


BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing
AIBC, EGBC, BOABC

File No: 18-0089

INTERPRETATION

Page 1 of 1

Interpretation Date:	January 19, 2021
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2018
Subject:	Floor Drain Requirements in a Single Family Dwelling with a Secondary Suite
Keywords:	Floor Drain, Dwelling Unit, Secondary Suite
Building Code Reference(s):	9.31.4.3.(1)
Question:	<p>In a single family dwelling containing a secondary suite located in the basement of a building, where gravity drainage to a sewer is possible, is a floor drain required in the secondary suite in addition to a floor drain located in the mechanical room which forms a part of the main dwelling unit?</p>
Interpretation:	<p>No,</p> <p>Sentence 9.31.4.3.(1) requires a floor drain in a basement forming part of a dwelling unit where gravity drainage to a sewer is possible. The Code does not specify the location of the floor drain and does not require an additional floor drain in the secondary suite.</p> <p>As always, the BCBC provides for the minimum requirements for buildings and an owner may wish to consider the effectiveness of providing only one floor drain in the building described above.</p>
	<p></p> <hr/> <p>Patrick Shek, P.Eng., CP, FEC, Committee Chair</p>
<p>The views expressed are the consensus of the joint committee with members representing AIBC, EGBC and BOABC, which form the BC Building Code Interpretation Committee. The Building and Safety Standards Branch, Province of BC and the City of Vancouver participate in the committee's proceedings with respect to interpretations of the BC Building Code. 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>	