

Report to Provincial Presidents' Forum
October 24, 2009
Ottawa, Ontario

1. Accessible Housing – Status of Legislation in Alberta

Alberta is not anticipating legislation regarding accessible housing, although there is a functional advisory committee which includes Municipal Affairs senior staff, and reports to the Premier on barrier free design.

2. Construction and Demolition Waste Diversion – Status in Alberta

CHBA – Alberta has worked in partnership with the Alberta Construction Association and Alberta Environment on a Construction and Demolition Waste Management Plan with the intention that industry would be involved in a significant way with the eventual plan to divert construction and demolition waste from landfills.

Alberta Government is expected to introduce the legislation in the coming year and the management plan is well on its way with industry taking the lead. The Alberta Construction Material Management Association (ACMMA) is lead by industry and will be ready when the legislation is passed; it will take a large role in the delivery of the waste diversion process. The program is expected to be implemented in 12 to 18 months.

CHBA – Alberta, Alberta Construction Association and Alberta Environment have held consultations across the province on two occasions to prepare industry for the new requirements, explain the plan, answer questions, and gather feedback before the implementation.

3. New Home Warranty Changes – Status in Alberta

CHBA – Alberta is still waiting to hear from Alberta Municipal Affairs regarding new home warranty regulation. Last year Alberta Municipal Affairs lead consultations regarding residential building envelope integrity. Recommendations, which have yet to be released, are expected to include regulation of new home warranty in Alberta. Until Government releases its recommendations we do not have any certainty of what they intend to do.

4. Archeological Clearances – Status in Alberta

CHBA – Alberta has no indication that the province is considering Archeological Clearance regulations.

5. Compulsory Certification of Voluntary Trades in Alberta

CHBA – Alberta has no indication that the province is considering Compulsory certification of voluntary trades.



6. Workplace Health and Safety – Status in Alberta

Alberta Municipal Affairs will be asked by the Alberta Construction Safety Association to consider administrative fines. CHBA – Alberta Board of Directors recently passed a motion at the October 2nd Board meeting to support their initiative.

7. Workplace Health and Safety: Administrative Fines – Status in Alberta

Please see comments above.

8. Cash-in-Lieu of Parkland Fees / Intensification Objectives – Status in Alberta

CHBA – Alberta has no indication that this is an issue in Alberta.

9. Uploading of Municipal Responsibilities and Costs – Status in Alberta

This week Global News reported that the City of Edmonton is asking for feedback from its citizens on charging new home buyers to foot the bill for expanded transit at a substantial cost.

Alberta Municipalities are continually testing their ability to get away with adding the cost of any capital improvement to the cost of residential development.

Fort Saskatchewan recently realized that they could not meet the fire response targets under the new interpretation of the code. The Minister agreed to allow developments, which had already been permitted, some time to complete building while the fire department adds resources. Now the city wants to charge development for the capital costs of expanding its fire department.

10. Property Inspectors – Status in Alberta

Education and additional training for building inspectors is expected to be one the actions that come from the Government investigation of complaints regarding residential building envelope failure.

Inspections and inspectors are very inconsistent from one jurisdiction to another.

11. Municipal Green By-laws (e.g. Trees) – Status in Alberta

This may be an issue in CHBA locals but CHBA – Alberta is not aware of any provincial initiative.

12. Underground “Cash” Economy – Status of provincial initiatives in Alberta

CHBA – Alberta is not aware of any initiative of Alberta Government addressing the underground economy.

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