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May 3rd, 2009

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KOOTENAY ZONE REPORT

Construction starts for larger projects in the Kootenay's slowed in the fall of 2008, but renovations and construction starts this year for new single family and two family dwellings continue to rise in most municipalities in our region.

Education and certification continue the number one concern of our members in the region. Those members working on the ten paper format have expressed concerns about having to start over because the transition from ten papers to the five paper format may cause them to rewrite examinations with material content that they have already passed under the ten paper format.

Our members have accepted the direction that the BOABC is moving and welcome the new five paper examination format and the addition of an extra examination period in all zones.

We recently held a two day level three seminar in Cranbrook. Exits and safety within floor areas were the topics of discussion. The course was attended by seventeen regular members and fairly well received.

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The 54th Annual BOABC Conference and Trades Show are well under way and last minute details are being finalized.

All the venues, presenters and companion activities for the conference are in place.

The trades show has over forty booths representing more than forty-eight different companies.

We have done something different this year; we have opened the trades fair to the public on Sunday, May 3rd from 1:00 pm until 5:00 pm.

Admission is by donation and we are giving all the proceeds to charity.

In closing the members of the Kootenay Zone would also like to thank all of the volunteers in the Building Officials Association of BC for your hard work and dedication to the success this great organization and the 54th annual conference and trades show.

Conferences such as this one not only benefit our members, but also foster community spirit and pride.

Respectfully Submitted

Brian Champlin,
Kootenay Zone Director

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