***Radon Track: A Guide to Radon Mitigation in the National Building Code of Canada***

In conjunction with studies conducted by Health Canada, the National Building Code 2015 ed. introduced provisions to mitigate the ingress of radon gas into habitable conditioned spaces such as houses in the 2010 edition. This is a prescriptive explanation for the rough-in of a subfloor depressurization system in a house:

When a rough-in is to be installed beneath a floor slab, it is first and foremost required to be installed in a 100 mm (4”) layer of clean granular material that “not more than 10% […] will pass a 4 mm sieve” (9.16.2.1.[1]). Both crushed rock and screened rock meet this requirement.

A pipe not less than 100 mm (4”) in diameter is required for the rough-in. The pipe, which can be perforated or solid, is to have an open end beneath the floor slab. The location of the end of the pipe should be “at or near the centre of the floor” (9.13.4.3.[3][b][i]). To accomplish this, the National Building Code and the Illustrated User’s Guide provide some examples:

