

**BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE**  
**AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, POABC**

**File No: 98-0154**

**INTERPRETATION**

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**Interpretation Date:**

November 21, 2006

**Building Code Edition:**

BC Building Code 1998

**Subject:**

Structural Floors-on-Ground

**Keywords:**

floors-on-ground, structural floors

**Building Code Reference(s):**

9.16.1.1., 9.16.1.2.

**Question:**

If a concrete floor-on-grade is placed directly on top of a concrete foundation wall, and transfers the vertical loads from a bearing wall directly into the foundation wall below, must this floor-on-grade be designed under Part 4?

**Interpretation:**

No.

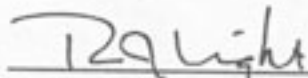
Article 9.16.1.2. requires a floor-on-ground to be designed under Part 4 when the floor supports loads from the superstructure above.

It is interpreted that a Part 4 design is only required when the loads from the superstructure result in either bending or shear forces in the floor-on-grade that must be transferred to the foundation walls below.

If the superstructure load is directly above the foundation wall and the floor-on-grade simply transfers the superstructure loads through compression to the foundation wall below, such a floor slab is not subject to a Part 4 design.

It should be noted that supporting a floor-on-grade directly on top of a foundation wall is not considered good practice since foundation settlements could result in movement of the floor-on-grade and subsequent cracking of the floor slab.

Refer to the attached sketches for clarification.



R. J. Light, Committee Chair

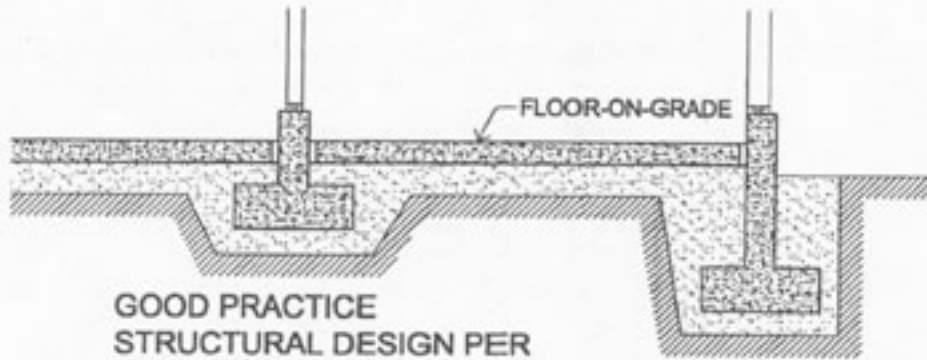
The views expressed are the consensus of the joint committee of AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, and POABC, which form the BC Building Code Interpretation Committee. The purpose of the committee is to encourage uniform province wide interpretation of the BC Building Code. These views should not be considered as the official interpretation of legislated requirements based on the BC Building Code, as final responsibility for an interpretation rests with the local Authority Having Jurisdiction. The views of the joint committee should not be construed as legal advice.

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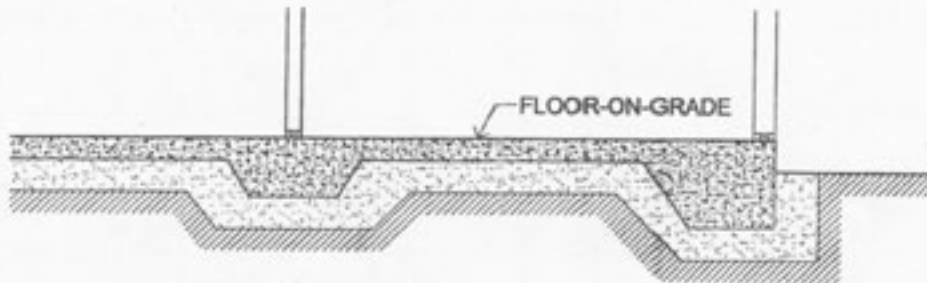
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INTERPRETATION

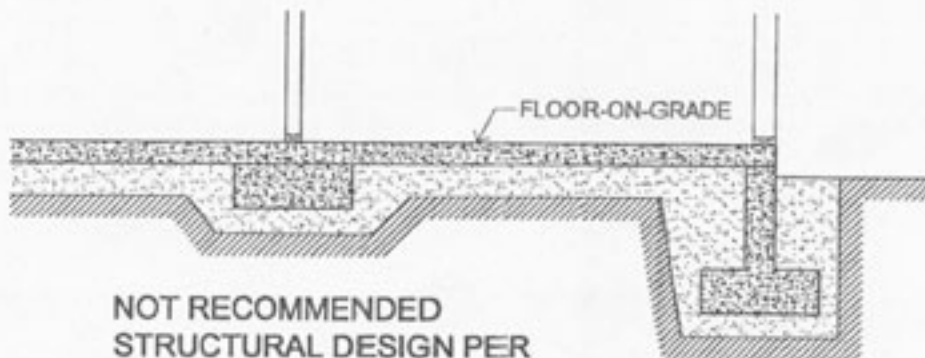
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GOOD PRACTICE  
STRUCTURAL DESIGN PER  
PART 9 BCBC 1998



GOOD PRACTICE  
STRUCTURAL DESIGN PER  
PART 9 BCBC 1998



NOT RECOMMENDED  
STRUCTURAL DESIGN PER  
PART 9 BCBC 1998

  
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