



*Community Builders – Building Communities*



## MARCH / APRIL NEWSLETTER

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## CARE AWARDS

We are working on the Call for Entry for the 2025 CARE Awards and they will be sent out shortly!

Our sponsorship request/package has been distributed, and all are welcome to contact us to discuss the opportunities for 2025. Prices remain the same. The 2024 CARE Awards gala was held Friday, September 27 at the Fairmont Empress Hotel attended by 280 VRBA builders, designers, trades and suppliers. On Oct 24, the CARE Awards event was featured on the front page of the Times Colonist with a four-page wrap. The CARE Awards magazine highlighting the Gold winners was distributed in the TC on Saturday, Nov 2, is [available online](#), and at [careawards.ca](http://careawards.ca). Our marketing program is unmatched! Thank you for supporting Canada's leaders in West Coast residential design and construction!

### Gold Sponsors



Silver



Bronze



Media



TIMES COLONIST

## NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome new VRBA members:

Coast Appliances – Jaclyn Logan and Mandy Dagg  
Kingston Carpentry & Timber Inc. – William Ganong

## NEW BC BUILDING CODE REGULATIONS

The BC government has announced new BC Building Code (BCBC) 2024 provisions for adaptable dwellings and seismic design in effect Monday, March 10, 2025, with adaptable-dwelling requirements being gradually implemented. Here is a news release <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2025HMA0011-000183>

The adaptable-dwelling requirements will be introduced in a phased approach, starting at 20% of units in large residential buildings, as opposed to the previously proposed 100%. Projects where design work began before March 8, 2024, may continue to follow the 2018 BC Building Code, provided they apply for a building permit before March 8, 2027. Projects for which a building permit will be applied for on or after March 10, 2025, must comply with the BCBC 2024, including the seismic-design and adaptable-dwelling provisions.

Attached are bulletins outlining the transition periods in more detail.

Please note there will be more information on these and other BC Building Code issues at our Builders Council meeting on Wednesday April 16 from 12 noon to 1 pm on Zoom.

Our guest speaker will be:

Jun'ichi Jensen, P.L.Eng.  
Director, Codes and Standards  
Building and Safety Standards Branch  
Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs

## VRBA PARTNERS WITH PHBI ON EDUCATION

In pursuit of ongoing professionalism and education, VRBA announces a new partnership with the Professional Home Builders Institute (PHBI) at <https://www.phbi.ca/bc/>. Since 1987, PHBI has kept pace with the residential construction industry's ever-changing needs by designing and delivering practical education created by builders.

PHBI delivers the full suite of the seven core competencies required for a Builders Licence in BC. These include:

- Building Code and Relevant Enactments
- Business and Management Fundamentals
- Construction Management and Supervision
- Construction Technology
- Customer Service and Home Warranty
- Financial Planning and Budget Management
- Legal Issues

VRBA members receive a 15% discount on these courses, as well as the CPD courses required for an annual valid BC Builders Licence.

Contact Debra at [admin@vrba.ca](mailto:admin@vrba.ca) to receive the discount code.



## BUILDERS COUNCILS – WED MARCH 26 & WED APRIL 16 & WED APRIL 23

1. On **Wednesday, March 26** on Zoom from 12 noon to 1 pm, VRBA Builders Council will feature a presentation by **Anton Van Dyk**, Principal and Division Manager at JRS Engineering.

Anton will focus on window design and choices based on energy code and durability, including unintended consequences of change.

- Understanding the process of fenestration design and when it is best applied to a project.
- The role of fenestration energy standards in meeting project-specific performance goals.

- The future of fenestration standards within the Energy Step Code.
  - How addressing fenestration design upfront reduces post-design changes and contractual risks.
2. On **Wednesday, April 16** on Zoom from 12 noon to 1 pm, Builders Council will feature a presentation by **Jun'ichi Jensen**, Director, Codes and Standards, Building and Safety Standards Branch.

Jun'ichi will address a number of code issues including the new provisions for adaptable dwellings and seismic design.

3. On **Wednesday, April 23** on Zoom, **Matt Dell**, Councillor, City of Victoria will discuss the permit approval process as well as the proposed Official Community Plan.

All are welcome! Contact Debra at [admin@vrba](mailto:admin@vrba) for the Zoom links. Please specify which meeting(s) you would like to attend.

These meetings have been submitted to BC Housing, Licensing and Consumer Services for approval of one hour CPD each for builder licensing.

Sponsored by



## UPCOMING EVENTS

March 26 – Builders Council (Zoom) Speaker: Anton Van Dyk, Principal/Division Manager JRS Engineering.

[admin@vrba.ca](mailto:admin@vrba.ca)

April 16 – Builders Council (Zoom) Speaker: Jun'ichi Jensen, Director, Codes and Standards, Building and Safety Standards Branch [admin@vrba.ca](mailto:admin@vrba.ca)

April 23 – Builders Council (Zoom) Speaker: Matt Dell, Councillor, City of Victoria [admin@vrba.ca](mailto:admin@vrba.ca)

May 28 - VRBA Annual Golf Tournament at Olympic View [admin@vrba.ca](mailto:admin@vrba.ca)

## HABITAT VICTORIA SPONSORSHIP REQUEST

VRBA member Habitat for Humanity – Victoria is looking for sponsors/partnerships to assist with their next development in the District of Saanich. This project proposal (14 unit stacked townhouses) is currently in front of District Planning for review and they hope to start building this year. See the attached brochure and for more information contact [giving@habitatvictoria.com](mailto:giving@habitatvictoria.com) or call 250-480-7688.

## VRBA ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT – WED MAY 28

Join us on Wednesday, May 28 for our Annual Fun Golf Tournament at Olympic View! ([www.OlympicViewGolf.com](http://www.OlympicViewGolf.com)) Mark your calendars, enjoy a day on the links and network with VRBA's contractors, designers, trades & suppliers! Registration info is attached.



Thank you **Gold** sponsors!

### Golf Tournament Gold Sponsors



Registration and Sponsorship info attached and at <https://www.vrba.ca/events/2025-annual-fun-golf-tournament/>.

### STEP ONE DESIGN: INSPIRED WEST COAST HOMES

VRBA member Mike Dunsmuir, Step One Design has two homes featured in a new book called “Inspired West Coast Homes: Distinctive Homes Curated by Leading Architects, Designers, and Custom Builders for Coastal Living Lifestyles.” The book showcases the imaginative minds of architects, designers, and builders who create their craft on the iconic west coast of the United States and Canada.

“Riviera Landscape...achieves the more intense, modern west coast aesthetic that we wanted...The builder - VRBA member Designated Developments - executed this design perfectly.”

[The book is available online as a free digital version](#) as well as for sale at Amazon and other book retailers.

### 2025 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

The 2025 Membership Directory has been printed and distributed. Please let us know if you have not received your copy.

Please contact the office if you would like additional copies.

### PREFERRED GOLD CORPORATE RATES FOR VRBA MEMBERS AT ACCENT INNS AND HOTEL ZED

VRBA members get **Preferred Gold** corporate rates at [accentinns.com/](http://accentinns.com/) & Hotel Zed [hotelzed.com/](http://hotelzed.com/). For the promo code, contact Debra at [admin@vrba.ca](mailto:admin@vrba.ca).



### JOIN BCCA EMPLOYEE BENEFIT TRUST

Does your company need a benefits program? VRBA partners with BCCA Employee Benefit Trust, to take advantage of a great flexible package designed for the construction industry. Plans are affordable and easy to set up. Contact Laura Bonney at [info@bccabenefits.ca](mailto:info@bccabenefits.ca)

### EDUCATION & TRAINING



**Murray Frank's Building It Right Courses** [buildingitright.com](http://buildingitright.com) 65 CPD points available online! Also have a look at Course in a Box for 20 CPD points [buildingitright.com/course-in-a-box.html](http://buildingitright.com/course-in-a-box.html)

**Murray's** latest new course is called The Phoenix – Designing and Rebuilding Our House of Tomorrow. Register here [Phoenix via ThunderTix](#)

[Also book a cruise with their CPD at Sea!](#)

14 Day Ireland, Scottish Highlands and Wales Cruise

Dates: July 3<sup>rd</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Vessel: Princess, Emerald

Curriculum: The Phoenix Project  
Port of Departure: Southampton, England

**Professional Home Builders Institute:** [Online courses](#) for BC Builder Licensing are available at the Professional Home Builders Institute.

**Licensing & Consumer Services Branch of BC Housing** [approved offerings](#) for CPD builder licensing.

**ICBA:** A wide selection of online courses, many CPD approved, from the Independent Contractors and Businesses Association including Construction Law, Drawings, Profitable Contracting, Construction Management, Employment Standards, etc. Visit [Upcoming Courses & Events - Independent Contractors and Businesses Association \(arlo.co\)](#)

**VICA:** A wide selection of courses from the Vancouver Island Construction Association.

**VRBA members can now use the [PROMO code VRBA\\$100](#) at checkout to save \$100 off of the public registration fee on [all eligible training](#). For all courses and dates, and to register [visit the VICA website](#).**

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Visit us on Facebook and Twitter: @vicbuilders has over 5,000 Followers!