

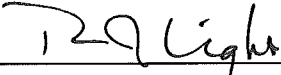
BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

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

File No: 12-0034

INTERPRETATION

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Interpretation Date:	June 17, 2014 (<i>revised April 17, 2015</i>)
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2012
Subject:	Travel distance when corridors are within an interconnected floor space
Keywords:	Corridors used by the public, travel distance, interconnected floor space
Building Code Reference(s):	3.3.1.9.(2) & (5), 3.4.2.4.(2)
Question:	<p>If a room opens onto a corridor that is used by the public, and the corridor is located in a building that contains an interconnected floor space conforming to Subsection 3.2.8., can the travel distance from the room to the nearest exit be measured from the room egress door?</p>
Interpretation:	<p>Yes, with conditions</p> <p>Sentence 3.4.2.4.(2) permits travel distance to be measured from an egress door of room with the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a)(i) If the building is not sprinklered throughout – the room must be separated from the remainder of the floor area with a fire separation having a ¾ hour fire resistance rating.(a)(ii) If the building is sprinklered throughout – the room must be separated from the remainder of the floor area with a fire separation with no fire resistance rating.(b)(ii) The corridor used by the public must be separated from the remainder of the floor area in conformance with the requirements in Article 3.3.1.4. for the separation of <i>public corridors</i>. <p>The fact that the corridor is located in a building that contains an interconnected floor space does not affect the provisions of Sentence 3.4.2.4.(2), provided that the corridor is separated from the remainder of the floor area in accordance with Sub clause 3.4.2.4.(2)(b)(ii) and Article 3.3.1.4.</p> <p>Note that minimum corridor widths described in Sentences 3.3.1.9.(2) & (5) must be maintained.</p> <p>Note also that if Sentence 3.3.1.4.(4) is used to waive the fire separation between the room and the corridor, travel distance must be measured to “any part of the floor area” (i.e. within the room).</p>
	<p> _____ R. J. Light, Committee Chair</p>
<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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