

BOABC Newsletter

Summer 2022, Issue 5



BOABC is dedicated to serving the best interests of the public in building safety by moving forward with the highest standards in professionalism, competency and consistent practice in the Building Community.

2022 Conference Wrap-Up

After a long period of gathering restrictions and virtual meetings, the Association was excited to host members for its 2022 Conference and Annual General Meeting at the Delta Ocean Pointe Resort in Victoria between May 15-18, 2022. The event was the first in-person event for the Association since fall 2019 and members were excited to reconnect with colleagues and other leaders in the building regulatory system.

The event opened with a trade show on Sunday evening that extended into Monday and featured a broad range of partners and vendors to engage with delegates and provide product demonstrations.

Her Worship Lisa Helps, the Mayor of Victoria, welcomed delegates to Victoria on Monday morning and the first of over twenty-six training and breakout sessions were delivered that afternoon. The International Code Council hosted a Building Safety Month reception Monday evening to recognize the important work that code officials do across North America and elsewhere.

The AGM was held on Tuesday morning during which members heard about business and financial results from the past fiscal year and the [new strategic plan](#).

Delegates attending the banquet on Tuesday evening were treated to a performance by the ləkʷəŋən Traditional Dancers from the Songhees

First Nations and heard remarks from the Honourable David Eby, Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing. The evening was also used to recognize those individuals who stepped down from the Executive Committee since 2019.

Of course, the success of the event would not have been possible without such incredible support from our sponsors, trade show exhibitors, presenters, and other partners.

A summary of the event, including free access to recordings of all [six presentations from the Energy Step Code](#) learning stream at the conference, has been posted on the Association website.

Thank you again to all the delegates, sponsors, and participants. Stay tuned for information about plans for 2023!

Level 1 Plumbing Code Course

Camosun College is offering its Plumbing Code Overview course. This facilitated online course provides an overview of the BC Plumbing Code and helps prepare students to write the level 1 plumbing official exam. The course would also offer value as refresher for experienced officials and is worth five (5) continuing professional development points. Registration details are available on the [Camosun College website](#).

Welcome New Members!

• Maxim Baichikov • Harry Gill • Duncan Scandrett • Seth Norman • Robert Dennis • David Rokeby-Thomas • Rodante Acio • Chris Black • Ronald Thom • Michael Albrecht • Eric Nielsen • Rich Gibson • Xuan Li • Ronak Sonboli • Chun Hei Terry Wan • James Harder • Dylan Neath • Mohammad Hosseinirahdar • Troy Ostafew • Scott Danyluk • Joseph Kryz • Lucas Coers • David Hopkins • Corey Nee • Kaz Sanjo • Timothy Wiebe • Tanner Moody • Robert Lyonnais • Martin Chow • Kelsey Ingham • Grant Bertrand • Jason Chu • Emily Carlson • Jody Gray • Howard Antoine • Matthew Neufeld • Ju Chan Kim • Richard Crowdis • Matt Rose • Devender Singh

Congrats New RBOs & BCQs

- Shannon Beler
- Sean Rowse
- Reiner Nikolai

BOABC Calendar of Events

Check out the [calendar on the Association website](#) for information on the latest professional development offerings. Sessions provided by the International Code Council, CASA, and HRAI are scheduled for this fall and there are still limited student spaces available so register soon.

Building Official Ethics

Here is an [interesting article](#) that explores the role of ethics within the world of 'building officialdom,' which is taken to mean building inspectors, building surveyors, accredited certifiers, building officials or code compliance officials depending on the jurisdiction. A reminder that you can find the Code of Conduct and Rules of Professional Conduct for BC officials in sections [29-31 if the Association bylaws](#).



President Update

As this is the first newsletter of the fiscal year, I wanted to take this opportunity to summarize the Association's accomplishments in 2021-22 and highlight a few key initiatives for the fiscal year ahead.

The past year was a busy and productive one for the Association. A key accomplishment was developing a new strategic plan based on member feedback to provide a roadmap for the Association over the next five years. The quarterly newsletter was restarted to help to increase communication with members. A Student Awards Program was introduced to raise awareness of the building official career path and 10 inaugural awards were given to deserving individuals. Level two and three online building code courses were completed to help students prepare for qualification exams and the number of professional development offerings doubled over the previous year. We also finished the year in a very positive financial position which provides resources to address course development and training needs as the building code is updated over the next two years.

Looking ahead to 2022-23, the Association is moving to implement key initiatives in its strategic plan. A primary focus will be collaborating with local authorities, industry, and government to expand the pool of qualified officials. We are increasing the breadth of our educational offerings to address requests for greater focus on leadership, communications, and other professional attributes. A newly struck Governance Committee will begin working to review the Association bylaws and policies, and the Finance Committee will be developing long-term financial plans to achieve business priorities in the new strategic plan. Members will also be asked for feedback on Association certification and designation programs, the administration of professional development requirements, and how zones can contribute to identifying trends and issues that require provincial attention or merit consideration as part of the code development process.

On a personal note, I would like to say what an honour it is to serve as President of our Association. Thank you to our members and partners for your ongoing support. I look forward to more collaboration and success in the future.

North West Zone Profile

When asked to identify what is the attractive feature of our zone, it must be our ease of access to the nature of Beautiful British Columbia where you can enjoy that connection in so many individual ways.

Although we are one of the smallest zone members wise, we cover some great distances. This leads to diverse challenges that lead into many unique & enjoyable opportunities. Typically, some of the larger centers have teams of two or three building officials but can be a team of one for a community. To overcome the challenge of isolation, no questions are off the table for our members and a lot of support is available to those that reach out. Having smaller teams enables well developed relationships with contractors as well as the ability to pivot into implementing effective strategies around enforcement and accomplishment of change. Shortly before the building act there was very limited access to level 3 inspectors in the zone. Now, nearly all our members have achieved this designation. With so many small communities and great tracks of land within regional districts, there are a lot of areas without enforcement and proper professional services. We have certainly benefited from the move towards the digital world we live in and look forward to improving the code compliance and safety of the buildings that we inspect.

The North West Zone is served by thirteen qualified building officials and nine qualified plumbing officials.



Doug Vance, RBO

We were honoured to recognize the distinguished service and dedicated volunteering efforts of members at this year's conference.

Earlier this year, we lost a great friend in David Pope. David dedicated countless volunteer hours to educating building and plumbing officials. He was awarded the Jim Robison Award earlier this year and was again recognized for his countless contributions to the industry.

The Casey van den Broek award was presented to our Vice President of Plumbing, Doug Vance, who, like Casey himself, demonstrated considerable leadership and service in the field of building safety and code education.



TECA-BOABC Educational Partnership

The Building Officials' Association of BC (Association) and Thermal Environmental Comfort Association (TECA) are pleased to announce a partnership to support building and plumbing officials with accessing education about heating, ventilation, and cooling systems. This agreement builds on the longstanding educational collaboration between the two organizations. Under the agreement, the cost for qualified officials to register for a TECA course has been significantly reduced – as low as \$200 per course. A portion of the revenue generated through building official course registrations will be returned to the Association to fund additional investments in education and services for members. Schedule and registration details about TECA's educational offerings can be [found on its website](#).

News and Notes

Provincial Construction Activity

The value of BC construction is up 79% over a five-year period to \$134 billion according to the [BC Construction Association](#).

Volunteer Opportunities – Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes

The National Research Council recruits' members to serve on the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes (CCBFC) prior to each five-year code cycle and on an as-needed basis throughout the code cycle. Individuals interested in participating in important national codes development work as a standing committee or as a CCBFC member are invited to submit their expression of interest at any time through the [online application form](#). Volunteering with CCBFC is an excellent way to participate in shaping Canadian construction codes and earning professional development points.

Volunteer Recognition

During the recent conference, the Association celebrated contributions of the following individuals who retired from serving on the Executive since our last conference in 2019: Wendy Moir, Arne Dohlen, Jeremy Frick, Blaine Harasimiuk, Todd Loucks, Brian Marcell, Belinda Moen, Donald Pedde, Zara Rockwell, Jeremy Scott, Manjit S. Sohi and Andy Wilson.



From L to R: Robyn MacLeod, Vice President of Certification & Member Services; Jeremy Frick, Past Executive Member; Manjit S. Sohi, Past Executive Member; Zara Rockwell, Past Executive Member; Donald Pedde, Past Executive Member; Honourable David Eby, Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing; Dan Coulter, Parliamentary Secretary for Accessibility; Brian Champlin, President.

Partner Profile



[BC Housing](#) develops, manages, and administers a wide range of subsidized housing options across the province. It works with the ministry responsible for housing to address critical gaps across the housing continuum, which range from emergency shelter and rent assistance in the private market to affordable home ownership. The organization also licenses residential builders, administers owner builder authorizations, and conducts research, and delivers education that benefits the residential construction industry and consumers.

Education has been a focal point of collaboration with the Building Officials' Association of BC (Association) over the past several years as we see tremendous value in developing strong relationships with municipal building officials to ensure that builders are qualified and new homes are registered. We previously collaborated with the Association to develop training for building officials and other industry professionals when BC adopted new editions of the building code. BC Housing was also proud to participate in the Association's recent conference as a Partner level sponsor and trade show exhibitor.

BC Housing's Research Centre often works closely with the Association to ensure high quality, efficient residential construction for the people of BC. The Association has received \$150,000 in grant funding to develop code training for qualified officials through the Building Excellence Research & Education Grants program. Our deep knowledge of the construction sector and successful partnerships with key players like the Association have enabled BC Housing to lead provincial and national research and pilot initiatives.

Construction Code Reconciliation Agreement

The Province of British Columbia has signed the [Construction Codes Reconciliation Agreement \(CCRA\)](#) under the Canadian Free Trade Agreement. The CCRA is a federal-provincial-territorial agreement related to the harmonization of building, fire, plumbing, and other construction codes across Canada. By signing the agreement, BC has agreed to:

- Reduce or remove differences between provincial construction codes and the national model codes
- Timely adoption of construction codes in BC (24 months following the release of the National Construction Codes 2020 and 18 months for future codes)
- Participate in renewing the national code development system to one that better meets the needs of federal, provincial, and territorial parties
- Support making the national model codes available for free in electronic format

Staff from the Association and Building and Safety Standards branch will be attending zone meetings this fall to engage members in discussion about the agreement and how the Association can support government in achieving its commitments. More information about the agreement can be found on the [provincial government website](#).

Newly Certified Members

Building (L1)

Jay McEwen
Ryan Smid
Jake Postnikoff

Building (L2)

Dennis Wolf
Reiner Nikolai
Yungi Choi
Jake Postnikoff

Building (L3)

Gurinder Mangat
Shannon Beler
Sean Rowse
Justin Gock
Michelle Boag

Plumbing (L1)

Lindsay Wilson
Trevor Stead
Peter Martin
Jake Postnikoff

Plumbing (L2)

Lindsay Wilson
Tyler Zult
Alexa Boekenkruger
Lindsay Fitzgerald
Adrien Goddu
Rodney Duncan

Newly Qualified Members

Building (L1)

Connor Galozo
Kelsey Versteeg
Brandon Paxton
Garv Goswami
Amrit Dhillon
David Rokeby-Thomas
Bo (Alex) Tian
Chun Hei Terry Wan
Levi Giesbrecht
Chris Black
Ali Khalaj Asadi
Benjamin Boogaars

Building (L2)

Helen Carruthers
Colin McCarthy
Dennis Wolf
Brandon Paxton
Ian Brown
Robert Wieler
Xin Lu
Albert Hui
Inderpaul Pooni
Meagan Crawford
Nicholas Jackson
Russell Hamilton

Building (L3)

Daniel Siminoff
Justin Gock
Shannon Beler
Sean Rowse
Brandon Paxton
Reiner Nikolai
Trevor Doesburg
Ferdinand Csaky
Tina Nobari Moghaddam
Michelle Boag

Plumbing (L1)

Connor Galozo
Brandon Paxton
Kodi Hopkins
Mike Barkowski
Chris Watkins
Brody Ferguson
Jason Cameron

Plumbing (L2)

Tyler Zult
Alexa Boekenkruger
Brandon Paxton
Lindsay Fitzgerald
Adrien Goddu
Ray Berkeley

BOIT(L1)

Duncan Scandrett
Richard Crowdis
Elli Keats
Emily Tang
Harchand Dhaliwal
Emily Rindler
Bo (Alex) Tian
Dylan Neath
Robert Lyonnais
Patrick Cowden
Corey Nee
Jody Gray
Josh Lalande

BOIT (L2)

Scott Beck
Roja Gooranorimi
Monika Loevenmark
Russell Hamilton
Brayden Kennedy

BOIT (L3)

Colin McCarthy
Lisa Spent
Michelle Boag

POIT (L1)

Emily Rindler
Nicholas Coray
Robert Lyonnais
Corey Nee

Conference Photos

