

ACT Expands Wood Use in Public Buildings

The Ministry of Forests and Range has recently announced the introduction of the *Wood First Act* which aims to increase the demand for wood products by requiring provincially funded building projects to use wood as the primary construction material.

The legislation will apply to any organizations that receive provincial funding including Crown corporations, health authorities, post secondary institutions and school districts. While it will be a requirement to use wood, if it can be demonstrated

that there are good reasons not to go in that direction funding will not be withheld from the project. Organizations are expected to make a concerted effort to use wood wherever possible.

The provincial government is planning to implement this requirement through new procurement standards. Consultation will be undertaken as the Province develops best practices and a reporting structure to support the new legislation. So stay tuned.

Building on Brownfields: the Future of Urban Sustainability

Oct.26-28th, Vancouver B.C.

The current economic landscape lends even more significance to the redevelopment of under-utilized properties as a catalyst for sustainable, vibrant and liveable communities, so don't miss your chance to join the growing diverse Brownfields community for critical information including:

- * The increasing business imperative to add value through incorporating sustainability into new development models
- * Innovative financing strategies that are turning plans into reality
- * Engaging and partnering with First Nations on brownfield site projects
- * Innovations in new clean technologies and green remediation methods, and the on-site implications
- * Labour force capacity, skills and training, and related liability issues

In Vancouver for the first time, the 2009 program also includes in-depth case studies, 3 specialized workshops, and tours of local brownfield sites such as the Coal Harbour waterfront trail, Dockside Green in Victoria, Pacific Place, and the Southeast False Creek Olympic Village. Manley McLachlan, President and CEO of the B.C. Construction Association, will be the Conference Chair.

For all this and more, including updates on all the policies, programs, business strategies, environmental issues and community concerns that are shaping brownfield redevelopment across Canada, come to the 10th Annual Canadian Brownfields conference, the premier national conference and trade show devoted to Brownfields.

For more information go to:
www.canadianbrownfields.ca.

Inside this Issue:

- ACT Expands Wood Use Page 1
- Building on Brownfields Page 1
- Building Smart Webinar Page 2
- DlgSAFE Seminar Nanaimo Page 2

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Call your local Construction Association today and find Out what you're missing!

Building Smart Webinar will soon be available!

The Homeowner Protection Office (HPO) will be piloting a webinar based on previous Building Smart live presentation seminars. This webinar will be accessible province-wide from your computer. A wide audience of licensed builders, suppliers, manufacturers, building designers, building officials and many other building professionals have attended the Building Smart series of seminars presented throughout B.C. over the past six years. Taking the presentations across B.C. has continually met the support of attendees but a common question has been, "How do I see the seminars that I have missed?"

Available this winter, the first webinar entitled *Avoiding Moisture Problems in Houses* will provide practical information that will help you avoid moisture problems in the construction of single detached houses and townhouses.

Stay tuned for more information on how to access the webinar.

Additional information will be posted on the What's New section of the HPO website at www.hpo.bc.ca during November.

Dig Safe BC! Workshop is coming to Nanaimo!

November 4th, 2009
7:45am - 4:30pm
Beban Park Recreation Centre
2300 Bowen Road, Nanaimo, B.C.

For companies who disturb the ground in any way - this workshop is important. We all want to stop hits on underground infrastructure and keep you, the public and the environment safe. Co-sponsored by BC One Call, BC Common Ground Alliance and companies in Industry, this workshop is a valuable tool for any company that is digging and will provide answers to what's underground, what happens if you hit a line, legal ramifications, the "Call Before You Dig" process, what Locating is and techniques for safe excavation, among other topics.

There are critical infrastructures underground that are vital to healthy communities and business continuity, but can be dangerous to public safety and worker safety if struck. This workshop may save you money and we may never know how many lives it may help save.

To register and for more information: www.commongroundbc.ca or call BCCGA Executive Director Dave Baspaly
Tel: (604) 568-2700.



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The mission of the BCCA is to provide leadership and excellence in the representation of and service to British Columbia's construction industry