

NOTICE

New Alberta Building, Fire and Energy Codes

The 2014 editions of the Alberta Building Code and the Alberta Fire Code based on the 2010 National Building and Fire Codes were adopted at the end of February 2015 by provincial regulation. Also adopted by regulation is the National Energy Code for Buildings (NECB) 2011 edition. Key changes in the codes include:

- A new building class known as “B3” to address the demand for a more flexible range of care accommodation for an aging population. The B3 provides safe and affordable housing options for seniors and persons with disabilities.
- New provisions to allow for the construction and fire protection during construction of six-storey wood buildings entirely based on the national code requirements for the upcoming 2015 national building and fire code editions.
- New building protection against radon gas.
- Energy efficiency requirements for housing and small buildings under section 9.36 of the Alberta Building Code.

Each code has a coming into force date and a transition period. **The coming into force date is the date on which the codes apply or may be used in Alberta.** The transition period is to allow construction under the previous 2006 Alberta Building Code or under the new codes. All coming into force dates have a standard 6 month transition period to construct in the previous code provided a permit has been issued prior to the end of the transition period; or the safety codes officer is satisfied that the preparation of the plans and specifications for the project commenced prior to the coming into force date. The objective of this section is to prevent unnecessary and costly changes to construction already underway or plans that have been substantially developed for construction. In addition, the transition period will allow for the 2006 Code application during any delay in the distribution of the 2014 Code editions.

The timelines for the Alberta codes are:

Codes	Coming into force or Implementation Date	Transition Period End Date
Alberta Building Code 2014	May 1, 2015	November 1, 2015
Alberta Fire Code 2014	May 1, 2015	No transition required
National Energy Code of Canada for Buildings 2011	November 1, 2015	May 1, 2016
Section 9.36 Energy Efficiency, Alberta Building Code 2014	May 1, 2016	November 1, 2016

The Alberta Building and Fire Codes 2014 and the National Energy Code for Buildings 2011 are available from the National Research Council, both online and in hard copy. Follow this link to the [National Research Council](#) for purchase information.

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For further information contact Municipal Affairs, Safety Services Branch
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