

# Notification

## BC Building and Fire Codes 2023

Notification regarding the adoption of the  
National Model Codes 2020

**Topic:** Home-Type Care Occupancies (Group B, Division 4)

**Code change number:** BCBC2023-N-V-02-B4

**Code reference:** National Model Codes 2020 – Part 9 of Division B of the National Building Code and Part 2 and Part 4 of Division B of the National Fire Code

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## Description

The Province of B.C. has determined that further analysis is required prior to the adoption of the National Building Code (NBC) 2020 and National Fire Code (NFC) 2020 requirements for a new type of care occupancy classified as Group B, Division 4 – Home-Type Care Occupancy (B4).

## Justification

The Province of B.C. reviewed the technical changes to the National Model Codes. Significant changes in the NBC and the NFC include technical requirements for the construction and ongoing oversight of this new type of care occupancy. Part 9 of the NBC, which deals with housing and small buildings, applies to the design and construction of this new occupancy. New provisions would allow a B4 facility to be sprinklered or not sprinklered, provided it meets certain prescribed conditions. These code changes were developed to reflect the evolving development of, and need for, smaller home-type care facilities in Canada. Provisions for home-type care facilities are new to the NBC, but they are not new to the BC Codes, which has historically addressed small residential care homes in coordination with other applicable provincial legislation. Consultation to complete an impact analysis with interested parties is expected to begin in 2024 after the 2023 Codes come into effect.