

BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing
AIBC, EGBC, BOABC

File No: 18-0120

INTERPRETATION

Page 1 of 1

Interpretation Date:	May 18, 2021
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2018
Subject:	Type of Construction for Balconies
Keywords:	Type of Construction, Noncombustible, Combustible
Building Code Reference(s):	Division B, Part 3; 3.2.2.11.(1); 3.2.2.20. to 3.2.2.90.

Question:

Is there a requirement for an exterior balcony to have a fire resistance rating if there is no floor area beneath the balcony?

Interpretation:

No.

Exterior balconies do not have to have a fire resistance rating. Article 3.2.2.11. states that the type of construction must be determined by Articles 3.2.2.20. to 3.2.2.90. Type of construction is a term used in the code to determine if the materials are combustible or noncombustible.



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.