



ANNUAL REPORT - BUILDING CODES & STANDARDS COMMITTEE

May 2008

Over the last year, the Building Codes and Standards Committee has met only twice as a result of the lack of progress of the Provincial Modernization Strategy Project and secondly my extended absence while on sick leave.

The Modernization Strategy Project was created as a result of concerns from the fire service regarding British Columbia's building safety regulatory system.

The Strategy is comprised of five independent projects:

- Information management and system performance
- Liability and risk
- Competency
- Consistent code application
- Consistent code compliance and enforcement processes

Active participation by all system participants is essential to ensure safety, economic and social interests are balanced as the Modernization Strategy proceeds. The success of the projects under the Strategy depends on the continuing involvement of local government, industry, safety and emergency services to build and test ideas for moving forward.

Work on the Modernization Strategy's five projects has proceeded with the goal of introducing any required legislation in 2008. As a result of the lack of progress, I see this goal being pushed back significantly.

The Building Codes and Standards Committee will continue to participate in these projects and may be requesting other members to assist in being the voice of the association.

The next meeting scheduled for the Modernization Strategy group is the Existing Buildings Project - Project Advisory Committee. This project will identify criteria to determine when current code provisions are implemented to existing buildings those under-go modifications.

I hope I have continued to represent the members well by encouraging them to use the committee as a support for any issue with which they may have needed assistance.

Respectfully,

Mike Helmer
Chair, FCABC, Building Codes and Standards Committee