



▶ Upcoming Events.....1

▶ Annual General Meeting.....1

▶ Western Canadian Meeting 2012.....1



▶ Wood Mid-rise Construction....2

▶ Member Announcement.....2



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Canadian Concrete Masonry Producers Association
Region 6 of the National Concrete Masonry Association



CCMPA

Updates

ADDRESSING ISSUES AND CONCERNS OF THE CANADIAN CONCRETE MASONRY PRODUCERS

A monthly email will be forwarded to keep members informed of activities and important issues that are occurring. If you have some industry information you wish to share with CCMPA members, please forward it to the CCMPA Office by the 15th of every month.

What is CCMPA doing for you ?

Upcoming Events

CCMPA Members Meeting—Wednesday, November 23rd, 2011—Doubletree by Hilton Toronto Airport—655 Dixon Road, Toronto

Christmas Luncheon—Friday, December 16th, 2011—Alfredo’s Ristorante—655 Dixon Road, Toronto

ICON Expo/NCMA Annual Meeting—Tuesday, February 28th, 2012—Rosen Shingle Creek, Orlando Florida

Western Canadian Meeting—Thursday, June 21st, 2012—Banff, Alberta

Annual General Meeting & Golf 2012

The 2012 AGM & golf tournament will return to White Oaks Resort and Spa and Peninsula Lakes Golf Course. The date for the event is Thursday, September 6th, 2012. Please save the date. Further information will be distributed in the new year.

Golf 2011 Update

Wounded Warriors “Hand Up” Program will receive a cheque for **\$5,671.00** from CCMPA for the Raffle ticket sales, live auction and hole sponsorships. We wish to thank all those who supported this great cause. Specific details regarding the recipient will be forthcoming.



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BANFF 2012

The CCMPA Western Canadian Meeting is scheduled to take place on June 21st and 22nd, 2012 in stunning Banff, Alberta, at the Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel.

We have started planning for this event and we encourage members to attend and make it a family vacation at the same time. This meeting has been a

great success in the past with over 25 members in attendance.

More detailed information to follow.





Getting the most from our Engineering Expert

Gary Sturgeon B.Eng., M.Sc., P.Eng.

Wood Mid-rise Construction: Proposed Changes to the National Building Code of Canada

The Province of British Columbia recently adopted provincial building code changes which permit wood frame construction up to 6 storeys in building height. Ontario attempted to introduce similar changes into the 2011 OBC. However, following Public Review early this year, Ontario decided to defer the matter pending further research.

The provincial and federal governments continue to explore methods to increase the use of wood in building construction, and these are not confined solely to “Wood First” initiatives as we have seen, but rather, have moved to proposed building code changes that would directly increase the use of wood in mid-rise construction. Allegedly, market factors driving this include: (a) stimulating domestic and export markets for lumber and wood products, (b) mitigating climate change and resource depletion, (c) adopting precedent setting wood use shown outside of Canada, (d) benefitting economically through the use of wood, and (e) showcasing wood products and construction innovation. Of course, none of these factors justifies technical change to the NBCC.

To this end, separate code change requests have been received at the national level by the Canadian Codes Centre, from the province of British Columbia and from the Canadian Wood Council. The series of code change requests, if adopted, essentially would permit five and six storey buildings of wood frame construction for Group C, D and E Occupancies by providing enhanced fire safety requirements. Work to examine the merits of these proposed changes has been approved by the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes. The review will be undertaken by a Joint Task Group (JTG) consisting of member representation principally from the Standing Committees of Part 3 (Fire Protection)

and Part 4 (Structural Design), and subordinately from Part 5 (Environmental Separation).

The work of the JTG will be technically based and will be divided into two phases, these being:

Phase I: consisting of a review of all supporting material, identifying code requirements that would be impacted by the change, examining other codes and their requirements and limitations on the use of wood, identifying fire risks, identifying research and knowledge gaps, and monitoring work and feedback from IRC research currently being undertaken to support the changes.

Phase II: if appropriate, reworking the allowable heights and area provisions in the NBCC for wood (combustible) construction, and developing proposed changes to the NBCC.

Phase I work by the JTG began in October, 2011, and Phase II is scheduled for completion in the spring of 2013.

It is important to note that the JTG will consider abandoning the use of “combustible” and “non combustible” (construction) in the current NBCC, and replacing these with performance-based requirements by using the Objective-based philosophy of the NBCC to its fullest advantage.

The first meeting of the JTG is scheduled for December 14, 15, 2011. It’s anticipated that this meeting will be heavily attended by observers. Along with our industry partners, CCMPA will be there to oppose these changes and to monitor and report.

“For reasons such as this, our industry has to band together and stay strong so we can channel our energies to oppose any change to the National Building Code of Canada that would compromise the health and safety of Canadians”. Paul Hargest, President, CCMPA

Member Announcement

Congratulations to **Blok Lok Ltd.** for winning this year’s Ontario Building Envelope Council’s Distinction for Materials Award for it’s BLOK-LOK Spira-Lok® . This award, established in 2009, is presented annually to honour individuals, groups or companies that have introduced a new or innovative material or building system in Ontario, whose purpose is to improve the building envelope. This Award, although presented to an individual, group or company, is given to recognize a significant improvement to building envelope construction or performance. The improvement must be demonstrable and advance excellence in building science, in the context of the building envelope. The product is evaluated on ease of use, cost-efficiency, improved performance, and durability.