

## BUILDING PERMITS

Provide a homeowner with an assurance that the structure will perform as intended and provide occupants with an acceptable level of safety.

This pamphlet is produced by the City of Medicine Hat's Planning & Building Services Department. This pamphlet has no legal status and cannot be used as an official interpretation of the various codes and regulations currently in effect. Users are advised to contact the P&BS Department for assistance as the City of Medicine Hat accepts no responsibility to persons relying solely on this information.

### REMINDER:

**CAUTION** - Call before you dig! Call for **FREE** utility locate service at least two working days in advance.

#### ELECTRIC:

City of Medicine Hat 1-800-242-3447

#### GAS:

City of Medicine Hat 1-800-242-3447

Medicine Hat  
Water/Sewer

1-403-529-8176

Shaw

1-866-DIG-SHAW

Telus

1-800-242-3447

**APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT ORIGINAL LOCATE SLIPS**

### CITY OF MEDICINE HAT

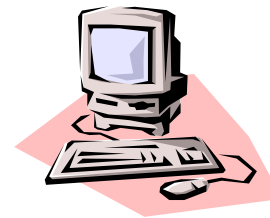
Planning & Building Services  
580 First Street S.E.  
Medicine Hat, Alberta  
T1A 8E6

Phone: (403) 529-8374  
Fax: (403) 502-8038

CITY OF MEDICINE HAT

## DO YOU NEED A BUILDING PERMIT?

*Building a safe & sustainable community together*



**Tel: (403) 529-8374**

## WHY SHOULD I GET A BUILDING PERMIT?

The Alberta Building Code sets the minimum standards for buildings constructed in the province. These standards ensure the safety of the occupants, and provide an assurance that the building will perform as intended.

Getting permits and calling for inspections may seem to be an inconvenience, but can save you from problems in the future. If someone falls from your deck that was built without the proper handrail, you may encounter insurance problems if you do not have permits for the work done. Even if you had someone else perform the work, it is the homeowners responsibility to ensure the permits are in place.

Our Safety Codes Officers can determine problem areas during the plan check stage, and corrections can be made easier on paper than in the field. The field inspectors often uncover problems, that if left uncorrected, can cost the homeowner a substantial amount later. For instance, an addition (including decks or sunrooms) built on improper foundations may settle or heave, damaging the house and creating leaks.

### PERMITS ARE REQUIRED FOR:

- Construction of a foundation to support a building or structure.
- Erection of a new building or structure.
- Demolish, relocate, repair, alter or make additions to an existing building or structure.
- Decks more than two (2) feet above grade.
- Sunroom additions, deck enclosures or roofs over decks.
- Swimming pools or hot tubs greater than two (2) feet deep (in ground or above ground).
- Retaining walls greater than two (2) feet in height.
- Finishing basements.
- Changing window sizes or adding bay/bow windows.
- Garages
- Accessory buildings (sheds, gazebos) greater than 107 sq ft (10 sq m).

**NOTE: It may be necessary to obtain a Development Permit prior to applying for a Building Permit. For further information, phone 529-8374 and one of the Planning staff will be pleased to assist you.**

### PERMITS ARE NOT REQUIRED FOR:

- Painting or decorating if such work will not create an unsafe condition in or about the project.
- Driveways or parking pads.
- Fences, sidewalks and retaining walls (less than 2 feet high).
- Accessory buildings less than 107 sq ft (10 sq m) if they do not create a hazard.
- Window replacement, assuming window size does not change.
- Re-siding a house.
- Replacement of kitchen cupboards.
- Swimming pools/hot tubs less than two (2) feet deep
- Re-shingling a roof on a house.

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