

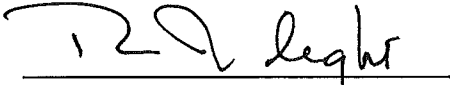
# BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing  
**AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, POABC**

**File No: 06-0116**

**INTERPRETATION**

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Interpretation Date:	June 26, 2012
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2006
Subject:	Travel distance along exterior exit passageways
Keywords:	Travel distance, exterior exit passageways
Building Code Reference(s):	3.4.1.4.(1)(b), 3.4.1.5., 3.4.2.4.(1), 3.4.4.3.
<b>Question:</b>	<p>Is there any limitation to the travel distance along an exterior <i>exit</i> passageway that meets the requirements of Article 3.4.4.3.?</p>
<b>Interpretation:</b>	<p>No</p> <p>Clause 3.4.1.4.(1)(b) confirms that an exterior passageway can be considered to be an <i>exit</i>.</p> <p>Sentence 3.4.1.5.(1) confirms that doors opening onto an exterior <i>exit</i> passageway are <i>exit</i> doors.</p> <p>Sentence 3.4.2.4.(1) confirms that travel distance is measured from any point in the floor area to an <i>exit</i>. When a building has an exterior <i>exit</i> passageway, the travel distance is measured from the most remote location within the floor area to the <i>exit</i> door that opens onto the exterior <i>exit</i> passageway.</p> <p>Since an exterior <i>exit</i> passageway is considered to be an <i>exit</i>, any occupant using this exterior passageway is considered to be in safe place for the entire length of travel to an approved open space (similar to an occupant in an enclosed exit stair in a high building).</p>
 R. J. Light, Committee Chair	
<p>The views expressed are the consensus of the joint committee with members representing AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, and POABC, which form the BC Building Code Interpretation Committee. The purpose of the committee is to encourage uniform province wide interpretation of the BC Building Code. These views should not be considered as the official interpretation of legislated requirements based on the BC Building Code, as final responsibility for an interpretation rests with the local <i>Authority Having Jurisdiction</i>. The views of the joint committee should not be construed as legal advice.</p>	
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