



COMMUNIQUE

March 31, 2017

427A SPRINKLER AND FIRE PROTECTION INSTALLER TRADE (SFPI)

In an effort to clarify application of qualification requirements for the 427A Sprinkler and Fire Protection Installer Trade (SFPI), which became compulsory as of February 2, 2017, the Ontario College of Trades (College) in conjunction with the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management (OFMEM) and the 427A SFPI Trade Board have reviewed the work elements of Sections 6.4, 6.5 and 6.6 of Division B of the Fire Code (O. Reg. 213/07, as amended) to determine which elements fall within the scope of practice for the SFPI trade outlined in section 41 of O. Reg. 275/11. The College, OFMEM and the SFPI Trade Board have agreed to the following:

- *All inspections, checks and tests scheduled at intervals of six (6) months or longer as required under Sections 6.4, 6.5 and 6.6 of Division B of the Fire Code (O. Reg. 213/07, as amended), fall within the scope of practice of the SFPI Trade outlined in section 41 of O. Reg. 275/11;*
- *Work prescribed in Sections 6.4, 6.5 and 6.6 of Division B of the Fire Code that is undertaken in relation to alteration, repair or restoration of a fire suppression system that is out of service, falls within the scope of practice of the SFPI trade outlined in section 41 of O. Reg. 275/11;*
- *Persons that undertake the work identified above shall comply with section 4, part II of the Ontario College of Trades and Apprenticeship Act, 2009, whereby the individual shall be a member in good standing of the College or an apprentice working pursuant to a registered training agreement (RTA) that is not suspended in the trade of Sprinkler and Fire Protection Installer.*

In addition to the work elements stated above, the parties have identified an additional group of select work elements in Sections 6.4, 6.5 and 6.6 of the Ontario Fire Code that are critical to ensuring that fire suppression systems will operate as intended and that fire protection water supplies will be available during a fire. The extent to which these work elements must be carried out by qualified persons is outlined in Table A below.

Discussions between all parties remain ongoing and additional clarifications regarding the application of the SFPI compulsory qualifications will be forthcoming.

Please direct all questions concerning the scope of practice of the SFPI trade or work elements identified to the College at info@collegeoftrades.ca.

For questions specific to the application of the Ontario Fire Code, please contact the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management: <http://bit.ly/2oxVJVh>.



TABLE A

Note

1. In Table A below, “qualified member” means an individual who is a member in good standing of the Ontario College of Trades (College) or an apprentice working pursuant to a registered training agreement (RTA) that is not suspended in the trade of Sprinkler and Fire Protection Installer.
2. Where referred to in the Table A below, work may be carried out by the owner or their delegate, the College strongly recommends this work be completed by a qualified member, noting the fully operational and function of the fire protection system is the ultimate liability of the building owner.

Select work elements in Sections 6.4, 6.5, and 6.6 of Division B of the Fire Code, O. Reg. 213/07	Application of Sprinkler and Fire Protection Installer Trade Qualification Requirements as agreed to by all Parties
6.5.4.3. The priming water for dry-pipe systems shall be inspected at least every three months to ensure that the proper level above the dry-pipe valve is maintained	<p>(COMPULSORY)</p> <p>To complete item 6.5.4.3 in accordance with the Ontario Fire Code correctly, the system is manipulated and consequently impaired. This is therefore a compulsory work element to be completed by a qualified member.</p>
6.5.5.2. (1) Except as provided in Article 6.5.5.7., the alarm on all sprinkler systems shall be tested monthly by flowing water through the test connection located at the sprinkler valve.	<p>Sentence 6.5.5.2. (1) of Div. B of the Ontario Fire Code may be carried out by the owner or his/her delegate.</p> <p>(COMPULSORY)</p> <p>Twice annually (every 6 months) the work in Sentence 6.5.5.2.(1) shall be completed by a qualified member.</p> <p>Additionally, where work prescribed in Sentence 6.5.5.2.(1) takes place immediately following an impairment, alteration or change to the Fire Suppression System, the individual completing the work shall be a qualified member.</p>
6.5.5.7. (1) If electrical supervision is provided for a sprinkler system, it shall be tested by operating the supervisory signal devices in conformance with Sentences (2) and (3).	<p>Sentence 6.5.5.7.(1) of Div. B of the Ontario Fire Code may be carried out by the owner or his/her delegate.</p> <p>(COMPULSORY)</p> <p>Twice annually (every 6 months) the work in Sentence 6.5.5.7.(1) shall be completed by a qualified member.</p> <p>Additionally, where work prescribed in Sentence 6.5.5.7.(1) takes place immediately following an impairment, alteration or change to the Fire Suppression System, the individual completing the work shall be a qualified member.</p>



Select work elements in Sections 6.4, 6.5, and 6.6 of Division B of the Fire Code, O. Reg. 213/07	Application of Sprinkler and Fire Protection Installer Trade Qualification Requirements as agreed to by all Parties
6.5.5.7. (2) Transmitters and water-flow-actuated devices shall be tested every two months.	<p>Sentence 6.5.5.7.(2) of Div. B of the Ontario Fire Code may be carried out by the owner or his/her delegate.</p> <p>(COMPULSORY)</p> <p>Twice annually (every 6 months) the work in Sentence 6.5.5.7.(2) shall be completed by a qualified member.</p> <p>Additionally, where work prescribed in Sentence 6.5.5.7.(2) takes place immediately following an impairment, alteration or change to the Fire Suppression System, the individual completing the work shall be a qualified member.</p>
6.6.3.3. (1) Fire pumps shall be operated at least once per week at rated speed.	<p>Sentence 6.6.3.3.(1) of Div. B of the Ontario Fire Code may be carried out by the owner or his/her delegate.</p> <p>(COMPULSORY)</p> <p>Twice annually (every 6 months) the work in Sentence 6.6.3.3.(1) shall be completed by a qualified member.</p> <p>Additionally, where work prescribed in Sentence 6.6.3.3.(1) takes place immediately following an impairment, alteration or change to the Fire pump assemblies, apparatus or Sup-pression System, the individual completing the work shall be a qualified member.</p>
6.6.3.3. (2) The fire pump discharge pressure, suction pressure, lubricating oil level, operative condition of relief valves, priming water level and general operating conditions shall be inspected during the weekly operation of fire pumps.	<p>Sentence 6.6.3.3.(2) of Div. B of the Ontario Fire Code may be the owner or his/her delegate.</p> <p>(COMPULSORY)</p> <p>Twice annually (every 6 months) the work in Sentence 6.6.3.3.(2) shall be completed by a qualified member.</p> <p>Additionally, where work prescribed in Sentence 6.6.3.3.(2) takes place immediately following an impairment, alteration or change to the Fire pump assemblies, apparatus or Fire Suppression System, the individual completing the work shall be a qualified member.</p>
6.6.3.4. (1) Internal combustion engine fire pumps shall be operated once a week for a sufficient time to bring the engine up to normal operating temperature	<p>Sentence 6.6.3.4.(1) of Div. B of the Ontario Fire Code may be carried out by the owner or his/her delegate.</p> <p>(COMPULSORY)</p> <p>Twice annually (every 6 months) the work in Sentence 6.6.3.4.(1) shall be completed by a qualified member.</p> <p>Additionally, where work prescribed in Sentence 6.6.3.4.(1) takes place immediately following an impairment, alteration or change to the Fire pump assemblies, apparatus or Fire Suppression System, the individual completing the work shall be a qualified member.</p>



Select work elements in Sections 6.4, 6.5, and 6.6 of Division B of the Fire Code, O. Reg. 213/07	Application of Sprinkler and Fire Protection Installer Trade Qualification Requirements as agreed to by all Parties
<p>6.6.3.6. In buildings containing a hotel, the intervals referred to in Articles 6.6.3.3. and 6.6.3.4. are permitted to be once per month.</p>	<p>Article 6.6.3.6. of Div. B of the Ontario Fire Code may be carried out by the owner or his/her delegate.</p> <p>(COMPULSORY)</p> <p>Twice annually (every 6 months) the work in Article 6.6.3.6. shall be completed by a qualified member.</p> <p>Additionally, where work prescribed in Article 6.6.3.6. takes place immediately following an impairment, alteration or change to the Fire pump assemblies, apparatus or Fire Suppression System, the individual completing the work shall be a qualified member.</p>
<p>6.6.5.1. Hydrants shall be inspected annually and after each use in accordance with Articles 6.6.5.2. to 6.6.5.5.</p> <p>6.6.5.6. Hydrant water flow shall be inspected annually in accordance with Article 6.6.5.7.</p>	<p>Municipally owned hydrants:</p> <p>Hydrant inspections required by Article 6.6.5.1. may be carried out by municipal employees or their delegates.</p> <p>Hydrant flow tests required by Article 6.6.5.7. may be carried out by municipal employees or their delegates.</p> <p>(COMPULSORY)</p> <p>Privately owned hydrants:</p> <p>Hydrant inspections required by Subsection 6.6.5. shall be carried out by a qualified member.</p> <p>Hydrant flow tests required by Article 6.6.5.7. shall be carried out by a qualified member.</p>

