



# CWB and The Office of Public Safety

# What is **CWB** and **The Office of Public Safety**?

The CWB Group is an industry supported private sector organization accredited by the Standard Council of Canada (SCC) providing services for organizations seeking certification to Canadian Standards Association (CSA) welding-related standards. The CWB's purpose is to administer Canada's national welding standards, which are embedded in the national and provincial building codes and other industry specific documents.

The CWB is obligated under the conditions of its accreditation through the SCC as a certification body to conduct audits at regular intervals as per the applicable standards of the organizations it certifies. Certified companies must continually demonstrate compliance with the requirements of the certification standard and thereby minimizes liability and public safety risks.

The Office of Public Safety was created to educate and advocate for both public safety and Canadian industry, while ensuring the Canadian Welding Bureau's (CWB) accreditations are maintained and executed to the highest standard. The CWB Office of Public Safety is also a resource for Building Officials and industry to better understand standards related to welding and construction - and how the effective implementation of these standards can assist industry to become more competitive, improve quality, reduce risk and maintain public safety.

Building Officials are key contributors to ensure that our infrastructure is constructed in accordance with our National and Provincial Building Codes which in turn ensures that our infrastructure is safe and the public is protected.

## **The Office of Public Safety attends 2018 Conferences and Conventions**

1. BOABC, Building Officials Association of British Columbia, Kelowna - April 29, 30, May 1, 2
2. COMBEQ, Corporation des Officiers Municipaux et en Environnement du Québec, Rivière-Du-Loup - May 3-5
3. ABOA, Alberta Building Officials Association, Leduc - September 19-21
4. OBOA, Ontario Building Officials Association, Kingston - September 30, October 1-2
5. MBOA, Manitoba Building Officials Association, Winnipeg - October 24-25
6. SBOA, Saskatchewan Building Officials Association, Moose Jaw - TBA



## Guides, Resources and Validation of Company Certification

In Canada, CWB certification is a mandatory element of all projects covered by the National Building Code of Canada and the related Provincial building codes. Building Officials are a key partner in the oversight and enforcement of the requirements of the National and Provincial Building Codes as they relate to the welded fabrication of steel structures.

Fabricators and erectors of welded structural steel for both buildings and bridges must be certified by the CWB. In addition, steel building systems - also commonly known as “pre-engineered buildings” – must also be produced by manufacturers certified to the requirements of CSA A660.

Additional information can be viewed at:

<https://www.weldquality.org/government/building-codes-building-officials>

The CWB Office of Public Safety has compiled relevant excerpts from all currently published CSA standards which reference CWB certification into reference guides. The intent of these documents is to inform and encourage consultants, building officials, purchasers, government departments and other authorities to use these standards, specify and enforce certification requirements, where applicable.

Additional information can be viewed at:

<https://www.weldquality.org/industry/resource-centre>

The CWB Office of Public Safety investigates complaints from the public related to the work of certified companies, including non-compliance with the standard and weld quality issues. We will work with the company to resolve the relevant issues, involving additional parties as required. Again, companies that do not satisfactorily resolve any identified issues risks having their certification withdrawn.

Additionally, the CWB conducts construction site visits to ensure that fabricators and erectors involved in construction projects are correctly certified for the work they are undertaking. The results of these site visits are communicated to the local Site Superintendent. Additionally, should the fabricators and erectors not be correctly certified, the CWB Office of Public Safety will inform the responsible Building Official or regulator of our findings.

Additional information can be viewed at:

<https://www.weldquality.org/enforcement>

Certified company search engine:

<https://www.weldquality.org/enforcement/certified-company-search>

Construction sites visited and search engine:

<https://www.weldquality.org/enforcement/site-visits>

## Association Between the NBCC/Provincial Building Codes and CWB Certification

Additional information can be viewed at:

<https://www.weldquality.org/industry/mandatory-certification>

<http://www.weldquality.org/sites/weldquality.org/files/resources/linkage-between-nbcc-and-welding-certification.pdf>

## Steel Building Systems A660 Certification

A Steel building system is an integrated assembly of manufactured steel primary structural components, secondary structural components of any material, and cladding of any material, specifically designed by the manufacturer to support and transfer loads and provide a complete or partial building shell.

Unlike traditional steel delivered by the steel manufacturer in standard shapes and lengths, the structural components for the steel building systems are designed and manufactured to non-standard shapes and sizes specifically to carry non-traditional loads and to close up the building.

1. Traditional pre-engineered buildings
2. Fabric covered buildings
3. Control buildings
4. Mini storage buildings
5. Greenhouse buildings

## Request assistance, forward information, request enforcement and submit complaints

The CWB is here to help, and can assist Building Officials:

1. Assistance with applications requiring CWB certification
2. Assistance with any aspect of CWB certification requirements
3. Job site visits
4. Complaint investigation

Request assistance, forward information, request enforcement and submit complaints can be made by calls to:

CWB Group employee (1-800-844-6790) or e-mails to ([info@cwbgroup.org](mailto:info@cwbgroup.org))

CWB Group independent confidence line – hotline: (1-800-661-9675) or online reporting:

<http://www.cwbgroup.confidenceline.net>

The Office of Public Safety - ext. 717 or report an incident at:

<https://www.weldquality.org/enforcement/report-incident-request-enforcement>