

JOINT BUILDING COMMITTEE

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR BUILDING OFFICIALS

The Code of Conduct applies to the Chief Building Official and inspectors appointed under the Building Code Act in the exercise of a power or the performance of a duty under the Building Code Act or the Building Code. The purpose of this Code is to promote appropriate standards of behaviour and enforcement actions to ensure building officials apply standards of honest and integrity, and to prevent practices constituting an abuse of power including unethical or illegal practices.

Standards of Conduct

Building Officials undertake to:

1. Always act in the public interest, particularly with regard to the safety of building works and structures.
2. Not to act where there may be or where there may reasonably appear to be a conflict between their duties to their employer, their profession, their peers and the public at large and the personal interests.
3. Apply all relevant building by-laws, codes and standards appropriately and without favour.
4. Perform their inspections and plan examination duties impartially and in accordance with the highest professional standards.
5. At all times abide by the highest moral and ethical standards and avoiding any conduct, which could bring or tend to bring Building Official into disrepute.
6. Comply with the provisions of the Building Code Act, the Ontario Building Code and other Acts or Laws which regulate or govern Building Officials or their functions.
7. Not to act beyond their personal level of competence or outside their area of expertise.
8. Maintain current accreditation to act as an Ontario Building Official.
9. Maintain their knowledge and understanding of the best current building practices, the building laws and Codes relevant to their inspection and plan examination function.
10. Extend professional courtesy to all.

The Ontario Building Code Act provides that the performance of Building Officials will be measured against this Code of Conduct. The Joint Building Committee will review any allegations brought forward that the Code of Conduct has been breached. Disciplinary action arising from violations of this Code of Conduct is the responsibility of the employer and will be based on the severity and frequency of the violation in accordance with relevant employment standards.