

BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing

AIBC, EGBC, BOABC

File No: 18-0188

INTERPRETATION

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Interpretation Date: May 17, 2022

Building Code Edition: BC Building Code 2018

Subject: Ratio of number of lavatories to water closets

Keywords: Number of lavatories, water closets

Building Code Reference(s): 3.7.2.3.(1)

Question:

Sentence 3.7.2.3.(1) requires that at least 1 lavatory shall be provided in a room containing 1 or 2 water closets or urinals, and at least 1 additional lavatory shall be provided for each additional 2 water closets or urinals. Does this mean that for a washroom containing 3 water closets, the minimum number of lavatories is only 1?

Interpretation:

Yes.

Based on the wording of Sentence 3.7.2.3.(1), 1 lavatory is required for the first 2 water closets. Since the additional 3rd water closet is less than the additional increment of 2 water closets, no additional lavatory is therefore required.



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.