

Highlights – 2010 BOABC Annual Conference and AGM – April 25th to April 28th

The theme of the 2010 Building Officials' Association of BC Annual Conference and AGM is **'2010 – Change is All Around Us'**. The program offers a very strong technical component but also includes a fantastic personal development component.

The **Technical Component** will include educational sessions on:

- **The Fundamentals of Fire Alarm Systems** by Ark Tsisserev, P Eng. (Chief Electrical Inspector – City of Vancouver). This dynamic presentation will overview the electrically connected life safety equipment mandated by the BC Building Code, verification of fire alarm systems, and signals to fire departments. Mr. Tsisserev is considered an expert in his field and has been involved in both the design and review of fire alarm systems as a Professional Engineer, has instructed many courses at a university level, and has had many articles published on this topic.
- **Plan Review and Inspection of Six Storey Wood Frame Buildings** by the Canadian Wood Council / Wood Works. This educational session will focus on the unique aspects of plan review and inspection of midrise wood frame buildings such as seismic design and tie downs, shrinkage considerations, and fire performance.
- **Legal Presentation - The Role of Building Inspectors in Connection with Building Schemes, Relying on Professional Certificates, and Dealing with Liability Risk: The Scope of the 'Policy' Defence** by Colin Stewart and Katheryn Stuart (Staples McDannold Stewart) Both Colin and Katheryn are partners in the firm Staples McDannold Stewart and practice exclusively in the field of Local Government Law. Their presentation is on topics of very high relevance to local Building Officials and will prove very informative.
- **Structural Glazing Systems** by Leonard Pianalto, P. Eng. (Reed Jones Christoffersen) Mr Pianalto sits on various technical committees such as the Canadian Glass Association Technical Committee, APEGBC – Building Code Committee, as well as the Structural Engineers Association (SEABC) Task Force on Guards. His presentation will review glass as a structural material including common glazing assemblies (curtain wall, window wall, storefront, frameless, overhead), Glass in the BC Building Code - aspects in Part 9, Part 4, and Part 3, Relevant Canadian Standards (CAN/CGCB 12.20 – M89 Structural Design of Glass and CSA A440.1 – Windows) and the use of glass in guards.
- **Design and Installation of Heating and Ventilation Systems** by the Thermal Environmental Comfort Association (TECA). This educational session will focus on TECA's Certified Heating Technician training program, kitchen make up air requirements, soil gas explanation and ventilation requirements, secondary suite shared ventilation systems, hydronic heating, and an introduction to air and how to move it quietly and efficiently (for forced air heating systems)
- **Mpowered Inspection Software** by Marc Weigel – Marc is a project Manager for Tempest and has developed a Blackberry based inspection reporting software program for Building Officials. His software has proved to be very effective and is in use by a number of municipalities including the City of Nanaimo. Marc will be showcasing the benefits of his product.
- **Expert Panel Code Discussion – Alternative Solutions, Third Party Review of Professional Submissions, etc** - Frank Hill, Moderator (City of Vancouver), Maura Gatensby (AIBC), W. Johnston (CBO, City of Vancouver), Peter Mitchell (APEGBC), Bob Thompson (Bldg and Safety Standards), Frankie Victor (GHL). This will be an expert 'round table discussion' on these topics from a variety of different perspectives and will prove very informative. This session is being presented as an alternative to the traditional 'open forum code discussion' with an intent to have a more directed and meaningful discussion.

- **Slope Stability and Land Development** by Peter Mitchell (APEGBC). This presentation will focus on slope stability issues and land development considerations and will provide an overview of the APEGBC Guideline for Legislated Land Slide Assessments for Proposed Residential Developments. This presentation will be especially relevant given the recent bulletin issued by the Building and Safety Policy Branch titled "*British Columbia Building Code Amendments Related to Seismic Slope Stability and Technical Guidance*" regarding the revised slope stability assessment criteria that came into effect on February 1, 2010.
- **Costs and Benefits of Sustainable Housing** by Lance Jakubec (CMHC) "Sustainable buildings pay for themselves." "Sustainable buildings are prohibitively expensive." The message changes depending on who is talking, and until recently, there has been only limited data to support either side. Lance will highlight homes from CMHC's EQUilibrium™ Sustainable Housing Demonstration Initiative, exploring the strategies for enhanced performance, the associated costs, and the implications for municipalities.
- **Towards Net Zero Energy Buildings in BC** by Chris Frye (MEMP). Mr Frye is the Coordinator of Energy Efficiency Programs and Education for the Energy Efficiency Branch of the Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Petroleum Resource. He has a very thought provoking lunch presentation focusing on super efficient new construction and retrofits.
- **New Initiatives of Building and Safety Standards** by John Nichol and Bob Thompson. This presentation will include discussion on the upcoming code changes including the new seismic requirements, the expansion of the energy efficiency requirements to Energuide 80, etc.
- **BC Housing's Manufactured Modular Building Projects – Seniors' Rental Housing** by James Munro (BC Housing). Through the Seniors' Rental Housing initiative, the Province is working in partnership with the Government of Canada to increase affordable housing and stimulate local economies by developing new affordable rental housing units for seniors and persons with disabilities in smaller communities across British Columbia.
- **Steel and Fabric Covered Buildings** by Michael Kemper and Fred Hango (Coverall Building Systems) The widespread use of this relatively new form of construction will be discussed in this presentation. These buildings range from car covers to industrial buildings, to stadiums. Focus will be given on code requirements and compliance methods.
- **Proper Use of Letters of Assurance in Part 9 and Part 3 Buildings Explained** - Teddie Lai, MAIBC, GHL Consultants and H. Koolman, RBO, BOABC Education Co-ordinator.
- **Lighting and Emergency Power, Code Study Session** - H.Koolman. Building Code Required.

The **Personal Development Component** includes sessions on:

- **Don't Shoot the Messenger – Front Line Service Under Stress**, by Carol Boothroyd and
- **Humour, Wellness, and Stress** by Carol Boothroyd – Carol is a dynamic trainer and keynote speaker, who inspires audiences bringing professional insights, skills and energetic humour to her fast paced and entertaining sessions. Carol's workshops are well known to be refreshingly practical, interactive and guaranteed to be lots of fun.
- **Time Management** by Dave Wood - the objectives for the time management session are to prepare participants to identify their own particular time wasters and adopt strategies for eliminating them from their work pattern, recognize the variety of causes of procrastination and apply relevant techniques to overcome them, clarify and prioritize their objectives and goals, adopt appropriate strategies for dealing with interruptions, use practical techniques for organizing work; and delegate work more effectively.