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NOVA SCOTIA BUILDING CODE REGULATIONS

Made Under Section 4

of the

BUILDING CODE ACT

R.S.N.S., 1989, c. 46

2011



Labour and Advanced Education

June 1, 2011

June 1, 2011

Prescription

In the matter of Section 4 of Chapter 46 of the Revised Statutes
of Nova Scotia, 1989, the *Building Code Act*

- and -

In the matter of Nova Scotia *Building Code Regulations*

I, Marilyn More, Minister of Labour and Advanced Education for the Province of Nova Scotia, pursuant to Section 4 of Chapter 46 of the Revised Statutes of Nova Scotia, 1989, the *Building Code Act*, hereby further amend the *Nova Scotia Building Code Regulations*, N.S. Reg. 322/2009 (made by Order of the Minister of Labour and Advanced Education dated November 19, 2009, effective on and after December 31, 2009, as amended up to N.S. Reg. 96/2010, dated June 22, 2010, effective on and after September 1, 2010) in the manner set forth in Schedule "B" attached hereto and this amendment is to come into effect on and after June 1, 2011.

Dated and made at Halifax Regional Municipality, Province of Nova Scotia,
March 4, 2011.

Original signed by
Honourable Marilyn More
Minister of Labour and
Advanced Education

Acknowledgements

The Department of Labour and Advanced Education gratefully acknowledges the contributions of the many individual volunteers who participate in the code development process. In particular, the Department recognizes the following volunteers for the continuing support.

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The Department acknowledges the support of the Permits and Inspections Manager and Building Officials of the Halifax Regional Municipality in the preparation of this edition.

Building Code Website Information

The general building code information website address is:
<http://www.gov.ns.ca/lwd/buildingcode/>

This site also includes:

- Rules of Procedure for a Hearing
- Application forms for a Hearing
- Links to the
 - Building Code Act
 - Building Code Regulations
 - List of municipal building inspectors
 - Canadian Code Centre
 - Standards Organizations
 - other Provinces and Territories

Building Officials The Administration and Enforcement of these Regulations and The Building Code Act is the responsibility of the municipalities. Contact names and addresses are available on the internet: The address is:
<http://www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/muns/contact/grouped/BuildingInspectors.asp>

Permits Some municipalities now have applications available on the internet: To find a list and contact them the address is:
<http://www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/muns/contact/>

Building Code Act A copy of the Building Code Act is available at:
<http://www.gov.ns.ca/legislature/legc/index.htm>

Building Code Regulation A copy of the Building Code Act is available at:
<http://www.gov.ns.ca/just/regulations/regs/bcregs.htm>

Building Code Regulation Information

The symbol **r** is used to designate changes from the 2010 edition of the regulation.

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PART 1

Repeals, Interpretation, Scope, Definitions and Administration

1.1. Repeals, Adoption and Interpretation

1.1.1. Title, Repeals, and Effective Date

1.1.1.1. Title. These *regulations* may be cited as the *Nova Scotia Building Code Regulations*.

1.1.1.2. Repeals and Effective Date of Regulations.

The *Nova Scotia Building Code Regulations* (N.S. Reg. 322/2009) made by the Minister of Labour and Advanced Education on November 19, 2009 (effective December 31, 2009) as amended up to N.S. Reg. 96/2010, (dated June 22, 2010 and effective September 1, 2010), are further amended effective on and after June 1, 2011.

1.1.2. Adoption

1.1.2.1. Nova Scotia Building Code

- (1) These *Nova Scotia Building Code Regulations* made by the Minister of Labour and Advanced Education shall come into effect on and after June 1, 2011.
- (2) These regulations adopt the National Building Code of Canada, 2010, including all revisions, errata and corrections to errata made by that body on or before June 1, 2011, which together with the regulations shall be known as the "Nova Scotia Building Code" and may be referred to as the "Code".

1.1.3. Interpretation

1.1.3.1. Numbering System

(1) These *regulations* have been prepared following the same decimal numbering system as used in the *Code*.

(2) The first number indicates the Part of the *regulations*; the second, the Section in the Part; the third, the Subsection and the fourth, the Article in the Subsection. An Article may be further broken down into Sentences (indicated by numbers in brackets), and the Sentence further divided into Clauses and Subclauses. They are illustrated as follows:

A	Division
3	Part
3.5	Section
3.5.2.	Subsection
3.5.2.1.	Article
3.5.2.1.(2)	Sentence
3.5.2.1.(2)(a)	Clause
3.5.2.1.(2)(a)(i)	Subclause

1.1.3.2. Schedules The Schedules "A" through "A-9" inclusive, "B", "C" and "D" form part of these *regulations*.

1.1.4. Nova Scotia Building Advisory Committee

1.1.4.1. Appointment of Nova Scotia Building Advisory Committee

(1) The Minister may appoint to the Committee such number of members as the Minister determines, for such terms as may be specified in the appointments.

(2) The Committee shall include

- (a) a representative of municipal government appointed from among persons nominated by the Executive of the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities;
- (b) a representative of the Fire Marshal for the Province;
- (c) a representative appointed from among persons nominated by the Disabled Persons Commission;
- (d) a representative appointed from among persons nominated by the Executive of the Association of Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia;
- (e) a representative appointed from among persons nominated by the Executive of the Nova Scotia Association of Architects;
- (f) a representative appointed from among persons nominated by the Executive of the Nova Scotia Home Designers Association;
- (g) a representative appointed from among persons nominated by the Executive of Association of Interior Designers of Nova Scotia;

1.3 Definitions of Words and Phrases

1.3.1. Definitions

1.3.1.1. General Definitions contained in Section 2 of the *Building Code Act*, also apply in these *regulations*.

1.3.1.2. Italicized Words. The words and phrases defined in Article 1.1.3.2. of the *Code* identified in these *regulations* in italics, also apply in these *regulations* unless otherwise defined.

1.3.1.3. Specific Definitions. In these *regulations* the following definitions apply

"Architect" means a member licensed to practice or licensee of the Nova Scotia Association of Architects.

"Building Code Act" or "Act" means Chapter 46 of the Revised Statutes of Nova Scotia, 1989, the *Building Code Act*.

"Building Official" means a person appointed as an inspector pursuant to Section 5 of the Act.

"Camping accommodation" means any *building* within a campground which is intended to serve the public or is intended as rental accommodation for the travelling or vacationing public.

"Care facility" means the *occupancy* or use of a *building* or part thereof by persons who require special care or treatment because of cognitive or physical limitations.

"Code" means the Nova Scotia *Building Code*.

"Construct" means to do anything in the erection, installation, extension, relocation, material *alteration* or material repair of a *building* and includes the installation of a factory-made *building* fabricated or moved from elsewhere.

"Demolition" means the doing of anything in the removal of a *building* or any material part thereof.

“Electric space heating” means an electric energy source that provides more than 10 per cent of the heating capacity provided for a *building* and includes,

- (a) electric resistance unitary baseboard heating,
- (b) electric resistance unitary cabinet heating,
- (c) electric resistance ceiling cable or floor cable heating,
- (d) electric resistance central furnace heating,
- (e) electric hot water space heating, and
- (f) air source heat pumps in combination with electric resistance backup heating.

"Field Review of Construction" means, and is limited to, the inspection of the construction work at intervals appropriate to the stage of construction, at the project site and where applicable at the fabrication location where *building* components are fabricated for use at the project site, that the *designer* in their professional discretion consider necessary to determine general compliance with the design drawings accepted by the *authority having jurisdiction* and all revisions thereto. "*Field Review of Construction*" does not include the coordination, quality and performance of construction.

“Flow control roof drain” means a *roof drain* that restricts the flow of *storm water* into the *storm drainage system*.

"Heritage *Building*" means a registered heritage property, registered under the Heritage Property Act by the Province or by a municipality.

"Heritage Conservation District" means a heritage conservation district designated by the municipality in accordance with the Heritage Property Act.

“Interior Designer” means a member licensed to practice or a licensee of the Association of Interior Designers of Nova Scotia.

“Manufactured home” means a transportable, single or multiple section *dwelling unit* certified by an accredited certification body, as complying with the CAN/CSA- Series Z240 Series "Manufactured Homes" at the time of manufacture, prior to placement on the site.

"Modular home" means a finished section or sections of a complete *dwelling unit* built in a factory for transport to the site for installation, and certified to CSA Standard A277-08 "Procedures for the Factory Certification of Buildings", by an accredited certification body, at the time of manufacture, prior to placement on the site.

“National Building Code of Canada” means the National Building Code of Canada, 2010 as issued by the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes, National Research Council of Canada, NRCC No. 53301, including all revisions, errata and corrections to errata made by that body on or before June 1, 2011.

"National Farm Building Code of Canada" means the National Farm Building Code of Canada, 1995 as issued by the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes, National Research Council of Canada, NRCC No. 38732, including all revisions, errata and corrections to errata made by that body on or before June 1, 2011.

"National Plumbing Code of Canada" means the National Plumbing Code of Canada, 2010 as issued by the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes, National Research Council of Canada, NRCC No. 53302, including all revisions, errata and corrections to errata made by that body on or before June 1, 2011.

"Owner" includes a person controlling the property under consideration, and also prima facie the assessed *owner* of the property whose name appears on the assessment role prepared in accordance with the Assessment Act.

"Professional Engineer" means a member or licensee of the Association of Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia.

"Roofed accommodation" means a *building*, part of a *building*, or a group of *buildings* which is intended as rental accommodation for the travelling or vacationing public.

"Work" means any construction duty or function regulated by these *regulations*, carried out on or about a construction site or on, in, or about a *building* or part thereof.

1.4 Administration

1.4.1. *Permits*

1.4.1.1. **General**

(1) A *permit* is required if work regulated by the *Code* is to be done.

(2) The *authority having jurisdiction* may place a value on the cost of the work based on an accepted costing standard for the purpose of determining *permit* fees to be applicable.

(3) The *authority having jurisdiction* may, if applicable, withhold an *building permit* until satisfied that there is a valid on-site sewage disposal system *permit* issued by the Department of the Environment for the construction of a *building* requiring a new *private sewage disposal system*.

(4) The *authority having jurisdiction* may, if applicable, withhold an *occupancy permit*

(a) until satisfied that there is a valid electrical *permit* issued by the electrical *authority having jurisdiction*

(b) until satisfied that the civic address is posted where a municipality has so provided by by-law, in accordance with Section 313 of the Municipal Government Act.

(5) The *authority having jurisdiction* may, if applicable, withhold a *building permit* until satisfied that there is a valid “Minister’s Consent For Building and Access to Property” issued by the Department of Transportation and Public Works, under the Public Highways Act.

(6) Where a municipality has so provided by by-law, the *authority having jurisdiction* may withhold the issuance of a *building permit* until satisfied that any and all applicable *regulations* of the *Heritage Property Act*, and the *Municipal Government Act*, including any *Land Use Bylaw*, *Subdivision Bylaw*, lot grading plan or Development Agreement, have been complied with and all required permits have been issued by the Development Officer.

(7) Unless a municipality in accordance with Section 7 of the *Building Code Act* has provided other or additional *regulations* by by-law, an *occupancy permit* is required

- (a) to allow the initial *occupancy* of a *building* or part thereof,
- (b) when the *occupancy* classification of a *building* or part thereof is changed,
- or
- (c) to allow partial *demolition* or *alteration* of a *building*.

1.4.1.2. Application. To obtain a *permit* the *owner* shall file an application as prescribed by the *authority having jurisdiction*.

1.4.1.3. Required Information

- (1) Every *building permit* application as a minimum shall
- (a) identify and describe in detail the work and *occupancy* to be covered by the *permit* for which application is made,
 - (b) describe the land by including where Nova Scotia property mapping exists in the unique Parcel Identifier (PID) or where this mapping does not exist the assessment account number, and a description that will readily identify and locate the *building* lot,
 - (c) include plans and specifications as required by Division C, Subsection 2.2.2. of the *Code*,
 - (d) state the valuation of the proposed work and be accompanied by the required fee,
 - (e) state the names, addresses and telephone numbers of the *owner*, architect, *professional engineer*, or other *designer*, *constructor* and any inspection or testing agency that has been engaged to monitor the work or part of the work,
 - (f) describe any special *building* systems, materials and *appliances*, and
 - (g) such additional information as may be required by the *authority having jurisdiction*.

PART 3

Amendments to the Nova Scotia *Building Code*

3.1 Amendments Made to Division A, B and C of the National Building Code of Canada, and the National Plumbing Code of Canada,

3.1.1. Amendments

3.1.1.1. Definition of *Owner* The definition of "*owner*" in Section 1.4 (Part 1, Division A, Volume 1), of the National Building Code of Canada is deleted and replaced herein with the definition of "*owner*" in Article 1.3.1.3. of these *regulations*.

3.1.1.2. Sentence 1.1.1.1.(2) (Part 1, Division A, Volume 1) amended.
Sentence 1.1.1.1.(2) (Part 1, Division A, Volume 1) of the National Building Code of Canada is amended by deleting sentence (2) and substituting the following

Sentence 1.1.1.1.(2)

(a) Except as provided by Clauses 1.2.1.2.(1)(i) and (j) of this regulation, the *Code* applies to both site assembled, and factory built buildings. (See Appendix Note A-1.2.1.2.(1)(l) and (j) NSBCR)

3.1.1.3. Sentence 3.3.1.13.(3) (Part 1, Division B, Volume 1) amended.
Delete and replace Sentence 3.3.1.13.(3) Division B National Building Code of Canada with:

3.3.1.13.(3) Except as permitted by Sentence (4) or Subclause 3.4.6.15.(4)(f), door release hardware shall be operable by one hand and the door shall be openable with not more than one releasing operation. (See also Sentence 3.8.3.3.(3).)

3.1.1.4. Sentence 3.4.6.15.(4) [Part 3, Division B, Volume 1] amended.
Delete and replace Sentence 3.4.6.15.(4) [Part 3, Division B, Volume 1] of the National Building Code of Canada is deleted and replaced with

3.4.6.15.(4) Electromagnetic locks that do not incorporate latches, pins or other similar devices to keep the door in the closed position are permitted to be installed on *exit* doors, other than doors leading directly from a *high-hazard industrial occupancy*, provided all of the following:

- (a) the *building* is equipped with a fire alarm system,
- (b) the locking device, and all similar devices in the *access to exit* leading to the *exit* door, release upon actuation of the fire *alarm signal*,
- (c) the locking device releases immediately upon loss of power controlling the electromagnetic locking mechanism and its associated auxiliary controls,

20 (a)

- (d) the locking device releases immediately upon actuation of a manually operated switch readily accessible only to authorized personnel,
 - (e) except as allowed by Clause (f), a force of not more than 90 N applied to the door opening hardware initiates an irreversible process that will release the locking device within 15 s and not relock until the door has been opened,
 - (f) in an occupancy classification Group B, Division 2 or Group B, Division 3 located in a *building*, or part thereof, licensed by the Province of Nova Scotia, the locking device on *exit* doors or doors in a *means of egress*, is permitted to be released by
 - (i) a force of not more than 90 N applied to the door opening hardware that initiates an irreversible process that will release the locking device within 15 s, and not relock until the door has been opened, or
 - (ii) activating a blue manual pull station, installed in close proximity to the door, and not relock until the door has been opened.
- (See Appendix Note NSBCR A-3.4.6.15.(4)(f))
- (g) upon release, the locking device must be reset manually by the actuation of the switch referred to in Clause (d),
 - (h) a legible sign is permanently mounted
 - (i) for a locking device release in Clause (e) or Subclause (f)(i), on the *exit* door to indicate that the locking device will release within 15 s of applying pressure to the door-opening hardware, and
 - (ii) for a locking device release in Subclause (f)(ii), on the *exit* door or door in a means of egress to indicate that the locking device will release by actuating the blue manual pull station, and
 - (i) devices installed under Subclause (f)(ii) shall conform with CAN/ULC-S319-05 "Electronic Access Control Systems".

3.1.1.5. Barrier-Free Design Section 3.8. (Part 3, Division B, Volume 1) deleted and replaced. Section 3.8. (Part 3, Division B, Volume 1) of the National Building Code of Canada is deleted and replaced with the Section 3.8 "Barrier-Free Design" contained in Schedule "C" of these *regulations*.

3.1.1.6. Barrier-Free Design. Sentence 9.5.2.1. (1)(Part 9, Division B, Volume 1) deleted and replaced Sentence 9.5.2.1.(1) General (Part 9, Division B, Volume 1) of the National Building Code of Canada is deleted and replaced by the following sentence

Sentence 9.5.2.1.(1) General Subject to Article 3.8.1.1. of this regulation every *building* shall be designed in conformance with Section 3.8.

3.1.1.7. Exception for Apartment Buildings Article 9.5.2.3. (Part 9, Division B, Volume 1) deleted Article 9.5.2.3. Exception for Apartment *Buildings* (Part 9, Division B, Volume 1) of the National Building Code of Canada is deleted.

3.1.1.8. Section 3.2. (Part 3, Division B, Volume 1) Amended Section 3.2. (Part 3, Division B, Volume 1) 3.2. of the National Building Code of Canada is amended by adding Article 3.2.2.89. "Alternate Compliance Methods For Existing *Buildings*"

Section 3.2.2.89. Alternate Compliance Methods For Existing *Buildings*
(1) Scope

(2) Application. The Alternate Compliance Methods for Existing *Buildings* contained in Schedule "D" of these *regulations* are hereby adopted and may be used in accordance with Sentences 1.2.1.1.(8), (9), and (10) of these *regulations*.

3.1.1.9. Section 9.1. General (Part 9, Division B, Volume 1) Amended Section 9.1. (Part 9, Division B, Volume 1) of the National Building Code of Canada is amended by adding Sentence 9.1.1.1.(2).

(2) The Alternate Compliance Methods for Existing *Buildings* contained in Schedule "D" of these *regulations* are hereby adopted and may be used in accordance with Sentences 1.2.1.1.(8), (9), and (10) of these *regulations*.

3.1.1.10. Clause 3.1.2.5.(2)(d) (Part 3, Division B, Volume 1) Amended Clause 3.1.2.5.(2) (Part 3, Division B, Volume 1) of the National Building Code of Canada is amended by italicizing the words, " *care facility*". [Note that the term "care facility" is defined within these regulations.]

3.1.1.11. Sentence 9.27.2.2.(5) (Division B, Volume 1) amended Sentence 9.27.2.2.(5) is amended by replacing the comma after the word break with a period and deleting the balance of the sentence including deletion of Clauses 9.27.2.2.(5) (a) and (b) and the reference to Appendix C for information on the moisture index.

3.1.1.12. Article 9.32.3.6. (Part 9, Division B, Volume 1) deleted. Article 9.32.3.6. (Part 9, Division B, Volume 1) of the National Building Code of Canada is deleted and Appendix Note A-9.32.3.6. (Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2) is deleted.

3.1.1.13. Article 1.3.1.2. (Part 1, Division B, Volume 1) Applicable Editions Amended Article 1.3.1.2. (Part 1, Division B, Volume 1) of the National Building Code of Canada is deleted and replaced with the following

(1) Except as provided under sentence (2) where documents are referenced in this Code, they shall be the editions designated in Table 1.3.1.2. (Part 1, Division B, Volume 1) except those documents designated under the following Acts and Regulations of the Province of Nova Scotia in which case the edition so referenced shall be deemed to be enforce,

- (a) *Fuel Safety Regulations*
- (b) *Boilers and Pressure Vessels Act* and Regulations
- (c) *Elevators and Lifts Act* and Regulations
- (d) *Electrical Installation and Inspection Act* and Regulations

(See Appendix note A-3.1.1.13. NSBCR)

(2) Where amendments to documents adopted by this code apply, these amendments shall apply to the particular provisions of those documents adopted by the above Acts and Regulations unless amended by this regulation.

3.1.1.14. Article 1.3.3.2. (Part 1, Division A, Volume 1) amended

Article 1.3.3.2. (Part 1, Division A, Volume 1) of the National Building Code of Canada is amended by adding new Sentence 1.3.3.2.(2) (Part 1, Division A, Volume 1).

Sentence 1.3.3.2.(2) Except as provided in Sentence 1.1.1.1.(3) (Part 1, Division A, Volume 1) and Clause 9.10.1.2.(10)(b)(NSBCR), Articles 3.2.2.18. and 3.2.2.44 to 3.2.2.53. inclusive (Part 3, Division B, Volume 1), apply to all *buildings* used for major occupancies classified as Group C, residential occupancies exceeding 300 m² in *building area*. (see 3.1.1.19. and Appendix A -1.3.3.2.(2) NSBCR)

3.1.1.15. Table 3.2.2.52. (Part 3, Division B, Volume 1) deleted and replaced

Table 3.2.2.52. (Part 3, Division B, Volume 1) of the National Building Code of Canada is deleted and replaced with

**Table 3.2.2.52.
Maximum *Building Area*, Group C, up to 3 Storeys**

No. of Storeys	Maximum Area, m ²		
	Facing 1 Street	Facing 2 Streets	Facing 3 Streets
1	900	1 120	1350
2	450	560	675
3	300	375	450

3.1.1.16. Table 3.2.2.51. (Part 3, Division B, Volume 1) deleted and replaced

Table 3.2.2.51. (Part 3, Division B, Volume 1) of the National Building Code of Canada is deleted and replaced with

**Table 3.2.2.51.
Maximum *Building Area*, Group C, up to 3 Storeys, Increased Area**

No. of Storeys	Maximum Area, m ²		
	Facing 1 Street	Facing 2 Streets	Facing 3 Streets
1	1 200	1 500	1 800
2	600	750	900
3	400	500	600

3.1.1.17. Table 3.2.2.49. (Part 3, Division B, Volume 1) deleted and replaced

Table 3.2.2.49. (Part 3, Division B, Volume 1) of the National Building Code of Canada is deleted and replaced with

**Table 3.2.2.49.
Maximum *Building Area*, Group C, up to 3 Storeys**

No. of Storeys	Maximum Area, m ²		
	Facing 1 Street	Facing 2 Streets	Facing 3 Streets
1	2 400	3 000	3 600
2	1 200	1 500	1 800
3	800	1 000	1 200

3.1.1.18. Article 3.2.2.55. Group D, up to 6 Storeys (Part 3, Division B) deleted and replaced Article 3.2.2.55. Group D, up to 6 Storeys (Part 3, Division B) of the National Building Code of Canada is deleted and replaced with

3.2.2.55.

(1) A *building* classified as Group D is permitted to conform to Sentence (2) provided

- (a) it is not more than 3 storeys in *building height*, and
- (b) it has a *building area* not more than the value in Table 3.2.2.55.

Table 3.2.2.55.
Maximum Building Area, Group D, up to 3 Storeys

No. of Storeys	Maximum Area, m ²		
	Facing 1 Street	Facing 2 Streets	Facing 3 Streets
1	not limited	not limited	not limited
2	7 200	not limited	not limited
3	4 800	6 000	7 200

(2) The *building* referred to in Sentence (1) shall be of noncombustible construction, and

- (a) floor assemblies shall be fire separations with a fire-resistance rating not less than 1 h,
- (b) mezzanines shall have a fire-resistance rating not less than 1 h,
- (c) roof assemblies shall have a fire-resistance rating not less than 1 h, except that in a *building* not more than 1 storey in *building height* this requirement is waived, and
- (d) loadbearing walls, columns and arches shall have a fire-resistance rating not less than that required for the supported assembly.

3.1.1.19. Article 9.10.1.2. Amended Article 9.10.1.2. Items under Part 3 Jurisdiction is amended by adding

9.10.1.2.(10)(a) Except as provided in Sentence 1.1.1.1.(3) (Part 1, Division A, Volume 1), and as provided in Clause 9.10.1.2.(10)(b) and (c), Articles 3.2.2.18. and 3.2.2.44 to 3.2.2.53. inclusive (Part 3, Division B, Volume 1) apply to all *buildings* used for major occupancies classified as Group C, residential occupancies exceeding 300 m² in *building area* or are greater than 3 storeys in *building height*. (Appendix A -1.3.3.2.(2) NSBCR)

9.10.1.2.(10)(b) Single detached dwelling units are exempt.

9.10.1.2.(10)(c) A residential *building* containing two dwelling units, with a building area of less than 600 m² or not more than 3 storeys *building height* is exempt.

3.1.1.20. Subsection 9.7.5. Site-built Windows, Doors and Skylights (Part 9, Division B, Volume 1) of the National Building Code of Canada amend by deleting the title and replaced with the following title:

PENDING PRESCRIPTION

"Site-built and Other Manufactured Windows, Doors and Skylights"

3.1.1.21. Sentence 9.10.19.3.(1) (Part 9, Division B, Volume 1) Power Supply Deleted and Replaced Sentence 9.10.19.3.(1) (Part 9, Division B, Volume 1) of the National Building Code of Canada is deleted and replaced with

9.10.19.4. (1) Except as provide in Sentences (2) and (3), *smoke alarms*

described in Article 9.10.19.1. shall

- (a) be installed
 - (i) with permanent connections to an electrical circuit, (see A-3.2.3.21.(6)(a) in Appendix A of Division B in the 2010 NBC
 - (ii) have no disconnect switch between the overcurrent device and the *smoke alarm*, and
 - (iii) in case the regular power supply to the *smoke alarm* is interrupted, be provided with a battery as an alternate power source that can continue to provide power to the *smoke alarm* for a period of no less than 7 days in the normal condition, followed by 4 minutes of alarm,

or

- (b) in a single dwelling unit, be installed
 - (i) as a component of a household fire warning system which includes a certified control unit that meets the applicable requirements of ULC-S545 "Standard for Residential Fire Warning System Control Units", and
 - (ii) in case the regular power supply to the control unit is interrupted, be provided with a battery as an alternate power source that can continue to provide power to the control unit for a period of no less than 7 days in the normal condition, followed by 4 minutes of alarm.

3.1.1.22. Appendix Notes The Appendix Notes to the National Building Code of Canada edition apply as appendix notes to the *Code* and where amendments made by this regulation unless specifically replaced or amended herein.

3.1.1.27. Sentence 1.3.1.2.(1) (Part 1, Division B, Volume 1) of the National Building Code of Canada is amend by adding to Table 1.3.1.2. the following:

Issuing Agency	Document Number	Title of Document	Code Reference
ULC	CAN/ULC-S545	Standard for Residential Fire Warning System Control Units	9.10.19.3.(1)
ULC	CAN/ULC-S319-05	Electronic Access Control Systems	3.4.6.15.(4)(f)(ii) 3.4.6.15.(4)(i)

3.1.1.28. Article 2.4.9.1. No Reduction in Size is replaced In the National Plumbing Code of Canada, Division B replace the existing sentence (1) and add sentences (2) and (3)

2.4.9.1. No Reduction in Size

(1) Except as permitted in Sentence (3), no drainage pipe that is of minimum size required by this Part for the purpose for which it is installed shall be so connected as to drain to other drainage pipe of lesser size.

(2) Where a *building drain* connects to a stack through a wall or floor, the drain shall retain its full size through the wall or floor.

(3) A sanitary drainage pipe may be connected to a pre-engineered waste water heat recovery system that incorporates piping of a lesser size than required by Sentence (1) provided that it does not convey *sewage*,
 (a) from a *sanitary unit*, or
 (b) that contains solids.

3.1.1.29. Article 2.6.1.8. Solar Domestic Hot Water Systems In the National Building Code of Canada Division B is replaced with

2.6.1.8. Solar Domestic Hot Water Systems

(1) Except as provided in Sentence (2), a system for solar heating of *potable* water shall be installed in accordance with good engineering practice.

(2) Systems for solar heating of *potable* water in *residential occupancies* shall be installed in conformance with CAN/CSA-F383, "Installation Code for Solar Domestic Hot Water Systems".

3.1.1.30. Article 2.6.4. Water Efficiency is added In the National Plumbing Code of Canada Division B.

2.6.4. Water Efficiency

2.6.4.1. Water Supply Fittings

- (1) The flow rates of fittings that supply water to a fixture shall not exceed the maximum flow rates at the test pressures listed for that fitting in Table 2.6.4.1.
- (2) Sentence (1) does not apply to a fixture located in a heritage *building*.

**Table 2.6.4.1.
Maximum Flow Rates for Water Supply Fittings
Forming Part of Sentence 2.6.4.1.(1)**

Fitting	Maximum Flow, L/min	Test Pressure, kPa
Lavatory Faucet	8.35	413
Kitchen Faucet	8.35	413
Shower Heads	9.5	550
Column 1	2	3

2.6.4.2. Plumbing Fixtures

- (1) Water closets and urinals shall be certified to CAN/CSA-B45.0, "General Requirements for Plumbing Fixtures".
- (2) The flush cycle for each fixture that is a water closet or urinal and that is installed as a replacement for a fixture in a *building* that existed before the 1st day of January 2010 shall not exceed the maximum flush cycle listed for that fixture in Table 2.6.4.2.A.

Schedule B Design Data for Selected Locations In Nova Scotia

It is not practical to list design values for all municipalities in Nova Scotia, in Appendix C of the National Building Code of Canada, Table C-2 Design Data for Selected Locations in Canada.

Design values for locations not listed can be obtained by writing to the Atmospheric Environment Service, Environment Canada, 4905 Dufferin Street, Downsview, Ontario M3H 5T4 or by contacting (416) 739-4365.

Seismic Values for those not listed may be obtained through the Natural Resources Canada Website at www.eathquakescanada.ca, or by writing to the Geological Survey of Canada, 7 Observatory Crescent Ottawa, ON, K1A 0Y3.

Schedule C

Barrier-Free Design

As amended by Article 3.1.1.5. of these regulations Section 3.8 Barrier-Free Design of the Code is replaced with the following

3.8 Barrier-Free Design

3.8.1. General (See Appendix Note 3.8.1. NSBCR)

3.8.1.1. Application

(1) The requirements of this section apply to all *buildings*, except

- (a) houses, including semi-detached, houses with *secondary suites*, duplexes, triplexes, townhouses, row houses, boarding houses, and rooming houses,
- (b) houses on their own lot, except as required by Sentence 3.8.1.1.(5), for houses used as roofed accommodation, for not more than 10 persons including the owner and the owner's family,
- (c) *buildings* of Group F, Division 1 major occupancy,
- (d) *buildings* which are not intended to be occupied on a daily or full time basis, including automatic telephone exchanges, pumphouses, and substations,
- (e) industrial occupancies with an operation which is not adaptable to barrier-free, and
- (f) fire, rescue, and emergency response facilities intended to house vehicles and their crews. (See Appendix Note A-3.8.1.1.(1)(f) NSBCR)

(2) In camping accommodation where sleeping accommodations are provided, and in roofed accommodation one sleeping unit conforming to Article 3.8.3.17. shall be provided for every twenty (20) sleeping units or part thereof.

(3) In roofed accommodation, when a fire alarm system is required by Subsection 3.2.4. (Part 3, Division B, Volume 1) or Subsection 9.10.18. (Part 9, Division B, Volume 1) NBC, at least one sleeping unit for every twenty (20) sleeping units or part thereof, other than those required in Sentence 3.8.1.1.(2), shall be provided with a warning system which shall conform to Article 3.2.4.19. Visual Signals(Part 3, Division B, Volume 1).

(4) Every floor area to which a barrier-free path of travel is required to provide access, shall conform to Article 3.3.1.7. (Part 3, Division B, Volume 1). Protection on Floor Areas with a Barrier-Free Path of Travel

(5) Where an alteration on the entrance level is made to a dwelling unit used as roofed accommodation, exempt by Clause 3.8.1.1.(1)(b), to add sleeping accommodation,

- (a) one sleeping unit conforming to Article 3.8.3.17.,
- (b) A barrier-free entrance shall be designed in accordance with Article 3.8.3.3.,
- (c) barrier free path of travel conforming to Article 3.8.1.3., and
- (d) one parking stall for each required sleeping unit under this sentence conforming with Sentence 3.8.2.2.(5)

shall be provided.

(6) Except as exempt by Clause 3.8.1.1.(1)(a), in *care or residential occupancies* of multiple *suites*, one unit conforming to Article 3.8.3.18. shall be provided for every twenty (20) units or part thereof. (See Appendix A-3.8.1.1.(6) NSBCR)

3.8.1.2. Entrances (See Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2 A-3.8.1.2. NBC)

(1) In addition to the barrier-free entrances required by Sentence (2), not less than 50% of the pedestrian entrances of a *building* referred to in Sentence 3.8.1.1.(1) shall be barrier-free and shall lead from

- a) the outdoors at sidewalk level, or
- b) a ramp that conforms to Article 3.8.3.4. and leads from a sidewalk.

(2) A suite of assembly occupancy, business and personal services occupancy or mercantile occupancy that is located in the first storey of a *building*, or in a storey to which a barrier-free path of travel is provided, and that is completely separated from the remainder of the *building* so that there is no access to the remainder of the *building*, shall have at least one barrier-free entrance.

(3) A barrier-free entrance required by Sentences (1) or (2) shall be designed in accordance with Article 3.8.3.3.

(4) At a barrier-free entrance that includes more than one doorway, only one of the doorways is required to be designed in accordance with the requirements of Article 3.8.3.3.

(5) If a walkway or pedestrian bridge connects two barrier-free storeys in different *buildings*, the path of travel from one storey to the other storey by means of a walkway or bridge shall be barrier free.

(6) Where a principal entrance to a *building* of residential occupancy is equipped with a security door system,

- (a) both visual and audible signals shall be used to indicate when the door lock is released, and

(b) there are more than 20 suites a closed circuit visual monitoring system shall be provided capable of connection to individual suites.

(7) Where a house is required to conform to the requirements of sentence 3.8.1.1.(5) such house shall provide one barrier free entrance in conformance with sentence (1).

3.8.1.3. Barrier-Free Path of Travel

(1) Except as required by Sentence 3.8.3.2. (1), or as permitted by Article 3.8.3.3. for doorways, the unobstructed width of a *barrier-free* path of travel shall be not less than 920 mm.

(2) Interior and exterior walking surfaces that are within a barrier-free path of travel shall

- (a) have no opening that will permit the passage of a sphere more than 13 mm diam,
- (b) have any elongated openings oriented approximately perpendicular to the direction of travel,
- (c) be stable, firm and slip-resistant,
- (d) be bevelled at a maximum slope of 1 in 2 at changes in level not more than 13 mm, and
- (e) be provided with sloped floors or ramps at changes in level more than 13 mm.

(3) A barrier-free path of travel is permitted to include ramps, passenger elevators, inclined moving walks, or passenger-elevating device to overcome a difference in level.

(4) The width of a barrier free path of travel that is more than 30 m long shall be increased to not less than 1500 mm for a length of 1500 mm at intervals not exceeding 30 m.

3.8.1.4. Storeys Served by Escalators

(1) In a *building* in which an escalator or inclined moving walk provides access to any floor level above or below the entrance floor level, an interior barrier-free path of travel shall be provided to that floor level.

(See Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2 A-3.8.1.4.(1) NBC)

(2) The route from the escalator or inclined moving walk to the barrier-free path of travel from floor to floor required by Sentence (1) shall be clearly indicated by appropriate signs.

3.8.1.5. Controls

(1) Except as required by Sentence 3.5.2.1. (NBC Division B, Volume 1) for elevators, controls for the operation of *building* services or safety devices, including electrical switches, thermostats and intercom switches, intended to be operated by the occupant and located in or adjacent to a barrier-free path of travel shall be accessible to a person in a wheelchair, operable with one hand, and mounted between 400 mm and 1 200 mm above the floor.

3.8.2. Occupancy Requirements

3.8.2.1. Areas Requiring a Barrier-Free Path of Travel

(See Appendix A-3.8.2.1. NSBCR)

(1) Except as permitted by Sentence (2), a *barrier-free* path of travel from the entrances required by Sentences 3.8.1.2.(1) and (2) to be *barrier-free* shall be provided throughout and within all normally occupied floor areas of each of the following:

- (a) the entrance *storey*,
- (b) each *storey* exceeding 600 m² in area, and
- (c) each *storey* served by a passenger elevator, escalator, inclined moving walk, or a passenger-elevating device.

(See Article 3.3.1.7. Protection on Floor Areas with a Barrier-Free Path of Travel (Part 3, Division B, Volume 1) for additional requirements for floor areas above or below the first storey to which a barrier-free path of travel is required.)

(2) A barrier-free path of travel for persons in wheelchairs is not required

- (a) to service rooms,
- (b) to elevator machine rooms,
- (c) to janitor's rooms,
- (d) to service spaces,
- (e) to crawl spaces,
- (f) to attic or roof spaces,
- (g) to floor levels not served by a passenger elevator, a passenger-elevating device, an escalator, or an inclined moving walk,
- (h) to high hazard industrial occupancies,
- (i) within portions of a floor area with fixed seats in an assembly occupancy where those portions are not part of the barrier-free path of travel to spaces designated for wheelchair use,
- (j) within floor levels of a *suite* of *care* or *residential occupancy* that are not at the same level as the entry level to the suite,
- (k) within a *suite* of *care* or *residential occupancy* not required by 3.8.1.1.(6)
or
- (l) within those parts of a floor area that are not at the same level as the entry level, provided amenities and uses provided on any raised or sunken level are accessible on the entry level by means of a barrier-free path of travel.

(3) In an assembly occupancy, the number of spaces designated for wheelchair use within rooms or areas with fixed seats shall conform to Table 3.8.2.1. (See also Article 3.8.3.6. for additional requirements.)

Table 3.8.2.1. Designated Wheelchair Spaces

Number of Fixed Seats in Seating Area	Number of Spaces Required for Wheelchairs
2 - 100	2
101 - 200	3
201 - 300	4
301 - 400	5
401 - 500	6
501 - 900	7
901 - 1 300	8
1 301 - 1 700	9
each increment of up to 400 seats in excess of 1 700	one additional space

3.8.2.2. Access to Parking Areas

(1) If exterior parking is provided, a barrier-free path of travel shall be provided between the exterior parking area and a barrier-free entrance conforming to Article 3.8.1.2. (See Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2 A-3.8.1.2. NBC)

(2) If a passenger elevator serves one or more indoor parking levels, a barrier-free path of travel shall be provided between at least one parking level and all other parts of the *building* required to be provided with barrier-free access in accordance with Article 3.8.2.1.

(3) If an exterior passenger loading zone is provided, it shall have

- (a) an access aisle not less than 1 500 mm wide and 6 000 mm long adjacent and parallel to the vehicle pull-up space,
- (b) a curb ramp conforming to 3.8.3.2(2), where there are curbs between the access aisle and the vehicle pull-up space, and
- (c) a clear height not less than 2 750 mm at the pull-up space and along the vehicle access and egress routes.

(4) Where on-site parking is provided, parking stalls for use by disabled persons shall be provided

- (a) as designated by Table 3.8.2.2.,
- (b) one parking stall for disabled persons shall be provided for each viewing position required in assembly occupancies in Sentence 3.8.2.1.(3) or
- (c) one parking stall for each barrier free residential suite.

Table 3.8.2.2. Designated Parking Stalls

Number of Parking Stalls	Number of Designated Stalls Required for Wheelchairs
2 - 15	1
16 - 45	2
46 - 100	3
101 - 200	4
201 - 300	5
301 - 400	6
401 - 500	7
501 - 900	8
901 - 1 300	9
1 301 - 1 700	10
each increment of up to 400 stalls in excess of 1 700	one additional space

- (5)** Parking stalls for use by persons with physical disabilities shall
- be not less than 2 400 mm wide and provided on one side with an access aisle not less than 1 500 mm wide. (If more than one parking space is provided for persons with physical disabilities, a single access aisle can serve two adjacent parking stalls.) and if parallel parking stalls shall be not less than 7 000 mm long.
 - have a firm, slip-resistant and level surface of asphalt, concrete or compacted gravel, 0
 - be located close to an entrance required to conform to Article 3.8.1.2., but not exceeding 50 m,
 - be clearly marked as being for the use of persons with physical disabilities, and
 - be identified by a sign located not less than 1 500 mm above ground level in conformance the Motor Vehicle Act of Nova Scotia, traffic sign` regulations.

3.8.2.3. Washrooms Required to be Barrier-Free

(See Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2 A-3.8.2.3. NBC)

- Except as permitted by Sentence (2), a washroom in a storey to which a barrier-free path of travel is required in accordance with Article 3.8.2.1., shall be barrier-free in accordance with the appropriate requirements in Articles 3.8.3.8. to 3.8.3.13.
- A washroom need not conform to the requirements of Sentence (1) provided
 - it is located within a suite of *care or residential occupancies*, except where required by 3.8.1.1.(6). or,
 - other barrier-free washrooms are provided on the same floor area within 45 m.

(3) In a *building* in which water closets are required in accordance with Subsection 3.7.2., one or more barrier-free water closets shall be provided in the entrance storey, unless

(a) a barrier-free path of travel is provided to barrier-free water closets elsewhere in the *building*, or

(b) the water closets required by Subsection 3.7.2. are for dwelling units only.

(4) In any washroom containing not more than three water closets, one of water closets stalls may be replaced by a universal toilet room conforming to Article 3.8.3.12.[See Appendix Note A-3.8.2.3. NSBCR]

(5) In any washroom containing 4 or more water closets at least one of the water closets shall conform to Articles 3.8.3.8.(1).

(6) A universal toilet room conforming to Article 3.8.3.12. is permitted to be substituted for one water closet required by Sentence (5), in lieu of facilities for disabled persons in washrooms used by the general public. [See Appendix Note A-3.8.2.3. NSBCR]

(7) Where alterations are made to existing *buildings* a universal toilet room conforming to Article 3.8.3.12. is permitted to be provided in lieu of facilities for disabled persons in washrooms used by the general public.

3.8.3. Design Standards

3.8.3.1. Accessibility Signs

(1) Signs incorporating the international symbol of accessibility for persons with physical disabilities shall be installed to indicate the location of a barrier-free entrance. (See Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2, A-3.8.3.1.(1) to (3) NBC)

(2) A teletypewriter (TTY/TDD) phone, washroom, shower, elevator or parking space designed to be barrier-free shall be identified by a sign consisting of the international symbol of accessibility for persons with physical disabilities and by appropriate graphic or written directions to indicate clearly the type of facility available. (See Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2, A-3.8.3.1.(1) to (3) NBC)

(3) If a washroom is not designed to accommodate persons with physical disabilities in a storey to which a barrier-free path of travel is required, signs shall be provided to indicate the location of barrier-free facilities. (See Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2, A-3.8.3.1.(1) to (3) NBC)

(4) Signs incorporating the symbol of accessibility for persons with hearing disabilities shall be installed to indicate the location of facilities for persons with hearing disabilities. (See Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2, A-3.8.3.1(4) to (3) NBC)

3.8.3.2. Exterior Walks

(1) Exterior walks that form part of a barrier-free path of travel shall

- a) be not less than 1 100 mm wide, and
- b) have a level area conforming to Clause 3.8.3.4.(1)(c) adjacent to each entrance doorway.

(2) A curb ramp shall have

- a) a minimum width of 1200 mm
- b) a maximum slope of 1 in 12
- c) flared sides with a maximum slope of 1 in 10. (See Appendix Note A-3.8.3.2. NSBCR)

3.8.3.3. Doorways and Doors

(1) Every doorway that is located in a barrier-free path of travel shall have a clear width not less than 800 mm when the door is in the open position. (See Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2, A-3.8.3.3.(1) NBC)

(2) Door operating devices shall be of a design which does not require tight grasping and twisting of the wrist as the only means of operation. (See Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2, A-3.8.3.3.(3) NBC)

(3) A threshold for a doorway referred to in sentences (1) or (2) shall not be more than 13 mm higher than the finished floor surface and shall be bevelled to facilitate the passage of wheelchairs.

(4) Except as permitted by Sentences (5) and (11), every door that provides a barrier-free path of travel through an entrance referred to in Article 3.8.1.2., including the interior doors of a vestibule where provided, shall be equipped with a power door operator if the entrance serves any of the following:

- (a) a hotel,
- (b) a *building* of Group B, Division 2 major occupancy,
- (c) a *building* of Group B, Division 3 major occupancy with more than ten residents, or
- (d) a *building* that is more than 500 m² in building area and contains one of the following occupancies:
 - (i) an *assembly occupancy*,
 - (ii) a *business and personal services occupancy*, or
 - (iii) a *mercantile occupancy*.

(See Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2, A-3.8.3.3.(5) NBC)

(5) The requirements of Sentence 3.8.3.3.(4) do not apply to an individual suite having an area less than 500 m² in a *building* having only suites of assembly occupancy, business and personal services occupancy or mercantile occupancy if the suite is completely separated from the remainder of the *building* so that there is no access to the remainder of the *building*.

(6) Except as permitted by Sentence 3.8.3.3.(7) and except for a door with a power door operator, a closer for a door in a barrier-free path of travel shall be designed to permit the door to open when the force applied to the handle, push plate or latch-releasing device is not more than

- (a) 38 N in the case of an exterior door, or
- (b) 22 N in the case of an interior door.

(7) Sentence 3.8.3.3.(6) does not apply to a door at the entrance to a dwelling unit, or where greater forces are required in order to close and latch the door against the prevailing difference in air pressure on opposite sides of the door. (See Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2, A-3.8.3.3.(8) NBC)

(8) Except for a door at the entrance to a dwelling unit, a closer for an interior door in a barrier-free path of travel shall have a closing period of not less than 3 s measured from when the door is in an open position of 70° to the doorway, to when the door reaches a point 75 mm from the closed position, measured from the leading edge of the latch side of the door. (See Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2, A-3.8.3.3.(9) NBC)

(9) Unless equipped for power door operation, a door in a barrier-free path of travel shall have a clear space on the latch side extending the height of the doorway and not less than

- (a) 600 mm beyond the edge of the door opening if the door swings toward the approach side, and
- (b) 300 mm beyond the edge of the door opening if the door swings away from the approach side. (See Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2, A-3.8.3.3.(10) NBC)

(10) A vestibule located in a barrier-free path of travel shall be arranged to allow the movement of wheelchairs between doors and shall provide a distance between 2 doors in series of not less than 1 200 mm plus the width of any door that swings into the space in the path of travel from one door to another.

(11) Only the active leaf in a multiple leaf door in a barrier-free path of travel need conform to the requirements of this Article.

(12) Except as provided in Clause 3.8.3.4.(1)(c), the floor surface on each side of a door in a barrier-free path of travel shall be level within a rectangular area

- (a) as wide as the door plus the clearance on the latch side required by Sentence 3.8.3.3.(9), and
- (b) whose dimension perpendicular to the closed door not less than the width of the barrier-free path of travel but need not exceed 1 500 mm.

(13) The power door operator required by Sentence (4) shall function for passage in both directions through the door.

(14) Where a power door operator is required at least one leaf in each set of doors in the barrier free path of travel through a vestibule shall meet the requirements. (See Appendix A-3.8.3.3.(14) NSBCR)

(15) Doorways in a path of travel to and into at least one bathroom within a *suite of care* or *residential occupancy* shall have a clear width of not less than 800 mm when the door is in the open position.

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3.8.3.4. Ramps

(1) A ramp located in a barrier-free path of travel shall

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- (a) have a clear width of not less than 870 mm,
- (b) have a slope not more than 1 in 12 (See Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2 A-3.8.3.4.(1)(b) NBC),
- (c) have a level area not less than 1 500 by 1 500 mm at the top and bottom and at intermediate levels of a ramp leading to a door, so that on the latch side the level area extends not less than
 - i) 600 mm beyond the edge of the door opening where the door opens towards the ramp, or
 - ii) 300 mm beyond the edge of the door opening where the door opens away from the ramp (See Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2, A-3.8.3.4.(1)(c) NBC),
- (d) have a level area not less than 1 200 mm long and at least the same width as the ramp
 - i) at intervals not more than 9 m along its length, and
 - ii) where there is an abrupt change in the direction of the ramp, and
- (e) except as permitted by Sentence (2), be equipped with handrails and guards conforming to Articles 3.4.6.4. and 3.4.6.5.

(2) The requirement for handrails in Clause 3.8.3.4.(1)(e) need not apply to a ramp serving as an aisle for fixed seating.

(3) Floors or walks in a barrier-free path of travel having a slope steeper than 1 in 20 shall be designed as ramps.

3.8.3.5. Passenger-elevating Device

(1) A passenger-elevating device referred to in Sentence 3.8.2.1.(1)(c) shall conform to CSA B355, "Lifts for Persons with Physical Disabilities."

- (2) The urinal described in Sentence (1) shall have
- (a) a clear width of approach of 800 mm centred on the urinal,
 - (b) no step in front, and
 - (c) installed on each side a vertically mounted grab bar that is not less than 300 mm long, with its centerline 1 000 mm above the floor, and located not more than 380 mm from the centerline of the urinal.

3.8.3.11. Lavatories

(See Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2, A-3.8.3.11.(1)(c) and (d) NBC)

- (1) A barrier-free washroom shall be provided with a lavatory which shall
- (a) be located so that the distance between the centerline of the lavatory and the side wall is not less than 460 mm,
 - (b) have a rim height not more than 865 mm above the floor,
 - (c) have a clearance beneath the lavatory not less than
 - (i) 760 mm wide,
 - (ii) 735 mm high at the front edge,
 - (iii) 685 mm high at a point 205 mm back from the front edge, and
 - (iv) 230 mm high over the distance from a point 280 mm to a point 430 mm back from the front edge
 - (d) have insulated pipes where they would otherwise present a burn hazard
 - (e) have soap dispensers located close to the lavatory, not more than 1 200 mm above the floor, and accessible to persons in wheelchairs, and
 - (f) have towel dispensers or other hand drying equipment located not more than 1 200 mm above the floor in an area that is accessible to persons in wheelchairs.
- (2) If mirrors are provided in a barrier-free washroom, at least one mirror shall be
- (a) mounted with its bottom edge not more than 1 000 mm above the floor, or
 - (b) be inclined to the vertical to be usable by a person in a wheelchair.

3.8.3.12. Universal Toilet Room (See NBC 3.7.2. (Part 3, Division B Volume 1) and (See Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2, A-3.8.3.12. NBC)

- (1) A universal toilet room shall
- (a) be served by a barrier-free path of travel,
 - (b) have a door capable of being locked from the inside and released from the outside in case of emergency and which has
 - (i) a graspable latch operating mechanism located not less than 900mm and not more than 1 000 mm above the floor,
 - (ii) on an outward swinging door, a door pull not less than 140 mm long located on the inside so that its midpoint is not less than 200 mm and not more than 300 mm from the hinged side of the door and not less than 900 mm and not more than 1 000 mm above the floor, and

- (See Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2, A-3.8.3.8.(1)(b)(iv) NBC)
- (iii) on an outward swinging door, have a door closer, spring hinges or gravity hinges, so that the door closes automatically
 - (c) have one lavatory conforming to Article 3.8.3.11.,
 - (d) have one water closet conforming to the requirements of Article 3.8.3.9. located so that its centre line is 460 mm from the wall with the grab bar and 1030 mm from any obstruction on the other side wall.
 - (e) have grab bars conforming to Clause 3.8.3.8.(1)(d),
 - (f) have no internal dimension between walls less than 1 700 mm,
 - (g) have a coat hook conforming to Clause 3.8.3.8.(1)(e) and a shelf located not more than 1 200 mm above the floor,
 - (h) be designed to permit a wheelchair to back in alongside the water closet in the space referred to in Subclause (d), and
 - (i) be designed to permit a wheelchair to turn in an open space that has a diameter not less than 1 500 mm.

3.8.3.13. Showers and Bathtubs

(See Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2, A-3.8.3.13.(1)(b) and (f) NBC)

- (1) Except within a *suite of care or residential occupancy*, if showers are provided in a *building*, at least one shower stall in each group of showers shall be barrier-free and shall
- (a) be not less than 1500 mm wide and 762 mm deep,
 - (b) have a clear floor space at the entrance to the shower not less than 900 mm deep and the same width as the shower, except that fixtures are permitted to project into that space provided they do not restrict access to the shower,
 - (c) have a slip-resistant floor surface,
 - (d) have a bevelled threshold not more than 13 mm higher than the finished floor,
 - (e) have a hinged seat that is not spring loaded, or a fixed seat that shall be
 - (i) not less than 450 mm wide and 400 mm deep,
 - (ii) mounted approximately 450 mm above the floor, and
 - (iii) designed to carry a minimum load of 1.3 kN,
 - (f) have a horizontal grab bar conforming to Subclauses 3.8.3.8.(1)(d)(iv), (v) and (vi) that shall be
 - (i) not less than 900 mm long,
 - (ii) mounted approximately 850 mm above the floor, and
 - (iii) located on the wall opposite the entrance to the shower so that not less than 300 mm of its length is at one side of the seat, (See Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2, A-3.8.3.13.(1)(f) NBC),
 - (g) have a pressure-equalizing or thermostatic mixing valve controlled by a lever or other device operable with a closed fist from the seated position,

3.8.3.18. Suites of Care and Residential Occupancies to be Barrier- Free

General

- r | (1) Where a *suite of care* or *residential occupancy* is required by Sentence 3.8.1.1.(6) to provide barrier free access it shall be served by
- (a) entrances in accordance with Article 3.8.1.2.,
 - (b) barrier-free path of travel to, into, and throughout each required suite in accordance with Article 3.8.1.3.,
 - (c) an accessible balcony if required in accordance with NBC 3.3.1.7. 1.(c) Part 3, Division B Volume 1, and
 - (d) barrier free controls for the operation of *building services* or safety devices, including electrical switches, thermostats and intercom switches, shall be accessible to a person in a wheelchair, operable with one hand, and mounted not more than 1 200 mm above the floor and electrical receptacles shall be located between 400 mm and 550 mm above the finished floor, except as required by clause 3.8.3.18. (3)(f) (bathroom) and subclause 3.8.3.18.(4)(c)(v). (kitchen)

Sleeping Area

- r | (2) Where a *suite of residential occupancy* is required by Sentence 3.8.1.1.(6) to provide barrier free access it shall contain at least one sleeping area with
- (a) a minimum floor area 12.25 m² ,
 - (b) a least one horizontal room dimension not less than 3.35 m, and
 - (c) at least one closet that provides
 - i) a minimum clear opening of 900 mm,
 - ii) clothes hanger rods located at a height of 1 200 mm, and
 - iii) at least one shelf located at a height of 1 370 mm.

Bathroom

- r | (3) Where a suite of care or residential occupancy is required by Sentence 3.8.1.1.(6) to provide barrier free access, a minimum of one accessible bathroom shall be provided with
- (a) a floor space of not less than 3.7 m² with no dimension less than 1 700 mm when the door swings out and 4.0 m² with no dimension less than 1 800 mm when the door swings in,
 - (b) a water closet conforming to Article 3.8.3.9.,
 - (c) a lavatory conforming to Article 3.8.3.11.,
 - (d) where a shower is provided, it shall conform to Clauses 3.8.3.13.(1)(a) to (i),
 - (e) where a tub is provided, it shall conform to Clauses 3.8.3.13.(3)(a) to (d), and
 - (f) a GFI razor outlet located not more than 1 200 mm above the floor, and

Kitchen

(4) Where *suite of care or residential occupancy* is required by Sentence 3.8.1.1.(6) to provide barrier free access the kitchen shall have

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- (a) a minimum 1 200 mm clearance between counters and all opposing base cabinets, counter tops, appliances, or walls except in a U shape kitchen the minimum distance shall be 1 500 mm and
- (b) a minimum clear floor space 750 mm x 1 200 mm shall be provided at each
 - (i) range
 - (ii) cooktop
 - (iii) oven
 - (iv) refrigerator/freezer
 - (v) dishwasher and
 - (vi) other major appliances
- (c) a minimum of one work surface that is
 - (i) 750 mm wide x 600 mm deep,
 - (ii) 810 mm to 860 mm above the floor,
 - (iii) have a clear floor area 750 mm 1 200 mm which may extent 480 mm under the work surface,
 - (iv) have a knee space a minimum of 750 mm wide, 480 mm deep, and 680 high, and
 - (v) have a minimum of one electrical receptacle shall be located at the front or side of the work surface.
- (d) base cabinets shall have a minimum toe space 150 mm dep and 230 mm high.
- (e) sinks
 - (i) shall be mounted with the rim between 810 mm and 860 mm above the floor,
 - (ii) have a knee space a minimum of 750 mm wide, 250 mm deep, and a toe space 750 mm wide 230 deep and 230 mm high,
 - (iii) have a clear floor area 750 mm 1 200 mm which may extent 480 mm under the work surface,
 - (iv) have faucets with lever handles, and
 - (v) have insulated hot water and drain pipes where they may abut required clear space.
- (f) upper cabinets shall have a minimum of one shelf not more than 1200 mm above the floor.
- (g) storage cabinets doors and drawers they shall
 - (i) have a handles that is easily graspable, and
 - (ii) be mounted at the top of base cabinets and bottom of upper cabinets.
- (h) all controls shall comply with Clause 3.8.3.18.(1)(d) except as required by subclause 3.8.3.18.(4)(c)(v).

Compliance with Articles 3.2.2.18. and 3.2.2.49. to 32.2.48. does not necessitate compliance with other provisions of Part 3 unless additional requirements of Part 9 specifically apply.

The *building* is required to conform to design requirements in Part 9 unless specifically directed by Part 9 requirements to other sections of the Code.

For example, unless a fire alarm system were required under provisions of sentence 9.10.18. Fire Alarm System Required, the installation of a sprinkler system under these provisions would not automatically require conformance to sentence 3.2.4.1. (1) Determination of Requirement for a Fire Alarm System.

A-2.1.1.11.(1) and (2) Notification for Inspection and Certification of Field Review of Construction

The *owner* of a *building* being *constructed* under the scope of Part 9 of the Code is required to inform the *authority having jurisdiction* to inspect for compliance with the *Code* at each of the seven stages listed. This includes all site constructed, modular, and manufactured buildings. However, the municipality may conduct more or fewer inspections as a particular project may require.

For example, inspections made under clauses 2.1.1.11. (1) (a) footings in place, (b) subfloor plumbing and (c) subfloor and foundation insulation, could be combined into one inspection for a single dwelling where there is no insulation required under a floor slab, and the home is on a large lot, not near a property line.

In other instances, such as a multi suite building, several inspections may be required as various stages of work are completed. In this scenario, some suites might be finished and occupied while others are still under construction.

A-2.1.1.11.(3) Notification for Inspection and Certification of Field Review of Construction

The *owner* of a *building* being *constructed* outside the scope of Part 9 of the Code is required to request the *authority having jurisdiction* to inspect for compliance with the *Code* at times agreed to by the *authority having jurisdiction*. The timing of these inspections should be established to assure review of construction for compliance to the Code.

A-1.4.1.12. Temporary Building or Occupancy

This article allows the erection of a temporary *building*, or a temporary change of occupancy classification for a short term use of an existing *building* which may not fully comply to all requirements of the *building* code. However, any matter of life safety must be adequately addressed.

A-3.1.1.13. Referenced Standards Designated under the following Acts and Regulations of the Province of Nova Scotia

Standards are sometimes adopted under more than one Act or Regulation. To provide consistency in the adoption of standards the Nova Scotia *Building Code* recognizes the editions as adopted by those Acts and Regulations.

Where the Nova Scotia *Building Code* provides specific requirements that may differ from those in a standard the *Building Code* prevails as per National Building Code of Canada

2.7.2.1. Priority of the National *Building Code*

(1) In the case of conflict between the provisions of this Code and those of a referenced document, the provisions of this Code shall govern.

Code users are advised that they should confirm which edition of a standard are in place under the following provincial acts and or regulations

Elevators and Lifts Act and Regulations

CSA CAN/CSA-B44 Safety Code for Elevators

CSA B355 Lifts for Persons with Physical Disabilities

Fuel Safety Regulations

CGA CAN/CGA-B149.1 Natural Gas Installation Code

CGA CAN/CGA-B149.2 Propane Installation Code

CSA CAN/CSA-B139 Installation Code for Oil Burning Equipment

Electrical Installation and Inspection Act and Regulations

CSA C22.1 Canadian Electrical Code, Part 1

Boilers and Pressure Vessels Act and Regulations

CSA B51 Boiler, Pressure Vessel and Pressure Piping Code

A-3.1.1.24. Division A NBC and NPC 2.2 Objectives

The National Building and Plumbing codes are amended to add the Objective, Sub-objectives and Functional Statements in their respective Tables.

A-3.4.6.15.(4)(f) Door Release Hardware, in Provincially Licensed Group B, Division 2 or 3 Occupancies, for *Exit Doors* and *Doors in a Means of Egress*.

Provincially licensed facilities with an occupancy classified Group B, Division 2 or Division 3 may conform to either 3.4.6.15.(f).(i) [a mechanism that delays the door from opening for a period of up to 15 seconds] or 3.4.6.15.(f).(ii) [a blue pull station that opens the door on activation] when, at the time an application is made for a building permit, the applicant provides written confirmation from the Province of Nova Scotia that the specific facility is to be licensed, prior to occupancy.

Installation of a manual blue pull station under 3.4.6.15.(f).(ii). must comply with requirements of CAN/ULC-S319-05 "Electronic Access Control Systems." Once either system, the 15 sec delay or pull station, is activated the door shall remain unlocked until such time as the release device has been manually reset. This standard assures that such devices will not interfere with the release by activation of a manual operated switch required by 3.4.6.15. (4)(d) or of the fire alarm system.

Proximity device swipe readers and other locking device controls

The Code is silent on the use of additional control mechanisms. In provincially licensed facilities with an occupancy classified Group B, Division 2 or Division 3, where such devices may be added, the preferred device is a proximity device swipe reader installed near each door so equipped. Each door must still conform to the requirements of 3.4.6.15.4.(f) and be equipped with either a 15 second release mechanism or a manual blue pull station.

A proximity device [card or key fob] would normally be issued to staff and clients to allow passage through all doors leading to *exits* and through *exits* themselves. Clients with cognitive incapacities would not be issued the device. The device need only be swiped in the general area of the reader device. Other devices such as card reader may require a card to be swiped through a reader which may be difficult for clients with limited motor skills, or hand eye coordination, etc. These and other types of electronic release activation systems [pressure pads, numeric or alphabetic systems] are not to be permitted in new installations, but where already in use, may be accepted as part of an alternative compliance solution acceptable to the provincial licensing authority.

All locks and mechanisms will release when a fire alarm is activated, if there is a power failure, or by actuation of a manually operated switch readily accessible only to authorized personnel.

Local signals

Building owners may also wish to equip these doors so that a localized signal is activated within the building or a portion of the building, to notify them that a door has been unlocked. Such signal should sufficiently differ from the sound and temporal pattern of a fire alarm so as to not confuse occupants.

A-3.8.1. Barrier-Free Design General

Barrier free requirements, with few exceptions, apply to all *buildings*. The revised version, for example, continues to exempt a few occupancies such as houses and small residential *buildings*, not more than 3 units as it has in the past.

A-3.8.1.1.(1)(f) Emergency Facilities Exempt The exemption is intended to include sleeping quarters and associated kitchen and washroom facilities, but does not extend to assembly occupancies, administration or call-centre type operations within fire, rescue, or emergency response facilities.

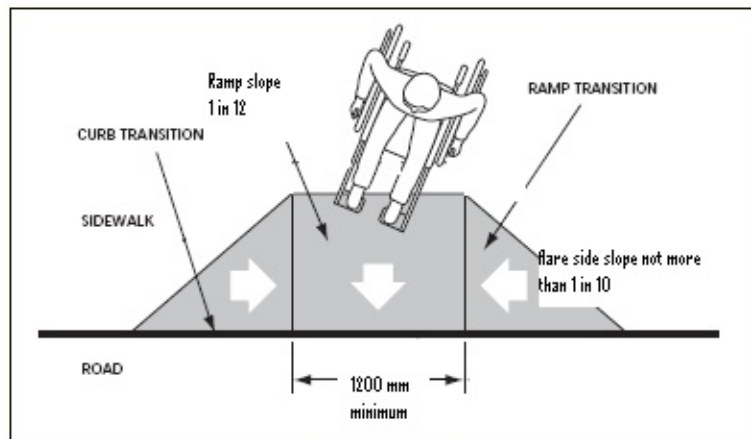
A-3.8.1.1.(6) Residential Suites required to be barrier free. Where there are more than 3 residential suites in a *building*, 1 suite for every 20 suites, or part thereof, must conform to the requirements of 3.8.3.18. Suites of Residential Occupancies required to be Barrier Free.

A-3.8.2.1. Barrier free Path of Travel In the previous versions 3.8.2.1. Barrier Free Path of Travel included an extensive list where the path was required, however it was not all inclusive, and lead to inconsistent application of the requirement. The intent of the Code is now emphasized to require the barrier free path of travel everywhere, with some few exceptions which are listed. For general guidance readers may refer to the NBC but are cautioned that Nova Scotia applies these concepts for employees as well as the general public. For example, the NBC comments that small raised office areas are not required to be barrier free in retail and industrial premises. In Nova Scotia the view is this would only be allowed if there were a fully accessible office as well as a raised office to serve the same function.

A-3.8.2.1.(1)(c) Passenger-elevating Device A passenger-elevating device must conform to those devices as defined in the CSA Standard B355, "Lifts for Persons with Physical Disabilities"

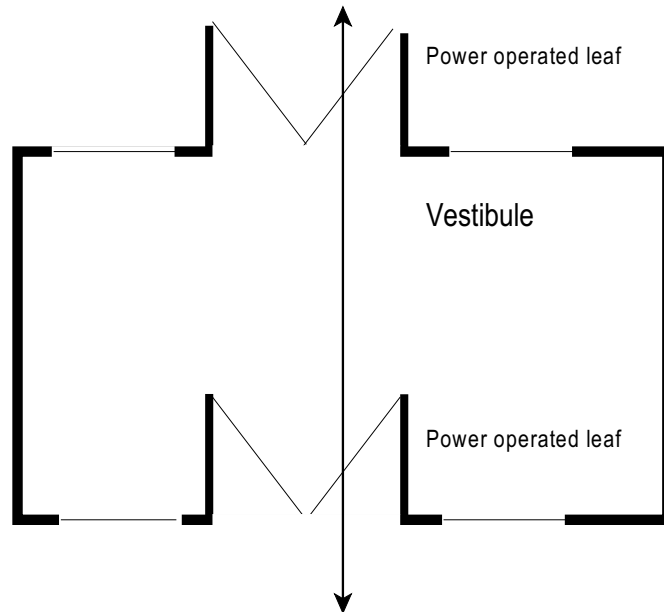
A-3.8.2.3. Washrooms Required to be Barrier Free A universal toilet room may be substituted for a barrier free water closet stall in new construction as well as where alterations are being made to an existing building. There should be no fewer water closets in total in a building, as a result of the substitution except as permitted by Article 3.7.2.2. Water Closet in the NBC.

A-3.8.3.2. Curb Ramp Curb ramps commonly referred to as curb cut. Curb ramps are required where there are curbs in the path of travel, typically from a passenger loading zone or designated parking area to a *building*.



Curb ramps shall have a minimum width of not less 1200 mm in areas measured across the ramp. The sides of the curb ramp shall be flared. The gradients of the curb ramp shall be 1 in 12 and the flared sides shall be not more than 1 in 10. Curb ramps should have a surface that is slip-resistant and colour- and texture contrasted with the adjacent surfaces.

A-3.8.3.3.(14) Power Door Operators in Vestibules Where a power door operator is required at least one leaf in each set of doors in the barrier free path of travel through a vestibule shall meet the requirements.



A-3.8.3.9. Water Closets and A-3.8.3.10. Urinals

3.8.3.9 and 3.8.310. establish the height of a water closet and rim of an urinal based on average adult users heights. This allows for various circumstances depending on the age or infirmity of the intended occupants.

However, there are circumstance where facilities are designed specifically for the use of small children or persons with particular infirmities. These include day cares, elementary schools, group homes, homes for special care, residential care facilities, etc. Designers and code authorities should exhibit good judgement and be reasonable in allowing some variance depending on the needs of the intended users.

The height of a water closet, primarily intended to serve young children might be reduced to a minimum of 380 mm, and conversely for an adult person with disabilities a height of not more than 482 mm.

For a urinal intended to primarily serve small children a minimum rim height of not more than 330 mm may be reasonable.

A-3.8.3.15.(5)(d) Provision of TTY Phones Cell phones with text messaging capabilities satisfies this requirement.

A-No. 35 Schedule "D" ALTERNATE COMPLIANCE METHODS FOR EXISTING Buildings The code requires 50 per cent of all public entrances to have barrier free access. Typically small *buildings* may only have 1 or 2 entrances. Public way means a sidewalk, street, highway, square, or other open space to which the public has access, as of right or by invitation, expressed or implied. Street means any highway, road, boulevard, square or other improved thoroughfare 9 m or more in width, which has been dedicated or deeded for public use, and is accessible to fire department vehicles and equipment. The intent is to allow the use of a stair conforming to the alternate requirement for an existing *building* where no ramped or lift access is possible either at the front door or another door into the *building*. This would occur most frequently where a *building* sits on the lot line at the sidewalk, and there is no other door accessible from the public way.

The acceptance of an alternative barrier free path of travel to the entrance does not relieve any other barrier free requirement provisions of the Code. It is anticipated that even if the only access is by a stair, in compliance with the alternate compliance measure, the balance of the premises shall comply.

A-10.2.1.1. (2) Energy Efficient Design

There are three potential paths to follow to achieve compliance with the energy conservation requirements of Part 10.

These are

- (a) a pure prescriptive solution, which is achieved by meeting the prescriptive solutions found in 10.3.2.;
- (b) performance solutions, which are achieved by submitting such design drawings, methodology and calculations as required by the authority having jurisdiction to demonstrate conformance to the thermal design requirements found in 10.3.3. or 10.3.4.; or
- (c) performance paths, which are achieved by conforming to existing protocols and supported by such documentation as required by the authority having jurisdiction, such as
 - (i) the "EnerGuide¹ Rating System: Administrative Procedures (New Homes), January 2010" and its accompanying technical document the "EnerGuide Rating System: Energy Advisor Manual, January 2010", and achieve a design rating of not less than 80,
 - (ii) NRCan "R-2000™ Standard" (2005), or
 - (iii) other performance paths which conform to "Specifications for Calculation Procedures for Demonstrating Compliance to the Model Energy Code for

¹"EnerGuide is an official mark of Natural Resources Canada."

Houses Using Trade-offs,” published by the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes that will achieve at least the minimum level of performance required by Part 10.

10.2.1.1(2) (c) allows builders to choose a one of three design performance protocols. These are the EnerGuide Rating System, a licensed program of Natural Resources Canada and R2000™, or a performance path that meets the requirements the "Specifications for Calculation Procedures for Demonstrating Compliance to the Model Energy Code for Houses Using Trade-offs", a publication of the CCBFC.

The first two options are programs that are currently delivered in Nova Scotia by private independent third parties under license to Natural Resources Canada.

There are additional performance programs available such as LEED for Houses. An owner or builder may choose to submit their designs for analysis. The service provider can then provide a design rating or label on the dwelling unit related to its energy use.

Once the home is built a verification is made by the third party agency and the home receives a rating or label.

Using the alternative compliance path of the Code,

- a project that achieves a rating of not less than 80 under the EnerGuide Rating System,
- a project that achieves a designation as an R2000 home, or
- a project under a performance program such as “LEED for New Homes”

that is acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction may be deemed to have meet the requirements for energy conservation of the Nova Scotia Building Code.

A-10.3.3.11. (1) Doors

An air curtain is a wall of air generated by specialized fans to separate areas of pressure or temperature differential.

A-10.3.4.1.(1) Exceptions to the Application of Requirements

(1) The requirements of 10.3.4. do not apply to

- (a) a *building* or part of a *building of residential occupancy* that is within the scope of Part 9 of Division B.
- (b) a heritage *building*,
- (c) any *building* space which uses energy at a rate less than 12 W/m² under peak conditions,
- (d) temporary structures such as construction trailers, tents, air-supported structures and portable classrooms,
- (e) warehouses and storage rooms where the design indoor temperature does not exceed 10°C, and
- (f) unheated storage garages and unheated storage rooms except as required in Sentence (2).

- (2) Conditioned spaces of *buildings* exposed to unheated storage garages and unheated storage rooms shall meet the *building* envelope requirements 10.3.4..
- (3) Energy consumption of systems and equipment located in a storage garage but which do not serve the storage garage need not be considered as energy used in the storage garage but shall be included as energy used for the rest of the *building*.
- (4) The exceptions listed in Sentence 10.2.1.1.(4) exempts *buildings* or parts of *buildings* from compliance with energy efficient design requirements where
 - (a) the areas are intended primarily for manufacturing processing, commercial processing or industrial processing, and
 - (b) the environmental condition within the *buildings* or parts of *buildings* are governed by the operation or process within the *building*.
- (5) A-Table 10.3.4.1.(1) contains some examples of occupancies which can be exempted from compliance with 10.3.4. The list is not intended to be exhaustive and other exemptions may be made.

A-Table 10.3.4.1.(1)
Examples of Occupancies Exempt from Compliance

GROUP C Must comply with Subsection 10.3.2. or 10.3.3. except for seasonally occupied buildings. (See Appendix A, Division B, Volume 2 NBC A-9.1.1.1.) Application of Part 9 to Seasonally and Intermittently Occupied <i>Buildings</i>)	GROUP F, DIVISION 2 Dry Cleaning Establishments not using flammable or explosive solvents or cleaners Electrical Substations Helicopter Landing Areas on Roofs Laundries, except self-service Planing Mills Printing Plants Repair Garages Woodworking Factories	GROUP F, DIVISION 3 Creameries Power Plants Open-air Parking Garages Pumping Stations
Column 1	2	3