

BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing
AIBC, EGBC, BOABC

File No: 18-0080

INTERPRETATION

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Interpretation Date:	November 17, 2020
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2018
Subject:	Supported Joist Span
Keywords:	Joist span, footing widths
Building Code Reference(s):	9.15.3.4.(2)(b), A-9.15.3.4.(2), Table 9.15.3.4.

Question:

Table 9.15.3.4. provides prescriptive values for the minimum width of footings when the supported joist spans (sjs) does not exceed 4.9m and the footing does not support masonry or flat insulated concrete.

Clause 9.15.3.4.(2)(b) provides a prescriptive method to determine the incremental increase to the minimum footing width when the supported joist spans exceed 4.9m.

Articles 9.15.3.5. and 9.15.3.6. provide prescriptive methods for the incremental increase to the minimum footing width when the footing supports masonry or flat insulated concrete.

1. For the purposes of the formula in Clause 9.15.3.4.(2)(b), is the supported joist span (sjs) equal to the sum of one half of the clear span of each supported joist that superimposes a load on the footing?
2. If the footing also support roof loads, does the supported joist span include roof joists or roof trusses?

Interpretation:

1. Yes
The support joist span used in the formula in Clause 9.15.3.4.(2)(b) represents the superimposed load from actual contributing area supported by the footing as illustrated in diagram 1 on Page 2.
2. Yes
If the footing supports a roof load, the formula in Clause 9.15.3.4.(2)(b) must include the superimposed load from actual contributing roof area supported by the footing as illustrated in diagram 2 on Page 2.



Patrick Shek, P.Eng., CP, FEC, Committee Chair

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 *Authority Having Jurisdiction*. The views of the joint committee should not be construed as legal advice.

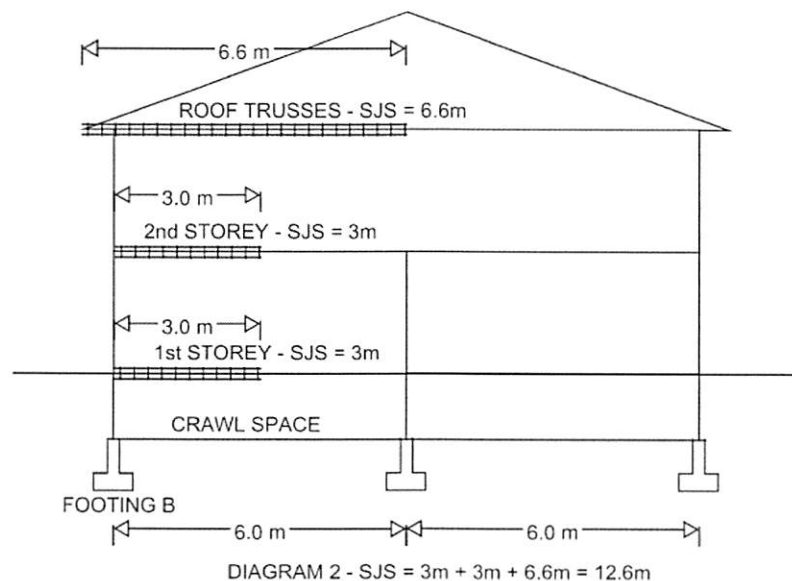
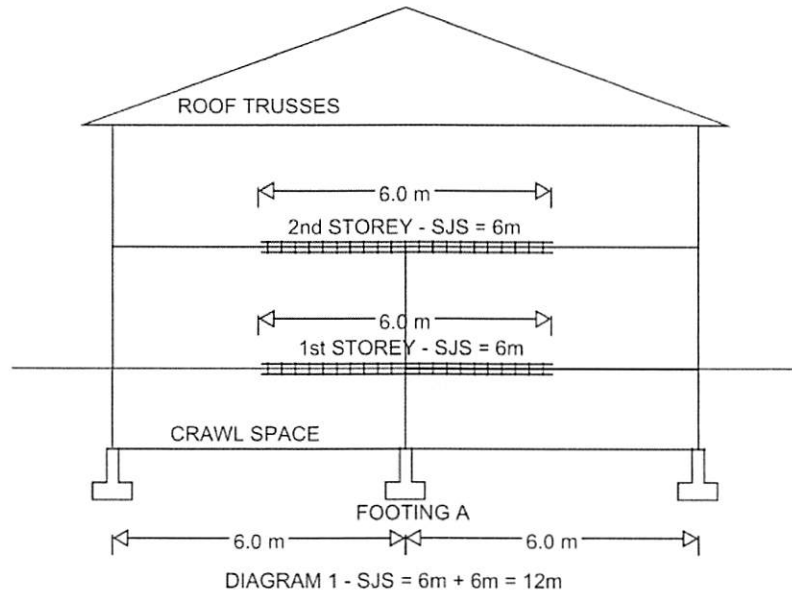
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