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Ontario Association of Architects

Practice Advisory

Issue 38 | September 19, 2025

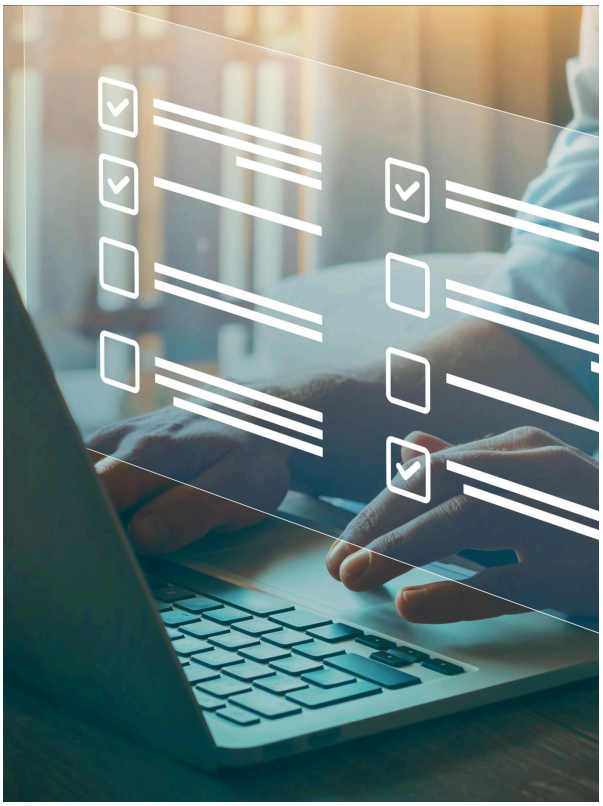
***Practice Advisory**,* a newsletter published six times a year, brings to members' attention topics that have an impact on management of either practice or the project.

Want to Volunteer? Join the Practice Resource Committee in 2026

Until **October 17**, the OAA is welcoming applications to serve on seven of its committees over the 2026–2028 term, including the **Practice Resource Committee**, which reviews regulatory and business-related practice issues that impact day-to-day architectural practice.

Learn More





Participate in the 2025 OAA Member & Practice Surveys

Last week, you should have received an invitation to participate in the confidential 2025 OAA Member Survey (and, in some cases, the 2025 OAA Practice Survey). The Association is seeking input from its members and others who hold status to help guide OAA Council in its decision-making on various initiatives and programs. You are encouraged to participate by **September 30** and there are opportunities to win prizes.

Learn More

Building Code Act: Updates about Minister's Rulings for Innovative Construction Products and Materials

As of **July 1, 2025**, the use of innovative products and materials on projects in Ontario is no longer governed by Minister's Rulings, but by Canadian Construction Materials Centre (CCMC) evaluations. This change, announced via CodeNews, is part of the building code harmonization effort. Be aware of the potential impact on current projects.

Learn More



Ontario's 2024 Building Code: Updated Practice Tip on OBC's Supplementary Standard SB-12 on Energy Efficiency for Housing



The 2024 edition of Ontario's Building Code came into effect on **January 1, 2025**, whereas the three-month transition ended on **March 31, 2025**. Access the newly updated Practice Tip on SB-12 Energy Efficiency for Housing to help your practice and your clients.

Learn More

Additional News and Resources

Closing a Permit: When Authorities Having Jurisdiction Request Compliance Letters for Old Projects

At the **Practice Hotline**, OAA Practice Advisors have received calls that some municipalities have initiated efforts to close outstanding building permits. As a result, certificate of practice (CoP) holders are being asked to undertake this work. Learn more on the **OAA Website**.

OAA's CSA Standards Access Program: Are You Registered?

If you have yet to register for this free program offered to all OAA licensed members, visit the **OAA's landing page** for more on information on how to register or renew your account. Also, check out **CSA Learning's** free online module **NECB 2020 Training for Designers** to earn ConEd hours. This course aims to help participants understand the design requirements of the National Energy Code of Canada for Buildings 2020 (NECB).

Artificial Intelligence Tools and Your Practice

As the development and use of AI technology is rapidly progressing, it is recommended to keep abreast of the potential implications to your practice. **Click here** for some suggested reading.

Fall Reading List: Resources on Integrated Project Delivery

This fall's reading list is spotlighting the Integrated Project Delivery (IPD) model—a progressive approach that continues to gain traction across the industry. With the Canadian Construction Documents Committee (CCDC) releasing the 2025 update to the CCDC 30 contract and guide, there's no better time to revisit the foundations and future of IPD. Visit the **OAA Website** to check out the reading list.

Construction Act Consultation Now Open: Participate by September 24

Last month, the Province posted a discussion paper and draft regulations related to the Ontario *Construction Act* on the **Ontario Regulatory Registry**. This marks an important opportunity for architectural professionals to engage with proposed legislative changes that may impact practice. **Learn how** to review the proposed regulations and submit feedback.

CBHCC Issues Intent Statements for the 2020 National Model Codes

The **Canadian Board for Harmonized Construction Codes** (CBHCC) has released the **Intent Statements supplements** to the 2020 National Model Codes, offering valuable insight into the rationale behind specific code requirements. These documents are designed to assist code users—including Architects, engineers, and building officials—in interpreting and applying acceptable solutions. They also clarify the performance expectations for alternative solutions, helping professionals ensure compliance while exploring innovative design approaches.

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