

From: [T. McLeod](#)
To: [kcbooc](#)
Subject: Building Code comment/input
Date: Friday, March 16, 2018 2:07:09 PM

Kootenai County Commissioners,

I am writing in support of Option 2, making residential building codes a matter of voluntary compliance.

About 20 years ago we moved from Kootenai to Bonner County where I built our new home. I am a carpenter by trade, and I followed the current UBC code and chose to have it inspected by a private firm (Sewell Engineering) in order to document compliance. At the time I had similar concerns to many of the comments you have received, i.e. that no codes/inspections could result in lower resale value and mortgage limitations. However, as time has passed I have not witnessed any of these negative issues in Bonner County, in fact the market is quite strong and the quality of our rural, lakefront, and resort homes is by no means suffering.

Allowing voluntary compliance eases some of the burden for owner/builders, and may in fact add value to large building contractors who choose to receive inspections and then are able to market their homes as code compliant.

We are in the process of returning to Kootenai County and remodeling a home there, and removing mandatory compliance would streamline the overall project for us quite a bit. I can understand the viewpoints in favor of retaining inspections, but from my experience, I do not believe the impacts of voluntary compliance are as negative as they have been portrayed.

Thanks,
Terry McLeod
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