

INFORMATION BULLETIN

RENOVATION PROJECTS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Permits & Inspections Department
February 10, 2022

Renovations - A Hazardous Material (Hazmat) Survey may be required. This bulletin outlines requirements for construction sites to be made safe for District of West Vancouver staff to enter.

Buildings constructed prior to 1990 - A Hazardous Materials Survey and a Post-Abatement Clearance Letter are integral documents for renovation projects in buildings **constructed prior to 1990**.

Workers' Safety - WorkSafeBC recognizes that buildings constructed prior to 1990 may contain hazardous materials including asbestos, lead and mercury. A property owner, or contractor working for a property owner, must ensure that their construction site is free of hazardous materials, and is safe for workers, including on-site District of West Vancouver staff.

Testing - For renovations in buildings constructed prior to 1990, a Qualified Person (QP) must be retained to assess, identify and quantify any hazardous materials present on the site, and document these findings in a Hazmat Survey.

Abatement Process - If a Hazmat Survey confirms the presence of hazardous materials, these materials must be safely removed from the building as directed by the Qualified Person. Prior to workers entering the site, a Post-Abatement Clearance Letter must be prepared and issued by a Qualified Person.

Qualified Person - The DWV considers a Qualified Person to be a knowledgeable and experienced individual, trained and educated in the management and control of asbestos and other hazardous materials.

The following is a list of Qualified Person designations accepted by the District of West Vancouver (this list may differ from WorkSafeBC):

- Certified industrial hygienist (CIH)
- Registered occupational hygienist (ROH)
- Certified safety professional (CSP)
- Canadian registered safety professional (CRSP)
- Professional Engineer (P.Eng. not EIT)

AHERA Certification - Please note, Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) Certification is not considered by the DWV to be sufficient certification to assess all hazardous materials.

More information - For more information on hazardous materials, please review the Occupational Health and Safety Act regulations [G20.112 Hazardous Materials](#)