



Safety Codes Council

MINUTES OF THE SECOND BUILDING SUB-COUNCIL MEETING OF 2021

DATE: March 11, 2021

TIME: 8:30 a.m. to 12:25 p.m.

LOCATION: Videoconference

PRESENT: *Sub-Council Members*

Andy Smith, Chair
Colin Belliveau
Russell Croome, Vice Chair North
David Flanagan
Rick Gratton
Stephen Hill
Keith Jansen
Corey Klimchuk
Matthew Kramer
Grace O'Brien
Terry O'Flaherty
Darin Sceviour
Darrin Harsch
Justin Pockar

Safety Codes Council

Kathryn Derkach, Jennifer Johnson

Alberta Municipal Affairs

Paul Chang, Mike Hill, Joe Healy, James Orr (Item 4.2)

REGRETS: Lee Phillips
Brendan Ottosen
Robert Kralka

GUESTS: Karen Muir (BFSC Liaison), Gerry Wiles (ESC Liaison), Chris Taylor (FSC Liaison)
Paul Kovacs and Dan Sandnik (Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction)

RECORDER: Jennifer Johnson

2021 MEETINGS: May 13, September 23, November 18

1. Meeting Opening

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. A round table introduction was held.

1.1 Agenda Adoption

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Item 2.6 - Lightning Protection Systems STANDATA

Justin Pockar/Rick Gratton moved that the agenda be adopted, as amended; CARRIED

1.2 Agenda of the January 14 Minutes

Stephen Hill/Russell Croome moved to adopt the minutes of the January 14, 2021 meeting, as circulated; CARRIED

2. Matters for Decision

2.1. Closed Session

Stephen Hill/Terry O’Flaherty moved to go into Closed Session

Justin Pockar/Terry O’Flaherty moved to come out of Closed Session

2.1.1 RAHA Presentation Follow Up Discussion

Rick Gratton/Terry O’Flaherty moved that a Working Group be created to look at the NBC(AE) and identify what issues and concerns may need to be addressed in regards to refrigeration; CARRIED.

Keith Jansen/Russell Croome moved that the Working Group provide a final report with findings and recommendations for further work by the last BSC meeting of the year; CARRIED.

Matthew Kramer/Terry O’Flaherty moved that the Working Group include as members: Terry O’Flaherty, Stephen Hill and Colin Belliveau along with members from the refrigeration industry and be chaired by Matthew Kramer; CARRIED.

2.1.2 Energy Efficiency Seat

Corey Klimchuk/Stephen Hill moved to recommend to the Board that a seat be created on the Building Sub-Council for the Energy Efficiency Industry with the Alberta Building Envelope Council South and the International Building Performance Simulation Association – Canada, Alberta Chapter as Nominating Organizations; CARRIED

2.2 Structural Design of Residential Buildings re: STANDATA 14-BCV-016

Corey Klimchuk, Vice-Chair North, chaired this item

The STANDATA was reviewed and comments were provided regarding wording and clarifications.

Andrew Smith/David Flanagan moved to recommend that Municipal Affairs issue STANDATA 14-BCV-016 Structural Design of Residential Buildings with comments; CARRIED

2.3 Farm Buildings in NBC(AE) Code

Rick Gratton, Vice-Chair South, chaired this item

The proposed STANDATA was reviewed and the Administrator explained how previous comments from the BSC had been incorporated into the latest version. Additional comments were provided and the STANDATA will be brought back again for review.

[Administrator]

2.4 Trade Off for Sprinklers in Part 9 Buildings Working Group

The Working Group incorporated comments from the last BSC meeting and worked with a participant from Municipal Affairs to review their proposal.

Rick Gratton/Terry O’Flaherty moved to recommend the working group code change proposal documents be submitted to Municipal Affairs and allow the Working Group to assist Municipal Affairs in development of a formal national code change request; CARRIED.

2.5 Interior Stairways for Roof Access

The Working Group incorporated feedback from the sub-council as well as input from a member of the Fire Sub-Council to revise this inactive STANDATA.

Terry O’Flaherty/Corey Klimchuk moved to recommend that Municipal Affairs re-issue the Interior Stairways for Roof Access STANDATA with revisions as noted; CARRIED.

2.6 Lightning Protection Systems STANDATA

This Joint STANDATA will provide clarity regarding lightning protection systems as per CSA B72.

Stephen Hill/Keith Jansen moved to recommend that Municipal Affairs issue the Lightning Protection Systems STANDATA; CARRIED.

3. Review Matters Arising/Action List

	Item	Description	Action	Responsible	Date Initiated	Priority	Status/Update
1.	Off Site Review Clarification re: Pre-manufactured Structures	Development of an Information Bulletin on pre-manufactured structures.	Info Bulletin	Chang	Sep 3/15	High	No update.
2.	Professional Schedules	Proposed revision to schedules have been prepared.	With AMA	Orr		High	AMA is working on edits. APEGA and AAA will meet next week to discuss draft of user’s guide. Hope to have to have it ready for

							review by the Sub-Council after that.
3.	Structural Design of Residential Buildings re. STANDATA 14-BCV-016	Consider the proposed revisions to STANDATA 14-BCV-016 Manufactured Structural Components in the Construction of One- and Two-Family Dwellings.	STANDATA	Chang	Nov 8/18	High	Item 2.2 on agenda
4.	Farm Buildings in NBC(AE) Code	Permitting Concerns		Chang/Orr	Mar 19/20		Item 2.3 on agenda
		Harmonization with 2020 Code		Council Staff/Orr	Mar 19/20		Decision pending with Government

4. Matters for Discussion

4.1. Bedroom Window Safety Tips

The Safety Tip was reviewed and the following comments were provided:

- Suggestion to rethink wording in the first sentence (escape routes)
- Important to include information regarding minimum and maximum sill height
- Consider providing more clarity regarding “without special tools and knowledge”

The Safety Tip process was discussed:

- Safety Tips are drafted by Municipal Affairs but hosted on the Safety Council website
- It was decided that it would be beneficial for the sub-council to provide feedback on them
- Council staff will compile a list of current Safety Tips and bring a few to each meeting for review and comment

[Council Staff]

4.2. Effect of hailstorm for roofing/siding presentation

Paul Kovacs and Dan Sandnik the Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction joined Justin Pockar to present to the sub-council, highlights included:

- The size and magnitude of hail events in parts of Alberta have reached a size where a code change may be warranted
- Examples of recommendations for possible code change proposal were shared
- It was noted that it isn’t likely to be addressed at the National level as it is a regional problem

The following was discussed:

- The data available for Canada is mainly from payments made by insurance companies and does not provide information about whether roofs were new/old/past replacement date
- The US does have extensive data and has created a standard which would potentially fit very well in Alberta
- Manufacturer installation instructions require underlay for warranty but there is no requirement in the code
- The code is only responsible for minimum standards; the insurance industry could provide motivation by offering a discount for a better roof
- The recommended roofing product is available for purchase in Alberta, there is a cost upgrade but not a significant one
- It was suggested that the cost to society should also be considered after damage is done; people are not able to stay in their homes, mold could result if repairs aren't done, etc.
- Municipal Affairs explained that current practice is to look at the Canadian standard first, if there is nothing in place or in development we can look elsewhere; there is no barrier to referencing an international standard
- Harmonization to national code is a consideration but Alberta specific recommendations are an option if deemed necessary
- Members will review the information presented and item will be brought back to the next meeting to discuss further

[Council Staff]

4.3. Professional involved on residential occupancy for 4 units or fewer

Corey Klimchuk, Vice Chair North, chaired this item

The following was discussed:

- There is confusion around whether or not an architect can sign off on a foundation design for a Part 9 building
- If an AHJ decides they want engineering involvement that is governed by the Safety Codes Act
- Need clarity on how to define a skilled architect; could ask them to provide a resume or reference the STANDATA for architects performing engineer services
- Should be ethically driven that the professional is competent if they represent themselves as skilled
- If the architect was using a design that was approved on previous projects that might fit the criteria
- Seems that the system worked, if they AHJ has concerns about a registered architect professional performing work they are responsible for asking questions

4.4. Liaison Reports

4.4.1. Fire Sub-Council

The following was discussed:

- There was quite a bit of discussion around Farm Buildings at the last meeting
- Reappointed Marc Royer as a member and Mike Bos as Chair with Hunter Langpap appointed as Vice Chair North

4.4.2. Barrier Free Sub-Council

The following was discussed:

- Re-elected Karen Muir as Chair
- Created Awareness and Technical Working Groups to add structure and move items forward

4.5. Working Group Reports

4.5.1. Stacked Townhomes

The following was reported:

- Met on February 5th, work is ongoing

4.6. Administrator/AMA Report

The Administrator reported:

- STANDATAS issued
 - 19-BCV-018R1 - Adhered masonry veneer-generic engineered details for Part 9 residential buildings
 - Issued January 20th, 2021
 - Addressed discrepancies identified as related to EIFS
 - Brought to our attention by the EIFS Council.
 - No other technical items were changed.
 - Alberta Masonry Council updated the Engineering Report dated January 20, 2021.
 - 19-BCB-007 - Permits under the building discipline
- STANDATAS being Drafted
 - Lightning Protection Systems, Drafting a Joint Interpretation (Building & Electrical)
 - Lightning Protection Systems are an Electrical System however the Installation Standard is in the National Building Code-2019 Alberta Edition (NBC(AE)). This Interpretation will clarify that installations are done under the electrical discipline and the installation is to conform to the CSA-B72-M, "Installation Code for Lightning Protection Systems" as referenced in the NBC(AE) Article 3.6.1.3 of Division B. Draft in Member Portal
 - Field Evaluation Process for Oil Fired Equipment
 - Where equipment is not certified such as special industrial installations in the Oil and Gas industry. The CSA- B139 Series 15, "Installation Code for Oil-Burning Equipment"
Definition states: Approved — acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.
 - Updated Draft for Structurally Insulated Panels STANDATA
 - All planned for submission next meeting May 13th.
- Updated Barrier Free Relaxation Application Form pdf and Website form gone live online, February 4th, 2021
 - <https://mahextranet.gov.ab.ca/apprelax/index.cfm>
 - Information sent out via subscription list server
- Webinar presentation with Safety Codes Council (SCC) and Electrical Inspectors Association of Alberta (EIAA). Scheduled for March 31st.

“Building Code for the Electrical Discipline”

- Unsafe Conditions and Imminent Danger
 - Unsafe conditions and Imminent Danger it is covered comprehensively in the Administrative and Compliance Monitoring course (100119). While it is mentioned throughout the course material it is addressed directly under the heading “Describe Responsibilities for Unsafe Conditions”
 - Unsafe conditions and imminent danger is also discussed in the Inspection Best Practices Workshop (100188) which is available to SCOs as part of continuing education. Under the heading Unsafe Conditions/Acts vs. Imminent Danger
 - Introduction to the Safety Codes System course (100179) also discusses unsafe conditions/imminent danger in the legal lens.
 - Powers under the SCA to Investigate and take action on an unsafe condition Section 48 of the SCA
 - Powers under the SCA related to imminent serious danger Section 47 of the SCA
- Inquiries on Alternative Solution/Variations
 - The role of the applicant is to propose and provide a full description of how an alternative meets or exceeds safety requirements set out in legislation
 - The role of the variance issuer is to review the alternative solution and determine, in the opinion of the SCO, if it meets or exceeds safety code requirements
- Variance Process Steps and Best Practices
 - Applicant
 - Identify potential alternative solutions
 - Develop an alternative solution that meets or exceeds requirements of the code
 - Submit a Request for Specific Variance
 - Issuer
 - Review the variance proposal against code
 - Collaborate with others internally
 - Document and communicate results
 - File with the Safety Codes Council
 - Follow-up to ensure compliance

4.5. Council Updates

A written report was included in the portal and updates were provided on:

- COVID-19 Update
 - In light of the province’s directives for a safely staged relaunch, the Council will continue to offer services remotely
 - Please visit our website for updates on programming and services offered by the Safety Codes Council
- Information from the Distilleries working group is now on the Council website, feel free to share this information within the industry
- Member training coming up
 - New Member Orientation – March 23
 - Effective Meetings Workshop – April 13/14

- Appeals Training April 27/28
- Meeting invitations – if you don't see an option to “accept/yes” and “decline/no”, please reply to the meeting invitation by email to indicate whether you will attend
- Nominating Organization Contacts
 - If you know that the main contact for your nominating organization has changed, please let Gerry (Gerry.letendre@safetycodes.ab.ca) know
 - If you are in the last year of your term, please double check that your contact hasn't changed, this will help us when looking for new nominees and reappointments

5. Meeting Finalization

5.1. Round Table

- It was requested that an email be sent if new items are uploaded to the portal ahead of the meeting.

5.2. Next Meeting

The next meeting was reconfirmed for May 13, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

5.3. Meeting Adjournment

Rick Gratton/Keith Jansen moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:25 p.m.

– NEW ACTION ITEMS –

2.3 Farm Buildings in NBC(AE) Code

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[Council Staff]

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– MOTIONS –

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5.3. Meeting Adjournment

Rick Gratton/Keith Jansen moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:23 p.m.

– WORKING GROUP MEMBER LISTS –

WORKING GROUP	WORKING GROUP MEMBERS (<u>Chair</u>)
Stacked Townhomes	<u>Keith Jansen</u> Rick Gratton, David Flanagan, Justin Pockar Municipal Affairs: Bruce Adair
Interior Stairways for Roof Access	<u>Terry O’Flaherty</u> Grace O’Brien, Corey Klimchuk, Hunter Langpap (FSC) Municipal Affairs: Joe Healy
Trade-Offs for Sprinklers in Part 9 Buildings	<u>Rick Gratton</u> Keith Jansen, Bruce Schultz, Terry O’Flaherty, Cammie Laird (FSC) Municipal Affairs: Roopendra Singh
Refrigeration	<u>Matthew Kramer</u> Terry O’Flaherty, Stephen Hill, Colin Belliveau RAHA representatives