

**HANDOUT:** Finding Information in Codes: Building (4 pages)  
 Skill Builders: Key Words & Phrases, Skimming, Scanning, Navigating Regulations

**IN THE WORKPLACE:** The National Building Code applies mainly to new construction, but also to aspects of demolition, relocation, and renovation. Provinces and territories can adopt the National Code or adapt it to their own jurisdictions. It is the responsibility of workers to be certain their work is consistent with the latest version of the Code.

Refer to the excerpt of the **BC Building Code** to complete the tasks and locate answers to the questions.

- Using the following structure, complete the table below using the information in the excerpt. Locate and use the first example that allows you to complete every line in the structure. The first line is done for you.

3	Part
3-5	Section
3-5.2	Sub-section
3-5.2.1	Article
3-5.2.1 (2)	Sentence
3-5.2.1 (2) (a)	Clause
3-5.2.1.(2) (a) (i)	Subclause

Division	<b>B: Acceptable Solutions</b>
Part	
Section	
Sub-section	
Article	
Sentence	
Clause	
Subclause	

- What are the 3 main categories of information in sub-section 3.8.2?

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3. Angles brackets < > are used to indicate changes between the current and previous versions of the Code. How many changes are indicated in 3.8.2.1 and what do they refer to?

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4. What is the rule number that governs openings through firewalls?

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5. Under what circumstances must more than 1 universal toilet room be provided?

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6. What size units does subsection 3.8.2 apply to?

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7. Where can you find more information on Group C apartment buildings?

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8. How many specific requirements are identified in 3.8.2.3 (1)?

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9. What 2 parking options are permitted? Provide the full rule number where you found the answer.

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10. Does this excerpt from the building code apply to new construction only? Provide the full rule number where you found the answer.

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## DIVISION B ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS

### Part 3 — Fire Protection, Occupant Safety and Accessibility

#### Section 3.8. Building Requirements for Persons with Disabilities

##### **3.8.1. GENERAL**

###### 3.8.1.1. Application

- 1)** This Section applies to the design and construction of *buildings* and *occupancies* to make them *accessible by persons with disabilities*.
- 2)** The requirements of this Section take precedence over other requirements contained in this Part and in Part 9.
- 3)** Access shall be provided to *alterations*, additions and changes in *occupancy* to the extent required in Subsection 3.8.4.

###### 3.8.1.2. Openings through Firewalls

- 1)** Where there are openings through a *firewall*, other than those for piping, tubing, wiring and conduit, the requirements of this Section shall apply to the *floor areas* on both sides of the *firewall* as if they were in the same *building*.

##### **3.8.2. CLASSIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

###### 3.8.2.1. Application and Exemptions

- 1)** Except as provided in Sentence (2), access shall be provided to all *storeys* of *buildings* of new construction.
- 2)** This Subsection does not apply to
  - a) the *storey* next above or below the *accessible storey* in a *building* not more than two *storeys* in *building height* provided the *storeys* next above or below the *accessible storey*
    - i) is less than 600 m<sup>2</sup> in *floor area*,
    - ii) does not contain *facilities* integral to the principle function of the *accessible storey*, and
    - iii) does not contain an assembly major occupancy with an area more than 100 m<sup>2</sup>, (See Appendix A.)
  - b) the *storey* next above or below the *accessible storey* in a *suite* of not more than two *storeys*, where the *accessible storeys* is the first *storey* or basement, provided the *storey* next above or below the *accessible storey*

- i) is less than 600 m<sup>2</sup> in area,
- ii) does not contain *facilities* integral to the principle function of the *accessible storey*, and
- iii) does not contain an assembly *major occupancy* with an *area* more than 100 m<sup>2</sup>,
- c) Group C *dwelling units*, row houses, boarding houses and lodging houses,
- d) Group C apartment *buildings* and condominiums except to the extent described in Article 3.8.2.27.,
- e) Group E shops and stores with a total retail floor space of less than 50 m<sup>2</sup> (See Appendix A), and ➤
- f) Group F Division 1 *occupancies*.

### 3.8.2.2. Design Requirements

**1)** To meet the requirements of Articles 3.8.2.3. to 3.8.2.39., the design requirements of Subsection 3.8.3. shall form an integral part of this Subsection.

### 3.8.2.3. Specific Requirements

**1)** Except where stated otherwise *buildings* and *occupancies* to which this Subsection applies shall, in addition to the requirements listed for specific *occupancies*, have

- a) *access* from the street to at least one main entrance conforming to Article 3.8.3.5.,
- b) where off-street parking is provided for *persons with disabilities*, ~~access~~ from the parking area to an entrance conforming to Article 3.8.3.5. ~~that~~ serves the parking area unless the entrance in Clause (a) is located so as to conveniently serve both the parking area and the *street*,
- c) access to all areas where work functions can reasonably be expected to be performed by *persons with disabilities*,
- d) accessible washrooms conforming to Sentence (2), and
- e) on each floor area to which *access* is required, egress conforming to Article 3.8.3.19.

**2)** In *buildings* and *occupancies* where water closets are required,

- a) at least one universal toilet room ~~that~~ conforms to Sentence 3.7.2.10.(9) ~~shall be provided~~ , and
- b) where the *occupant load* of the *building* or *occupancy* exceeds 150, other public washrooms in floor areas required to be *accessible* shall conform to Sentences 3.7.2.10.(2) to (8).

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Ref: BC Building Code. (2012). Section 3.8. building requirements for persons with disabilities. In Part 3 — fire protection, occupant safety and accessibility. [http://free.bcpublications.ca/civix/document/id/public/bcbc2006/building\\_b\\_p3\\_3.8](http://free.bcpublications.ca/civix/document/id/public/bcbc2006/building_b_p3_3.8)