

# BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing

**AIBC, EGBC, BOABC**

**File No: 18-0222**

**INTERPRETATION**

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Interpretation Date:	December 13, 2022
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2018
Subject:	Glazed wall acting as a guard
Keywords:	window, glazing, pane, guard
Building Code Reference(s):	3.3.1.18.(1), 3.4.6.6.(6)(b); 4.1.5.14.; 9.8.8.1.(6)(b); 9.8.8.1.(7)(b); 9.8.8.1.(8)(b); 9.8.8.7.

## Question:

If a window is required to act as a guard where the exterior grade is lower than the floor level, must both the inner pane and outer pane of the window be designed to resist guard loading?

## Interpretation:

No.

Only the inner pane needs to be designed to resist guard loading since it is the only structural member that is resisting the guard load when applied from the inside.

It should be noted that wind loading may trigger a requirement for tempered or laminated glass on the outer pane as well.



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

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