

Enforcement by municipalities

3 (1) The council of each municipality is responsible for the enforcement of this Act in the municipality, except where otherwise provided by this Act. 2002, c. 9, s. 6 (1).

Chief building official, inspectors

(2) The council of each municipality shall appoint a chief building official and such inspectors as are necessary for the enforcement of this Act in the areas in which the municipality has jurisdiction. 1992, c. 23, s. 3 (2).

Construction and Demolition

Building permits

8 (1) No person shall construct or demolish a building or cause a building to be constructed or demolished unless a permit has been issued therefor by the chief building official. 1992, c. 23, s. 8 (1); 1997, c. 30, Sched. B, s. 7 (1).

Application for permit

(1.1) An application for a permit to construct or demolish a building may be made by a person specified by regulation and the prescribed form or the form approved by the Minister must be used and be accompanied by the documents and information specified by regulation. 2002, c. 9, s. 14 (1); 2006, c. 21, Sched. F, s. 104 (5).

Issuance of permits

(2) The chief building official shall issue a permit referred to in subsection (1) unless,

(a) the proposed building, construction or demolition will contravene this Act, the building code or any other applicable law;

(b) the applicant is a builder or vendor as defined in subsection 1 (1) of the New Home Construction Licensing Act, 2017 and is not licensed under that Act;

(b.1) the Architects Act or the Professional Engineers Act requires that the proposed construction of the building be designed by an architect or a professional engineer or a combination of both and the proposed construction is not so designed;

(c) a person who prepared drawings, plans, specifications or other documents or gave an opinion concerning the compliance of the proposed building or construction with the building code does not have the applicable qualifications, if any, set out in the building code or does not have the insurance, if any, required by the building code;

(d) the plans review certificate, if any, required for the application does not contain the prescribed information;

(e) the application for the permit is not complete; or

(f) any fees due have not been paid. 2002, c. 9, s. 14 (2); 2014, c. 7, Sched. 3, s. 1; 2015, c. 28, Sched. 1, s. 147; 2017, c. 33, Sched. 1, s. 88 (1).

Restriction

(2.1) If the application includes a plans review certificate that contains the prescribed information, the chief building official is not entitled to refuse to issue the permit on the grounds that the proposed construction of the building to which the certificate relates does not comply with the building code. 2002, c. 9, s. 14 (2).

Decision

(2.2) If an application for a permit meets the requirements prescribed by regulation, the chief building official shall, unless the circumstances prescribed by regulation apply, decide within the period prescribed by regulation whether to issue the permit or to refuse to issue it. 2009, c. 33, Sched. 21, s. 2 (2).

Same, reasons for refusal

(2.3) If the chief building official refuses to issue the permit, he or she shall inform the applicant of all of the reasons for the refusal of the permit and shall do so within the period prescribed by regulation. 2002, c. 9, s. 14 (2).

Conditional permit

(3) Even though all requirements have not been met to obtain a permit under subsection (2), the chief building official may issue a conditional permit for any stage of construction if,

(a) compliance with by-laws passed under sections 34 and 38 of the Planning Act and with such other applicable law as may be set out in the building code has been achieved in respect of the proposed building or construction;

(b) the chief building official is of the opinion that unreasonable delays in the construction would occur if a conditional permit is not granted; and

(c) the applicant and such other person as the chief building official determines agree in writing with the municipality, upper-tier municipality, board of health, planning board, conservation authority or the Crown in right of Ontario to,

(i) assume all risk in commencing the construction,

- (ii) obtain all necessary approvals in the time set out in the agreement or, if none, as soon as practicable,
- (iii) file plans and specifications of the complete building in the time set out in the agreement,
- (iv) at the applicant's own expense, remove the building and restore the site in the manner specified in the agreement if approvals are not obtained or plans filed in the time set out in the agreement, and
- (v) comply with such other conditions as the chief building official considers necessary, including the provision of security for compliance with subclause (iv). 1992, c. 23, s. 8 (3); 1997, c. 30, Sched. B, s. 7 (2); 1999, c. 12, Sched. M, s. 5 (1); 2002, c. 17, Sched. F, Table.

Delegation re conditional permits

(3.1) A principal authority may, in writing, delegate to the chief building official the power to enter into agreements described in clause (3) (c) and may impose conditions or restrictions with respect to the delegation. 2002, c. 9, s. 14 (3).

Criteria

(4) In considering whether a conditional permit should be granted, the chief building official shall, among other matters, have regard to the potential difficulty in restoring the site to its original state and use if required approvals are not obtained. 1992, c. 23, s. 8 (4).

Registration

(5) Any agreement entered into under clause (3) (c) may be registered against the land to which it applies and the municipality, upper-tier municipality, board of health, planning board, conservation authority or the Province of Ontario, as the case may be, is entitled to enforce its provisions against the registered owner and, subject to the Registry Act and the Land Titles Act, any person acquiring any interest in the land subsequent to the registration of the agreement. 1999, c. 12, Sched. M, s. 5 (2); 2002, c. 17, Sched. F, Table; 2017, c. 34, Sched. 2, s. 5.

Enforcement of agreement

(6) If the chief building official determines that a building has not been removed or a site restored as required by an agreement under clause (3) (c), the chief building official may cause the building to be removed and the site restored and for this purpose the chief building official, an inspector and their agents may enter upon the land and into the building governed by the agreement at any reasonable time without a warrant. 1992, c. 23, s. 8 (6).

Lien

(7) If the building is in a municipality, the municipality shall have a lien on the land for the amount spent on the removal of the building and restoration of the site under subsection (6) and the amount shall have priority lien status as described in section 1 of the Municipal Act, 2001 or section 3 of the City of Toronto Act, 2006, as the case may be. 2002, c. 17, Sched. F, Table; 2006, c. 32, Sched. C, s. 3 (1).