

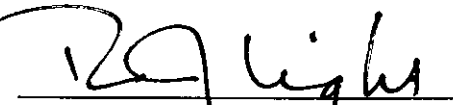
BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

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

File No: 06-0066

INTERPRETATION

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Interpretation Date:	June 15, 2010
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2006
Subject:	Fire separations for elevator hoistway over basement parkade designed as separate building
Keywords:	Elevator hoistway, fire separation, basement parkade as separate building
Building Code Reference(s):	3.5.3.1.(1), 3.2.1.2.
Question:	<p>A building is constructed over a 2h concrete slab designed to Article 3.2.1.2, however the floor assemblies of the building above the basement level are permitted to have a 45 minute fire-resistance rating. An elevator hoistway extends from basement through all floors of the building. Is the fire-resistance of the elevator hoistway enclosure permitted to be 45 minute rated above the 2h concrete slab?</p>
Interpretation:	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Sentence 3.2.1.2.(1) requires a continuous 2h concrete/masonry fire separation over and enclosing a basement parkade designed to Article 3.2.1.2.</p> <p>Sentence 3.1.8.3.(3) permits shaft enclosures extending through the building to be used to protect an opening in a horizontal fire separation. This includes elevator shafts, and is consistent with Article 3.6.3.1.</p> <p>Sentence 3.5.3.1.(1) indicates the grade of fire separation for an elevator hoistway is determined from the fire-resistance rating of the floor assembly above as determined by Subsection 3.2.2. (or the floor assembly below if there is no floor assembly above).</p> <p>Therefore in the case of this building the elevator hoistway enclosure must be a 2h fire separation at the basement level, but can be a 45 minute fire separation at the other levels above the 2h fire rated concrete slab.</p> <p>Note that the elevator doors must act as fire rated closures to maintain the continuity of the elevator hoistway enclosure.</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>	