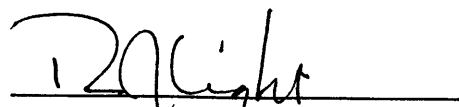


BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE
AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, POABC

File No: 06-0018	INTERPRETATION	Page 1 of 1
Interpretation Date:	Oct 16, 2007	
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2006	
Subject:	HVAC systems for nursing homes	
Keywords:	HVAC, nursing homes, health care facilities, CAN/CSA Z317.2	
Building Code Reference(s):	6.2.1.1.(1)(h)	
Question:	<p>Is CAN/CSA Z317.2 a mandatory reference standard for the design of heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems (HVAC) in nursing homes that are designed as Group B Division 2 major occupancies?</p>	
Interpretation:	<p>It is not mandatory, but it is a recommended guideline that is acknowledged to meet the objective base requirements for HVAC systems in nursing homes. There may be other acceptable solutions that meet the objective base requirements, but these other solutions would be expected to achieve similar results to those described in CAN/CSA Z317.2.</p> <p>Sentence 6.2.1.1.(1) requires that HVAC systems be designed, constructed and installed in accordance with "good engineering practice".</p> <p>Clause 6.2.1.1.(1)(h) specifically references the use of CAN/CSA Z317.2 for the design of HVAC systems in health care facilities as one possible acceptable solution.</p> <p>The CAN/CSA Z317.2 standard defines a "Health care facility – Class B" as a facility where residents with physical or cognitive disabilities are accommodated due to a need for daily care by health care professionals. This standard gives "nursing homes" as an example of a "Health Care Facility – Class B".</p> <p>It should be noted that there are many senior's housing developments that are designed with a Group C (residential) major occupancy. Occasionally these housing developments will include a medical facility with nurses and doctors as part of the residential amenity. It is not necessarily intended that CAN/CSA Z317.2 be utilized for such occupancies.</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 <i>Authority Having Jurisdiction</i>. The views of the joint committee should not be construed as legal advice.</small>		