

# BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing

**AIBC, EGBC, BOABC**

**File No: 12-0139**

**INTERPRETATION**

**Page 1 of 1**

Interpretation Date:	March 18, 2019
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2012
Subject:	Craft brewery with restaurant
Keywords:	Craft brewery, restaurant, brew pub, major occupancies, subsidiary occupancies
Building Code Reference(s):	Div A-1.4.1.2. (def'n major occupancy), Div B-3.1.3.1.(1)

## Question:

This project is a 2 storey building that contains both a Craft Brewery (about 40% of the total floor area) and a restaurant (about 60% of the total floor area including a commercial kitchen), commonly referred to as a "Brew Pub".

Is a fire separation required between the Craft Brewery and the restaurant components?

## Interpretation:

No

The definition of "major occupancy" means the principal occupancy for which a building or part thereof is used or intended to be used and shall be deemed to include the subsidiary occupancies that are integral part of the principal occupancy.

The Craft Brewery is considered to be a subsidiary use to the restaurant, similar to a commercial kitchen.

A commercial kitchen prepares food which is served in the restaurant.

The Craft Brewery prepares beer which is also served in the restaurant.

The manufacturing of beer is not considered to be a hazardous operation and should not create any life safety concerns in being open to the restaurant.

The major occupancy for this building would be Group A Division 2.

Also refer to BC Building Code Appeal Board Decision #1793.

Note that the wording of 2018 BCBC has not changed with respect to subsidiary occupancies, so this interpretation would also apply to the 2018 BCBC.



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.