



GVRD ELECTORAL AREA A BUILDING ADMINISTRATION BYLAW NO. 1043, 2006

UNOFFICIAL CONSOLIDATION

This is a consolidation for reference purposes only

- GVRD Electoral Area A Building Administration Bylaw No. 1043, 2006
(Adopted July 21, 2006)
- MVRD Electoral Area A Building Administration Amendment Bylaw No. 1301, 2020
(Adopted February 28, 2020)
- MVRD Electoral Area A Building Administration Amendment Bylaw No. 1436, 2025
(Adopted October 31, 2025)

As of October 31, 2025

**ORIGINAL BYLAWS CAN BE INSPECTED
AT THE BOARD AND INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT
AT THE METRO VANCOUVER HEAD OFFICE**

**ELECTORAL AREA A
BUILDING ADMINISTRATION BYLAW NO. 1043, 2006**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Division No.		Page
100	General	1
101	Title and Purpose	2
102	Disclaimer of Warranty or Representation	2
103	Repealed	2
104	Repeal	2
105	Definitions	2
106	Administration of the Bylaw	6
107	Powers of the Building Officials	6
108	Responsibility of the Owner	6
109	Penalties and Enforcement	7
110	Severability	7
111	Fees and Charges	7
200	Buildings and Temporary Buildings	8
201	Prohibitions	8
202	Applications	8
203	Professional Plan Certification	12
204	Equivalents and Tests	13
205	Permits	14
206	Retaining Walls and Slope Retention	15
207	Temporary Structure Permit	15
208	Professional Design and Field Review	15
209	Damage to Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way	16
210	Documents on the Site	16
211	Inspections	17
212	Occupancy Permits	18
213	Climatic and Seismic Data	19
300	Plumbing	19
301	Requirements and Specifications	19
400	Moving of Buildings	19
401	Moving of Buildings	19
500	Swimming Pools	20
501	Swimming Pools	20

600	Schedules	21
601	Schedules A, B, C	21
Schedule A - Areas of Electoral Area A to Which Building Bylaw is Applicable		22
Schedule B - Notice to Owner and Owner's Acknowledgement Form		23
Schedule C - Proof of Liability Insurance Form		24

**GREATER VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
BYLAW NO. 1043, 2006
A BYLAW FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE BUILDING CODE WITHIN
ELECTORAL AREA A OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT**

WHEREAS section 694 (1) of the *Local Government Act* authorizes a regional district, for the health, safety or protection of persons and property, to regulate the construction, alteration, repair, or demolition of buildings and other structures by bylaw;

AND WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia has adopted a building code to govern standards in respect of the construction, alteration, repair and demolition of buildings in the province;

AND WHEREAS it is deemed necessary to provide for the administration of the building code;

NOW THEREFORE the Regional Board of the Greater Vancouver Regional District, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

DIVISION 100 – GENERAL

101 TITLE AND PURPOSE

- (1) This Bylaw may be cited for all purposes as the "Greater Vancouver Regional District Electoral Area A Building Bylaw, No. 1043, 2006."
- (2) This Bylaw, shall, despite any other provisions herein, be interpreted in accordance with subsection 101(4).
- (3) This Bylaw is enacted and retained for the purpose of regulating construction in the general public interest within that portion of Electoral Area A of the Greater Vancouver Regional District as shown on the map attached as Schedule A.
- (4) The activities undertaken by or on behalf of the Greater Vancouver Regional District pursuant to this Bylaw are for the sole purpose of providing a limited and interim spot-checking function for reasons of public health and safety and the protection of persons and property. It is not contemplated nor intended, nor does the purpose of this Bylaw extend:
 - (a) to the protection of owners, owner/builders or builders from economic loss;
 - (b) to the assumption by the Greater Vancouver Regional District of any responsibility for ensuring the compliance by an Owner, his or her representatives or any employees, contractors, builders or design professionals retained by him or her, with the current edition of the British Columbia Building Code, the requirements of this Bylaw or any other applicable enactments respecting safety;

- (c) to providing any person a warranty of design or workmanship with respect to any building or structure for which a building permit or occupancy permit is issued under this Bylaw;
- (d) to providing a warranty or assurance that construction undertaken pursuant to building permits issued by the Greater Vancouver Regional District is free from latent, or any, defects;
- (e) to providing any person a warranty that *construction* is in compliance with the Building Code, this Bylaw or any other enactment with respect to a *building or structure* for which a *building permit* or *occupancy permit* is issued under this Bylaw.

102 DISCLAIMER OF WARRANTY OR REPRESENTATION

Neither the issuance of a permit under this Bylaw, the review and acceptance of the drawings, plans and specifications, nor inspections made by the Building Official, shall in any way constitute a representation, warranty or statement that the Building Code or this Bylaw has been complied with or that the building or structure meets any standard of materials and workmanship, and no person shall rely on any of those acts as establishing compliance with the Building Code or this Bylaw or any standard of construction.

Deleted by Bylaw 1301, 2020

103 REPEALED

Revised by Bylaw 1301, 2020

104 REPEAL

"The Greater Vancouver Regional District Electoral Area 'B' and Electoral Area 'C' Building By-law No. 219" and amendments thereto is repealed and replaced by this Bylaw.

105 DEFINITIONS

In this Bylaw:

Replaced by Bylaw 1301, 2020

The following words and terms have the meanings set out in the *British Columbia Building Code* as amended or re-enacted from time to time: *assembly occupancy, building, building area, building height, business and personal services occupancy, care occupancy, constructor, coordinating registered professional, designer, detention occupancy, field review, high-hazard industrial occupancy, industrial occupancy, low-hazard industrial occupancy, major occupancy, mercantile occupancy, medium-hazard industrial occupancy, occupancy, plumbing system, registered professional, and residential occupancy.*

"Accessory building" means a *building*, the use or intended use of which is ancillary and subordinate to that of a principal *building* situated on the same lot.

"Agent" means a person (including a registered professional) authorized by an *owner* in writing to represent the *owner* for the purpose of this Bylaw.

"Applicant" means an *owner*, his or her agent.

Replaced by Bylaw 1301, 2020

"Building Code" means the *British Columbia Building Code* as adopted by the Minister responsible under provincial legislation, as amended or re-enacted from time to time.

Replaced by Bylaw 1301, 2020

"Building Official" means a qualified building official as defined in the Building Act, SBC 2015, Ch.2, as amended or re-enacted from time to time, as well as plan checkers, planners and such other persons as may be designated by the Regional District from time to time.

"Building Permit" means a permit to construct a *building, structure or temporary building* issued in accordance with this Bylaw.

"Chief Administrative Officer" means the *Chief Administrative Officer* of the *Regional District*.

"Complex Building" means:

- (a) all *buildings* used for major *occupancies* classified as:
 - i) *assembly occupancies,*
 - ii) *care or detention occupancies,*
 - iii) *high hazard industrial occupancies, and*
- (b) all *buildings* exceeding 600 square meters in *building area* or exceeding three storeys in *building height* used for *major occupancies* classified as:
 - i) *residential occupancies,*
 - ii) *business and personal services occupancies,*
 - iii) *mercantile occupancies,*
 - iv) *medium and low hazard industrial occupancies.*

"Construction" means the erection, alteration, addition, demolition, repair, reconstruction, removal or relocation of a *building*, and includes the installation or alteration of a plumbing system and includes all labour even if provided by the *owner* or donated voluntarily by others, site development, excavation related to the *building*, roofing, electrical, plumbing, drains, heating, air conditioning, interior finishes, fire extinguishing systems, elevators, services provided by *registered professionals* and everything attached thereto as to constitute real property.

Replaced by Bylaw No. 1436, 2025

"Construction Value" means the construction value determined by the *Building Official* as set out in section 202(10).

"Demolition Permit" means a permit to demolish a *building* or temporary *building* issued in accordance with this Bylaw.

"Facilities" means any system installed in a highway or in a statutory right of way for the purpose of providing a service to property and shall include sidewalks, curbs and gutters, water supply and distribution, sewage and drainage collection and disposal, street lighting, electric power distribution, telephone, cable television and gas distribution systems.

"Landscape Walls" are non-structural walls less than 1.2 metres in height which have a setback ratio (slope) of less than one horizontal to one vertical.

"Moving Permit" means a permit to move a *building* or temporary *building* issued in accordance with section 400 of this Bylaw.

"Occupancy Permit" means a permit to occupy a *building* or portion of a *building* issued in accordance with section 212 of this Bylaw.

Added by Bylaw 1301, 2020

"owner" includes the registered owner of an estate in fee simple of land, and also where the context or circumstances so require:

- (a) a tenant for life under a registered life estate;
- (b) a registered holder of an agreement for sale;
- (c) a holder or occupier of land held in the manner mentioned in sections 228 and 229 of the Community Charter;
- (d) a lessee or licensee with authority to build on land;

and in respect of water includes an occupier, tenant or holder of an interest in respect of the surface of the water;

"Permit" means permission or authorization in writing by the *Building Official* to perform work regulated by this Bylaw.

"Plumbing Contractor" means a person who carries on a business whereby the purpose of which is the installation or alteration of plumbing systems and is qualified to do so pursuant to all applicable statutes, regulations and bylaws.

"Plumbing System" means a waste water or surface water drainage system, a venting system and a water system or parts thereof.

"Pool" means every structure intended for or used as a swimming *pool* with a water depth exceeding 610 mm and includes the fence or other *structure* enclosing such *pool* and any *plumbing system* or appurtenance attached thereto.

"Pool Permit" means a *permit* issued in accordance with section 501 of this Bylaw.

Replaced by Bylaw 1301, 2020

"Regional District" means the Metro Vancouver Regional District.

"Retaining Walls" means walls greater than 1.2 meters in height constructed for the retention of soils.

"Service Area" means that part of Electoral Area A referred to in Schedule "A".

"Standard Building" means a *building* of three storeys or less in *building height*, having a *building area* not exceeding 600 square meters and used for *major occupancies* classified as:

- (a) *residential occupancies*,
- (b) *business and personal services occupancies*,
- (c) *mercantile occupancies*, or
- (d) *medium and low hazard industrial occupancies*.

"Structure" means any *construction* fixed to, supported by, or sunk into land or water, but excludes fences, *landscape walls*, and concrete or asphalt paving or similar surfacing of a lot.

"Surveyor" means an individual who is a member in good standing of the Corporation of Land Surveyors of British Columbia pursuant to the *Land Surveyors Act* (British Columbia).

"Temporary Building" means a *building* or any part thereof that will be used for a period of time not exceeding one year from the date of the placement of such a *building* but does not include a mobile home intended for single family residential *occupancy*.

"Work" means the *construction*, alteration, repair or demolition of a *building*, *pool*, *plumbing system* or *temporary building*, including, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing, demolition in the form of the removal or relocation of a *building*, *pool*, *plumbing system* or *temporary building*, but not including any repairs being done as part of the normal maintenance of such *building*, *pool*, *plumbing system* or *temporary building*.

Replaced by Bylaw 1301, 2020

"Zoning Bylaw" means the Greater Vancouver Regional District Electoral Area A Zoning Bylaw No. 1144, 2011 as amended, re-enacted or replaced from time to time.

106 ADMINISTRATION OF THE BYLAW

The *Building Official*:

- (1) may administer this Bylaw;
- (2) may keep records of all applications received, *permits* and orders issued;
- (3) shall carry proper identification, confirming his or her status as a *Building Official*.

107 POWERS OF THE BUILDING OFFICIALS

- (1) A *Building Official* may enter any *building* or premises at any reasonable time for the purpose of ascertaining whether the regulations, prohibitions or requirements of this Bylaw are being observed.
- (2) It is an offence for any person to prevent or obstruct or attempt to prevent or obstruct the authorized entry of a *Building Official* or designate under subsection (1).
- (3) Where any dwelling, apartment or guest room is occupied, the *Building Official* shall, except in emergencies, obtain the consent of the occupant or provide, where reasonably practical, written notice at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of entry.
- (4) A *Building Official* may order the correction of any *work* that is being or has been done in contravention of this Bylaw.
- (5) A *Building Official* may order the cessation of *work* that is proceeding in contravention of the *Building Code* and this Bylaw, or any related *Regional District* bylaw, by posting a "Stop Work Order" as prescribed by the *Building Official*, on the property where such *work* is undertaken.

108 RESPONSIBILITY OF THE OWNER

Permits under this Bylaw are issued on the following conditions:

- (1) Every *owner* shall ensure that all construction complies with the *Building Code*, this Bylaw and other applicable enactments respecting safety.
- (2) Neither the issuance of a *permit* under this Bylaw nor the acceptance or review of plans, drawings, nor any inspections made by or on behalf of the *regional district* shall in any way relieve the *owner* or his or her *agents* from full and sole responsibility to perform the *work* in strict accordance with this Bylaw, the *Building Code* and or any other applicable enactments respecting safety.
- (3) It shall be the full and sole responsibility of the *owner* (and where the *owner* is acting through an *agent*, the *agent*) to carry out the work in respect of which the permit was issued in compliance with the *Building Code*, this Bylaw and other applicable enactments respecting health or safety.
- (4) No person shall rely upon any *permit* as establishing compliance with this Bylaw or assume or conclude that this Bylaw has been administered or enforced according to its terms. The person to whom the *building permit* is issued and his or her *agents* are responsible for making such determination.

- (5) Where a civic address has been assigned, the *owner* shall post the civic address conspicuously on the front of the premises or on a signpost so that it may be easily read from the street. Where no civic address has been assigned, the *owner* shall post the legal lot description in a location where it may be easily read from the main point of entry to the premises.

109 PENALTIES AND ENFORCEMENT

- (1) Every person who contravenes any provision of this Bylaw commits an offence punishable on summary conviction and shall be liable to a fine of not more than \$10,000.00 (Ten Thousand Dollars) or to imprisonment for not more than six months, or both.
- (2) A separate offence shall be deemed to be committed on each day during which a violation occurs or is allowed to continue.
- (3) Every *owner* of property on which a "Stop Work Order" has been posted pursuant to this Bylaw or with respect to which any *permit* issued has been revoked pursuant this Bylaw, shall cease all *work* thereon immediately and shall not do any *work* thereon until all provisions of this Bylaw have been fully complied with and the "Stop Work Order" has been removed under the direction of the *Building Official*.
- (4) Despite subsection (3), *work* may continue where required to protect the health and safety of the public.

110 SEVERABILITY

If any section, subsection, clause, sub-clause, or phrase of this Bylaw is for any reason held to be invalid by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, the invalid portion shall be severed from the Bylaw, and such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Bylaw.

Replaced by Bylaw No. 1436, 2025

111 FEES AND CHARGES

- (1) A person must pay the fees and charges prescribed in *MVRD Fees and Charges Bylaw* in full, prior to the issuance of a *permit* under this Bylaw.
- (2) Notwithstanding the fees prescribed in *MVRD Fees and Charges Bylaw*, any person who begins any *construction* without first obtaining a *building permit* must, when subsequently taking out a *building permit*, pay double the fees that are prescribed for a *building permit* at Clause 3 of "Electoral Area A – Building Administration Fees" set out in Schedule A of *MVRD Fees and Charges Bylaw*, provided the additional fees on account of the doubling do not exceed the prescribed building permit fee by more than the maximum amount prescribed in Schedule A of the *MVRD Fees and Charges Bylaw*.

DIVISION 200 - BUILDINGS AND TEMPORARY BUILDINGS

201 PROHIBITIONS

- (1) No person shall commence or permit the commencement or continuation of any *construction* or demolition unless the *Building Official* has issued a valid and subsisting *permit* for the work.
- (2) No person shall occupy or allow the occupancy or use of any *building* or *structure* or part thereof:
 - (a) unless a valid subsisting permit required by this Bylaw for occupancy has been issued for the *building* or *structure*; or
 - (b) contrary to the terms of any *permit*, notice or certificate given by the *Building Official*.
- (3) No person shall knowingly submit false or misleading information to a *Building Official* in relation to a permit application or *construction* undertaken pursuant to this Bylaw.
- (4) No person shall, unless authorized by the *Building Official*, reverse, alter, deface, cover, remove or in any way tamper with any notice or certificate posted upon or affixed to any *building* pursuant to any provision of this Bylaw.
- (5) No person shall do or permit the doing of any *work* that is at variance with the description, plans and specifications for the *building*, or part thereof for which a *permit* has been issued, unless such change has been approved by the *Building Official*.

202 APPLICATIONS

- (1) Every *owner* shall apply for and obtain:
 - (a) a *building permit* before constructing, altering or repairing a *building* or *structure*, and
 - (b) a *demolition permit* before demolishing a *building* or *structure*;
 - (c) a *moving permit* before moving a building or structure.
- (2) Applications for *Standard Buildings* shall:

Replaced by Bylaw 1301, 2020

- (a) be made on the application forms provided by the Regional District, signed by the owner or his or her agent;
- (b) be accompanied by the *owner's* acknowledgement of responsibility and undertakings made in the form attached as Schedule B to this Bylaw, signed by the *owner*, or a signing officer if the *owner* is a corporation;
- (c) state the intended use or uses of the *building* or *structure*;
- (d) include as exhibits two (2) copies of the scale drawings of the *building* with respect to which the *work* is to be carried out showing:
 - (i) the dimensions of the *building*,
 - (ii) the proposed use of each room or floor area,
 - (iii) the dimensions of the land on which the *building* is, or is to be, situated,

- (iv) the grades and elevations of the streets and sewers abutting the land,
- (v) the position, height and horizontal dimensions of all *buildings* on the land,
- (vi) the minimum habitable floor elevation according to geodetic datum, when required by the *Building Official*,
- (vii) the location and dimensions of all statutory rights of way or easements,
- (viii) such other information as is necessary to illustrate all essential features of the design of the *building*, and to establish substantial compliance in all material respects with this Bylaw and the *Building Code*,

Revised by Bylaw 1301, 2020

- (ix) in respect of a sewage disposal system, including composting toilets and greywater systems, to which section 8(2) of the Sewerage System Regulation, B.C. Reg. 326/2004, applies, all information required under that subsection,

Revised by Bylaw 1301, 2020

- (x) in respect of a system constructed under a permit from the Ministry of Health issued before the coming into effect of the Sewerage System Regulation, B.C. Reg. 326/2004, a report from a Registered On-site Wastewater Practitioner.

Revised by Bylaw 1301, 2020

- (e) include a foundation design prepared by a *registered professional* in accordance with the *Building Code*, accompanied by letters of assurance in the form of Schedules B-1 and B-2 as referred to in the *Building Code*, signed by the *registered professional*, where in the opinion of the *Building Official* the size or complexity of the foundation warrants a foundation design;
- (f) where the parcel contains slopes in excess of 10% be accompanied by the following information:
 - (i) 0.5 metre contours of the existing ground surface of the parcel,
 - (ii) 0.5 metre contours of the proposed final grading,
 - (iii) the elevations of all floor levels of the *building*,
 - (iv) the locations and details of all *retaining walls* on the parcel,
 - (v) the drainage provisions as outlined in the approved subdivision grading plans, if any, for the parcel;

Revised by Bylaw 1301, 2020

- (g) where the size or complexity of the proposed *building* or *structure* or siting circumstances warrant, the *Building Official* may require a letter of assurance in the form of Schedule A as referred to in the *Building Code*, signed by the *owner*, or a signing officer of the *owner* if the *owner* is a corporation, and the *coordinating registered professional*;

Revised by Bylaw 1301, 2020

- (h) letters of assurance in the form of Schedules B-1 and B-2 as referred to in the *Building Code*, each signed by such *registered professionals* as the *Building Official* or *Building Code* may require to prepare the *design* for and conduct *field reviews* of the construction of the *building* or *structure*;

- (i) any other information required by the *Building Official* or the *Building Code* to establish substantial compliance with this Bylaw, the *Building Code* and other bylaws and enactments relating to the *building* or *structure*.

(3) Applications for *Complex Buildings* shall:

Replaced by Bylaw 1301, 2020

- (a) be made on the application forms provided by the Regional District, signed by the owner, or a signing officer if the owner is a corporation, and the coordinating registered professional;
- (b) be accompanied by the *owner's* acknowledgement of responsibility and undertakings made in the form attached as Schedule B to this Bylaw, signed by the *owner*, or a signing officer if the *owner* is a corporation;
- (c) state the intended use or uses of the *building* or *structure*;

Revised by Bylaw 1301, 2020

- (d) include a letter of assurance in the form of Schedule A as referred to in the *Building Code*, signed by the *owner*, or a signing officer of the *owner* if the *owner* is a corporation, and the *coordinating registered professional*,
- (e) include letters of assurance in the form of schedules B-1 and B-2 as referred to in the *Building Code*, each signed by such *registered professionals*, as the *Building Official* or *Building Code* may require, to prepare the *design* for, and conduct *field reviews* of the construction of the *building* or *structure*;
- (f) include as exhibits four (4) copies of the scale drawings of the *building* with respect to which the *work* is to be carried out showing:
 - (i) the dimensions of the *buildings*,
 - (ii) the proposed use of each room or floor area,
 - (iii) the dimensions of the land on which the *building* is, or is to be, situated,
 - (iv) the grades and elevations of the streets and sewers abutting the land,
 - (v) the position, height and horizontal dimensions of all *buildings* on or to be built on the land,
 - (vi) the minimum habitable floor elevation according to geodetic datum, when required by the *Building Official*, or another enactment,
 - (vii) the location and dimensions of all statutory rights of way and easements,
 - (viii) such other information as is necessary to illustrate all essential features of the design of the *building*, and to establish substantial compliance in all material respects with this Bylaw and the *Building Code*.
- (g) where the parcel contains slopes in excess of 10% be accompanied by the following information:
 - (i) 0.5 metre contours of the existing ground surface of the parcel,
 - (ii) 0.5 metre contours of the proposed final grading,
 - (iii) the elevations of all floor levels of the *building*,
 - (iv) the locations and details of all *retaining walls* on the parcel,

- (v) the drainage provisions as outlined in the approved subdivision grading plans, if any, for the parcel;
 - (h) be accompanied by any other information required by the *Building Official* or the *Building Code* to establish substantial compliance with this Bylaw, the *Building Code* and other bylaws and enactments relating to the *building* or *structure*.
- (4) When required by the Building Official, the application shall also be accompanied by a plan that shows the location and size of any building drain, and a sectional drawing that shows the size and location of every soil-or-waste pipe, trap and vent pipe to ensure compliance with the Building Code and this Bylaw.
- (5) An *applicant* for a *demolition permit* shall pay the costs of capping off any public water, electrical and sewer services prior to the issuance of the *demolition permit*.
- (6) All plans submitted with *permit* applications shall bear the name and address of the designer.
- (7) The *Building Official* may require the *owner* to establish whether a method or type of *construction* or material used in the *construction* conforms with the requirements and provisions of the *Building Code* and this Bylaw.
- (8) No *building permit* for the *construction* of any *building* will be issued unless the following conditions are met:
 - (a) appropriate access is provided to the parcel upon which the *building* is to be placed or constructed;
 - (b) the parcel is serviced to the parcel line by a public sanitary sewer system or, where a public sanitary sewer system is not available or the property is not capable of connection to the public sanitary sewer system, the parcel meets the requirements of the Sewerage System Regulation;
 - (c) the parcel is serviced to the parcel line from a water distribution system of sufficient size and capacity to supply the following:
 - i) community water service or other source of potable water, approved by the Medical Health Officer, Public Health Inspector or the authority having jurisdiction, shall be provided;
 - ii) water adequate for fire protection purposes where required by the *Building Official*.
 - (d) a covenant if the potable water source is a shallow well, creek, stream, rainwater collection system, or the water quality from a drilled well provides water that has failed to meet or exceed the standards set out in the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality.

Replaced by Bylaw No. 1436, 2025

- (9) If *permit* fees are not paid within sixty (60) calendar days from the date of notification to the *applicant* that the *permit* is ready for issuance, applications will be cancelled and the plan processing fee stipulated in *MVRD Fees and Charges Bylaw* will be forfeited and any documentation submitted may be destroyed.

Replaced by Bylaw No. 1436, 2025

- (10) For the purposes of determining the *building permit* fees required under *MVRD Fees and Charges Bylaw*, the *Building Official* will calculate the *construction value* based on current market unit costs.

Replaced by Bylaw No. 1436, 2025

- (11) If a rechecking of *permit* plans is required as a result of any action on the part of the *owner* or the *agent*, the *owner* shall pay the fees for additional plan review, as prescribed in *MVRD Fees and Charges Bylaw*.

203 PROFESSIONAL PLAN CERTIFICATION

Revised by Bylaw 1301, 2020

- (1) The letters of assurance in the form of Schedules B-1 and B-2 referred to in the *Building Code* and provided pursuant to the requirements of this Bylaw are relied upon by the *Regional District* and its *Building Officials* as certification that the design and plans to which the letters of assurance relate comply with the *Building Code* and other applicable enactments relating to safety.
- (2) A *building permit* issued for the construction of a *complex building*, or a *standard building* for which a *Building Official* required professional design and letters of assurance pursuant to this Bylaw shall include a notice to the *owner* that the *building permit* is issued in reliance upon the certification of the *registered professionals* that the design and plans submitted in support of the application for the *building permit* comply with the *Building Code* and other applicable enactments relating to safety.

Replaced by Bylaw No. 1436, 2025

- (3) Notwithstanding the fees prescribed in *MVRD Fees and Charges Bylaw*, where the certification of a *registered professional* is required or requested by the *Building Official* at the time the *building permit* is issued, the Building Permit fees calculated in Clauses 3 and 13 of “Electoral Area A – Building Administration Fees” set out in Schedule A to *MVRD Fees and Charges Bylaw* will be reduced by 5.0%.

204 EQUIVALENTS AND TESTS

- (1) Equivalents for one or more of the provisions of the *Building Code* may be permitted for *standard buildings*, provided sufficient evidence is submitted to satisfy the *Building Official* that the proposed equivalency will provide substantial compliance in all material respects to the *Building Code*.

- (2) Equivalents for one or more of the provisions of the *Building Code* may be permitted for *complex buildings*, provided sufficient evidence is submitted by a *Registered Professional* to satisfy the *Building Official* that the proposed equivalency will provide substantial compliance in all material respects to the *Building Code*.
- (3) The *Building Official* may direct that tests of materials, devices, *construction* methods, structural assemblies, or foundation conditions be made; or sufficient evidence or proof be submitted at the expense of the *owner*, to determine substantial compliance in all material respects with this Bylaw and the *Building Code*.

Replaced by Bylaw No. 1436, 2025

- (4) The *owner* shall pay the fees prescribed in *MVRD Fees and Charges Bylaw*, for each equivalent request submitted that requires additional plan review.

205 PERMITS

- (1) The *Building Official* shall issue the *permit* for which the application is made where:
 - (a) a completed application including all required supporting documentation has been submitted,
 - (b) the proposed *work* set out in the application substantially complies in all material respects with this Bylaw and other applicable enactments respecting safety,

Replaced by Bylaw No. 1436, 2025

- (c) the *applicant* has paid all applicable fees prescribed in *MVRD Fees and Charges Bylaw*;
- (d) the *applicant* has paid all charges and met all requirements imposed by any other enactment;
- (e) the proposed *work* conforms to all applicable bylaws of the *Regional District* respecting land use and zoning;
- (f) the permit would not authorize construction prohibited by a covenant under section 219 of the *Land Title Act*;
- (g) the *applicant* has retained a professional engineer or architect where obliged to do so under an enactment; and
- (h) the *applicant* has registered any covenants required by the *Building Official* under the *Local Government Act* against title to the land on which the *work* is to be carried out.

Replaced by Bylaw 1301, 2020

- (2) Every permit is issued upon the condition that it shall expire and the rights of the owner under the permit shall terminate if:
 - (a) the work authorized by the permit is not commenced within twelve (12) months from the date of issuance of the permit; or
 - (b) the work authorized by the permit remains incomplete forty-eight (48) months after a permit is issued.
 - (c) Notwithstanding 2(a)(b), the Building Official may extend the period of time set out under this Section where construction has not been commenced or where

construction has been discontinued due to adverse weather, strikes, material or labour shortages, or similar hardship beyond the owner's control.

Replaced by Bylaw No. 1436, 2025

- (3) Upon application by the *owner*, and upon payment of the re-application fee prescribed in *MVRD Fees and Charges Bylaw*, a permit with the same conditions as were applicable to a permit which has been issued under Section 205(1) of this Bylaw may be issued. Not more than one re-application will be issued for each permit.
- (4) The *Building Official* may issue a *permit* for the *construction* of a phase of a *building* before the entire plans and specifications for the entire building have been submitted or approved, provided the *applicant* has filed information and detailed statements demonstrating compliance with all applicable requirements of this Bylaw and other applicable enactments. Despite the issuance of a *permit* under this section, this Bylaw shall apply to the remainder of the *building* as if the *permit* had not been issued.
- (5) No plumbing *permit* shall be required for the clearing of stoppages or the repairing of leaks in pipes, valves or fixtures, when such repairs do not involve or require the replacement or rearrangement of valves, pipes, or fixtures or hot water tanks.
- (6) Subject to the requirements of any other bylaw, the *Building Official* may issue a *permit* for the placement of a *temporary building, structure* or shelter, if satisfied that the *building, structure* or shelter is safe for the stated use and duration.
- (7) No *permit* is required for an *accessory building* within single family residential zones provided such *building* does not exceed a maximum of 10m² in area and 3.6m in height.
- (8) The *Building Official* may revoke a *permit* if:
 - (a) there is a contravention of any condition under which the *permit* was issued;
 - (b) the *permit* was issued in error;
 - (c) there is a failure to comply with the *Building Code*, or this Bylaw; or
 - (d) the *permit* was issued on the basis of false or incorrect information provided by the *owner*, his or her *agent* or a *registered professional*.
- (9) Revocation of a *permit* by the *Building Official* shall be in writing and transmitted to the *permit* holder by registered mail or in person.

206 RETAINING WALLS AND SLOPE RETENTION

- (1) *Retaining walls* in excess of 1.2 metres in height require *building permits*.
- (2) No *building permits* are required for *landscape walls*.

- (3) *Retaining walls* should not be constructed of uncemented rock, boulder piles or creosoted timbers.
- (4) Except as certified by a *registered professional* with expertise in geotechnical engineering, slopes steeper than one linear unit vertically to one linear unit horizontally and with a total height of 3 metres or more, which are created by excavation, are prohibited.
- (5) Fill material should not be placed on land that has a surface slope greater than a ratio of one linear unit vertically to two linear units horizontally.

207 TEMPORARY STRUCTURE PERMIT

Revised by Bylaw 1301, 2020

- (1) A permit for a temporary *structure* issued for a site trailer, *construction* trailer and sales offices shall be issued for not more than two (2) years.

Revised by Bylaw 1301, 2020

- (2) The *Building Official* may extend a temporary *permit* referred to in section 207(1) for a period of not more than two (2) years to allow completion of the project in respect of which the *permit* was issued.

208 PROFESSIONAL DESIGN AND FIELD REVIEW

Revised by Bylaw 1301, 2020

- (1) Where the *Building Official* considers that the site conditions, size, or complexity of the *building* or *structure* or any part or component thereof so warrant, or where an application has been made to construct a *retaining wall*, or an in-ground swimming *pool* referred to in Section 500 of this Bylaw, he or she may require that a *registered professional* provide design and plan certification and *field reviews* by means of letters of assurance in the form of Schedules B-1, B-2 and C-B referred to in the *Building Code*.

Revised by Bylaw 1301, 2020

- (2) Prior to the issuance of an *occupancy permit* for a *complex building* or a *standard building* in circumstances where letters of assurance have been required in accordance with this Bylaw, the owner shall provide the *Regional District* with letters of assurance in the form of Schedules C-A or C-B, as is appropriate, referred to in the *Building Code*.
- (3) When a *registered professional* provides letters of assurance in accordance with this Bylaw, he or she will also provide proof of professional liability insurance to the *Building Official* in the form of Schedule C to this Bylaw.

209 DAMAGE TO FACILITIES IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY

- (1) The *owner* must inspect the existing condition of all public properties or rights of way adjacent to a *building* site, and report any existing damage to the *Building Official* prior to commencing *work*.
- (2) All damage to public property or a right of way noted at final inspections will be assumed to be caused by the *owner*, unless reported as outlined above.
- (3) Every *owner* to whom a *permit* is issued shall be responsible for the cost of repair of any damage to *facilities* that occurs in the course of the *work* carried out by the *owner* or on the *owner's* behalf.
- (4) The *Building Official* may as a condition of a *building permit*, require the *applicant* to deposit cash, certified cheque in an amount of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars or irrevocable letter of credit as security against damage to public *facilities, works* or *services*.
- (5) The *Regional District* may use all or part of the security provided under section 209(4) to pay for any costs or expenses which may be incurred by the *Regional District* in repairing, installing or replacing any *facilities* constructed in the public properties or rights of way, which are damaged, and which damage is attributable to the carrying out of *construction* of work carried out by or on behalf of the *owner*, or which are incidental to such works.
- (6) In addition, the security provided under section 209(4) may be applied in whole or in part by the *Regional District* in payments to itself for any cost or expenses which may be incurred by the *Regional District* in placing, replacing, erecting or removing safety barriers, fencing, obstruction lights, signs and warning devices or other safety measures on the site being developed or highways, easements, rights-of-way or portions thereof which in the opinion of the *Building Official* are necessary for public safety and which are required as a result of *work* authorized by the said *building permit* or *work* which is incidental thereto. The whole of the security, or any part thereafter remaining to the credit of the *applicant*, after the deduction of any such costs or expenses as are hereinbefore mentioned, shall be paid to the *owner* upon the issuance of all *occupancy permits* by the *Building Official* under this part necessary in respect of the *building* or *structure*.
- (7) If the security provided under section 209(4) is insufficient to meet the *owner's* obligations under this Bylaw, the *owner* shall pay to the *Regional District* on demand the amount of such insufficiency.

210 DOCUMENTS ON THE SITE

Every *owner* to whom a *permit* is issued shall during *construction* keep:

- (1) posted in a conspicuous place on the property in respect of which the *permit* is issued, the *building permit* and a poster or placard depicting the civic address, or where there is no civic address, the legal lot description, so that it may be easily read; and
- (2) a copy of the approved drawings and specifications on the property in respect of which the *permit* was issued.

211 INSPECTIONS

- (1) When a *registered professional* provides letters of assurance in accordance with this Bylaw, the *Regional District* will rely solely on *field reviews* undertaken by the *registered professional* and the letters of assurance submitted pursuant to this Bylaw as assurance that the construction substantially complies with the *Building Code*, this Bylaw and other applicable enactments respecting health and safety.
- (2) Notwithstanding Section 211(1) of this Bylaw, a *Building Official* may attend the site from time to time during the course of construction to ascertain that the *field reviews* are taking place and to monitor the *field reviews* undertaken by the *registered professional*.
- (3) A *Building Official* may attend periodically at the site of the construction of *standard buildings* or *structures* to ascertain whether the health and safety aspects of the work are being carried out in substantial conformance with those portions of the *Building Code* that pertain to health and safety, this Bylaw and any other applicable enactment respecting health and safety.

Revised by Bylaw 1301, 2020

- (4) Every *owner* shall give at least forty-eight five (5) business days' notice to the *Regional District* when requesting an inspection and shall obtain an inspection and receive a *Building Official's* acceptance of the following aspects of *work* prior to concealing it:
 - (a) after the forms for foundation walls are complete, and after having obtained a survey certificate from a *Surveyor* as to their location and the elevation of the garage slab (if applicable), but prior to the placing of any concrete therein;
 - (b) after removal of formwork from a concrete foundation and installation of perimeter drainpipe and damp proofing, but prior to backfilling against the foundation;
 - (c) after granular base materials, damp-proofing membrane and, if applicable, reinforcing steel has been placed for the installation of a concrete floor slab but prior to placing of concrete;
 - (d) before a building drain, water service, sanitary or storm sewer is covered, and if any part of this *plumbing system* is covered before it is inspected and approved, it shall be uncovered if a *Building Official* so directs, and when the *Building Official* considers it necessary, underground *building* drains, branches, storm

- drains, and sewers shall be re-tested after the completion of all backfilling and grading by heavy equipment;
- (e) when framing and sheathing of the *building* are complete, including fire-stopping, bracing, chimney, ductwork, plumbing, gas venting and wiring;
 - (f) after placing of insulation and vapor barrier, and
 - (g) after the *building* or *structure* is substantially complete and ready for *occupancy*, but before *occupancy* takes place of the whole or part of the *building* or *structure*.
- (5) Prior to the occupancy of any *building* or part thereof after *construction* or alteration, or any change in class of occupancy, the *owner* or occupier shall obtain an *occupancy permit* from the *Building Official*.
- (6) The requirements of section 211(4) of this Bylaw do not apply to any aspect of the *work* that is the subject of a *registered professional's* letter of assurance provided in accordance with this Bylaw.
- (7) In all cases where it is proposed to discharge the waste from plumbing fixtures, trade waste or surface or roof water to a public sewer, it is the responsibility of the *owner* to expose and check the depth and location of sewer connections to ensure that such public sewer is at a sufficient depth and of a sufficient capacity to receive such discharge.
- (8) Where an *owner* wishes to connect a *building* or storm sewer with any *building* or storm sewer extension, the *owner* shall furnish such information as the *Building Official* may require to show that the proposed sewer will be laid at such depth and in such a position as to connect the property with the *building* or storm sewer extension.

Replaced by Bylaw 1301, 2020

212 OCCUPANCY PERMITS / FINAL BUILDING INSPECTION REPORTS

Revised by Bylaw 1301, 2020

- (1) No person shall occupy a *building* or *structure* or part of a *building* or *structure* until an *occupancy permit* or final building inspection report has been issued in the form prescribed by the *Regional District*.

Revised by Bylaw 1301, 2020

- (2) An occupancy permit or final building inspection report shall not be issued unless:
- (a) all letters of assurance have been submitted when required in accordance with this Bylaw.
 - (b) all aspects of the *work* requiring inspection and acceptance pursuant to this Bylaw have both been inspected and accepted or the inspections and acceptance are not required in accordance with this Bylaw.

Revised by Bylaw 1301, 2020

- (3) A *Building Official* may issue an occupancy permit or final building inspection report for part of a *building* or *structure* when the part of the *building* or *structure* is self-contained, provided with essential services and the requirements set out in this Bylaw have been met with respect to such part.

Revised by Bylaw 1301, 2020

213 CLIMATIC DATA

The climatic values required in the design of buildings shall conform with the values contained in the Building Code.

DIVISION 300 - Plumbing

301 REQUIREMENTS AND SPECIFICATIONS

Revised by Bylaw 1301, 2020

- (1) The design, installation and maintenance of *plumbing systems* shall conform to:
 - (a) any standards, specifications and details prescribed in this Bylaw; and
 - (b) the *Building Code*.
- (2) A person must not construct, extend, alter, renew or replace a *plumbing system* unless a *permit* has been issued by the *Building Official*.
- (3) Where a *permit* is required, the *plumbing system* shall not be put into use until it has been tested and accepted by the *Building Official*.
- (4) An *owner* must connect all storm drainage systems to a public storm drainage system, where the property is capable of service, and intercepted with sumps.
- (5) Where a property is not capable of connection to a public storm drainage system, the *owner* may install a private storm drainage system where the *owner* provides to the *Building Official* a report prepared by a *certified professional* with experience in geotechnical matters who certifies that subsoil conditions are suitable for installation of a private storm drainage system.

DIVISION 400 - MOVING OF BUILDINGS

401 MOVING OF BUILDINGS

- (1) No person shall move any *building* from, to or within the *Service Area* from one parcel of land to another to which this Bylaw applies without first obtaining a *moving permit*.

- (2) Prior to obtaining a *moving permit*, the *owner* of a *building* or part thereof to be moved to a property within the areas of Electoral Area A of the *Regional District* to this Bylaw applies shall:
- (a) designate the existing site of the *building* and the proposed site to which it is to be moved;
 - (b) deposit with the *Regional District* a certified cheque or an Irrevocable Letter of Credit in the amount of Twenty Thousand (\$20,000.00) dollars issued by a bank and in a form satisfactory to the *Regional District*, to ensure that the exterior of the *building* or part thereof will be completed within ninety (90) days from the date of issuance of the *permit*. If the *owner* does not comply with the above, the *Building Official* shall notify the *owner* in writing stating how the *building* does not comply with this Bylaw and directing him or her to remedy such non-compliance within thirty (30) days from the date of the said notice. If the non-compliance is not remedied within the said period of thirty (30) days, the deposit in the sum of Twenty Thousand (\$20,000.00) dollars shall be forfeited to the *Regional District*;
 - (c) deposit with the *Building Official*:
 - (i) a certified cheque or irrevocable letter of credit in the sum of ten thousand (\$10,000.00) dollars in a form satisfactory to the *Regional District*, to indemnify the *Regional District* against all damages to public and *Regional District* property of every kind, howsoever caused or occasioned by the moving of said *building*;
 - (ii) a policy of public liability and property damage insurance in a form satisfactory to the *Regional District*, with and all inclusive limit of Five Million (\$5,000,000.00) dollars to ensure against damages imposed by law arising out of the moving of said *building*;

Replaced by Bylaw No. 1436, 2025

- (d) pay to the *Regional District*, in advance, the fee as prescribed in *MVRD Fees and Charges Bylaw* for an inspection of the *building* to be moved;
 - (e) satisfy the *Building Official* that the appropriate law enforcement officials and the *Chief Administrative Officer* or designate have approved the time and route of moving the said *building* and that notice of the moving has been given to utility companies having overhead wires along the said route.
- (3) No *building* shall be moved into the *Service Area* for use as a dwelling house, unless the *Building Official* is satisfied that the *building* can be moved.

DIVISION 500 - SWIMMING POOLS

501 SWIMMING POOLS

- (1) Every application for *construction* of a pool shall be accompanied by a plan showing the location of the proposed *pool* and all water supply piping, waste piping and

appurtenances, and all structural details. All in ground swimming *pools* shall require professional design and *field review* as specified in this Bylaw.

- (2) A swimming *pool* shall be completely surrounded by minimum 1 metre apron and a fence, *building* or other *structure*, or combination thereof, not less than 1.22 metres in height at its lowest point, and with openings therein not greater than 100mm in width. The fence shall be constructed surrounding the *pool* in such a manner as to render the *pool* safe from unauthorized entry. Access through the fence shall be only by a 1.22 metre (minimum) high gate or door that is equipped with a self closing and self-latching mechanism on the poolside of the gate. A fence shall not be required on any side of a *pool* where there is entry from a residence.
- (3) Every fence enclosing every swimming *pool* shall be maintained by the *owner* or occupier of the property, upon which the same is located, in good order and repair, and adequate to perform its intended function, and all sagging gates, loose parts, worn latches, springs and locks and all broken or binding members shall be promptly and adequately replaced or repaired.
- (4) *Pool* drainage and backwash discharge lines are to be connected to a public sanitary sewer system or private sanitary sewer system approved in writing by the *Building Official*.

600 DIVISION 600 - SCHEDULES

Replaced by Bylaw No. 1436, 2025

601 Schedules A, B and C attached to this Bylaw form a part of this Bylaw.

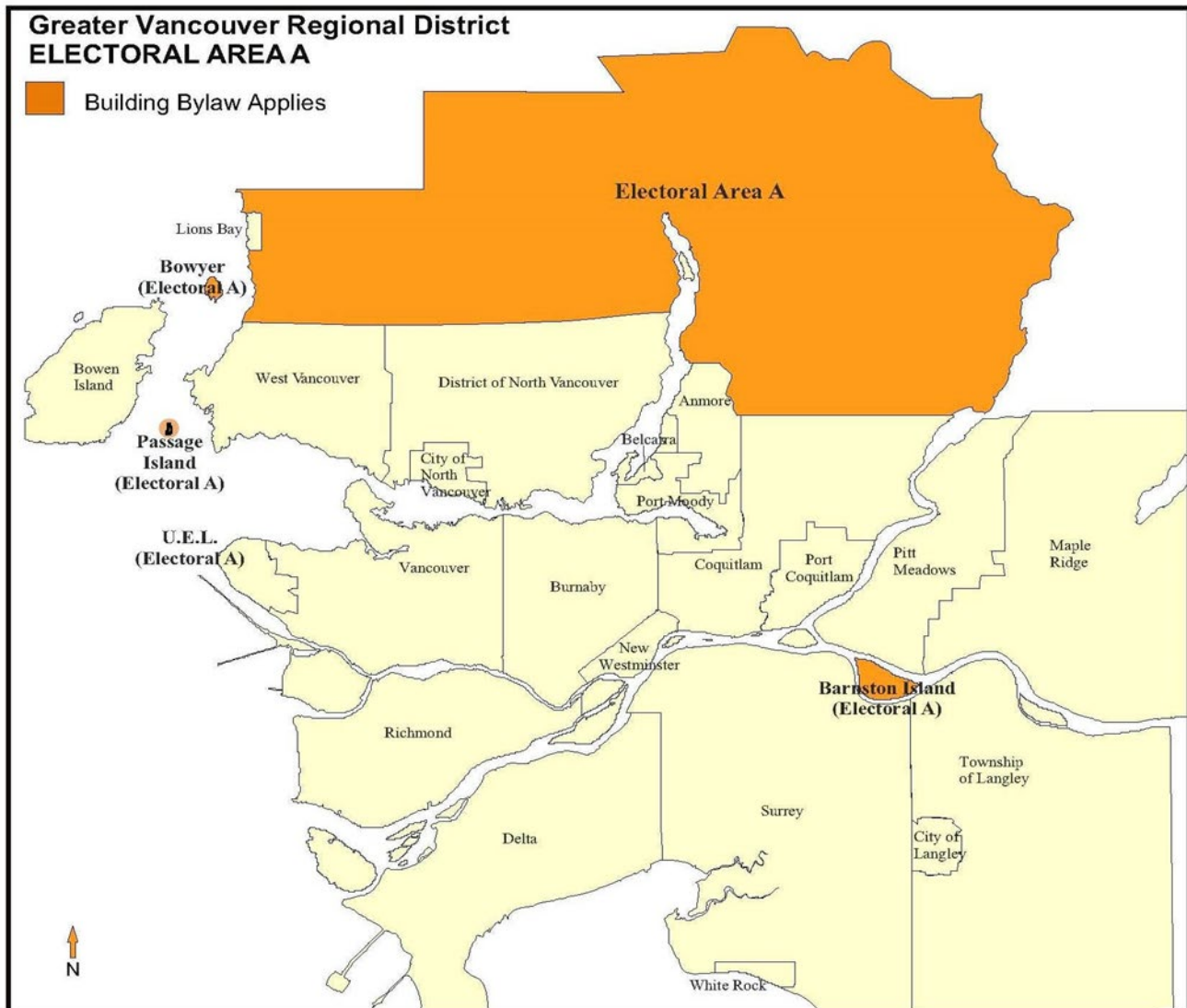
Schedule A - Areas of Electoral Area A to Which Building Bylaw is Applicable

Schedule B - Notice to Owner and Owner's Acknowledgement Form

Schedule C - Proof of Liability Insurance Form

Schedule "A"

SERVICE AREA Areas of Electoral Area A to Which Building Bylaw is Applicable



Schedule "B"

NOTICE TO OWNER AND OWNER'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The "Greater Vancouver Regional District Electoral Area A Building Bylaw," No. 1043, 2006 is enacted for the purpose of regulating *construction* within certain areas of Electoral Area A in the general public interest. The activities undertaken by or on behalf of the *Regional District* pursuant to this Bylaw are for the sole purpose of providing a limited and interim spot checking function for the reasons of public health and safety.

1. I acknowledge that in being granted the attached *building permit* I am responsible for compliance with the current edition of the British Columbia *Building Code*, the "Greater Vancouver Regional District Electoral Area A Building Bylaw" No. 1043, 2006 and any other applicable enactment, code, regulation or standard relating to the *work* in respect of which the *permit* is issued, whether or not the said *work* is undertaken by me or by those whom I may retain or employ to provide design and/or *construction* services.
2. I acknowledge that neither the issuance of a *permit* under this Bylaw, the acceptance nor review of plans, specifications, drawings and supporting documents, nor inspections or field review approvals made by or on behalf of the *Regional District* constitute a representation, warranty, assurance or statement that the current edition of the British Columbia *Building Code*, the "Greater Vancouver Regional District Electoral Area A Building Bylaw", No. 1043, 2006 or any other applicable enactment, code, regulation or standard has been complied with.
3. Where the *Regional District* requires that Letters of Assurance be provided by a *Registered Professional* pursuant to the "Greater Vancouver Regional District Electoral Area A Building Bylaw", No. 1043, 2006 and the *Local Government Act*, I confirm that I have been advised by the *Regional District* that it relies on the Letters of Assurance of "Professional Design and Commitment for Field Review" prepared by the *Registered Professionals* associated with this *permit* (see Letters of Assurance on file) in reviewing the plans, drawings, specifications and supporting documents submitted with the application for this *building permit*.
4. I confirm that I have relied only on the said *Registered Professionals* for the adequacy of plans, drawings, specifications, field reviews and supporting documents submitted with this application.
5. I understand that I should seek independent legal advice in respect of the responsibilities I am assuming upon the granting of a *building permit* by the *Regional District* pursuant to this application and in respect of the execution of this acknowledgment.

Signature of Applicant

Witness

Building Official

Date

Schedule "C"

PROOF OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

This form must be submitted by each *registered professional* submitting Letters of Assurance, prior to issuance of a *building permit* by the *Regional District*.

Attention: Building Official, Greater Vancouver Regional District

RE:

Address of Project, if Applicable (Print)

Legal Lot Description of Project (Print)

The undersigned hereby gives assurance that:

1. I have fulfilled my obligation for insurance coverage as outlined in the "Greater Vancouver Regional District Electoral Area A Building Bylaw", No.1043, 2006.
2. I have enclosed a copy of my certificate of insurance coverage indicating particulars of such coverage.
3. I am a *registered professional* as defined in the "Greater Vancouver Regional District Electoral Area A Building Bylaw" No.1043, 2006.
4. I will notify the *Regional District Building Official* in writing immediately if the undersigned's insurance coverage is reduced or terminated at any time during *construction*.

Name (Print)

Date

Signature (of Registered Professional)

Address (Print)

(Affix Professional Seal Here)

(If the registered professional is a member of a firm, complete the following)

I am a member of the firm of _____ and I sign and
seal this letter of behalf of the firm. (print name of firm)