

# British Columbia First Nations Building Inspector

## Full-time Certificate Program

*This program can be offered at various locations and dates in British Columbia, Canada.*

*This program is currently under revision.*

### The Program

This program is designed to provide participants with specific skills for successful employment as a Building Inspector. Participants will gain theoretical and hands-on knowledge required for inspection work with Canada Mortgage & Housing Corporation (CMHC), Indian & Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), and First Nations organizations to inspect new house construction and renovations on BC reserves. The program will include participating in field inspections and demonstrating skills learned in the class.

The BC First Nations Building Inspector Training is a practical, skill-based program. The program focuses on inspection procedures for newly constructed units on reserves using the BC Building Code and current CMHC program requirements. In addition to inspection procedures and Code requirements, the course covers basic math, basic computers, effective communication, and business/report writing skills. It also includes WHMIS and Occupational First Aid Level 1 to ensure participants acquire skills to work safely and respond to emergency situations.

On successful completion, students will receive a Vancouver Island University Certificate of Program Completion. A minimum 80% must be obtained in all three areas of testing: written, oral, and plans checking, as well as attendance.



### Career Opportunities

The development of this unique training program has been an initiative of Canada Housing and Mortgage Corporation in partnership with Vancouver Island University, Cowichan Campus. Graduates from this program will meet the requirements of CMHC Native Inspections Service Initiative (NISI), inspecting new construction and renovations on reserves throughout BC and meets the certification requirements of the First Nations National Building Officers Association for a Level 1 First Nation Building Officer (FNBO).

This program should provide a solid foundation for future education if the participant wants to continue in the inspection field.

**Certificates & Diplomas ■ Career Programs ■ Skills Upgrading**  
**Visit our Website ■ [www.viu.ca/ccs](http://www.viu.ca/ccs)**

---

# Centre for Continuing Studies

## Admission Requirements

- Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.
- Minimum technical qualifications:
  - a fully qualified tradesperson with at least two years of post apprentice experience; or
  - a construction generalist with at least four years' experience in construction or renovation of residential buildings (documented proof required).

## Notes on Admission:

- Students with good reading and comprehension skills, basic math and study skills, and an aptitude for construction will experience the most success in the program;
- If your technical qualification falls in the category of “construction generalist” (minimum of 4 years), documented proof of previous work experience in the construction or renovation of residential buildings is required. This may be submitted in the form of a letter(s) from past employers, copies of T4's or a notarized statement;
- Students should be prepared to review and study Section 9 of the BC Building Code prior to the start of class. Students with a thorough knowledge of Section 9 will experience the most success in the program.
- Students are responsible for travel, accommodation, and meal expenses. Students are to bring their own work boots and hard hat.

## Textbook List (textbooks are included in tuition cost)

- British Columbia Building Code; Section 9
- Canadian Wood-Frame House Construction
- Building Solutions: A Problem Solving Guide for Builders and Renovators
- Renovator's Technical Guide

The curriculum has been based on the current BC Building Code. Applicants with a thorough knowledge of Section 9 will experience the most success in the program.

## Financial Assistance

Prospective students are encouraged to contact their First Nations Band/Tribe or agencies for financial assistance to cover travel, accommodation, and meal costs.

## Program Outline

### Building Inspection For New Housing (FNBI 001) - 6 weeks

- Basic building inspection practices
- Reviewing plans
- Conducting site inspections
- Excavation inspections
- Conducting pre-backfill inspections
- Conducting pre-drywall inspections
- Conducting final inspections
- Communicating and reporting on inspections
- Occupational First Aid

### Residential Rehabilitation (FNBI 002) - 3 weeks

- Renovation inspection functions
- Conducting inspections of existing housing units

## How to Apply

1. Complete the Vancouver Island University [Application for Admissions form](#) including required documentation (proof of admission requirements as stated in “Notes on Admission”)
2. A one-time \$35 application fee will apply for first-time applicants of Vancouver Island University
3. Once accepted, participants will receive a letter from the Admissions Office outlining fee payment procedures.

For more information about this program visit [viu.ca/ccs](http://viu.ca/ccs) or call a Vancouver Island University campus.

*The information contained in this guide is accurate at the time of printing. Vancouver Island University reserves the right to make changes to this program as necessary, including cancellation and adjustment of courses and changes in fee structure.*

Updated 2011/07/14

---

### Nanaimo Campus

900 Fifth Street  
Building 310  
Nanaimo, BC V9R 5S5  
Tel: (250) 740-6160  
Toll Free: 1-866-734-6252  
Fax: (250) 740-6452  
Email: [ccs@viu.ca](mailto:ccs@viu.ca)

### Parksville/Qualicum Centre

Parksville Civic & Technology Centre  
100 Jensen Avenue East, Box 42  
Parksville, BC V9P 2G3  
Tel: (250) 248-2096  
Toll Free: 1-866-734-6252  
Fax: (250) 248-9792  
Email: [pqcampus@viu.ca](mailto:pqcampus@viu.ca)

### Cowichan Campus

222 Cowichan Way  
Duncan, BC V9L 6P4  
Tel: (250) 746-3519  
Toll Free: 1-888-747-3519  
Fax: (250) 746-3584  
Email: [ccscowichan@viu.ca](mailto:ccscowichan@viu.ca)

### Powell River Campus

3960 Selkirk Avenue  
Powell River, BC V8A 3C6  
Tel: (604) 485-2878  
Toll Free: 1-877-888-8890  
Fax: (604) 485-2868  
Email: [julie.clarke@viu.ca](mailto:julie.clarke@viu.ca)

Visit our Website ■ [www.viu.ca/ccs](http://www.viu.ca/ccs)