


BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing
AIBC, EGBC, BOABC

File No: 18-0065

INTERPRETATION

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Interpretation Date:	July 21, 2020
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2018, Book II: Plumbing Systems (BCPC)
Subject:	Grade Requirements for Venting Systems
Keywords:	Vent Pipe, Grade
Building Code Reference(s):	2.5.6.1.(1), 2.5.6.4.
Question:	<p>Can a pipe in a venting system be installed with negative slope or must vent pipes grade upwards towards outside air?</p>
Interpretation:	<p>Sentence 2.5.6.1.(1) states that vent pipes shall be installed without depressions in which moisture can collect. With the foregoing in mind, this means that as long as the vent pipe is installed with grade downwards to a point that water will drain out (such as connecting to another vent pipe), the installation would be compliant with the BCPC.</p> <p>There is no BCPC requirement that pipes in a venting system grade upwards toward outside air. The BCPC only requires that the venting system is installed in a manner that does not trap water which would then prevent air from circulating in the drain, waste and vent (DWV) system.</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>	
<p>2020-07-22</p>	