



## KOOTENAY ZONE

### A YEAR IN REVIEW 2009 - 2010

Grand Forks



Nelson



Kimberly



Rosland



Revelstoke



Invermere



Elkford



Golden



Invermere



Kaslo



Sparwood



Castlegar



Cranbrook



Creston



Nakusp



Fernie



Kimberly



Trail



Radium



# Kootenay Zone

## A Year in Review 2009 – 2010

The Kootenay Zone extends from the Alberta border to Big White east of Kelowna, BC. The area is made up of many villages, towns and cities across the region and many of these communities rely on tourism for their livelihood, while others rely on the forestry, mining and various levels of government to provide employment.

Construction values and the number of permits being issued in most municipalities continues to rise mainly in the residential sector with residential renovations leading the way.

We are also seeing many new single family and two family dwellings being built along with senior's care homes and some new commercial buildings.

Education was an important issue in our zone this year as in past years with the availability of courses and examinations leading the way. The BOABC has listened to our members and their concerns and is making progress in providing more training and accessibility in each zone.

While our members are satisfied with the availability of exams and courses, they are still dissatisfied with the method of delivery for the course material. Many would rather see power point presentations, including the availability of interactive online courses and web casts.

We held two level three seminars in our region this year and one level two seminar. We had a few comments that the course material should be made available to the participants for prior reading, especially the level two materials, so that questions in areas hard to understand or

easily misunderstood, could be prepared by the students prior to coming to the course.

This may or may not be beneficial due to the complexity of each area of code review being presented and may only confuse the participants further.

Two examination sessions were held in two areas of our zone; one in the fall of 2009 and the other one this spring, in both Nelson and Invermere.

We held two zone meetings; one in the fall and one in the spring in Creston, which is central to both the East and West Kootenay region. We had several guest speakers come in and put on presentations regarding spray foam insulation and air space, hazardous materials and the workplace, construction safety and on the worksite.

We held round table discussions and some of the topics covered HVAC equipment within attic spaces, single family dwellings with two furnaces, ductless split secondary heating/cooling systems being used for primary heat sources, C-cans and containers used for storage and permit requirements.

We have thirty-six members in our zone, which is made up of approximately eleven level ones building and plumbing officials, twelve level two officials, seven level three and RBO's and five inspectors working towards certification.

Overall we are very pleased with the direction the BOABC is moving and would like to see continued success in this area.

Respectfully submitted

Brian Champlin, RBO  
Kootenay Zone Director