

Getting to know your Building Official

What a Builder/Contractor needs to know about the Building Permit and Inspection Process

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ONTARIO BUILDING
OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION
**Building Knowledge.
Growing Communities.**



We Are People

The “COB” (Condition of Bowel) Principle – Your success during the application/inspection process correlates directly with how “backed up” the building official is on that given day.

- J. McCabe

We face everyday issues and problems like the rest of the population.

You are more likely to face higher demands in the application/inspection process if you place above normal expectations upon your building official.



We Have Lives

Hello!

My name is xxxxx my husband xxxxx and I are in the process of purchasing xxxxx Church in Lucknow and our realtor xxxxx recommended getting in touch with you about performing a building inspection before the sale is finalized. We are hoping to come up to Lucknow this upcoming Saturday- would you be available at all in the afternoon? Thank you so much for your time and hopefully we'll be seeing you soon!

Thu 19/01/2017 7:43 PM

We Face Different Challenges

Hog-farm battle goes to court - CBC News

The City of Ottawa is in Ontario Superior Court this week trying to overturn a building permit issued by its staff for a factory hog farm proposed for Sarsfield, in the city's east end.

Bunkhouse blues - Simcoe Reformer

Sweet potato producer is at his wit's end now that Norfolk County inspectors have complicated bunkhouse arrangements for his 30-man workforce at his busiest time of the year.

"I have invited these farmers to come to council if they feel there has been misconduct on the part of our officials." Mayor Charlie Luke

Building Permit Issued Hastily - Ontario Farmer

A London judge has quashed the permit issued by the township's inspector because he said he acted with "unseemly haste" that was "unconscionable and unreasonable".

Themes to Avoid

- “I pay your salary” (No you don’t)
- “You are the only Building Official that enforces the Code this way” (We have phones and email)
- “X municipality let’s me do it that way” (Go back and build there; also, see above)
- “What size of beam do I need” (I don’t do designs)
- “I am going to talk to my Mayor/MPP/MP/Lawyer” (Let me know how that works out for you)

Scenarios to Avoid

- Its Friday afternoon at 4:15 on the May 24th long weekend and your hi-hoe operator says he can start digging for the Jones' barn addition tomorrow morning. You call me up to ask if you can pour footings on Tuesday and whether the Jones' need a NMS.
- You see me at a hockey game/stag & doe/funeral greeting line and decide to ask what the minimum distance separation would be for a 10,000 broiler barn.
- “I’ll just give Matt a call at home”

How to Make our Lives Easier

- Do your home work
 - Learn about MDS, Nutrient Management, Planning, CA regulations
 - Go to the municipality's website
 - Call me early in the process
- Keep your clients informed
- Act as the Applicant – single point of contact
- Embrace Technology
 - Use email
 - “Google” it

How We Can Be Better

- Consistency
 - Within the Municipality (equal treatment)
 - Throughout the Province
- Fairness
- Knowledge
- Common Sense vs. Strictest Interpretation
- Remove the Chip from our Shoulders.

Let's Work Together

- Ultimately we are all on the same team.
- We need to understand and appreciate everyone's role in the construction process.
- Protecting the health and safety of public and the interests of the consumer is the primary objective for all parties.
- Everyone's voice needs to be heard

ONTARIO BUILDING OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1956, the OBOA is a self-governing, not-for-profit professional association for Building Officials in the Province of Ontario; committed to maintaining the highest degree of professionalism in the field of building code enforcement and building safety; while promoting uniform code interpretation and enforcement, through training and education services, and related committee work. Please visit us at www.oboa.on.ca



QUESTIONS

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