

JANUARY 2026

VANCOUVER CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Construction Specifications Canada



Oakridge Mall

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

JANUARY 8
11:30am Lunch
Executive Hotel
Le Soleil,
Vancouver

Understanding Pool Systems. Robert Ousey – Mapei

Participants will gain a solid understanding of the key considerations when planning, specifying, and installing tile in submerged applications. The presentation will explore essential surface preparation methods to ensure proper conditions for long-term performance.

It will also cover the selection and use of waterproofing membranes, mortars, and grouts, focusing on how industry standards apply to each component.

Attendees will receive detailed guidance on product compatibility, proper installation techniques, and adherence to best practices.

Finally, the session will include a comprehensive review of critical construction details—such as movement joints—and highlight common causes of failure and how to prevent them.

ESO

WORDS FROM THE CHAIR

The holiday season is quickly approaching and soon it will be 2026. I want to thank all our members and especially our Vancouver Chapter Board for a great 2025 year. Earlier this quarter we held our annual Oktoberfest, which has been the highlight of our year for some time now. Once again, this event was held at the Italian Cultural Centre to accommodate growth and keep the location central with free parking for all. I would like to give a shout out to John Alley and Nicole Seger for spearheading the event this year and putting together an amazing affair. It seems we are heading in the right direction for not only our attendees, but for our exhibitors as well.

I would also like to mention the work and effort that George McCutcheon has put into the program both in 2025 and as we move into 2026. Many of the topics/speakers have been determined and he has done an outstanding job in piecing it all together. This is something George has done in years past, so when he mentioned he would help in the process, I knew the caliber of material and speakers we were going to feature. Attendance continues to grow at these events, and I feel this is a direct result of George's countless hours of work into the matter.

CSC continues to strive towards growing membership and adding value to existing membership through education and industry news; we are always welcome to suggestions and areas of improvement. If you have any ideas, please reach out and let me know.

As we approach the end of the year, I would once again like to take this opportunity to wish you and your loved ones a happy holiday season. May this festive season bring you joy, peace, and happiness. We look forwards to seeing you in 2026!



Todd Gerard
Chapter Chair

DIRECTOR'S REPORT



John Alley
Chapter Director & Secretary

Happy New Year, everyone!

As we close the door on 2025, I find myself reflecting on what an incredible year it has been for our chapter. We have grown, learned, and hit milestones that wouldn't have been possible without the fantastic members we have and the amazing people we have on our chapter board. If it wasn't for them, we wouldn't have been able to do half the amount of luncheon's as we did and put on another successful Oktoberfest.

We are kicking off 2026 with a fresh start on social media! We are officially launched a new LinkedIn page to give another space to post event and discuss what is happening in our chapter. If you are already a member of our existing page, keep an eye out for a post in the coming weeks directing you to our new official LinkedIn page

I would also like to welcome back James Kelly. James previously has sat on our board, and we are happy to have it back as Member at Large to help with some of the tasks and events we have coming up for 2026.

Thank you for being part of our journey. I wish you all a healthy, prosperous and Happy New Year!

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2025 - 2026 PROGRAM

OCTOBER 22 3:00 to 7:00pm Trade Show 5:00pm Speaker Presentation Italian Cultural Centre, Vancouver	Oktoberfest Trade Fair 2025 Tabletop displays, food and drinks including speaker presentation: Construction Law: Year in Review Satinder Sidhu, Clark Wilson LLP
NOVEMBER 6 11:30am Lunch EXchange Hotel, Vancouver	Translating Net-Zero Performance in New Construction Specifications Neil Norris, RDH Building Science Inc
DECEMBER 11 11:30am Lunch EXchange Hotel, Vancouver	2025 Construction Year End Review Jeannine Martin, President, VRCA Craig Larkins, Director Advocacy and Engagement, VRCA
JANUARY 8 11:30am Lunch Executive Hotel Le Soleil, Vancouver	Understanding Pool Systems. Robert Ousey – Mapei
FEBRUARY 6 11:30am Lunch Executive Hotel Le Soleil, Vancouver	Effective Approaches to Acoustical Challenges in Mass Timber Buildings Kiyoshi Kuroiwa and Payam Ashtiani, Aerocoustics Engineering Ltd.
FEBRUARY 11-12	BUILDEX VANCOUVER
MARCH 12 11:30am Lunch Executive Hotel Le Soleil, Vancouver	NFCA: Flooring Installation Prep New testing standards for concrete substrates Chris Maskell, NFCA and David Daniels, Tramex
APRIL 9 11:30am Lunch Executive Hotel Le Soleil, Vancouver Chapter General Meeting 12 noon	Evolution of Collaborative Construction Contracts Rick Boates, Unitech Construction Management
MAY 7 11:30am Lunch Vancouver, BC	Building Tour TBD
MAY 20 - 23 Winnipeg, Manitoba	CSC National Conference 2026 - Winnipeg The big event not to be missed, with two full days of presentations in multiple streams and evening social activities to bring everyone together.
TBD	GOLF

MEMBERSHIP

We're thrilled to welcome all the new members who have joined us since January of last year!

Utkarsh Singh
Intermediate Designer at Flat Architecture Inc.

Oleksandr Yeremiahin
Station one Architects

Sawinder Kaur
Thinkspace Architecture Planning Interior Design Inc

Salma Elsherbiny
Hilti Corp

Mark Augustynowicz
Metro Aluminum Products

Ian Chandler
Performance Products International

Bernie Schneider
Enterprise Paper Co. Ltd

Elena Schneider
Mapei

Molly Gray
Acton Ostry Architects

Shirley Stern
Neogard

Patrick Schilling
Patrick Schilling Architecture + Consulting

Satinder Sidhu
Clark Wilson LLP

Chun-Wei Chang
Sherwin Williams

Mijeong Song
WA Architects Ltd

Milan Schuck
Sika Canada

Jinfeng (Jane) Ma
Francel Architecture Inc

Maureen Norton
Keystone Architecture & Planning

Chris Maskell
National Floor Covering Association of Canada

Adam Lunn
Tremco Commercial Sealants and Waterproofing

Chris Torunski
IKO Industries

Harmeet Singh Grewal
CaizenX Homes

Louis Nguyen
Costar Construction Inc

Doug Rutherford
Mac Skylights

Jason Wesely
Vitrum Glass Group



Decking being installed on Nov. 3 on the bridge being built across the Fraser River to replace the old Pattullo Bridge linking New Westminster and Surrey. Photo by B.C. Ministry of Transportation /Government of B.C.

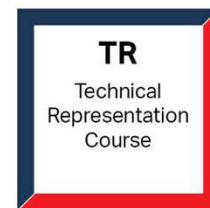
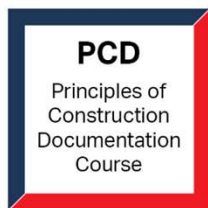
EDUCATION

Craft Your Future

At Construction Specifications Canada, we don't just teach; we ignite transformation. Our vibrant community of learners, alumni, and industry trailblazers is dedicated to pushing boundaries and shaping the future of professional growth. With innovative programs co-created with industry titans, we prioritize hands-on learning experiences that empower you to seize your path with flair and finesse.

AVAILABLE COURSES

CSC offers four courses which will be offered again in the fall, either in person, online, or virtual based on interest, locally and nationally.



For detailed course information and registration, [CLICK HERE](#).

2025-2026 ONLINE CLASSES

- | | |
|------------|--------------------------------|
| PCD Course | - September 8, 2025 (14 weeks) |
| | - January 5, 2026 (14 weeks) |
| CCA | - November 7, 2025 |
| | - March 6, 2026 |
| SP | - November 7, 2026 |
| | - February 27, 2026 |
| TR | - November 7, 2025 |
| | - March 6, 2026 |

ARTICLE

Horizontal Railing Now Code Approved in the City of Vancouver by Bezdan Railing Solutions

Vancouver, BC – September 29, 2025

– The City of Vancouver has officially harmonized its Building By-Law with the National Building Code (NBC) articles pertaining to guard design as of September 15, 2025. This landmark change means Vancouverites can now enjoy greater design freedom when it comes to guard infill, including the installation of horizontal railings for stairs and decks.

Prior to the NBC change, prescriptive articles meant to prevent climbability applied to all guards. The updated code has changed the restrictions for guard design. Now greater design freedom is possible for guards that protect a level of 4.2m (13.78 ft) or less including designs with horizontal elements.

Bezdan Railing Solutions has been a driving force behind the harmonization effort. The company worked closely with the City of Vancouver council members to share national-level insights and research.



“Our goal was to help Vancouver align with national standards while protecting safety,” said Margaret Bezdan, CEO of Bezdan Railing Solutions. “The new code provides homeowners, designers, and builders the freedom to choose railing designs that suit their spaces, without unnecessary limitations.” The result: horizontal railings are now permitted in the City of Vancouver, giving architects and homeowners a stylish and safe option for guardrails.

About the City of Vancouver Building By-Law

The City of Vancouver Building By-Law #14343 sets minimum requirements for safety, health, accessibility, fire protection, and energy efficiency. With the September 15 amendment, the by-law has harmonized its guard requirements with the NBC. Article 9.8.8.6. Design of Guards to Not Facilitate Climbing now applies only to guards protecting levels more than 4.2 metres above grade—a shift that removes barriers to horizontal railing at lower heights.



With this approval, homeowners, builders, and designers in Vancouver can now confidently install horizontal railing solutions such as cable railing, cross tube, or rod systems.

About Bezdan Railing Solutions

Founded in 1960, Bezdan Railing Solutions is Canada's dependable choice for railing components and systems. From stainless steel to cable railing, spindles, glass railing and pipe fittings, Bezdan delivers quality, value, and expert support to fabricators, builders, and designers across North America.



High-resolution photos and additional visuals are available upon request.

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[facebook.com/bezdanrailings](https://www.facebook.com/bezdanrailings)

[linkedin.com/company/bezdanrailings](https://www.linkedin.com/company/bezdanrailings)

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Program Officer



Ron Toth
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Kimberly Tompkins, FCSC
Interim Acting Chair

Retired



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INDUSTRY ORGANIZATIONS

DIVISION 01

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Canadian Construction Documents Committee

www.ccdc.org

DIVISION 02

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Demolition - WorkSafeBC

www.worksafebc.com

DIVISION 03

CONCRETE

Cement Association of Canada

www.cement.ca

Canadian Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute

www.cpci.ca

DIVISION 04

MASONRY

Masonry Institute of British Columbia

www.masonrybc.org

DIVISION 05

METALS

Canadian Institute of Steel Construction

www.cisc-icca.ca

DIVISION 06

WOOD, PLASTICS, AND COMPOSITES

Architectural Woodwork Manufacturers

Association of Canada

www.awmac.com

Western Red Cedar Lumber Association

www.wrcla.org

WoodWorks Wood Products Council

www.woodworks.org

DIVISION 07

THERMAL AND MOISTURE PROTECTION

Roofing Contractors Association of BC

www.rcabc.org

Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors'

National Association

www.smacna.org

EIFS Council of Canada

www.eifscouncil.org

DIVISION 08

OPENINGS

Canadian Steel Door Manufacturers Assoc

www.csdma.org

Door Hardware Institute

www.dhi.org

Fenestration & Glazing Industry Alliance

www.fen-bc.org

DIVISION 09

FINISHES

Association of Wall and Ceiling Contractors

www.wallandceiling.net

Gypsum Association

www.gypsum.org

Master Painters Institute

www.mpi.net

Carpet and Rug Institute

www.carpet-rug.org

National Flooring Covering Association of Canada

www.nfca.ca

National Wood Flooring Association

www.nwfa.org

Terrazzo, Tile and Marble Association of Canada

www.ttmac.com