

## Four Sections of Building Act Come Into Force December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015

As of **December 15, 2015** new sections of the BC Building Act are now in force. The Building Act is B.C.'s first act dedicated just to building and construction - it's designed to modernize and streamline the building regulatory system.

The sections of the Act that are now in force are ones that deal with *Consistency* and will not apply until December 2017.

The updates are listed below:

- *Section 5 – specifies that local government building requirements have no legal force to the extent that they relate to a matter covered by a provincial building regulation (such as the BC Building Code). This is a key element of the effort to bring greater consistency to building requirements in B.C.*
- *Section 7 – allows local governments to apply for a variation from the building requirements in provincial building regulations such as the BC Building Code. Under the Act, the building requirements in an approved request for variation would be enacted through a provincial building regulation and not through a local government bylaw.*
- *Section 9 – enables the Province to engage or retain technical experts for the review of a request for variation by a local authority or person.*
- *Section 43 – states that section 5 will not apply until two years after it comes into force (i.e., it will not apply until December 15, 2017).*

For further information on this important Act [VISIT](#)