



Collaborating in the Regulatory Environment:

Wednesday October 29, 2008

Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue

Vancouver, BC



About ICBA

- Leading BC construction association
 - 1000 + members
- Human resource focus
 - Apprenticeship
 - Management Training
 - Employee health benefits
- Free-enterprise champion, advocating:
 - Minimal market intervention
 - Incentives and innovation



Construction/Development as Clients

- As of September 2008
 - 4634 permits
 - \$1.22 billion



Governments' Regulatory Challenge

- A regulatory system out-of-step with today's realities leads to:
 - Poor outcomes – high costs, slow response times
 - Negatively impacts business climate
 - Severity of challenge increasing due to labour shortages



Modern Regulation

Modern regulatory approaches:

- Transparent, clear, consistent
- Streamlined and minimalist
- Responsive, client-focused
- Incentive based rather than rules based



The Solution: Modern Regulation

Better leverage industry
resources



Improve the Interface

Currently:

- City staff take start-to-finish responsibility
- Technology under-utilized
- Timelines, accountabilities uncertain
- Departs from typical customer experience



Leverage Applicants' Resources

Currently:

- CP Program available (restricted scope)
- But, not effectively leveraged
 - Redundant review/inspection
 - Regulatory oversight becomes *more* onerous
- Program benefits therefore negated
- Design Professional assurances



Leverage Applicants' Resources

- Effective use of CP/design professionals can provide:
 - Faster, more responsive service
 - Reduced administrative costs, recruitment needs, and liabilities for the city
- Involves use of private resources to *administer* standards
- Standards continue to be *set* by regulators
- Various quality-assurance mechanisms



Next Steps

- Need for modernization is urgent
- City's current regulatory approach is unsustainable
- With right framework, regulation can be easier:
 - To administer
 - To comply with



Next Steps

- Industry is keen to:
 - Understand city perspectives/ initiatives
 - Identify and address hurdles
 - Participate in implementation/ monitoring

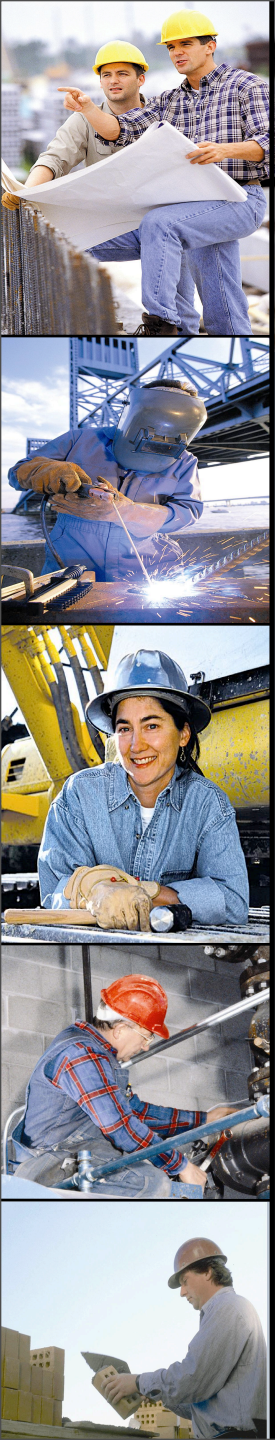


One More Thing Mobile Business Licence

In place in:

- Victoria Capital Region,
- Cowichan Valley
- North Okanagan
- Courtenay-Comox
- Okanagan-Similkameen

What about Metro Vancouver?!





Contact Information

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