



# BULLETIN

BC Construction Association

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## GET READY FOR SUMMIT 2000

Recent news coverage reported it was likely we would see Alberta's economy surpassing that of British Columbia's this year. The news resulted from a report by CIBC economist Alistair Smith which indicated Alberta would take BC's place as the third largest provincial economy in Canada behind Ontario and Quebec.

In discussing BC, the CIBC report stated, "Despite its considerable assets, provincial economic performance continues to lag." That BC's economy is lagging will be no surprise to anyone in the construction industry, an industry too close to "being in recession" for comfort. Competing with Alberta is a losing proposition when Alberta is "open to business" and BC business is crippled by red tape, and high taxes.

Despite BC's current situation, there is little doubt that BC has the resources to bounce back provided a more friendly business climate can be developed. A change for the better is very much in order. A thorough review of the entire regulatory scheme under which the industry struggles would be nice, as would a reduction in taxes and the various costs of doing business.

These issues were front and center two years ago at the BC Business Summit in Vancouver. The Summit was an excellent opportunity for business to step up to

the spotlight and crystallize their issues and ideas. This opportunity is coming again, and with an election looming on the horizon, it is clearly an perfect time to once again take a look at the situation here in BC, identify, or re-establish concerns, and, of course, develop solutions.

The BC Business Summit 2000 will be taking place November 18 - 19 at the Westin Bayshore Resort and Marina conference Centre in Vancouver. The event will be kicked off with an address by the

Deputy Prime Minister of Ireland, Mary Harney; a woman who has helped transform the economy of Ireland into the booming success it is today. With a strong vision for BC, we should be able to do the same. Delegates to the Summit will combine their ideas and abilities to help shape this vision, and determine the goals that need to be set in order to achieve success.

Detailed information on registration, fees, programmed events and travel arrangements is provided on-line at the BC Business Summit website:

<http://www.bcbusiness-summit.com>

Delegates registering for the Summit prior to October 20 will pay a reduced fee for the event, so book early. This is an important event for the future of BC. Take this opportunity to be a part of it.

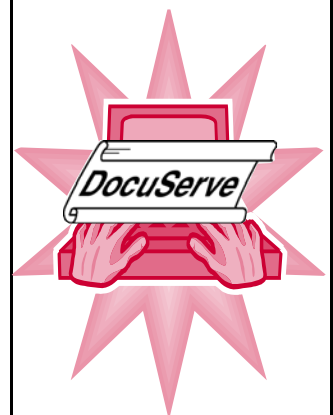


### Inside this issue:

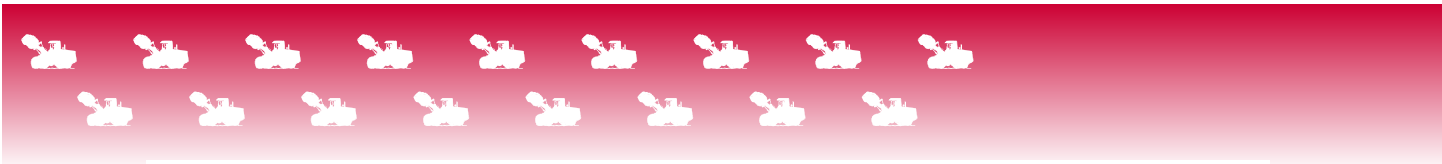
Get Ready For—Summit 2000	Page 1
Amendments to the Building Code Proposed	Page 2
Trade Contractor Accreditation	Page 2
Bid Depository Reminder	Page 2

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# Amendments to the Building Code Proposed

The Ministry of Social Development and Economic Security has put forward a number of proposed amendments to the 1998 BC Building Code. These amendments are a direct response to issues raised by the Barrett Commission, and concerns over the 'leaky condo' crisis. There are many within industry (and without) who feel the Building Code is a major culprit in the crisis. Many letters have been written, discussions had, and meetings attended focusing on this issue. Now some amendments are proposed, and the Ministry is presenting them for comment prior to moving ahead. This is an opportunity for anyone interested and knowledgeable on the subject to have a look and express an opinion. Getting the right Code in place for BC is a very important issue. This is a step forward, and with the right input from industry we can help ensure that it is also a step in

the right direction.

The Proposed Amendments can be viewed on-line at : <http://www.sdes.gov.bc.ca/building/>

A copy of the amendments may also be obtained from BCCA. Comments on the amendments may be addressed to BCCA, contact:

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**Please note:** *All comments must be submitted to BCCA by November 15, 2000*



## TRADE CONTRACTOR ACCREDITATION

BCCA is pleased to announce the commencement of the BCCA Trade Contractor Accreditation Program. Application forms are now available from your Regional Association. The Program is open to all bondable Trade Contractors. Information on the program may be obtained through your Regional Association, or call Warren Perks at BCCA. BCCA Accreditation is a recognized voluntary program promoting high standards for the construction industry—be a part of it!



**BID DEPOSITORY REMINDER**

**Avoiding Disqualification:** *Since some 65 to 75 percent of all disqualifications result from missing Separate/Alternate prices; follow the recommendations given at the end of Rule Clarification 2.2; indicate \$0.00 or N/A for all S/A prices that do not affect the work of your trade, keeping in mind that if it is applicable then N/A is not an acceptable response. Address 'all S/A prices' even if by a general note.*

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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