



An update on CHBA BC's government relations activities

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## News from the Provincial Legislature

### Speculation tax updates

CHBA BC was back in Victoria on July 3 speaking about the speculation tax to the Minister of Finance. The conversation focused on all aspects of the issue, including the impacts of taxing Canadians separate from British Columbians, development lands, and the decreased consumer confidence (both inside and outside tax boundaries.) For more speculation tax updates, please visit this link. For all updates on CHBA BC's progress on this issue, [view this link](#).



### Land Owner Transparency Act

On June 20, the B.C. Government also released a *Land Owner Transparency Act* white paper, outlining plans to create a beneficial ownership registry for B.C. Read it [here](#). Feedback on the proposal will be collected until August 19, 2018. CHBA BC will be reviewing the document in the following weeks ahead of this deadline.

## National Issues

### Cannabis Act

On June 19, Bill C-45 *Cannabis Act* was approved federally and will now be granted royal assent to become law. The federal government has set a date of October 17 for legalization to come into force. CHBA BC is working collaboratively with other associations on key policies that are still unaddressed in the current law that can impact our industry and members. These include a remediation framework for properties used to grow personal marijuana and worksite safety. You can read all regulatory bills related to cannabis that have passed in B.C. [here](#).

### Drywall Duty Dispute

CHBA National has learned that CertainTeed Gypsum Canada Inc. has once again filed a complaint to the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) alleging dumping of certain 54-inch gypsum board from the U.S, imported into Western Canada. Although there is currently no production of like goods in Western Canada, the claim is that dumping of U.S. goods has caused retardation to the establishment of the domestic industry in Western Canada.

CHBA is already in communication with CBSA. CBSA has identified CHBA as an interested party in the matter (per a letter received by CHBA from CBSA on June 21, 2018—the day on which CBSA initiated its formal investigation). Until the dispute is resolved, members should prepare for the possibility of provisional tariffs as early as September.

## Code Changes and Reviews

### B.C. Codes

The next editions of B.C. building codes are expected this year. CHBA BC is already in touch with the Building Safety and Standards Branch to ensure ample transition time and strong communications plans in place.

### Electrical Code Review

In the past months, Technical Safety BC has been reviewing the 2018 Canadian Electrical Code (CEC) to assess the impact of code changes in BC and will soon make recommendations to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing on its sustainability of adoption in BC. Technical Safety BC is holding a public consultation through [this survey](#). The survey will be open from June 1, 2018 to July 30, 2018. View [more information on the consultation](#).

## Ongoing Consultations

### WorkSafeBC Rate Consultation

WorkSafeBC is holding employer consultations across the province in July to discuss the 2019 employer rates. Learn more about the session dates and consultation [here](#).

### Rental Housing Task Force

The Rental Housing Task Force visited 10 communities in June to discuss the *Residential Tenancy Act* and the rental market in general. CHBA BC was invited to submit as a stakeholder in May 2018. To review this task force, [click here](#).

### Small Business Task Force

The Small Business Task Force held a series of roundtable discussions across the province in June. The task force is reviewing any potential barriers to success, and government action that should be considered. To learn more about the task force, [use this link](#).

### WorkSafeBC and Labour Issues

A review of the *Workers Compensation Act* is expected at some point. Over 26 associations, including CHBA BC, share the joint concern about the rapid pace of change on this issue. They are also in agreement that balanced policies – for both the employee and employer – are the best way to ensure healthy and productive workplaces.