

Michael de Lint,
Senior Policy Advisor
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

“Michael de Lint has been involved in the policy development and implementation of Bill 124. Prior to joining the ministry he was an Economist with the Ministry of Treasury and Economics”

Mr. de Lint spoke first on Bill 124 – the implementation – intentions – key elements etc. a summary of his comments are as follows:

The building regulatory system is undergoing significant changes as a result of the Building Code Statute Law Amendment Act, 2002 (Bill 124). These changes were intended to; **enhance public safety, streamline the building regulatory process and increase the accountability of building regulatory process.**

Certain elements came into force on September 1, 2003; most others came into force July 1, 2005. Specific elements were extended from July 1, 2005 to January 1, 2006, as a result of a May 2005 regulation change. Please refer to the <http://www.obc.mah.gov.on.ca> for a full explanation of Bill 124.

Mr. de Lint reviewed the qualifications/registrations which apply to persons who undertake “design activities”: prepare a design submitted as part of a building permit application, give information or opinions about whether a building complies with the Building Code, as part of a building permit application, and/or general review of construction (where general review is required by the Building Code). Once again refer to The Ministry Website for detailed information on qualification/registration.

Mr. de Lint reviewed all exemptions, particularly those related to **Designer Registration as it relates to Pre-Engineered Elements**, which are subject to municipal decision. The Pre-Engineered elements exemptions are as follows:

Exemption for pre-engineered elements is found in:

- 2.17.4.1.(3) (l) with respect to registration and
- 2.17.5.1.(2) (h) with respect to qualifications

“A person (design firm) is exempt from the requirements to comply with the qualification and/or registration requirements if the person’s (design firms) design activities relate only to construction of pre-engineered elements of a building if the design of the elements is carried out by a person competent in the specific discipline appropriate to the circumstances”

The ministry has prepared a “Branch Opinion” which was issued in January 2006, Included are factors to be considered by municipalities in evaluating whether pre-engineered wood trusses or engineered wood products qualify for the designer registration/qualification exemption. This opinion is available at http://www.obc.mah.gov.on.ca/userfiles/HTML/nts_4_26361_1.html

*** For a full list of exemptions refer to regulations 2.17.4.1 ***

Mr. de Lint reviewed the required minimum insurance coverage. According to the Ministry's website to date there are; 33 brokerage firms listed who are expected to be familiar with Bill 124, with more to be added as certificates are approved. Once again all information with regards to insurance requirements can be found in full on the Ministry Website.

Mr. de Lint participated in our panel discussion at the end of the day and fielded many questions which were posed to him from designers, engineers, building officials, building supply yard employees and others.

More information can be found on the Ministry website, www.obc.mah.gov.on.ca