the direction the Executive has taken to ensure alignment and compliance with the regulations of ACBOA.

The South Vancouver Island members would like to extend our gratuity to the many hours of service all the Volunteers, Committee Members and Executive Directors dedicate to the Association. Without this type of devotion and perseverance, our Association would not be what it is today.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric Law, RBO, CRBO
South Vancouver Island Zone Director

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