# BUILDING CODE BULLETIN



December 2020

19-BCB-006 Page 1 of 2

## ARCHITECTS OR ENGINEERS PROVIDING THE PROFESSIONAL DESIGN SERVICES OF THE OTHER

#### **PURPOSE**

This clarifies the application of Division C, Sentences 2.4.2.1.(4) and 2.4.2.1.(7) as it relates to an architect or engineer providing the services of the other in response to inquiries received by Municipal Affairs and Authorities Having Jurisdiction. It was developed in consultation with the Alberta Association of Architects (AAA) and the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta (APEGA). It applies to building projects where professional involvement is required.

This applies to the remaining "restricted practitioners" previously authorized by the AAA and APEGA "joint board" that allowed some professionals registered with one association to provide limited design services as regulated by the other. Entities registered with both AAA and APEGA or as "architect and engineer firms" or "joint firms" as defined by these associations maintain the authority to provide architecture and engineering services and unaffected by this bulletin.

#### DISCUSSION

Prior to October 1, 1982, the "joint board" of the AAA and the APEGA authorized "restricted practitioners" to provide the services regulated by the other association, within a limited scope of practice, as enabled by the *Architects Act* and the *Engineering and Geoscience Professions Act*. These Acts provide the opportunity for an architect or engineer to seek approval from the 'joint board' as restricted practitioners or directly from the other Association Council on a project by project basis. These procedures are respectively referenced in Division C, Sentences 2.4.2.1.(4) and 2.4.2.1.(7). Unless authorized through one of these two processes, an architect or engineer may not provide the professional services of the other.

AAA and APEGA entities are required to maintain both a valid individual and firm license as represented by the signature, stamp and permit to practice which is applied to all documents of

a professional nature, including those used to support permit applications. In addition, if a "restricted practitioner" is involved, they must also apply their stamp as follows:

RESTRICTED PRACTITIONER
JOHN DOE

Signature \_\_\_\_\_
Scope of Practice noted on
Certificate of Authorization # R5555

The Association of Professional Engineers Geologists and Geophysicists of Alberta

Unless stated otherwise, all Code references in this STANDATA are to Division B of the National Building Code-2019 Alberta Edition

Issuance of this STANDATA is authorized by the Provincial Building Administrator

[Original Signed]
Paul Chang





The AAA and APEGA have advised that "restricted practitioners" are part of a legacy category and that no new restricted scope or project specific practitioners will be approved. There were several "restricted practitioner" certificates issued to applicants prior to October 1, 1982 with no further certificates issued since. The licenses for all remaining "restricted practitioners" will expire through attrition. "Restricted practitioner" certificates apply to the individual and may not be transferred to others within the same firm.

"Restricted practitioners" are only authorized to provide the services as limited by Division C, Sentence 2.4.2.1.(4) or as specified by their "certificate of practice" as summarized in Schedule A located on the AAA website.

Schedule A – Engineers Authorized to Provide Limited Architectural Services

Schedule B – Architects Authorized to Provide Limited Engineering Services

(There are no Architects Authorized to Provide Limited Engineering Services)

Architects or engineers claiming to be eligible to provide the services of the other on a project specific basis under Division C, Sentence 2.4.2.1.(7) are obligated to furnish a letter of support from the other Association Council at the time of submission of their documents of a professional nature including those used in support of permit applications.

### **CODE REFERENCES**

Division C, Sentences 2.4.2.1.(2),(4) and (7) states:

- 2.4.2.1.(2) If drawings or specifications are required to be imprinted with the seals or stamps of a registered architectural professional or a registered engineering professional, the seals or stamps must be signed and dated by the respective professionals in accordance with the enactments that govern their professions.
- 2.4.2.1.(4) Plans and specifications must be imprinted with the seals or stamps of either a registered architectural professional, or one or more registered engineering professionals qualified to engage in the appropriate combination of those branches of engineering that are applicable to building design and construction for a building that is
  - a) 3 storeys or less in *building height* and classified as a *residential occupancy*, containing at least 5 but not more than 20 *dwelling units*,
  - b) classified as an industrial occupancy and the occupant load is 28 m<sup>2</sup> per person or greater, or
  - c) classified as more than one occupancy group, if
    - i) the major occupancy of the building is industrial,
    - ii) the occupant load is 28 m<sup>2</sup> per person or greater, and
    - iii) any occupancy other than the major occupancy does not exceed 400 m<sup>2</sup> in building area.
- 2.4.2.1.(7) Notwithstanding the requirements of Sentence (2), a registered architectural professional or registered engineering professional who is authorized by the Council as defined in the Architects Act and its Regulations or the Engineering and Geoscience Professions Act and its Regulations to submit a design without the seal or stamp of the other profession may submit an application with plans and specifications that do not have the seal.

Page 2 of 2