

NOTICE

New Alberta Building, Fire and Energy Codes

The 2014 editions of the Alberta Building Code and the Alberta Fire Code based on the 2010 National Building and Fire Codes were adopted at the end of February 2015 by provincial regulation. Also adopted by regulation is the National Energy Code for Buildings (NECB) 2011 edition. Key changes in the codes include:

- A new building class known as “B3” to address the demand for a more flexible range of care accommodation for an aging population. The B3 provides safe and affordable housing options for seniors and persons with disabilities.
- New provisions to allow for the construction and fire protection during construction of six-storey wood buildings based on requirements for the 2015 national building and fire code editions.
- New building protection against soil gas (i.e. radon).
- Energy efficiency requirements for housing and small buildings under Section 9.36 of the Alberta Building Code.
- Each code has a coming into force date and a transition period. **The coming into force date is the date on which the codes may be used in Alberta.** Transition periods are provided so that municipalities, safety codes officers, trades, designers, professionals, other stakeholders and the public have a reasonable period of time to adjust to the changes. During the transition period, the previous codes in force or the new codes in force may be used. At the end of the transition period, the new codes are mandatory.
- For the Alberta Building Code, if a building permit application has been received by the end of the transition period, or if the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) is satisfied that the preparation of plans/specifications was substantially completed prior to the coming into force date of the code, the project is allowed to continue under the previous code. For the NECB and Section 9.36 transition conditions, the condition is that the building permit must be received by the AHJ prior to the end of the transition period. Please refer to the April STANDATA [14-BCI-001 - Application of Energy Efficiency Requirements and Enforcement Dates](#) - including conditions for manufactured housing.

The timelines for the Alberta codes are:

Codes	Coming into force or Implementation Date	Transition Period End Date
Alberta Building Code 2014	May 1, 2015	November 1, 2015
Alberta Fire Code 2014	May 1, 2015	No transition required
National Energy Code of Canada for Buildings 2011	November 1, 2015	November 1, 2016
Section 9.36 Energy Efficiency, Alberta Building Code 2014	May 1, 2016	November 1, 2016

The Alberta Building and Fire Codes 2014 and the National Energy Code for Buildings 2011 are available from the National Research Council, both online and in hard copy. Follow this link to the [National Research Council](#) for purchase information.

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For further information contact Municipal Affairs, Safety Services Branch
toll-free at 1-866-421-6929.

