

CFSA

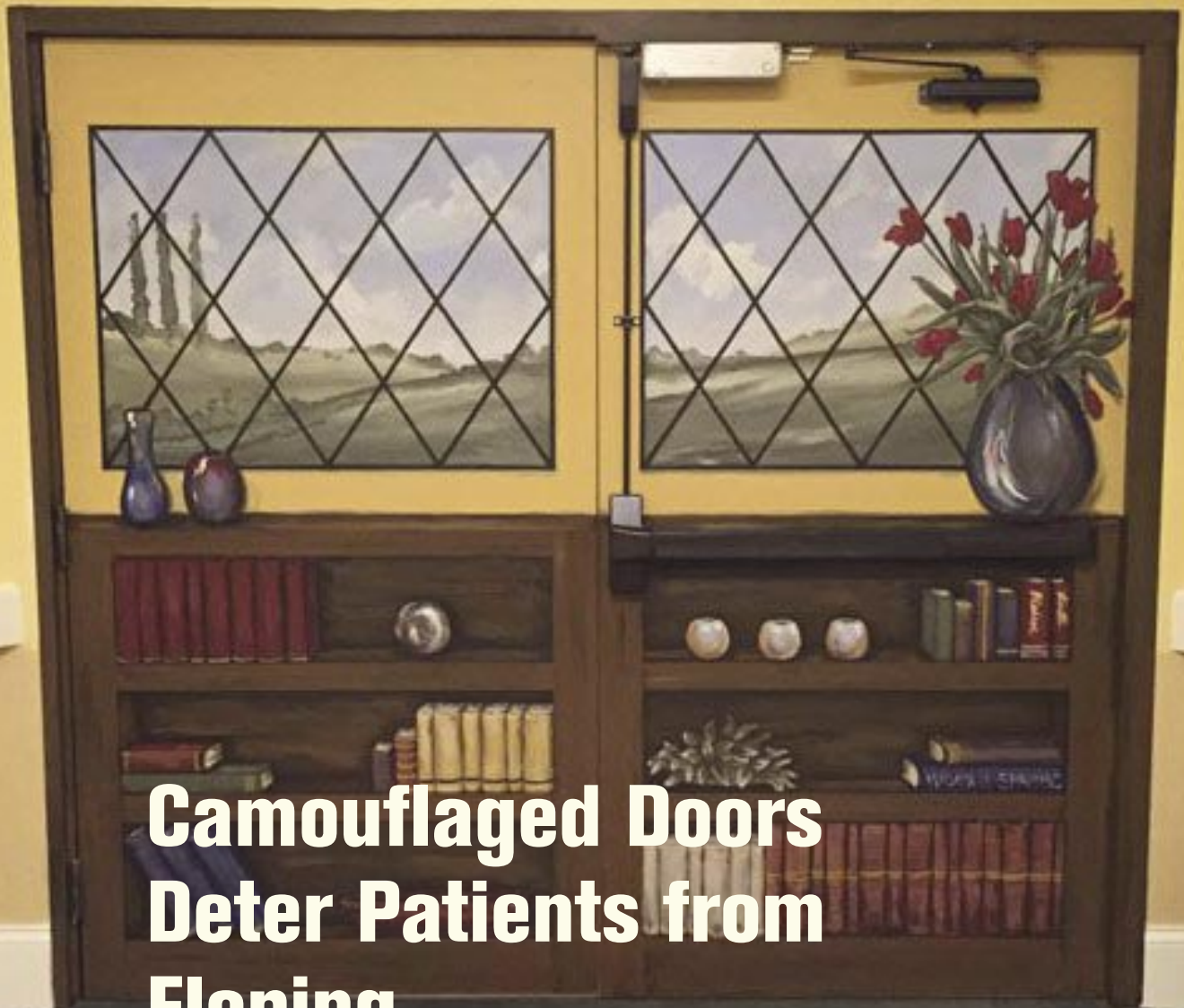
CANADIAN FIRE SAFETY ASSOCIATION

NEWS



Fire Safety is Everybody's Business

SUMMER 2019



Camouflaged Doors Deter Patients from Eloping

Proposed Amendment to Model National
Building and Fire Code 2015



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Editor: Lesley-Anne Coleman

The CFSA News Magazine is published 4 times per year: Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall.

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Membership has its benefits, and advertising is a key advantage to getting your company and product information out to other members in the industry. The CFSA has decided to make advertising in the CFSA Newsletter a definite advantage for members.

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All general inquiries and advertising materials should be directed to the CFSA Office.

We welcome your comments, suggestions and articles. To submit information, please contact us at Tara@associationconcepts.ca attention of The Editor.

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President's Message

As I reviewed my goals and objectives from last year (as the new president), I was happy to see that many of the items had check marks beside them. The Board of Directors have laid the ground work for improvements within how we will be going about serving our membership.

With upgrades to our website, which was launched at the Annual Education Forum (AEF), we will be providing better notice of upcoming events along with online registration. Within the CFSA Newsletter you have already seen an increase in meaningful content and a return to quarterly publications. This Newsletter will very shortly also be expanded to allow for advertising.

Within the membership category, I am very pleased to report that starting this year we will be the only Fire and Life Safety Association offering free memberships to students attending a Corp + category University or Colleges and will continue that membership for one additional year as they turn into Alumni. We believe in strongly supporting our younger generation beyond what we already do within our scholarship programs.

Our commitment to new support initiatives is not limited to students, earlier this year we also launched a CFSA NextGen group. This group's goal is to help support, mentor and most importantly provide an inlet and outlet for young or old professions to learn from one and other in ways that cannot be done with traditional seminars. Speaking of seminars, you should also have seen over this past year an increase in training seminars. We are aggressively looking to expand our training offerings, not just in subject matter but also in the manner in which it is delivered. Look for workshop, and hands-on based formats in the coming year along with one or two ½ day sessions with a variety of subjects and group pricing options.

We as CFSA Board members want to stick to “what makes us different as an association” with training in not just one area like Fire Alarm, or Sprinklers as other associations do. We will remain dynamic as you noticed in the AEF by providing meaningful sessions for a wide spread group of stakeholders.

Be sure to follow or connect with us using Twitter @CFSA_NextGen along with @CFSA_Canada. Please feel free to contact me at any time
Scott.Pugsley@SenecaCollege.ca

Stay safe,

Scott Pugsley
CFSA President



CANADIAN FIRE SAFETY ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DE SÉCURITÉ INCENDIE

What is The CFSA?

The Canadian Fire Safety Association is a non-profit organization established in 1971, to promote fire safety through the use of seminars, safety training courses, information newsletters, scholarships, and regular meetings.

Our Mission Statement

“To disseminate fire and life safety information and promote a fire safe environment in Canada.”

www.canadianfiresafety.com

CFSA NEWS

The Canadian Fire Safety Association (CFSA) produces a quarterly News magazine which is distributed electronically to all members and is available for download from the CFSA website.

The CFSA News provides articles on industry related information, updates on codes & standards and overviews of various CFSA educational seminars provided throughout the year. In addition, Corporate Members and their selected representatives are recognized.

Click on a cover below to view that issue online ...



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Canadian Fire Safety Association Annual Education Forum 2019

By: Lesley-Anne Coleman



On Thursday April 4th, 2019 the Canadian Fire Safety Association hosted its Annual Education Forum on Cannabis. The forum covered topics relating to the “Application, Compliance and Enforcement” as it relates to cannabis in Canada. As in previous years, the program advertised a variety of knowledgeable and experienced members from the Fire Department, Fire Protection Industry consultants, ULC and NFPA. A variety of topics were presented by the speakers that focused on the standards and codes relating to cannabis and the production of and extraction.

The event was held in Woodbridge, ON at the Paramount Conference & Event Venue. Fire Chief Deryn Rizzi of Vaughan Fire and Rescue Services welcomed all those in attendance along with Gus Michaels, Director of Bylaws and Enforcement with the City of Vaughan.



Gus Michaels, Director of Bylaws and Enforcement, City of Vaughan

The day started with Chief Rizzi and Gus Michaels discussing the Municipal Government and Legal Cannabis. They discussed the hazards associated with grow lamps, linking extension cords, running extension cords, overloading and the potential of explosions from the hazardous extraction of oil using materi-

als such as butane. From a bylaw perspective, Gus discussed the legalizing of growing and purchasing cannabis has the potential to increase illegal homes and extraction. He expanded on topics related to federal and provincial legislations, what legalization means for Canadians, Municipal Law Enforcement and workplace safety.

A Keynote address was delivered by Brian McBain of Underwriters Laboratories of Canada Inc. who discussed the development of CAN/ULC S4400, Standard for Safety of Buildings and Facilities Utilized for the Cultivation, Production and Processing of Cannabis. CAN/ULC S4400 is a document that can be used by regulatory enforcement and will be potentially be used at the National level by 2025. Brian discussed the committee composition and that the standard contains the minimum requirements for buildings or parts of buildings, devices, equipment and the security of the premises. The standard also applies to the cultivation area where there are ancillary activities such as offices, etc.

CAN/ULC S4400 does cover fire protection of buildings with regards to fire separations between indoor grow areas and the remainder of the building as well as fire and life safety systems where required, and the means of notification being provided. Brian went through the standard covering the appendix and applicable sections, application and requirements. To obtain a copy of the standard visit

continued...



Fire Chief Deryn Rizzi, Vaughan Fire and Rescue Services



Brian McBain of Underwriters Laboratories of Canada

<https://www.shopulstandards.com/> .

Other topics throughout the morning included Cannabis in Canada from a Fire and Life Safety Perspective presented by Shayne Mintz of NFPA. Shayne also provided details on Health Canada, License categories and personal use plants.

Each year, students enrolled in a Fire Technician, Technology or University Degree program have the opportunity to earn scholarship awards. This year, a total of \$11,500.00 in scholarship awards was presented to the top 14 students from Seneca, Fanshawe and Durham Colleges. A “congratulations” goes out to all the recipients of a scholarship award in recognition of your hard work.



Shayne Mintz, NFPA

Luncheon and Scholarship Awards



During the morning registration process, refreshment breaks and lunch, attendees had the opportunity to network with others in the Industry and visit booths provided by our 2019 sponsors.



Melinda Amador, P.Eng of CodeNext provided comparative case studies for the design of cannabis extraction spaces. Here she spoke about the different extraction methods and hazards regarding the different flammable and combustible liquids used in extraction scenarios.



Melinda Amador of CodeNext

The later afternoon focused on updates to CAN/ULC S524 – 14 presented by Michael Zukov, P.Eng of Arencon Inc., a review of the major changes to NFPA 13 – 2019 by Larry Keeping, P.Eng of Fire Safety Solution and the key updates to the Ontario Building Code and NFPA 14. James Dockrill from J & S Sprinkler provided clarification on the misinterpretations relating to standpipe requirements.

Thank you to all those who attended this year's event and to our presenters' who provided valuable and relevant information as it relates to the legalization of cannabis in Canada and the application of codes and standards, compliance and enforcement related to it.

The CFSA would also like to thank all of our sponsors for their contribution, attendance and table booths. Your sponsorship contributes to the success of our event.

The Canadian Fire Safety Association has already begun planning the 2020 Annual Education Forum and looks forward to your participation and attendance again next year. ♦

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Alana Detcherry
Director

**Technical Sessions,
Annual Education Forum and
Newsletter Committees**

*Program Supervisor –
Fire Life Safety/ Legal, Risk
Management & Insurance
Toronto Community Housing*

I oversee fire code compliance and assist with ongoing improvement of life safety programs. Manage and advise on fire code compliance challenges in both new and aging buildings in the Toronto Community Housing portfolio.

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Kathryn Schramm
Director

**Scholarship Committee,
Annual Educational Forum,
Attendance Committee**

*Fire Prevention Inspector, Town of
Bradford West Gwillimbury*

I conduct inspections to ensure compliance with the Ontario Fire Code, plans examinations and provide fire and life safety education to residents of Bradford West Gwillimbury.

Other Involvement:
Member of OMFPOA, SFPE and
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Anthony H. Van Odyk, B. E. Sc.
Director

**Chair of Membership Committee;
Member of Scholarship Committee,
Chair of Bylaws Committee, where
by-laws to comply with the govern-
ment Not-for-Profit Legislation;
Member of Revitalization Commit-
tee; also, previously Co-Chair -
Annual Education Forum.**

Retired from Seneca College

Retired from Seneca College, where I was Professor & Industry Coordinator for 20 years. I have over 35 years of Electrical Engineering experience in Marketing, Training, and Education in the areas of Fire Alarm and Special Hazard Systems

Other Involvement: Director and Life Member of Canadian Fire Alarm Association & Director and Past President of Society of Fire Protection Engineers, Southern Ontario Chapter; wrote numerous articles for CFAA, NFPA, SFPE & SP and T News

Developed Code of Ethics for CFSA.

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Check out our new Website at:

canadianfiresafety.com

CFSA Past President Receives Life Membership Award

April 8, 2019

Mr. Scott Pugsley, President
Canadian Fire Safety Association
2800 - 14th Avenue, Suite 210
Markham, ON L3R 0E4

Dear Scott,

Thank you and the Board of Directors for awarding me the Life Membership in the Canadian Fire Safety Association during the Annual Education Forum on April 4, 2019.

It was an honour to receive this recognition for my years of service on the Board of Directors. As you know, I have continued to take an interest in CFSA long after I retired from the Board by attending Technical Sessions, Annual Education Forums and in delivering presentations.

I am pleased to see the activities of the Association have continued to thrive over the years under the stewardship of the Board. I enjoyed the Annual Education Forum this year very much - the topics were current and the conference as an event was very professional. One of CFSA's critical success factors is its ability to attract members from other Associations, because of the range of topics offered, the education credits and the venue. Several people noted that they held the ability to network at this event as extremely important. A number of years ago the Fire Marshal mentioned to me how important it was to have CFSA representation on Technical Committees because of its broad-based membership. These are key benefits to members.

I was proud to see how the Scholarship program has been able to both maintain and increase the number of sponsors, and the number of Colleges receiving awards. I was especially happy that the Founders Award for Leadership was given in memory of past CFSA President Nick Webb. I applaud the Board for making the decision to improve access to students by making membership free of charge while they are a student and for the first year after - a great step towards revitalizing membership.

I look forward to continuing my association with CFSA, and thank you again.

Regards,


Susan Clarke, P.Eng., MBA
(Past CFSA President 2010-2012)



Camouflaged Doors-Proposed Amendment to Model National Building and Fire Code 2015 Deterring Patients from Eloping

By: Avinash Gupta, P.Eng., CBCO, LBO & Dominic Esposito, P.Eng.

Introduction

Camouflaged, controlled or disguised doors are the terminologies used for egress and exit doors masked with murals, a painting of a bookshelf, garden, or anything similar. There may be countless ways to camouflage a door to falsify it. The aim is to discourage patients suffering from a specific condition from leaving the premises unnoticed. The purpose of this article is to provide an overview of camouflaged doors with respect to its application as per National Building Code of Canada (NBC).

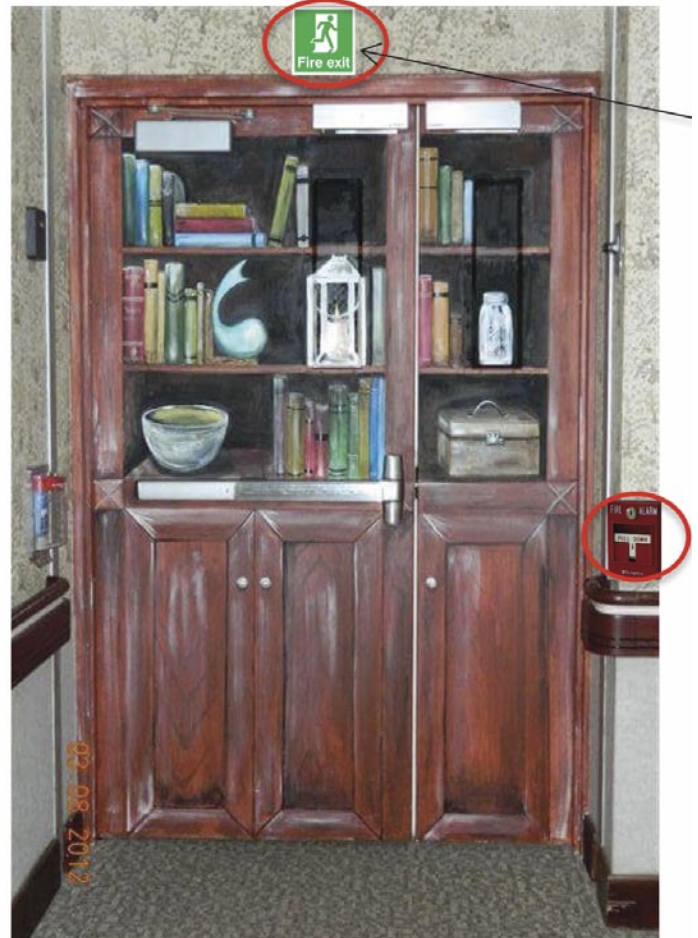
According to the Alzheimer's Association brochure titled, "Campaign for Quality Residential Care's 'Dementia Care Practice'", people living with Alzheimer's in care facilities often exhibit a behaviour described as "exit seeking"—the desire to return to a familiar home or former workplace or reconnect with family members. Since wandering and elopement is a serious concern for nursing homes, hospitals, and other similar facilities where patients with cognitive disabilities like dementia and Alzheimer reside, making exits/egress less obvious reduces the chances of exiting the space.

History

The use of camouflaged or controlled egress/exit doors was added for the first time in the 2009 edition of the International Building Code (IBC) and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 101 "Life Safety Code". These provisions with limited application were added for new and existing health care occupancies including hospitals, limited care facilities, and nursing homes. The application of a camouflaged or controlled egress/exit door is limited for clinical needs of patients requiring specialized security measures, where patients pose a security threat or where patients are mentally unstable. Application of these provisions is only permitted in occupancies where patients require containment for their safety and security.

Prescribed Requirements of NFPA 101

NFPA 101 is a standard applied in some jurisdictions that pro-



Camouflaged Door

vides a minimum set of requirements to address fire and life safety. NFPA 101 permits door-locking arrangements to meet the clinical needs of patients requiring specialized protective measures for their safety, or where the patients pose a security threat.

Chapter 18 and 19 apply to new and existing health care occupancies and as per 18.2.2.2.7 doors permitted to be locked in accordance with 18.2.2.2.5.1 are permitted to have murals (paintings) on the egress (exit) doors to disguise the doors, provided all of the following conditions

are met (provisions are similar for both new and existing occupancies):

1. Staff can readily unlock the doors at all the times in accordance with 18.2.2.2.6.
2. The door-releasing hardware, where provided, is readily accessible for staff use.
3. Door leaves, windows, and other hardware, other than door-releasing hardware, are permitted to be covered by the murals.
4. The murals do not impair the operation of the doors.
5. The location and operation of doors disguised with murals are identified in the fire safety plan and are included in staff training.
6. For an existing building, the affected smoke compartments are protected throughout by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 19.3.5.7.

It could be interpreted that providing a masked egress/exit door complies with the requirements stated above as the NBC (Code) does not address visual obstructions of this type. However, the camouflaged door as per the proposed change may be considered as a deviation from code as it is not easily identifiable. {3.4.6.11.(4)}

Limited Application of Camouflaged Doors

Psychiatric, Alzheimer and dementia units are some examples of areas with patients who might have clinical needs that justify door-locking. Door-locking arrangements are not permitted in nursing homes where dementia or mentally unstable patients that are not housed in the specialized units.

Changes to National Building and Fire Code-Model Code

There is a proposal to amend the Appendix Note to Sentence 3.4.6.11.(4) of Division B of the model National Building Code of Canada 2015(NBC) and Article 2.7.1.6. of Division B of the Model National Fire Code of Canada 2015 (NFC) for incorporating camouflaged doors. The following references are with respect to Division B of the NBC/NFC:

As per Sentence 3.4.6.11.(4) of the NBC, exit doors shall be clearly identifiable. {See Note A-3.4.6.11.(4)}

As per Sentence 2.7.1.6. of the NFC, the means of egress

shall be maintained in good repair and free of obstruction. {See Note A-2.7.1.6.(1)}

The proposed Appendix Notes for both the NBC and NFC suggest that camouflaged egress and exit doors could be considered by the AHJ for certain specific application.

Relevant Provisions of NBC and NFC

The following provisions of the NBC and NFC are examined to understand the effect of the above proposed change:

1. "No mirror shall be placed in or adjacent to any exit in a manner that would confuse the direction of the exit" {NBC Article 3.4.1.9.}. This is interpreted to address visual obstruction.
2. Exits shall be located and arranged so that they are clearly visible or their locations are clearly indicated and they are accessible at all times {NBC Sentence 3.4.2.5.(3)}.
3. Decorative materials on walls or ceilings shall have a flame-spread rating not greater than that required for the interior finish of the space in which they are located {NFC Article 2.3.1.3}.
4. Drapes, curtains and other decorative materials including textiles and films used in buildings shall conform to CAN/ULC-S109, "Flames Tests of Flame-Resistant Fabrics and Films," when such drapes, curtains, and other decorative materials are used in any exit {NFC Article 2.3.2.1.}.
5. Hangings and draperies placed over exit door may conceal or obscure them {Note A-3.4.6.11.(4)}. In other words, hanging and draperies are not permitted on exit doors as these may conceal or obscure them.

Therefore, a consistent and specific approach for designing camouflaged doors is critical to avoid having different methods leading to different levels of safety.

To arrest, if not eradicate, discretion sanctioned to AHJ in the proposed amendment, and for harmonizing the code, definite requirements for the camouflaged doors must be included in Part 3, Division B of the NBC.

The intent of all the above listed requirements of the NBC is to ensure that exits are visible, familiar, easily identifiable, non-confusing (visually), and accessible at all times to avoid delays in evacuation or movement of persons to a safe place in case of an emergency. Also to avoid delaying emergency responders reaching exits to carry out their emergency operations effectively, exits must be clearly (easily) identifiable and visually non-confusing.

It could be interpreted that providing a masked egress/exit door complies with the requirements stated above as the NBC (Code) does not address visual obstructions of this

type. However, the camouflaged door as per the proposed change may be considered as a deviation from code as it is not easily identifiable. {3.4.6.11.(4)}

Difference between NFPA 101 and Proposed Amendment to NBC/NFC

| NFPA 101 | NBC/NFC |
|--|---|
| The requirements of the camouflaged doors are prescribed in the chapter dedicated to new and existing health care facilities. | Included in the Appendix Notes (provided for explanatory purposes only) of both the Codes. Appendix Notes are not mandatory requirements of the Code <i>and the proposal of installing a camouflaged door cannot be accepted based on Appendix Notes alone. One may need to submit an alternative solution to get the approval from the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ).</i> |
| Camouflaged egress/exit doors are permitted, where these doors are permitted to be locked. | There is no such condition mentioned in the proposed amendment to NBC/NFC. |
| NFPA permits camouflaged doors where patient needs require specialized protective measures for their safety and security. | The proposed amendment suggests camouflaged exit doors. No specific reasons have been mentioned in the Appendix Note except that can be considered in facilities housing patients that are mentally unstable. |
| NFPA permits camouflaged doors where a total (complete) smoke detection system is provided throughout the locked space in accordance with 9.6.2.9. or locked doors can be remotely unlocked at an approved, constantly attended location within the locked space. | No such restrictions have been added in the proposed amendment to NBC/NFC. This is an essential safety provision that has not been addressed in the proposed amendment. |
| NFPA permits camouflaged doors where the building is protected throughout by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 18.3.5.1. | As per NBC, care, treatment and detention occupancies are required to be sprinklered throughout to meet the intent of the applicable construction Article. |
| NFPA permits camouflaged doors where the locks are electrical locks that fail safe so as to release upon loss of power to the device or the locks release by independent activation of each of the following: (a) Activation of the smoke detection system required by 18.2.2.2.5.2(2) (b) Waterflow in the automatic sprinkler system required by 18.2.2.2.5.2(3) | No such restrictions have been added in the proposed amendment to NBC/NFC. This is an essential safety provision for the safe evacuation of the occupants and this has not been addressed in the proposed amendment. |
| NFPA permits camouflaged doors where the hardware for new electric lock installations is listed in accordance with ANSI/UL 294. | No such restrictions have been added in the proposed amendment to NBC/NFC for egress doors. |

Discussion

As explained above under the heading 'Relevant Articles of NBC and NFC' the proposal of camouflaging egress/exit doors is a visual obstruction and the concept of visual obstruction has not been clearly dealt with in the Codes and therefore it could be considered that there is no departure from the current model codes. However, masking a door with a scenic mural or a painting may visually confuse the presence of a door.

Exit doors can also be identified by an exit sign, door release hardware, a manual station, and a numbered lock with keypad. Therefore, to suggest that a camouflaged door would restrain dementia or other mentally unstable patients from identifying an exit door may not be appropriate without any statistical data to prove otherwise. **Statistical data will have significance in this case as camouflaged doors were first introduced in NFPA and IBC in the year 2009.**

The current proposed amendment deals with the exit doors, whereas it is also applicable to egress doors. NBC Article 3.3.1.13. dealing with 'doors and door hardware' may be examined for related changes to suit the proposed amendment.

The current proposal is to revise the Appendix Note to NBC Sentence 3.4.6.16.(4) and Sentence 2.7.1.6.(1) of NFC only and Appendix Notes do not include mandatory requirements of the Code, rather they provide information for explanatory purposes only. Therefore, providing this content in the Appendix Note may not fully accomplish the purpose. Moreover, the use of camouflaged doors can be developed as an alternative solution giving a reference to the approach in NFPA 101 and there may not be a need for the amendment. However, camouflaged doors are gaining popularity and are being installed in jurisdictions across Canada. Therefore, a consistent approach is critical to avoid having different approaches leading to different levels of safety.

NBC Sentence 3.4.6.11.(4) deals with the identification of an exit door and therefore it is not evident from the proposed amendment whether camouflaged doors would be securely locked. This may be clarified for the better understanding of the user.

NBC Sentence 3.4.6.11.(4) deals with the identification of exits for all occupancies and providing an exception for care occupancies through the Appendix Note may not be enough as well as a good precedent. This Sentence also does not deal with egress doors which are dealt with in Subsection 3.3. of the Code.

Sentence NBC 3.4.6.16.(5), dealing specifically with care occupancies may need to be examined to include camouflaged doors. This Sentence is quite similar to NFPA 101 requirements for camouflaged doors and would require minimal changes to address these doors. A cross reference can also be added to NBC Sentence 3.3.1.13.(7). The changes could be placed in the Division B of the Code to avoid granting discretionary power to the AHJ. By doing this, there will be no need to develop an alternative solution to obtain the approval of the AHJ.

Conclusion

On the basis of above, the following is concluded:

- NFPA 101 permits camouflaged doors to meet the clinical needs of patients requiring specialized protective measures for their safety or where the patients pose a security threat.
- NFPA 101 permits camouflaged doors under specific conditions like the presence of constantly attended staff who can readily unlock the doors and other conditions listed in 18.2.2.2.7.
- Use of camouflaged doors requires careful analysis and consideration. As outlined above, there are several Code requirements that are to be considered and the proposed amendment to the Appendix Note to NBC may have unintended consequences. Although the proposed amendment to the Appendix Note refers to judgement that should be exercised by designers and the AHJ, there is also a concern that the use of camouflaged doors may be oversimplified.

The proposed amendment to the Appendix Note leaves an element of discretion to the designers and the AHJ which could lead to various approaches with different life safety performance levels.

For greater harmonization, it is better to include specifically prescribed requirements for the camouflaged doors in the Part 3, Division B of the NBC.

Both writers are experienced professional engineers and currently working in the building code industry. The views expressed are for education purposes only and shall not be construed as the views of the AHJ.

For any clarification, questions, or doubts, please contact Avinash Gupta at avinashguptap.eng@gmail.com ♦

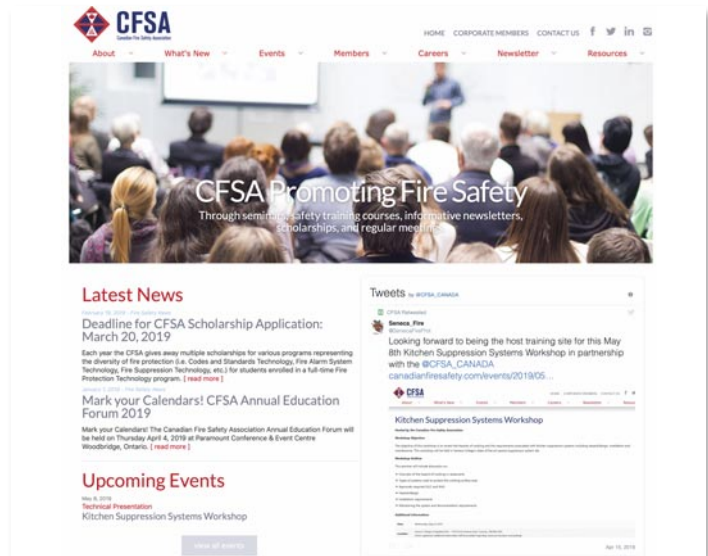
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- Sign-up features (to join the CFSA mailing list)

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UNDERSTANDING, ACCELERATED



What it Means to be an Award Winner

By: Emma Qia Wang
CFSA Firetronics 2000 Award Winner
Student of Seneca College Fire Protection Program



I am a 3rd-year student of Fire Protection Engineering Technology program within Seneca College. It is my great honour to be awarded by the Canadian Fire Safety Association as a top 3rd-year student with outstanding leadership, motivational, technical skills and overall academic proficiency. Even I have won multiple awards in and out of Seneca College, I am most

proud of this CFSA award because I was recognized not only by faculties within Seneca School of Fire Protection but also professions in the fire industry.

During the three years' study at Seneca College Fire Protection Engineering Technology program, I aspired to learn between classes and workshops. I have chosen many optional courses related to various Codes and Standards. Outside of the school's curriculum, I also had the chance to expand my knowledge at Viking Fire Protection Inc. as well as Travelers Canada. These internships and training helped me achieve a better understanding of fire protection. In regards to leadership qualities, it was my pleasure to serve the Fire Protection Student Association as the President to assist other students and to promote fire safety in the community.

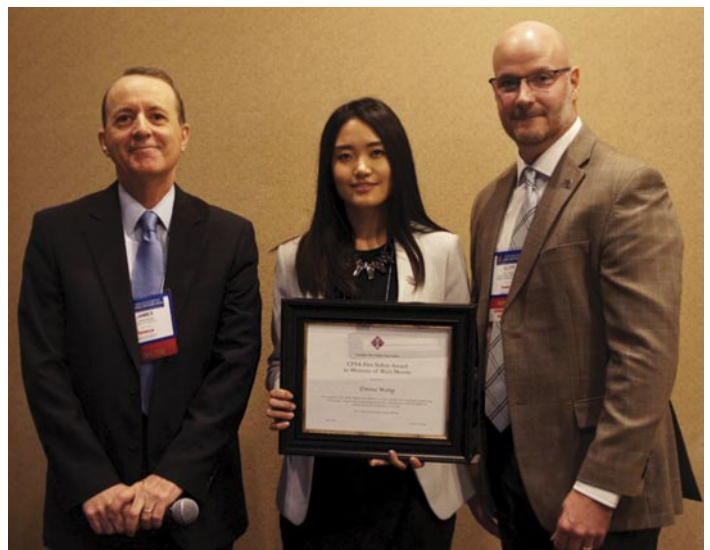
Each year the CFSA gives away multiple scholarships for various colleges and universities representing the diversity of fire protection. I believe that members within CFSA and sponsors of the scholarships have spent a lot of time and effort to select the best students to fulfill their criteria. As such, the recognition from CFSA is impactful for students to stand out in the industry.

There is a great tradition that each years' award winners of CFSA are invited to attend the Canadian Fire Safety Association Annual Education Forum (AEF). It is a precious event for me to attend because I can not only hear the updated application of industry but also receive aid and guidance from senior members of the organization. As winners being presented

the awards during the AEF, every one of us also received enormous encouragement from the industry. This assists me to continually contribute and promote the advancement of fire safety.

In regards to financial support, your generosity is much appreciated. As I have now finished my diploma at Seneca College it will be put into savings to replenish what I used to pay for school. However, compared to the financial support, to have the recognition of my academic achievement is the true award.

Receiving this award means a lot to me. This award has brought motivation and gratification, reminding me that hard work does pay off. It encouraged me to take every possible opportunity to excel my study in fire safety. It also provided me with the willingness to help others and give back to the community in the future. Again, I would like to thank my sponsor Firetronics Inc. and CFSA for the Award that you awarded me. ♦



President of the CFSA Board Scott Pugsley and Secretary Jim Stoops presenting the scholarship award.



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CFSA Fire Stop Technical Session

Wednesday March 6, 2019 - Markham, Ontario

By: Jennifer Arends, Toronto Community Housing

On Wednesday March 6, 2019, Mike Cayen, Account Manager at Specified Technologies Inc. who has over 15 years of industry training and experience, presented a seminar on fire stopping technology to a packed room of industry and fire prevention professionals. Mike provided an overview of fire stopping and the code requirements associated with it, penetration firestop systems and joint systems, perimeter firestop systems, inspecting fire stop systems, and engineering judgements.

Two of the most compelling education tools used were videos from YouTube that you can view yourself. The first video, "Close enough is not good enough: a demonstration of proper and improper fire stopping" did an incredible job illustrating the difference proper fire stopping can make during flash over. The pressures created by the heat and smoke production in the rooms blasted smoke through improper and non-fire stopped assemblies, while the fire stopped assemblies let some smoke trickle in, but not enough to go over the air quality threshold in a means of egress.

The second video, "Inspecting fire stop for compliance – English" was shown to the group and was also viewable at a later time. This video went into depth with the requirements to do destructive testing of fire stop materials to ensure

proper installation throughout the building. Mike suggested that up to 1% of fire stopping materials should be tested.

Mike discussed some of the many types of fire-stopping products and their roles in listed fire stop systems. It was reiterated to the group the importance of choosing the proper listed system for your fire stop material. The materials, orientation and placement of the pipe penetrating the fire-rated wall can change the selected listing for materials. The material placed or packed into the hole as it is listed to adhere to the wall. Assemblies are also available to insulate pipes and irregular holes.

Continuing education is an important part of every person in the industry including a fire prevention professional's career in order to understand and implement new technologies. The continuing advancements in fire stopping technologies are important to understand and this seminar was valuable in providing the group with technical information to help better understand the complexities of fire-stopping systems. ♦

Upcoming Events

NFPA Conference & Expo

June 17 - 20, 2019

San Antonio, TX

DHI Canada Conference & Expo

September 19-21, 2019

Mont Ste-Anne, Quebec

Data Connectors Toronto Cybersecurity Conference 2019

Thursday, October 17, 2019, 8:00 am

Toronto, ON

Security Canada Central 2019

October 23-24, 2019

Toronto Congress Centre, Toronto, ON

Construct Canada

December 4 - 6, 2019

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Toronto, ON

More information regarding events and registration can be found by visiting:

<http://canadianfiresafety.com>

Fire Marshal's

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du commissaire des incendies

March 15, 2019

No. 2019-02

ONTARIO REGULATION 33/19: AMENDMENTS TO THE FIRE CODE

The Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management (OFMEM) is pleased to announce the filing of [Ontario Regulation 33/19](#) on March 14, 2019. Ontario Regulation 33/19, a regulation made under the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997*, amends the 2007 Fire Code (Ontario Regulation 213/07) by making housekeeping changes (to update or clarify requirements) and by adding requirements for the following:

- hazardous extraction operations, and
- out-of-service firefighters' elevators.

Hazardous Extraction Operations

New requirements apply to floor areas or portions of floor areas containing hazardous extraction operations; within farm buildings, the requirements only apply to floor areas or portions of floor areas containing hazardous extraction operations involving cannabis. For purposes of the new requirements, "hazardous extraction" means a process to remove or separate a substance from a solution or mixture that involves the use of flammable liquids, combustible liquids or flammable gases as solvents in the process. Amendments include new requirements for the following:

- door release hardware for exits and access to exits,
- egress aisles,
- fire safety planning,
- ventilation, and
- prohibited locations.

Requirements for prohibited locations became effective on March 14, 2019. All other requirements come into force on July 1, 2019.

continued...

Out-of-service Firefighters' Elevators

Amendments to the Fire Code establish requirements for owners to notify supervisory staff when a firefighters' elevator is not operational. When the firefighters' elevator is not operational for more than 24 hours, the owner must also notify the fire department and building occupants by means of an established procedure.

These new requirements come into force on July 1, 2019.

The new Fire Code requirements reflect expert advice received from technical advisory committees led by the OFMEM and comprised of representatives from key stakeholder groups. The OFMEM gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the technical advisory committees in reviewing these proposed changes.

Proposed new Fire Code requirements were posted for public consultation on the Ontario Regulatory Registry. The OFMEM extends its appreciation to all stakeholders who provided feedback during the public consultation period.

Enquiries regarding the new regulation may be directed to the Technical Services Section of the OFMEM. Staff members can be reached by telephone at (647) 329-1100 or by e-mail at FireSafetyStandards@ontario.ca.

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Maintenance of Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Alarms



Office of the Fire Marshal and
Emergency Management
OFMEM-TG-01-2019

Preface

This guideline updates TG-04-1998 published in July 1998. Portions of the guideline have been changed to reflect the current requirements in the Ontario Fire Code, O. Reg. 213/07, as amended. Changes include the addition of carbon monoxide alarm maintenance requirements and the revision of smoke alarm maintenance requirements. This guideline also outlines building owner, landlord and occupant responsibilities and best practices with respect to the maintenance, testing and replacement of smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms.

February 2019

OFMEM Section: Technical Services

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ATTACHMENTS

- Smoke Alarm and Carbon Monoxide Alarm Maintenance Checklist
- Smoke Alarm and Carbon Monoxide Alarm Maintenance Information for Tenants and Occupants in Rental Units

Abstract

Smoke alarms and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms are important life safety devices and as such are to be maintained in effective operating condition at all times. A disconnected power supply, missing batteries, dead batteries and improperly installed batteries are common reasons for alarm failure during a fire or CO emergency.

This document has been prepared by the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management to provide guidance with respect to smoke alarm and CO alarm maintenance, to ensure operability as required by the Ontario Fire Code. It is intended to assist:

- The general public,
- Building owners/landlords,
- Tenants and other building occupants, and
- Fire departments.

This document also provides information on:

- The test and maintenance requirements for smoke alarms and CO alarms (*Sections 3.1 and 3.2*);
- The procedures for the testing of smoke alarms and CO alarms (*Sections 3.3 and 3.4*);
- The replacement of smoke alarms and CO alarms (*Section 3.5 and Appendix A*); and
- The respective responsibilities of the landlord, tenants and occupants in rental residential units (*Sections 4 and 5*).

A suggested maintenance checklist and tenant/occupant information sheet is included with this guideline. ♦

Ontario Fire Code to Add Steeper Fine Bracket

Enabling legislation tucked into the 2019 Budget Measures Act

By: Barbara Carss - Editor-in-chief of Canadian Property Management

A second Fire Code violation will push Ontario property owners, managers, corporate officers and directors into a steeper fine bracket under proposed amendments to the Fire Protection and Prevention Act. New legislation tucked into the 2019 [Budget Measures Act](#) introduces a distinct slate of penalties for “a subsequent offence” and clarifies that any conviction under the Act or its regulations will count as a first offence.



Fire departments will also have more time to prosecute infractions with the addition of a new section to authorize action within one year of implicating evidence coming to light. Until now, the Act has been silent on timelines for prosecution so fire officials have had to default to the parameters of the Provincial Offences Act, which gives them just six months from the time an incident occurs.

“That timing was extremely problematic for us,” says Jim Jessop, deputy chief with Toronto Fire Services. “These amendments will absolutely increase our ability to enforce the Ontario Fire Code and to deal with and mitigate other safety hazards not addressed in the Fire Code.”

For example, complicated investigations in the aftermath of a fire can take months to uncover all the contributing factors and related safety inadequacies. “Because of the timing, we were not able to move forward with dozens of prosecutions in cases where building owners had failed to comply,” Jessop advises.

The extended period for prosecutions, more stringent fines and additional flexibility for the province and municipalities to recover costs from property owners are set to come into force 30 days after the Ontario legislature adopts the Budget Measures Act, but there has been little formal communication

of the government’s intentions. They were revealed in the final chapter of the provincial budget – entitled Details of Tax Measures – in a list with nine other planned legislative initiatives, and have received scant attention.

“We were not consulted,” reports Tony Irwin, president and chief executive officer of the Federation of Rental-housing Providers of Ontario (FRPO).

“Nobody has really picked up that this is in the works. Even our (life-safety) service providers weren’t really aware that this is happening,” concurs Randy Daiter, vice president, residential properties, with M&R Property Management. “There seems to be a growing trend to adopt an enforcement approach that’s geared toward generating revenue for government agencies.”

Subsequent offence category brings hefty cost hit

Monetary penalties will jump significantly for the new subsequent offence category. Notably, corporations are currently subject to fines of up to \$100,000 for contravening the Act or any of its regulations. That cap will rise to \$500,000 for a first offence and to \$1.5 million for a subsequent offence.

For individuals, conviction for any offence under the Act, not just those related to the Fire Code, will come with a first-time fine of up to \$50,000. Subsequent offences will trigger fines of up to \$100,000. The same increments apply for fines imposed on directors or officers of a corporation who are aware that the corporation has violated the Fire Code, or who knowingly commit an offence under the Act or any of its regulations.

continued...

This will match maximums already in place for offences under the Ontario Building Code Act. The [Building Code](#) Act further authorizes fines of up to \$10,000 per day for a continuing offence when convicted parties fail to bring their buildings back into compliance with a chief building official's order – a penalty that is not paralleled in the amendments to the Fire Protection and Prevention Act.

The current \$2,000 maximum fine for tampering with or removing a posted notice from the [Fire Marshal](#) will take the most extreme upswing as it, too, will be pegged at \$50,000 for a first offence and \$100,000 for a subsequent offence. Fire departments can also begin to pass through costs when it is necessary to close properties considered an immediate threat to safety.

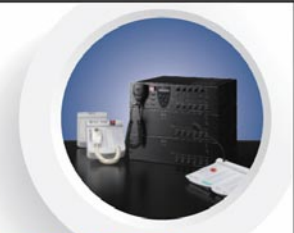
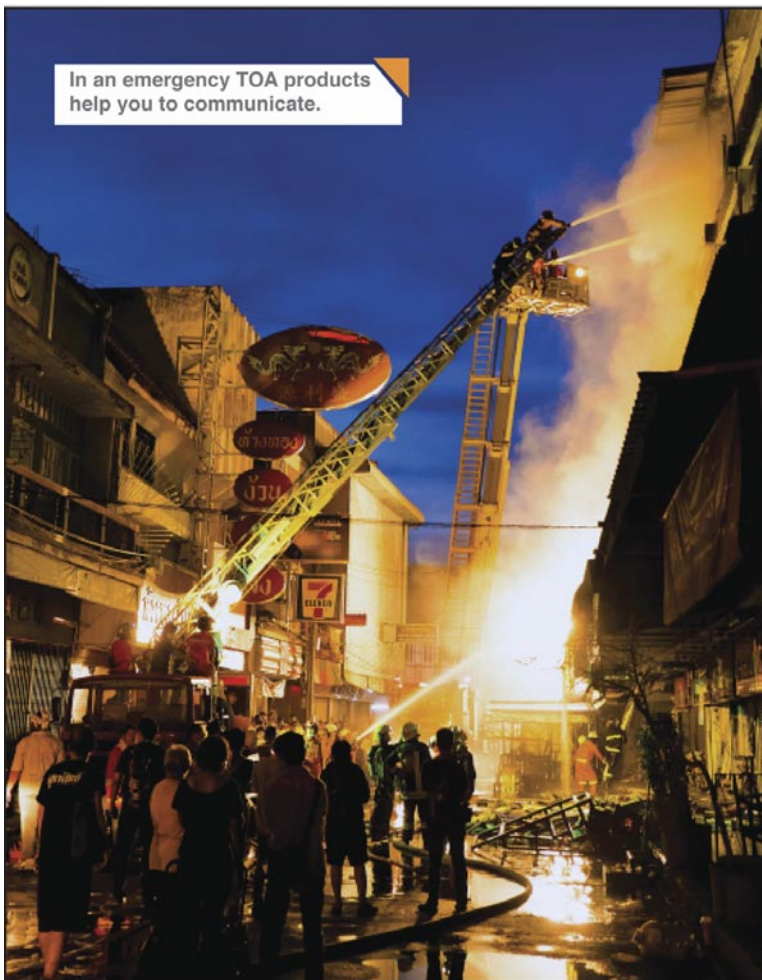
"In cases where the building owner is either unwilling or unable to comply with the Fire Code, we have the ability to request authority (from the Fire Marshal) to close the building. We get permission to literally go in and change the locks and close the building," Jessop explains. "In the past, the costs of

everything from staff time to locksmiths to erecting fencing to keep the public out were borne by the municipality, which we do not think is appropriate."

Tenants and service providers play a role in compliance

The Fire Code's oversight of existing buildings makes it a more common compliance challenge for landlords and their property managers than the Building Code's more scoped application to new construction and major renovations. That's particularly true in the [residential sector](#) where tenants can inadvertently or purposely compromise life-safety protections – propping open fire doors, disabling smoke detectors in their own units or even vandalizing equipment. Industry insiders predict the new fine regime will come with a hefty cost hit. "That first offence could be something like a door closer not working properly and now it puts you in line for a substantial fine," Daiter notes.

continued...



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"Landlords are often held responsible for tenants' actions simply because it's easier to charge and fine a landlord than it is a tenant. Similarly, under the current rules, many landlords would plead guilty and pay the fine, largely because it's easier to do that than to go to court to try to defend against the charge," Irwin says. "This is really going to change how they approach these types of matters."

Reputable landlords and property managers endorse fire departments' efforts to deal with what Jessop terms "a [minority of owners](#) who are wanton and reckless, and are endangering tenants, occupants and responding firefighters". However, Irwin and Daiter reiterate that tenants and service providers also play a role in fire safety.

"With [elevators](#), the [TSSA](#) (Technical Standards & Safety Authority) has made the elevator contractors more responsible and, that way, they are getting better results," Daiter submits. "Maybe there should be a similar mechanism to make sure service providers are really ensuring Fire Code compliance with professional rigour."

Nor is it a given that steeper fines will temper wanton and reckless behaviour. "If people aren't motivated to do the right thing in fear of a \$50,000 fine, they likely won't change their ways at the threat of a \$100,000 fine," Daiter maintains. ♦



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Toronto Fire Services earns accredited agency status from Commission on Fire Accreditation International



On March 12, 2019, Toronto Fire Services was awarded accredited agency status from the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI). After receiving the unanimous consent of the Commission, the City of Toronto is now the largest city with an accredited fire service in North America.

This international accreditation validates the City's dedication to providing residents, visitors and businesses with industry-leading fire protection services. CFAI accreditation is third-party confirmation of Toronto Fire Services' commitment to continuously monitor performance, evaluate results against best practices, and deliver fire protection services that meet the needs of Toronto.

The CFAI accreditation program provides a framework for fire services to set goals, develop evidence-based strategic action plans and improve fire protection services.

The multi-year journey to accreditation involved an in-depth review of every aspect of Toronto Fire Services operations, which were evaluated against 256 key performance indicators and international best practices. This included a detailed self-assessment, a comprehensive peer review by a panel of external experts and formal verification by an 11-member commission, representing a cross-section of fire protection experts from across North America.

Toronto Fire Services' accredited agency status is valid for five years.

"I am extremely proud of the women and men who make the Toronto Fire Services an exceptional organization. It is as a direct result of their hard work and tireless effort that the City of Toronto has achieved this laudable goal."

- Mayor John Tory

"Today's announcement comes after more than three years of focused effort and contributions from all of our departments and stakeholders. To be clear, achieving accredited agency status is not an end result for Toronto Fire Services, but rather a validation of our commitment to continuous improvement. Through ongoing performance management and evaluation, Toronto Fire Services is well positioned for the future."

*- Matthew Pegg,
Fire Chief & General Manager,
Toronto Fire Services*

Toronto is Canada's largest city, the fourth largest in North America, and home to a diverse population of more than 2.9 million people. It is a global centre for business, finance, arts and culture and is consistently ranked one of the world's most livable cities. For information on non-emergency City services and programs, Toronto residents, businesses and visitors can visit <http://www.toronto.ca>, call 311, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, or follow us on:

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Toronto Fire Services media line ♦



UL Opens Catalog of Safety Standards

Digitization and globalization drive change – library of more than 1,400 Standards now available to all

NORTHBROOK, Ill., Feb. 13, 2019 – In an essential and far-reaching move today, Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL), a global safety science leader, announced it will now offer open-access online views of its entire library of UL Safety Standards for any interested individual or organization globally.

As part of its long-term vision, UL builds upon its mission of fulfilling its responsibility to stakeholders to help build a safer world by now offering UL Standards to everyone. Through this measure, global users of any economic means will be able to find, reference and employ the entire library.

“Digital technologies and globalization have driven, and continue to drive, huge changes in standards and the way they are utilized,” explained Philip Piqueira, Vice President Global Standards at UL. “By taking this important step, we will keep standards both relevant and vibrant, engaging new generations, more global audiences and educators with UL Standards.”

UL has developed more than 1,400 Standards to address safety, security and sustainability challenges and foster safe living and working conditions for people everywhere. The company continues to develop new Standards for evolving technologies, systems and services. This move demonstrates UL’s continued commitment to advancing standards development in the digital age

by evolving its business model to align with the digitization and globalization of information.

Safety standards are written documents that outline the process by which a product is tested to help mitigate risk, injury or danger. UL is an independent standards-setting organization that combines extensive safety research, scientific expertise and an uncompromising commitment to integrity to help create a safer world. UL Standards development covers nearly all products, systems and services found in homes and workplaces.

Visit shopulstandards.com to browse the Standards and access them.

About UL

UL fosters safe living and working conditions for people everywhere through the application of science to solve safety, security and sustainability challenges. Our nonprofit parent organization engages in standards development, scientific research, education and public outreach activities. Our commercial businesses test, inspect, audit, certify, validate, verify, advise and train and we support these efforts with software solutions for safety and sustainability. The UL Mark engenders trust, enabling the safe adoption of innovative new products and technologies. Everyone at UL shares a passion for making the world a safer place. To learn more about our business solutions, visit UL.com. ♦

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For groups of members within a province or territory. Includes 4 individual memberships; member rate for all staff at dinner meetings, technical seminars and Annual Education Forum; Recognition in each of the four issues of the CFSA journal. Contributes articles in CFSA journal.

canadianfiresafety.com

CFSA Application for Membership

Name _____

Company/Affiliation _____

Title _____

Address _____

City _____

Prov. _____ Postal Code _____

Business Phone _____

Business Fax _____

e-mail _____

Web site _____

Please indicate how you first heard about CFSA

Please indicate in the appropriate box the category that best describes your vocation:

- Architect
- Building Official
- Insurance Industry
- Fire Protection Manufacturer/Supplier
- Building Owner/Developer/Manager
- Other (please specify) _____
- Engineer
- Fire Official
- Fire Consultant

| | Rate | +13%HST | Total Rate |
|---|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Corporate Plus (C3) | \$ 790.00 | \$ 102.70 | \$892.70 |
| <input type="radio"/> Corporate | \$ 406.00 | \$52.78 | \$458.78 |
| <input type="radio"/> Individual | \$ 82.00 | \$10.66 | \$92.66 |
| <input type="radio"/> Student | \$ 25.00 | \$3.25 | \$28.25 |
| <input type="radio"/> Retired | \$ 25.00 | \$3.25 | \$28.25 |
| <input type="radio"/> Associate | \$ 56.00 | \$7.28 | \$63.28 |
| <input type="radio"/> Chapter | \$ 180.00 | \$23.40 | \$203.40 |

Method of Payment:

Cheque Enclosed \$ _____

Account # _____

Expiry Date _____

Signature _____

Please make cheques payable to:
Canadian Fire Safety Association
 2800 - 14th Avenue Suite 210. Markham, ON L3R 0E4
 Telephone (416) 492-9417 Fax (416) 491-1670