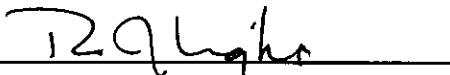


BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE
AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, POABC

File No: 06-0031	INTERPRETATION	Page 1 of 1
Interpretation Date:	May 20, 2008	
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2006	
Subject:	Lintels for Openings in Flat Insulating Concrete Form Walls	
Keywords:	Lintels, Insulating Concrete Form Walls, Registered Professional	
Building Code Reference(s):	9.15.4.5.(4), 9.20.17.3., 9.20.17.4.	
Question:	<p>Is a registered professional (RP) required to provide design and field review for a lintel over an opening in a flat insulating concrete form wall when the span of the lintel exceeds 900 mm and the building is located in a jurisdiction that has a ground snow load that exceeds 3.33 kN/sq.m.?</p>	
Interpretation:	<p>Scenario 1 - No – if the lintel is located within a non-loadbearing wall.</p> <p>Sentence 9.15.4.5.(4) requires that reinforcing around openings in flat insulating concrete form walls be designed to either Sentence 9.20.17.4.(3) for non-loading bearing walls or 9.20.17.4.(4) for load bearing walls.</p> <p>Sentence 9.20.17.4.(3) provides prescriptive requirements of the reinforcement of openings in non-load bearing walls. A <i>registered professional</i> is not required to interpret these prescriptive requirements.</p> <p>Scenario 2 - No – if the lintel does not support any roof load.</p> <p>Sentence 9.20.17.4.(4) requires that lintels over openings in load bearing walls be designed to the requirements of Tables A-17, A-18 or A-19 on pages 542 to 544 of Appendix A.</p> <p>If a lintel supports only floor loads and does not support any roof load (e.g. it is located within a gable end wall), then Tables A-17, A-18 or A-19 can be used without the need for a registered professional. Since these Tables do not have criteria for a lintel that only supports a floor load, it is recommended to use the Column in the Table entitled "Supporting ICF Second Storey and Light-Frame Roof" using 1.5 kN/sq.m. for the Ground Snow Load.</p> <p>Scenario 3 - Yes – if the lintel supports a roof load.</p> <p>Tables A-17, A-18 and A-19 are limited to ground snow loads of not more than 3.33 kN/sq.m.</p> <p>If the lintel supports a roof in a jurisdiction where the ground snow load exceeds 3.33 kN/sq.m. then the lintel is a structural component beyond the scope of Part 9 and must be designed to Part 4.</p> <p>Division C - Clause 2.2.7.1.(1)(b) requires that structural components within Part 9 buildings that fall within the scope of Part 4 must be designed by an RP and the RP must submit Schedule B1 & B2 to the AHJ prior to issuance of the building permit. This Clause also requires that the RP provide field review and submit a Schedule C-B to the AHJ prior to issuance of the occupancy permit or final inspection by the AHJ.</p>	
	 R. J. Light, Committee Chair	
<small>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.</small>		