

NATIONAL CERTIFICATION AND ACCREDITATION MODELS FINALIZED

The Alliance of Canadian Building Officials have completed CHIBO II and now have two National Models, one for Certification and one for Accreditation. There will be three levels of National Certification, Residential, Part 9 and Part 3. All three levels have a technical component associated with these designations, a practical requirement, in addition, prerequisite courses for the three levels which include a communications course, legal course, and introductory building code course. Residential designation requires a building envelope course and a health and safety course. Part 9 designation requires HVAC / fire course, structural course, and a basic plan examination course. Part 3 designation requires large building's health and safety, large building's classification and construction, plan exam strategies, life safety systems, and fire protection. The practical requirement for the Residential designation requires a minimum of 2 years appointed to enforce the Building Code and perform a minimum of 60 Part 9 residential inspections and/or plan reviews. Part 9 designation requires a minimum of 3 years and 60 Part 9 inspections and/or plan reviews (excluding single and two family dwellings). Part 3 designation requires a minimum of 5 years appointment and 60 Part 3 inspections and/or plan reviews. An individual can obtain one or all three designations and if an individual becomes certified in all three specialties, they will receive a National Designation tentatively called Registered Canadian Building Official, **(RCBO)**. The National Model has identified an exemption for individuals who are currently appointed as Building Officials which recognizes the experience of this person employed in this profession as follows. Residential designation equates to a person employed for a minimum of 5 years, Part 9 designation, a person employed for a minimum of 6 years and Part 3 designation, a person employed for a minimum of 8 years. An individual must submit a log book which verifies the 60 prerequisite inspections/plan reviews for each designation. This will be a one time exemption for applicants with a 2 year window when the National Certification Model is rolled out across Canada. After the 2 years have expired, all individuals must complete all of the necessary courses identified for each designation to become certified.

The Accreditation Model will be used by the National Association, (ACBOA) to review existing courses or programs offered by training providers or provincial associations to ensure they meet the necessary skill and knowledge requirements set forth in the National Occupational Standard. This model will ensure that any training provided for Building Officials is credible, rigorous and consistent across Canada.

ACBOA continues to be a strong voice for Building Officials across Canada and strives to raise the level of the professionalism for all those involved in this profession. These National Models now completed will provide a recognized symbol of excellence for the Building Official plus focus on the expertise required in the profession regardless if you are inspecting a new home or a complex multi story building. We have finally gained the recognition & respect from our industry partners and our US friends south of our border therefore our hard work by all of our associations has proven to be very beneficial.

Finally, we as Building Officials do so much behind the scenes to provide a level of comfort and safety for Canadians who occupy buildings constructed in our country, it is time for us to take the credit that is long overdue and show Canada plus those abroad, we are the professionals who are well trained and experts in this profession! We still have some work to implement National Certification across Canada but with your support and commitment to this profession, this objective can be achieved from coast to coast. Please take some time to review the National Models on our web site and other pertinent information at www.ACBOA.CA. Respectfully Submitted, Mannie Withrow, President, ACBOA.