



**To: Municipalities**

**Date: March 31, 2010**

**From: Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Newfoundland and Labrador (PEGNL)  
Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Architects (NLAA)**

**Subject: Compliance Checklist for Projects**

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Recently we have dealt with several cases of building plans being used for construction that were not properly stamped by licensed engineers and architects as required by legislation in NL. In some cases there have been dangerous accidents and even collapse of buildings under construction.

As a proactive measure we are providing a checklist to municipalities so they can easily check, for the various types of buildings, if the plans are stamped by the required professionals. This should then form part of the Municipalities project file. We wish to emphasize that having stamped drawings is a legal requirement and not optional. We are also pursuing this matter through Government Services and other channels to ensure developers are aware of these requirements and comply with them.

The *Architects Act 2008* and the *Engineers and Geoscientists Act 2008* requires that **all** new buildings, renovations, alterations, enlargements, extensions, etc. have **both a licensed engineer and a licensed architect unless** they are design categories which have been exempted under these Acts. For a full listing of exemptions these Acts should be consulted.

The following examples are some of the more commonly seen building types which require professional services. The technical documents (plans and specifications to be used for construction) should be stamped and signed by both a licensed engineer and a licensed architect:

- **buildings intended for occupancy of 50 or more such as halls, schools, churches, etc.**
- **institutions such as personal care homes, hospitals, justice facilities**
- **residential buildings such as apartments, hotels, boarding houses, etc.**
- **business and personal services occupancy of 300 square meters or more such as banks, medical clinics, etc.**
- **mercantile buildings with public area of 300 square meters or more such as malls, stores, etc.**
- **changes to an existing building that impact Fire and Life Safety**

Please advise project developers of this legal requirement. Anyone proceeding with project work of the types described above, without the involvement of professional engineers and architects, is in violation of the law governing the practice of engineering and architecture in the province Newfoundland and Labrador and is guilty of an offence under the respective acts.

Steve McLean, P. Eng., CEO and Registrar, PEGNL

Paula Pittman, President, NLAA

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pittman".