

## Meeting Notes

### Building Research Council (BRC)

Tuesday October 10, 2023, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The Italian Cultural Centre Society

3075 Slocan Street

Vancouver, BC

#### In Attendance:

Denisa Ionescu, BC Housing Chair  
Cindy Moran, BC Housing  
Alireza Asharioun, BC Housing  
Faizan Mithani, BC Housing  
Guido Wimmers, BCIT  
Fitsum Tariku, BCIT  
Won Ohm, BCIT  
Hamid Ghanbari, EduBuild Solutions  
Farnaz Fahimi, CMHC  
Marcelo Mora, Mitacs  
Murray Frank, Constructive Home Solutions  
Jonathan Layton, Layton Consulting  
Terri Adams, Fenestration Canada  
Sonya Zeitler Fletcher, FII

Ivan Lee, Morrison Hershfield  
Lisa Tobber, UBC  
Devin Boyce, UBC  
Shawn Davis, UBC  
Richard Kadulski, Richard Kadulski Architect  
Brandon Clevenger, City of Vancouver  
Neal Holcroft, FPInnovations  
Andrew Anderson, Centra Windows  
Jason Teetaert, SMT  
Remi Charron, NYIT  
Noah Quastel, BC Lung  
Michael Lemm, Busque Engineering  
James Higgins, RDH  
Ian Cullis, BCNPHA  
Ju Chan Kim, BC Housing  
Kevin So, Travelers

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#### 1. Approval of Agenda/Additional Items

The meeting was called to order at 9.00 a.m. D. Ionescu welcomed everyone to the meeting on behalf of the BRC followed by a roundtable introduction. The meeting agenda was approved.

#### 2. Proposed Fenestration Compliance Paths to the City of Vancouver's Energy Modeling Guideline, Jonathan Layton, Layton Consulting

Jonathan Layton discussed navigating fenestration standards and certifications, calculating compliance, and finding a balance between architectural design, structural requirements, and overall home performance. He also, presented a calculator that can determine the true values for different window sizes, considering various frame types and glazing options, and addresses concerns with providing accurate measurements and information for modeling.

#### 3. UBC Build Better Research Cluster Projects, Dr. Lisa Tobber, UBC

Dr. Lisa Tobber presented on the current research initiatives at the UBC The Build Better Cluster and outlined six cluster themes, including advancing innovation in the construction industry, improving architectural design, materials, construction process, and developing sustainable Indigenous housing. Dr. Tobber also addressed the importance of partnerships and collaboration to achieve sustainable building practices and discussed the distinct building practices of Indigenous communities.

#### 4. BCIT School of Construction and the Environment Vision, Dr. Guido Wimmers, BCIT

Dr. Guido Wimmers presented insights into the first construction projects in Canada to use CLT and highlighted traditional wood framing and more efficient prefabrication processes. An update about the curriculum for the BCIT Interdisciplinary Engineering Wood Master's program was also provided.

**5. Acoustics of Tall Wood Buildings: A Quick Survey of the Status Quo, Dr. Won Ohm, BCIT**

Dr. Won Ohm provided an overview of the acoustics related to tall wood buildings including sound insulation techniques, different types of sound transmission that can occur in tall wood buildings and how they can be controlled. He also highlighted challenges of achieving sound insulation in tall wood buildings due to tight connections at junctions and suggested a structural dynamics approach to acoustic design may be necessary for tall wood buildings.

**6. Wildfire Resiliency. Lessons Learned the Hard Way, Murray Frank, Constructive Home Solutions**

Murray Frank presented on the damage caused by a wildfire on a Net Zero home. The lessons learned are being used to produce a guide that provides homeowners and communities with practical information on how to prepare for and reduce the risk of wildfire damage. It includes recommendations for creating defensible space, using fire-resistant materials, and developing evacuation plans. It also emphasizes the importance of community-wide efforts to reduce the risk of wildfire damage and provides resources for homeowners and communities to access support for fire resilient projects.

**7. Forum Discussion**

Participants discussed various topics, including:

- How much the fire proofing and current codes will be effective in future wildfire events?
- Prefabrication for future of the construction, pros and cons of this technology.
- Is the mass timber prefabrication being the solution for future building industry to provide more green and affordable buildings to people?

**8. Next BRC Meeting**

Next meeting is scheduled for Spring 2024.