BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing

AIBC, EGBC, BOABC

File No: 18-0106 **INTERPRETATION**

Interpretation Date:	March 16, 2021
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2018
Subject:	Heating and Insulation of Crawl space
Keywords:	Crawl space, floor on ground,
Building Code Reference(s):	9.16.1.3.(1), 9.18.1.1.(1), 9.36.2.1., 9.36.2.8.(4)

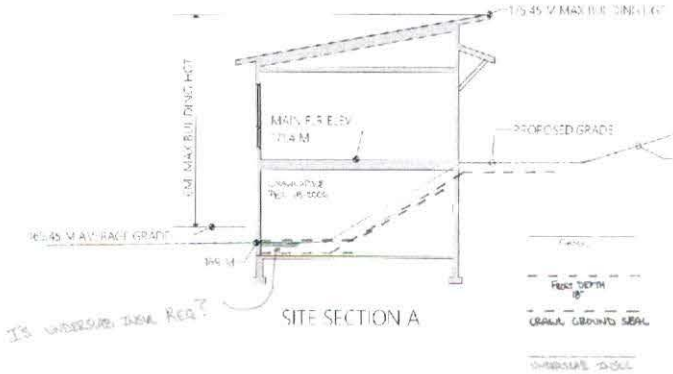
Question:

Where a heated crawl space under a main floor of a single-family dwelling has been provided with a floor on ground and where a portion of this floor on ground exists above the frost line due to sloping exterior grade (see sketch) does this floor on ground of the crawlspace require slab insulation in the same fashion as a slab on grade?

Interpretation:

Yes

Sentence 9.18.1.1.(1) defines crawl space as having exterior walls less than 25% of their total area above exterior ground level open to the outdoors. The heated crawl space shown on the sketch has more than 25% of the exterior walls above exterior ground level so it cannot be considered as crawl space. It shall comply with all the requirements for heating and insulation as a slab on grade as per Sections 9.25, 9.33 and 9.36.



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

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