


BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing
AIBC, EGBC, BOABC

File No: 18-0296

INTERPRETATION

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Interpretation Date:	January 16, 2024
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2018
Subject:	Window between the Attached Garage and Dwelling Unit
Keywords:	Storage Garage, Bedroom Egress Window
Building Code Reference(s):	9.9.10.; 9.10.13.15.(2); 9.10.9.16.(4)(a)
Question:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Can a fixed window be installed in a wall adjacent to an attached garage serving a dwelling unit?2. Can an operable window be installed in a wall adjacent to an attached garage serving a dwelling unit?
Interpretation:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Yes, with conditions. Clause 9.10.9.16.(4)(a) requires that an air barrier system be provided between a garage and the remainder of the building. Provided the fixed window is designed to maintain an effective barrier against the passage of gas and exhaust fumes, it is permitted.2. No. As noted in answer to question 1, installation of the operable window will not satisfy the requirements of air tightness.
 <hr/> Patrick Shek, P.Eng., CP, FEC, Committee Chair	
<small>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 <i>Authority Having Jurisdiction</i>. The views of the joint committee should not be construed as legal advice.</small>	