

NATIONAL BUILDING CODE OF CANADA 2020

Federal Standards for Construction Safety

This document establishes minimum standards for construction across Canada, including British Columbia.

KEY PROVISIONS AFFECTING VICTORIA DEVELOPMENT:

SEISMIC REQUIREMENTS:

- Victoria is in Seismic Zone 4 (high earthquake risk)
- Special seismic design requirements for buildings >3 stories
- Heritage building seismic upgrades encouraged

ENERGY EFFICIENCY:

- R-20 insulation minimum for walls in Victoria climate
- High-performance windows required (U-factor 0.28)
- Air barrier and vapor control requirements

ACCESSIBILITY:

- Barrier-free design for all new residential buildings
- 10% of units in developments >20 units must be accessible

FIRE SAFETY:

- Sprinkler systems required in buildings >6 stories
- Fire separation requirements between units
- Emergency egress standards for high-rise buildings