



**INTERNATIONAL  
ACCREDITATION SERVICE**  
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# **ICC Major Jurisdictions Committee**

**Presentation on Code Enforcement Agency Accreditation**

**Presented by**

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and Chair, IAS Board of Directors**

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# What is accreditation?

Formal, independent verification that a program or institution meets established quality standards and is competent to carry out conformity assessment tasks

# Code Enforcement Agency Accreditation - Who?

- Building Departments
  - City, County, School Districts
  - Small, Medium, Large
  - Stand alone or part of a larger development department
- Fire Prevention Departments
  - State Fire Marshals' Offices
  - County Emergency Services Departments
  - Local Jurisdiction Bureaus

# Code Enforcement Agency Accreditation - What?

- An independent assessment of the department's administrative, code enforcement, and quality management systems
- Ongoing process for improving department policies and procedures
- Documented proof from a leading accreditation authority that the department uses best practices and operates at the highest ethical, legal, and technical standards

# Code Enforcement Agency Accreditation - Why?

- Identifies strengths and weaknesses to ensure ongoing development and progress
- Shows proactive effort to establish a continual plan for improvement of the department's services
- Assists with development of strategic plans with steps to measure progress toward achieving the department's goals
- Provides a benchmark for best practices
- Serves as support and justification for budget requests
- Provides for cost savings
- Provides evidence of department's due diligence
- Increases efficiency in offering services
- Satisfies city/county managers

# Code Enforcement Agency Accreditation - How?

- Submit the application and fee
- Complete the self-evaluation workbook and submit supporting documentation
- Participate in a pre-evaluation and full-evaluation
- Submit to a follow-up evaluation, if necessary
- Respond to findings from the evaluations
- Participate in a public hearing of the Accreditation Review Committee
- Get accredited!

# CPSE – Fire Prevention Departments

- FPD program developed jointly by IAS and the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE)
- Technical Advisory Council was formed in 2010 with Ronny Coleman as the chair
- Accreditation Criteria for Fire Prevention Departments (AC426) was presented as a draft in October 2010 and approved in May 2011
- Accredited Alpha Client – Florida State Fire Marshal's Office in September 2011



# BOABC – Building Departments

## International Accreditation Service and Building Officials Association of British Columbia Sign Agreement

The International Accreditation Service (IAS) and Building Officials Association of British Columbia (BOABC) signed a Service Recognition Agreement on January 26, which outlined specific steps to introduce the IAS Building Department Accreditation (BDA) Program to building departments in the province of British Columbia. The signing took place in Richmond, British Columbia, during a week of activities that included BDA Lead Evaluator Training and the BOABC board meeting.

Twenty individuals attended the three-day class with representatives from municipal and regional district building departments, BOABC board and staff, and the Province of British Columbia. The next steps in the process will be to integrate BOABC representation on IAS councils and committees, to modify the building department program accreditation criteria (AC251) for British Columbia, to accredit an alpha set of British Columbia, building departments under the modified criteria, and to ultimately finalize the accreditation criteria for British Columbia.



Signing the agreement are IAS President Chuck Ramani (left) and BOABC President Ron Dickerson (right).



## BOABC, IAS Agreement Introduces Building Department Accreditation Program in Canada

The Building Officials Association of British Columbia (BOABC) and IAS signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to work together to develop a formal plan to introduce the IAS Building Department Accreditation Program to building departments in Canada. The accreditation demonstrates building departments operate at the highest ethical, legal and technical standards. Signing the MOU during the November ICC Annual Conference in Phoenix are (seated from left) IAS Board Chair John Barrios, ICC Board President William Dupler and BOABC President R.E. Dickinson, (standing) IAS President Chuck Ramani and ICC CEO Richard P. Weiland.



# IAS Activities at the ICC Conference

- Exhibit Booth
- BDA Lead Evaluator Forum
- Best Practices Session: Lessons learned from Accredited Building Departments

# Closing

- Questions?
- Comments?
- Thank you

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