

BUILDING INFORMATION BULLETIN

The following information is to provide direction on the steps to be taken to ensure guards for buildings that include glass and guards that contain glass but do not incorporate a continuous top rail, are designed to the applicable requirements of the 2018 British Columbia Building Code (BCBC).

GLASS IN GUARDS:

As per the BCBC, glass in guards for Part 9 Buildings and guards serving up to 2 dwelling units in Part 3 buildings, are required to comply with CAN/CGSB-12.1-M or CAN/CGSB-12.11-M. Other than guards serving 1 & 2 dwelling units, glass in Part 3 Buildings is required to comply with CAN/CGSB-12-20M or ASTM E1300. It should be noted that there are modifications to sections pertaining to guards of the CAN/CGSB-12-20M standard by CSA A500-16.

GLASS GUARDS WITHOUT A TOP RAIL:

Glass guards should follow the recommendations of the Engineers and Geoscientists BC (EGBC) publication "Professional Practice Guidelines Designing Guards for Buildings, CAN/CGSB-12-20M and CSA A500-16. These documents, other than under specific conditions, require some means of structural redundancy, such as a continuous structural top cap or rail be built into the glass guard to prevent a localized collapse of the guard following the failure of a glass member.

PERMIT REQUIREMENTS FOR GUARDS CONTAINING GLASS ELEMENTS

Guard designs that incorporate glass are required to meet the load requirements specified in 4.1.5.14 or 9.8.8.2 as applicable. Additionally, guards that serve single and two family dwellings that incorporate a top rail and have traditionally demonstrated to provide effective performance are not required to provide confirmation of meeting the specified loads, as referenced in the above sentences.

Glass guards that do not incorporate a top rail or designs that are not proven to have met the effective standard of performance will be required to be certified by a professional engineer.

Permit submissions for these guards shall include:

- Site specific sealed design
- Letters of Assurance, schedules B and at completion, C-B
- Schedule B must include lines 1.5, 1.6 & 1.15

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please refer to the following publications for additional information relating to guard design for buildings:

- Engineers and Geoscientists BC, Professional Guidelines Designing Guards for Buildings
- CAN/CGSB 12-20M Structural Design of Glass for Buildings/CSA A500-16 Building Guards

For further information contact the Building Department at building@campbellriver.ca or 250-286-5757

Development Services Department
Building Division

E: Building@campbellriver.ca

P: 250-286-5757