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**NEWSLETTER**

December 21, 2021

TO: Certified Professionals

FROM: Chief Building Official Office

SUBJECT: CP Newsletter - Winter 2021

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*Season's Greetings,*



*Happy Holidays & Best Wishes for the New Year*

Once again we say goodbye to a long hard year. For some of us there has been more changes than we can count, unforeseen obstacles to slow us down, hardships or loss when we thought we had endured enough. For others hopefully a day of roses, or sunshine that could make you smile and appreciate the rainbow that was there for you. What you should all know by now, is that you are truly appreciated. Your professionalism and support in helping keep our city thriving is truly recognised from our side. Thank you all for your patience and endurance during these trying times, enjoy your holidays with family and friends. We look forward to continued collaboration with you in 2022 !

**1. UPDATES TO CP WEBPAGE**

Please remember to check the webpage for updated forms and refresh you bookmarks regularly.

- New list of CPs updated - if some of your contact information has changed please send an email to [cp.process@vancouver.ca](mailto:cp.process@vancouver.ca) to get this corrected

## 2. ENGINEERING REMINDER

New webpages are coming so keep checking;

[Temporary Street Occupancies](#) This webpage will be targeted for an updated on Jan. 4, 2022 to reflect new Lane Use Fees and street use regulations, and currently reflects recent (Sept. 1, 2021) insurance updates. Please keep checking to see when it happens.

Street Use Permits - new web page coming before the new year (none currently exists for Street Use permits).

Notice to CP's - Engineering permit application process (Insurance Documentation).

- Delivery of client insurance confirmation for Engineering permit clearance. All construction sites that require a Street use permit (SU) before a building permit (BP) may be issued, are required to provide confirmation of insurance to Engineering Services. Where a CP has made application for a BP and a SU, the CP must deliver the client's insurance confirmation to engineering in electronic form in the BP *application documents* tab of POSSE or directly to Engineering staff. Most major projects that use CP's to advance the permit process can take well over a year to complete. In all cases the contractor/developer is required to maintain valid insurance for the entire construction project and keep the City (Engineering Services) informed of the validity of that insurance by delivering updated copies of any expiring insurance document. CPs are reminded that this insurance documentation is required to maintain Engineering's approval of a Street Use and/or Building Permit.

Please review the [groundwater bulletin](#).

## 3. OPERATING PERMITS (WATER SYSTEMS)

For new cooling towers, please be reminded of the various setbacks and other installation requirements which went into effect on January 1, 2021 (VBBL Book I, [Division B, Article 6.3.2.15](#),

For new service water heaters, please also be reminded that a temperature not lower than 60 °C is required, regardless of the heating mechanism. This is for Legionella control, and differs from the BC Plumbing Code which confines this requirement to electric water heaters (VBBL Book II, [Division B, Article 2.6.1.12.](#),

Lastly, for existing and new cooling towers, decorative water features and non-potable water systems, new Legionella pneumophila reporting requirements take effect on January 1, 2022, as summarised at [vancouver.ca/operating-permit](http://vancouver.ca/operating-permit)

4. ENERGY UPDATES - Jan 1 2022 version of Part 10 is available on [Energy Webpage](#)

5. VBBL2019 ONLINE CONSOLIDATED VERSION WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR JAN 4, 2022

Please check [Queens Printer website](#)



## 6. PART 11 UPGRADE TRIGGERS JANUARY 2022 UPDATES

This is a reminder that as of January 1, 2022 changes to the upgrade triggers mechanism model will occur to facilitate small tenant improvement works. These will be reflected on the consolidated online version of the Building By-law by January 04, 2022 (1<sup>st</sup> working day after the New Year holiday) on the BC Codes website (<http://free.bcpublications.ca/civix/content/public/vbbl2019/?xsl=/templates/browse.xsl>).

These updates will reduce the impact of required upgrades on certain qualifying scopes of tenant improvement work:

- 1.) Increase the applicability of small suite scopes of rehabilitation work from 60 persons to 100 persons,
- 2.) Expand the scope of minor renovation work to include relocation of demising walls, and the subdivision of suites, and
- 3.) Create a new category of change of major occupancy that will waive upgrading requirements for certain specific uses, that are wholly contained within an existing suite of Group D or E major occupancy and that the change of occupancy is also a group D or E major occupancy.

## 7. NEW FORM AND ELECTRONIC REVIEW PROCESS FOR VANCOUVER COASTAL HEALTH

All non City of Vancouver project review requests are to be requested using the City of Vancouver Project Review Memo.

The review request will include the Review Package, which consists of:

- The City of Vancouver Project Review Memo document
- A copy of the electronic plans
- Electronic copies of application/supporting documents that may assist in the review

Paper plans no longer need to be sent for external review.

Vancouver Coastal Health Review Requests:

Project review requests to Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) for environmental and community care facilities licensing (CCFL) departments must be sent via email to: [EHVC@vch.ca](mailto:EHVC@vch.ca) [Please click here to take you to the online document and more information on process.](#) This is effective immediately.

## 8. NEW FORM - OVERHEAD DI-ELECTRIC FILLED TRANSFORMERS

As part of a building permit, the checklist for overhead transformers may be required as part of a building permit submission. This form has not been updated for some time, so, Building Policy group has revised the checklist to improve clarity and ease of access.

Download fillable form here: [Existing BC Hydro Transformers Clearances Checklist](#)

## 9. REMINDER - DP NUMBERS

Please remember to put the proper development permit (DP) number on your application forms when submitting your application online. Information is critical to the completeness check and it would be appreciated that all forms, detailed descriptions and information pertinent to your project are there. If you have any POSSE issues please make the CP Coordinator aware of them at: [cp.process@vancouver.ca](mailto:cp.process@vancouver.ca)

