

OMFPOA Symposium

OFMEM Update (Line 2)

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Outline

- Organizational Update
- VO Update
- CO Update (Phase 2)
- Ticketable Offences
- Inquest Recommendations (Whitby and East Gwillimbury)
- Midrise Wood Guide
- Other Projects

Organizational Update

- Drummond Report – 2012
 - Integrate programs and services to find efficiencies
- OFM/EMO merger to form OFMEM – 2013
 - New entity under single leader
- Integrated organizational structure - 2014
 - Three operational divisions
 - Response (Barney Owens)
 - Field and Advisory Services / DFM (Jim Jessop)
 - Prevention and Risk Management (Al Suleman)
- Interim FM/Chief, Jim Jessop – 2015
- Interim FM/Chief, Ross Nichols – 2015
- Interim DFM, Jim Kay - 2015
- New organizational structure – 2016 (announcement pending)
 - Fine tuning
 - Disentanglement

Vulnerable Occupancies Update



Vulnerable Occupancies

Re-cap of requirements in force in 2014:

- O. Reg. 150/13: Changes to the Fire Code
 - Retrofit for Care Occupancies and regulated Retirement Homes
 - Sprinklers for care & treatment
 - Owners to undertake annual fire drill involving approved scenario
 - Mandatory training for Owner/Operators and CFO's approving FSP's

Vulnerable Occupancies

- O. Reg. 364/13: Mandatory Inspection/Fire Drill in Vulnerable Occupancy
- O. Reg. 365/13: Mandatory Assessment of Complaints and Requests for Approval
- Under these regulations, mandatory requirements for Fire Departments include:
 - Observation of annual fire drill when notified by the owner/operator
 - Conduct an annual fire safety inspection
 - File an entry to the VO Registry

Vulnerable Occupancies

Coming up:

- January 1, 2017
 - Compliance deadline for mandatory training of owners/operators and Chief Fire Officials
- January 1, 2019
 - Compliance deadline for mandatory sprinklering of existing Retirement Homes and care occupancies
- January 1, 2025
 - Compliance deadline for mandatory sprinklering of existing long term care homes

Vulnerable Occupancies - Updates

- Fire Marshal's Directive 2014-002: Vulnerable Occupancies (Fire Drill Scenarios, Fire Drill Observations, Fire Safety Inspections)
- Staffing Level Guideline: TG-01-2013
 - To assist owner/operators of vulnerable occupancies meet their staffing obligations under Section 2.8 of the Fire Code
- Reports of VO Registry entries for owners/operators
 - Letter to Fire Chief (May 30, 2016)

VO Portal – Updated Qs and As (eg. March of Dimes)

Q3: An apartment building contains several apartments occupied by persons who contract directly with an outside agency for the provision of special care services. These occupants lease their apartments directly from the building landlord. The landlord has no involvement, directly or indirectly, with the provision of special care services. Is either the landlord or the outside agency operating a facility within the meaning of the definition of “care occupancy”?

A3: No. Neither the landlord nor the agency is operating a facility within the meaning of the definition of “care occupancy”.

Q4: An apartment building contains several apartments that are leased by an outside agency for the purpose of providing special care services and living accommodation to its clients. The landlord has no involvement, directly or indirectly with the provisions of the special care services. Is either the landlord or the outside agency operating a facility within the meaning of the definition of “care occupancy”?

A4: Yes. The outside agency is operating a facility because it is providing both the living accommodation and the special care services to its clients.

Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Update



Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Existing OFC Provisions:

- Apply to existing residential occupancies that contain at least one fuel-burning appliance, fireplace or an attached storage garage
- Require the installation, maintenance and replacement of CO alarms by owners/landlords
- Include additional testing requirements for landlords
- Maintenance, replacement & testing requirements parallel those for smoke alarms
- Installation requirements parallel those in OBC
- Compliance phase-in completed October 15, 2015

Carbon Monoxide Alarms: Phase 2 Considerations

- The following recommendations have been sent by the OFMEM to the MMAH for consideration for a Phase 2 updating of CO alarm requirements in the 2017 Ontario Building Code

1) Expand application of CO requirements

Current application mandates CO alarms for only applicable residential suites. There are other areas, such as vulnerable occupancies, that also need CO alarms due to the potential for exposure to CO sources

Carbon Monoxide Alarms: Phase 2 considerations

2) Modification to alarm requirements

- Consideration for backup power in the event of a power failure for hard wired CO alarms
- Consideration for visual alarms for the hearing impaired

Carbon Monoxide Alarms: Phase 2 Considerations

3) Additional installation requirements considerations for OBC for residential occupancies

- Suites heated by remote forced air fuel-burning appliance
- Suites with a flue
- Suites adjacent to rooms/other suites/areas with a flue or fuel-burning appliance
- Every storey of a suite, regardless of whether or not there is a sleeping area
- Within a suite, sleeping areas containing a flue
- Within a suite, sleeping areas adjacent to a room/area outside the suite with a fuel-burning appliance or flue
- Public corridors that serve residential suites and are directly heated by a forced air fuel-burning appliance
- Interconnection of CO alarms located in public corridors that serve residential suites.
- Laundry rooms outside residential suites, that have a fuel-burning appliance (i.e. gas dryer)
- Room outside residential suites with a fuel-burning cooking appliance (i.e. gas stove)

Carbon Monoxide Alarms: Phase 2 Considerations

Add Definition for Carbon Monoxide Alarm to OBC

“Smoke alarms” is defined the Building Code. “Carbon monoxide alarms” should also be defined to provide further clarification of the CO alarm requirements. Suggested definition follows:

“Carbon monoxide alarm means a carbon monoxide detection device with integral audible alarm device designed to sound an alarm within the room, suite or space in which it is located when the concentration of airborne carbon monoxide exceeds a predetermined level and duration.”

CO ALARM PORTAL

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Ontario government website. The address bar shows the URL: <http://www.ofm.gov.on.ca/english/FireMarshal/CarbonM...>. The browser's menu bar includes File, Edit, View, Favorites, Tools, and Help. The page header features the Ontario logo and the text "MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY SAFETY & CORRECTIONAL SERVICES". A search bar is located in the top right, and a navigation menu includes links for HOME, NEWSROOM, ABOUT THE MINISTRY, and CONTACT US. The breadcrumb trail reads: "You are here > Home > Office of the Fire Marshal > Carbon Monoxide Alarms Overview". A left-hand navigation menu is expanded to show the "Office of the Fire Marshal" section, with sub-links for OFM Home page, About the Office of the Fire Marshal, Ontario Fire College, Education Testing & Certification, Fire Safety & Public Education, Media Relations & Resources, and Fire Service Programs. The main content area is titled "Carbon Monoxide Alarms Overview" and contains a paragraph of introductory text. A "PRINT" button is visible in the top right of the content area.

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Carbon Monoxide Alarms Overview

The information in this section is intended to guide owners/operators of residential buildings in meeting their obligations under the Fire Code for the installation, maintenance and replacement of carbon monoxide alarms. The various tools and resources will be useful in determining the applicability of the Fire Code to various types of residential buildings and in determining compliance requirements and time frames.

PRINT

Ticketable Offences

Ticketable Offences

O. Reg. 52/15 (March 2015)

- New short form wording for 40+ Fire Code violations:
 - Smoke alarms
 - Carbon monoxide alarms
 - Closures
 - Fire extinguishers
 - Records

Ticketable Offences

Fines

- Established by the Office of the Chief Justice of the Ontario Court of Justice
- Range from \$195 - \$295 depending on violation
- Victim surcharge ranges from \$35 - \$60
- Court costs \$5
- Total payable: \$235 - \$360

Ticketable Offences

Survey

- In a recent survey of 80+ fire departments in Ontario regarding use of Part 1 tickets as a Fire Code enforcement option:
 - Used by > 70%
 - Use supported by legal counsel >88%
 - In favour of expanding list of ticketable offences > 68%

Ticketable Offences

Phase 2

- Explore
 - Additional Fire Code requirements that can be added to the list
 - Set Fines

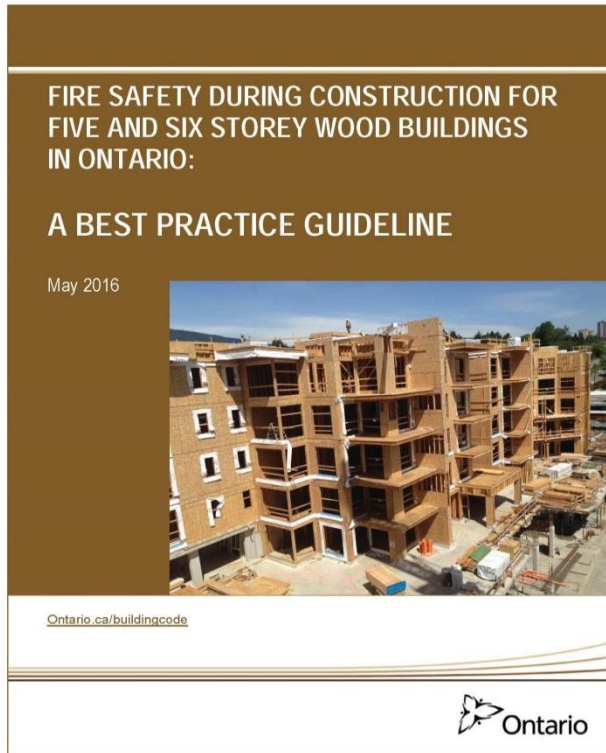
Mid Rise Wood Construction Update



Mid-Rise Wood Construction

- Changes to the Building Code to allow for construction of wood frame buildings up to six storeys, an increase from the previous limit of four storeys.
- Effective January 1, 2015
- Provisions introduced many fire safety enhancements not currently required for four-storey wood frame buildings
- Concerns raised by fire service regarding the potential vulnerability of wood frame buildings during the construction process
- MMAH in consultation with OFMEM / MOL and other stakeholder involvement, developed a guideline that outlines best practices for maintaining fire safety during construction of combustible structures

Mid-Rise Wood Construction



- Best Practice Guideline launched on May 13, 2016
- Available through MMAH and OFMEM website

Mid-Rise Wood Construction

Some topic areas included in the guideline:

- Fire Safety Planning
- Fire Prevention
- Safe Egress for Workers in Buildings
- Fire Protection Systems
- Use of Fire Barriers to Impede Fire Spread
- Exposure to Adjacent Buildings
- Access for FD Operations
- Provisions for Adequate Fire Protection Water Supplies

Recommendations from Coroner's Inquest

Recommendations from Coroner's Inquest

- In April 2016, 33 Coroner's Jury recommendations concerning fatal fires in Whitby and East Gwillimbury were released
- Recommendations targeted to multiple ministries, municipalities, OFMEM, OAFC, Ontario Safety League

Select Recommendations (paraphrased)

The OFMEM:

- Consult with stakeholders to define the meaning of “public education in section 2(1)(a) of the FPPA
- Develop a public education program related to public fire safety in accessory apartments
- Educate the public on its responsibility to maintain and not dismantle/vandalize smoke alarms
- Work with IBC and other stakeholders to increase insurance policy requirements for residential smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors and to develop public service announcements to promote awareness of the importance of working smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors
- Continue and expand public education on the fact that upon discovery of smoke or fire every person must immediately get out and stay out of the building

Select Recommendations (paraphrased)

The OFMEM and Municipal Fire Departments:

- To consider incorporating lessons learned from East Gwillimbury and Whitby incidents into future course materials (with personal information and identifiers removed and without using the audio of the 911 calls), such as fire college symposia and training
- Fire Inspectors to notify tenants of Landlord's non-compliance via letter
- Inspectors (fire or building) must have visual proof of compliance, e.g. confirming drywall installation for fire separation. (Verbal confirmation by property owner is not sufficient)
- Develop a provincial "red-flag" system which would trigger a re-inspection of properties with a history of non-compliance/conviction under the Fire Code

Select Recommendations (paraphrased)

The OAFC:

- Fire departments to explore re-allocating their current resources and/or utilizing resources from the suppression area, for fire prevention, public education and fire safety inspections in their municipalities...

Select Recommendations (paraphrased)

The Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services:

- To make a Regulation, pursuant to clause 78(1)(k) of the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, requiring mandatory certification and training, to recognized industry standards, for all personnel (as defined in the Fire Protection and Prevention Act) whose primary job function is to perform: 1) fire inspections, 2) public education, and/or 3) communications (call-taking/dispatch)
- To work with the Technical Standards and Safety Association (TSSA) to promote the installation of Carbon Monoxide detectors through HVAC technicians who install gas fired appliance
- To amend section 9.8 of the Fire Code to address interior finishes of the means of egress in accessory apartments with only one means of escape and, in particular, require that such finishes have a maximum flame spread rating of 150 (example wording provided)

Select Recommendations (paraphrased)

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, OFMEM and OAFC:

- To consult with stakeholders, research and promote the installation of sprinklers as a component of fire and life safety in all newly constructed residential homes with the appropriate amendment under the Ontario Building Code
- To consult with stakeholders, research and promote two forms of egress for accessory apartments with the appropriate amendments under the Ontario Building Code

Other Current Projects

Other Projects: Sauna Fires

Some other topics currently under research:

- Sauna Fires
 - 2 recent fires in Toronto
 - High temperatures in a low oxygen environment leading to risk of backdraft explosion
 - Endangers firefighters during suppression operations
 - Research has identified limitations to product standard
 - Working with ESA to introduce changes to CAN/CSA 22.2 Electric Sauna Heating Equipment
 - Communique issued April 27, 2016

Other Projects: LEFS Buildings

Some other topics currently under research:

- Identification of Buildings using Lightweight Engineered Framing Systems
 - 2011 fire in Listowell, Ontario
 - Commercial building
 - Fire originated in a concealed ceiling space due to roofing operations
 - Incident results in the death of 2 firefighters
 - Section 5.11 Hot Surface Applications (in force Jan. 1/15) developed in response
 - Questions continue regarding need to identify such buildings for the safety of emergency responders
 - Anticipate private members Bill

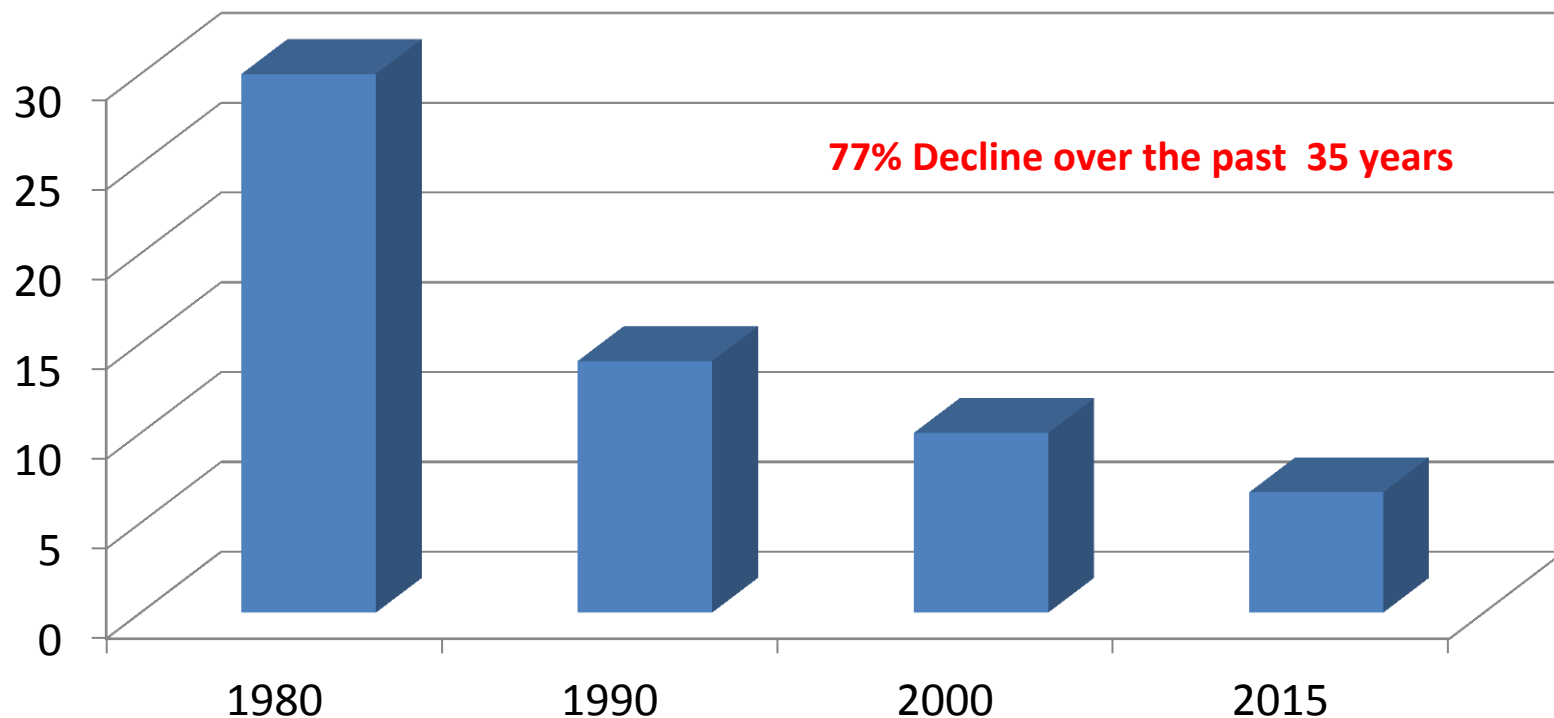
Other Projects: Furniture in Corridors

Some other topics currently under research:

- Use of furniture in lobbies and corridors
 - Recent fire incident in a TCHC building
 - Involving the ignition of upholstered furniture in a corridor
 - Incident resulted in 4 deaths
 - Raises questions regarding:
 - use of upholstered furniture in this context
 - Building Code / Fire Code requirements
 - Proposed ULC standard on Method of Test for Fire Growth of Upholstered Furniture – introducing an open flame test vs smouldering test only

Comparison of Fire Death Rate

Ontario Fire Deaths / Million Population



Thank You!