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BC Green Building Code Initiative

Update

- The Office of Housing and Construction Standards is the lead agency on development and implementation of a green building code.
- On February 13, 2007, the Throne Speech announced the development of a unified BC Green Building Code by early 2008 as a significant step in an ongoing commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions related to buildings and construction
- On February 27th, 2007, the BC Energy Plan announced the implementation of cost-effective energy efficiency standards for buildings by 2010
- The green building code project goals are:
 - 1) to identify and remove barriers within provincial codes and regulations
 - 2) to identify and propose new provisions for green buildings regulation
 - 3) to support implementation through an administrative framework, education and training

The green buildings regulation will be results based and flexible for industry and will consider a range of sustainability areas such as:

- Sustainable sites – land use, storm water management; servicing infrastructure
- Water conservation – low-consumption fixtures, re-using waste water
- Energy – energy efficiency for buildings, on-site renewable energy; energy efficient devices; community energy planning
- Materials and resources – re-using existing buildings; reducing construction waste; using sustainable building materials
- Indoor environment – enhancing air quality; reducing air contaminants e.g., low-emitting adhesives and sealants
- Innovation and design process – facilitating green building through administrative processes

Industry, professional, community representatives and the general public have opportunities to be involved through:

- Public review of all proposals scheduled for the Fall of 2007
- Industry Advisory Committee with representation from key associations

For more information contact the Building & Safety Policy Branch.