

BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing
AIBC, EGBC, BOABC

File No: 18-0252

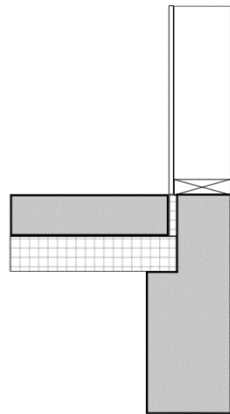
INTERPRETATION

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Interpretation Date:	June 27, 2023
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2018
Subject:	Reduction in foundation wall thickness
Keywords:	Reduction, foundation wall, concrete slab
Building Code Reference(s):	9.15.4.7.

Question:

Can a concrete foundation wall be reduced in thickness to accommodate the concrete slab on grade as illustrated below?



Interpretation:

Yes

Sentence 9.15.4.7.(1) permits the top of a concrete wall to be reduced in thickness to a minimum of 90mm wide and a maximum of 350 mm high to accommodate the installation of floor joists.

Although it is not specifically stated in Article 9.15.4.7., it is reasonable to apply the same logic for the top of concrete foundation wall to accommodate the installation of a concrete slab on grade as illustrated above.

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.