

## Designated Structural Engineer

The purpose of this brochure is to provide information regarding the requirement for a **Designated Structural Engineer** for the structural design and field reviews of Part 3 Buildings.

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*"This information is provided for convenience only and is not in substitution of applicable City Bylaws or Provincial or Federal Codes or laws. You must satisfy yourself that any existing or proposed construction or other works complies with such Bylaws, Codes or other laws."*

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Effective **2009 June 15**, any person applying for a building permit for a new building or addition to a building that falls within the scope of Part 3 of the B.C. Building Code shall ensure a **Designated Structural Engineer (Struct. Eng.)** is retained to act as the Structural Engineer of Record responsible for the design work and field reviews of the Primary Structural System.

The Primary Structural System is a combination of primary structural elements that support a building's self weight and applicable live loads based on occupancy, use of the space and environmental loads, such as wind, snow and seismic forces.

Designated Structural Engineer means a person who is registered or licensed to practice as a professional engineer under the B.C. Engineers and Geoscientists Act, and is designated by the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of B.C. (APEGBC) as a Designated Structural Engineer.

The Designated Structural Engineer shall apply his or her Designated Structural Engineer seal or stamp, with signature and date to the plans and all supporting documents, prepared by, or under the direct supervision of, the Designated Structural Engineer in support of the building permit application.

This requirement applies to permit applications for all new Part 3 buildings and additions to existing Part 3 buildings. The following types of construction are some general examples of the application of this requirement:

- new Part 3 buildings
- vertical or horizontal additions to existing Part 3 buildings
- seismic upgrades of Part 3 buildings

This requirement does not apply to the design of individual secondary structural elements (e.g. curtain wall systems, seismic restraints for architectural, mechanical, and electrical elements, racking systems); specialty structural elements (e.g. open web steel joists, wood trusses, combination wood and metal or

plywood joists, precast concrete elements, seismic dampers, base isolation devices and anchors); or a building that falls under the scope of Part 9 without firewall(s) or is not constructed on top of an underground parking structure.

While the services of a designated structural engineer are not required for those elements listed above, it will still be necessary to engage the services of suitably qualified registered professionals to undertake design and field review responsibilities for them.

**At the discretion of the Building Inspector, projects that are deemed to be complex may also require the structural engineer of record to be a Designated Structural Engineer.** Examples of complex buildings are:

- Part 9 buildings separated by firewalls.
- Part 9 buildings built on top of underground parking garage.

If you have any further questions related to the application of this requirement please contact the Building Department at 604-294-7130.

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