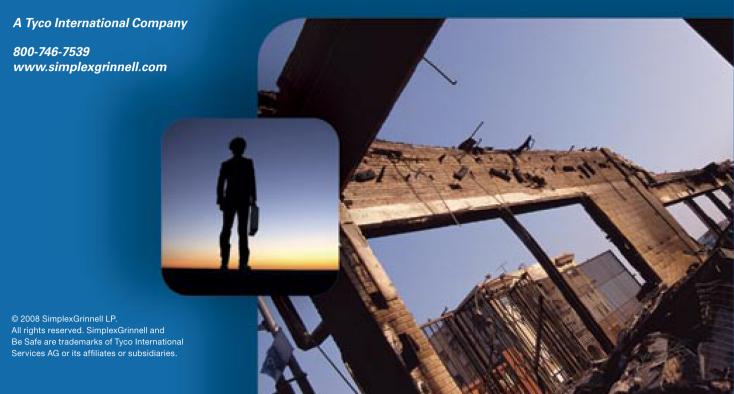




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#### Editor: Lesley-Anne Coleman

The CFSA News Magazine is published 4 times per year: February, May, August and November.

#### **Advertising Rates**

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. Pricing has been revised to include the following rates:

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For more information regarding advertising in the CFSA News please contact Mary Lou Murray at (416) 492-9417 or mary-loum@taylorenterprises.com.

All general enquiries and advertising materials should be directed to the CFSA office. Your comments, suggestions and articles are welcome.

Please send them to the attention of:

#### The Editor Canadian Fire Safety Association 2175 Sheppard Ave., E., Suite 310 Toronto, Ontario M2J 1W8

Views of the authors expressed in any articles are not necessarily the views of the Canadian Fire Safety Association. Also, the advertisements are paid advertising and in no way recognized as sponsored by the CFSA.

#### **CFSA Chapters**

Interested in forming a new chapter? Call CFSA at (416) 492-9417

#### President's Message



It is with great excitement and honour that I step into the position of President of the Canadian Fire Safety Association. When considering the distinguished former Presidents and members throughout the long history of the Association, I indeed have big shoes to fill!

As my first official task, I would like to thank outgoing President Susan Clarke for her years of service and for her efforts in successfully guiding the CFSA through the past two years.

Susan also did a tremendous job Chairing this year's Annual Education Forum. Our 2012 meeting was another successful event with a tremendous turnout. Congratulations are also extended to the awardees of the CFSA student scholarship awards.

As we enter our 44th year, I would like to introduce you to the 2012/2013 Board of Directors:

- Matteo Gilfillan, Randal Brown & Associates Engineering Ltd.
- Susan Clarke, Office of the Fire Marshal
- Nick Webb, Markham Fire & Emergency Services
- David Morris, Firetronics 2000 Inc.
- Anthony Van Odyk, Seneca College of Applied Arts and Technology
- Randy de Launay, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada
- Allison McLean, Atomic Energy Canada
- Nadim Khan, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Jim Stoops, Toronto Fire Services
- Sandy Leva, Underwriters Laboratories of Canada
- Dean Brown, City of Vaughan, Building Department
- Janet O'Carroll, Innovative Fire Inc.
- Gary Robitaille, Leber-Rubes Inc.

I want to congratulate and welcome the newly elected officers to the CFSA Executive, Vice Presidents Nick Webb, Markham Fire & Emergency Services, and David Morris, Firetronics 2000 Inc. As well, we welcome to our newest Board member, Dean Brown, City of Vaughan Building Department.

Unfortunately, this year we bid farewell to Leo Grellette from the CFSA Board of Directors. In the time that Leo has been on the Board he has been a major contributor to the CFSA's success with increasing membership and ensuring that the Association's actions are in line with our mission statement. I would like to extend a special thanks to Leo for his years of service on the CFSA Board of Directors and I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

Moving forward, much focus will be given to strengthening our Association. During the past 8 years of my position as a Director of the CFSA, I have noticed several areas of the Association that all members can help improve, including:

- 1. Increasing membership participation through the use of social media,
- 2. Increasing membership and, thus, our Association's intellectual base and support structure, and
- 3. Improving CFSA's dissemination of fire safety information by contributing to the CFSA News and participating in CFSA hosted seminars / workshops.

We thank the membership, corporate members, sponsors and our partner associations for their support throughout the years in our efforts to promote fire safety through the dissemination of fire safety information in a variety of ways. We will continue to work hard to serve your needs.

Regards,

Matteo Gilfillan CFSA President

#### **New** Members

#### Corporate

Fire Detection Devices Limited Town of Markham, Building Standards Dept.

#### Individual Member

John Dowdell Martin Giguere Eric Marchand Chris McDonough Russell Reed

#### Student

Brendan Brown David Dobromilsky Zheng Liang Eldo Matthew Chris Horton

#### **Upcoming** Events

#### **CFSA Events**

September 19, 2012 NFPA 45 - Sean Tracey - 4 hrs. Venue to be announced

October 2012
Mass Notification System Design for AHJ review and acceptance.
Venue to be announced

November 28, 2012 NFPA 101 - Sean Tracey - 1 day seminar Venue to be announced

#### Other Events

September 9-12, 2012 OBOA Annual Meeting & Training Sessions Sudbury, ON

September 23-26, 2012 Fire Rescue Canada 2012 (CAFC) St. John's, Newfoundland

October 11-13, 2012 The Manitoba Emergency Services Conference Manitoba

October 14-19, 2012 2012 SFPE Annual Meeting Savannah, Georgia

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#### **CFSA Annual Education Forum Summary**

BY SANDY I FVA



The Canadian Fire Safety Association's (CFSA) Annual Education Forum was held on Wednesday April 4, 2012 at Paramount Conference & Event Venue, in Woodbridge, Ontario. It featured a full day of presentations and events that were both informative and pertinent to fire safety in Canada and we were very pleased with record breaking attendance from members and interested parties.

The welcome address was given by The Honourable Madeleine Meilleur, MPP for Ottawa - Vanier, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services.

We are very grateful to each of the gracious sponsors this year, and wish to acknowledge with deep appreciation Damar Security Systems, dhi Canada, FCS Fire Consulting Services Ltd., Firetronics 2000 Inc., Notifier by Honeywell, Seneca College, Thomas & Betts and Vipond Inc. We also acknowledge and express our thanks to our Sponsors in Kind, The Toronto Argonauts, The Fire Marshalls Public Safety Fire Council, The NFPA and ULC. In addition we are very grateful to the Ontario Fire Marshal's Office for the Demonstration Trailer and Information.

#### It's in the Codes

BY CAROL GRAVELLE
OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL

In April, the Canadian Fire Safety Association met for their annual education forum. The theme for the forum was "It's in the Codes."

The morning began with presentations from Madeline Meilleur, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, Ted Wieclawek, Ontario Fire Marshal and keynote speaker Randal Brown, President, Randal Brown & Associates. Later, Tim Beckett, Kitchener Fire Chief and Mike Seiling, Vice President of the Ontario Association of Building Officials gave a joint presentation, followed by Al Suleman, A/Assistant Deputy Fire Marshal for Technical Services at the Office of the Fire Marshal (OFM).

The speakers presented an array of perspectives having to do with national and provincial codes. While the main theme of the morning focused on the upcoming changes to these codes, some of the underlying themes were about finding ways to work with various partners in our

#### The Forum featured six presentations:

- The Changing Profile of Canadian Building and Fire Codes - keynote speaker Mr. Randal Brown, President, Randal Brown & Associates
- Change of Use and Enforcement Options Following Occupancy given - Chief Tim Beckett, President of Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs - Fire Chief, City of Kitchener
- Ontario Fire Code Update Mr. Al Suleman, Assistant Deputy Fire Marshal, Technical Services Section, Office of the Fire Marshal
- Key designs (OBC) and Fire Safety Planning (OFC) Requirements for Care Occupancies Ms. Lisa Miller, Code Consulting Group and Mr. Mike Power, of Life Safety Systems Group, LRI.
- ULC Standards Fire Alarm Intelligibility & Technician Concerns given by Mr. Al Hess, President of Canadian Fire Alarm Association
- Fire Investigations: Lessons Learned Mr. Chris Williams, Operations manager, Quality Assurance & Risk management Fire Investigation Services Section, Office of the Fire Marshall

The CFSA extends our thanks to all of the presenters who took the time out of their very demanding schedules to take part in our AGM and who made the event the success that it was. As well we recognize that the success of the meeting is very dependent on those attending and we extend our appreciation to each person who was able to attend. We are looking forward to a similarly rewarding and educational experience at the 2013 Annual General Meeting.

communities, considering different approaches to code compliance, encouraging participation in the online public consultation of the Ontario Fire Code and using government initiatives, such as Open for Business and the Regulator's Code of Practice to better integrate the way we do business.

The speakers for the afternoon included Lisa Miller of Code Consulting Group and Mike Power of Leber Rubes Inc., Al Hess of the Canadian Fire Alarm Association and Chris Williams, Operations Manager, Quality Assurance & Risk Management of Fire Investigation Services at the OFM.

The afternoon began with a presentation to clarify some the fire safety planning requirements for care occupancies and to talk about some of the challenges that these occupancies pose. One solution that presenters provided to the audience was the recent NFPA 101A: Guide on Alternative Approaches to Life Safety. Anyone wishing to review the guide should visit <a href="https://www.nfpa.org">www.nfpa.org</a>.

The next presentation provided a detailed discussion on the new requirement of the 2010 National Building Code for voice communication in fire alarm systems. Hess spoke of the importance for intelligibility and some of the challenges posed by high ceilings.

The last presentation fittingly summed up the day. It was about lessons learned from fire scene investigations. Williams spoke about a fire that occurred after a Christmas wreath was intentionally ignited on an apartment unit door.

Given the fire patterns, it was determined that the layers of wall paint contributed to the substantial fuel load for the fire and contributed to victims being overcome when they exited their units. He emphasized that all too often we learn about the risks at the end of a fire incident and this needs to be changed. Assessing risk and fire prevention needs to be at the forefront of all our efforts.

The forum provided a day for participants to get together, network and reflect on what is in the codes and how these requirements affect them. It also served a trigger to get people thinking about whether current legislative requirements are still valid or whether they need to be revisited to include new perspectives/experiences. We look forward to hearing more about the code changes in the future and learning about how they will enhance life safety in the province.

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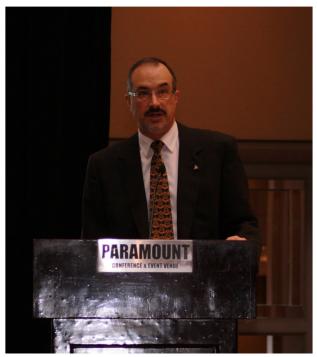
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2012 Annual Education Forum = Photos

\*\*It's In the Codes\*\*











#### Changing Profile in Canadian Building Fire Codes

BY ERIC NEI

RANDAL BROWN & ASSOCIATES ENGINEERING Ltd.

Mr. Randal Brown presented the Keynote Address at the Canadian Fire Safety Association (CFSA) Annual Education Forum held on April 4, 2012 at the Paramount Conference and Event Venue in Woodbridge, Ontario.

Mr. Brown's presentation addressed the topic of "Changing Profile in Canadian Building / Fire Codes" and the presentation was well received by the audience.

Mr. Brown began his presentation outlining that the changes to the Canadian Codes are traditionally driven by reaction to current project designs and how these designs impact fire and life safety risk. Proposed changes to the Code are evaluated to determine that they will provide a level of protection for the building's occupants as well as to first responders. Code changes are also introduced to address new materials that are proposed and which may not be literally addressed or permitted based on current code requirements.

Mr. Brown indicated that code changes can be submitted by anyone and are reviewed by a committee composed of a matrix of representatives from all aspects of the building industry. It is recognized that the review process is extensive and proposed changes may take time to be reviewed, evaluated and approved and finally included as part of the Canadian Codes. His presentation highlighted some key changes in the Canadian Building and Fire Codes as well as future code changes that are currently under development.

#### **Exterior Construction**

In recent years, high density residential projects have become popular amongst designers and developers where residential buildings are constructed with minimal limiting distances between buildings. Due to the high density and the close proximity of these buildings, concerns on exterior building construction were identified for Part 9 combustible construction to address spatial separation and the spread of fires between buildings. This was initially evident in the Province of Alberta where a residential fire in a dense residential community would spread quickly between buildings, causing significant property damage and a high level of risk to the buildings' occupants and the first responders.

These incidents brought to light concerns with the design of densely populated combustible buildings and the application of spatial separation requirements between buildings. This had an effect on design standards for exterior wall construction, wall cladding, eaves protection and vent locations. To resolve this concern, the Alberta Municipal Affairs implemented a revision to their provincial Code (2006 Alberta Building Code, with Amendment Regulation on March 17, 2009) to address high intensity residential fires in densely populated residential communities.

This amendment to the Alberta Building Code (ABC) was subsequently reflected in changes to the current 2010 National Building Code of Canada (NBC). However, only a portion of these design criteria for construction of exposing building faces and soffits of houses have been incorporated into the current 2006 Ontario Building Code (OBC, O.Reg. 350/06 as amended to O.Reg. 315/11).

#### Change in Industry Practice & Construction Material

The use of engineered joists in residential houses has become more common as the use of standard lumber floor joints has been reduced. While the OBC does not specify any fire-resistance ratings for floor assemblies within non-stacked single family homes, there have been concerns with respect to the fire resistive performance of engineered floor joints and the potential for reduced performance level with the use of these building materials, specifically to provide adequate time for first responders to conduct their initial search and rescue.

It is recognized that the engineered floor joints do not provide a comparable fire resistance to that of solid lumber. Furthermore, engineered floor joints are also designed to allow for openings within each joist to let piping, duct and cable penetrations which aids in the spread of fire.

As such, the National Research Council Canada (NRC) has been conducting full scale Basement burn tests to study the effects of a fire in typical basements where exposed floor joints are found.

The target building height is 6 storeys (with a potential to go higher in the future) and will be permitted to contain Group C (residential), Group D (offices), Group E (mercantile), Group A, Division 2 (assembly) and Group F, Division 3 (low hazard industrial) major occupancies.



It is also intended that restrictions on the location of occupancies, height of the building and sprinkler design under NFPA 13 (including sprinkler protection of balconies) will be included.

The target for introducing combustible mid-rise construction within the model building code (National Building Code) is 2015.

#### Other Discussions

In his presentation, Mr. Brown also addressed the concern on the design of glass guards for use in Ontario. Mr. Brown indicated that an expert advisory panel has been assembled to provide guidance on the design of glass guards utilized in Ontario buildings to address the use of laminated or tempered heat soaked glazing. This panel had recently issued a report to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing making recommendations on glass panels in balcony guards. While this is currently issued as a recommendation to the MMAH, it is likely that the guideline will eventually be presented as a CSA Standard to be referenced by the codes for design of glass guards.

While there have not been any formal Code changes to address the use of engineered floor joists, there has been preliminary discussions to adequately determine what level of protection is necessary when engineered floor joints are used.

Some preliminary discussions for proposed changes include the use of sprinklers for protection below the floor joints and drywall or drop ceiling protection below the floor joints.

#### Midrise Combustible Construction

Driven by government initiatives for combustible construction, the National Research Council Canada (NRC) has formed a Joint Task Group to review and implement the use of combustible construction for mid-rise buildings.

The task group is divided into four categories: Construction Requirements, Fire Code (maintenance, fire response, and water supply), Structural and Building Science.

The initial draft proposed code change is scheduled to be published for public comment in the fall of 2012.

Mr. Brown also indicated that foam plastic insulation panels for use in EFIS systems, pre-manufactured panels and freezer panels have become more common and considerations of a code change are being assembled to outline separate requirements for interior versus exterior protection (i.e., application of the CAN/ULC-S134 "Fire Test for Exterior Wall Assemblies" vs. the CAN/ULC-S101 "Fire Endurance Test of Building Construction and Materials") and the need to revisit testing criteria and Building Code limitations on use of factory-assembled interior and exterior wall and ceiling panels containing foamed plastic insulation.

Mr. Brown concluded his presentation by identifying that code changes are inevitable as new construction concepts such as encapsulation construction and innovative system / materials continue to transcend and challenge the Code requirements. As such, the profile of the Canadian Building and Fire Codes will continue to evolve to address these designs.

A copy of Mr. Brown's presentation can be found at www. rbacodes.com/news-resources/publications/presentation-the-changing-profile-of-canadian-building-and-fire-codes/.

Eric Nei is an Assistant Project Manager at Randal Brown & Associates Engineering Ltd. Mr. Nei is a designated Professional Engineer and a Building Design Specialist in the Province of Ontario.

#### Rich Morris Tribute



It is with great sadness that the CFSA announces the loss of one of our founding members, longtime friend and colleague Rich Morris. Rich was instrumental in the development of the Canadian Fire Safety Association over 41 years ago and participated on the board of directors for over 35 years including holding the position of president.

Rich will be sadly missed by all board members, past and present and Taylor Enterprises. Rich provided a compelling speech at the 40th anniversary annual education forum regarding the milestones, accomplishments and changes the CFSA and the industry has seen over the last 40 years.

We wanted to share this speech with you including a few excerpts:

"For those that know me well will know that I have a deep passion for Public Safety..."

"...long before many on this hemisphere had ever heard of a smoke detector. I know then with absolute clarity that this unique concept could make a tremendous difference in protecting people and property from fire...and I was proud to be assigned the job of pioneering and marketing this remarkable product offering in Canada..."

#### 2012 CFSA Scholarship Awards

#### \$1,000.00 CFSA Peter Stainsby Award





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Winner: Peter J. Orian

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Winner: Jeff R. Jones

#### \$850.00 CFSA Fire Safety Award





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Winner: Tyler J.T. Oke

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Presented to a TOP YEAR 2 STUDENT of a 3 year fulltime Fire Protection Technology Course with exceptional overall skills in Fire Alarm System-Technology and an academic proficiency > 3.3 GPA

Winner: Zheng Liang

#### \$850.00 CFSA Randal Brown & Associates Engineering Ltd. Award



\$850.00 CFSA Nadine International Inc.

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Presented to a TOP YEAR 2 STUDENT of a 3 year fulltime Fire Protection Technology Course with exceptional overall skills in Codes/Standards Technology and an academic proficiency of > 3.3 GPA

Winner: David Jackson



Presented to a TOP YEAR 2 STUDENT of a 3 year fulltime Fire Protection Technology Course with exceptional overall skills in Fire Suppression Technology and an academic proficiency > 3.3 GPA

Winner: Yang Shen

#### \$500.00 CFSA Underwriters' Laboratories of Canada Award



(UL)

Presented to a TOP YEAR 2 STUDENT of a 3 year fulltime Fire Protection Technology Course, with exceptional academic skills in Codes and Standards and an overall proficiency of > 3.3 GPA

Winner: Colin Samuel

#### \$500.00 CFSA Underwriters' Laboratories of Canada Awar





Presented to a TOP 1ST YEAR STU-DENT of a 3 year fulltime Fire Protection Technology Course, with exceptional academic skills in all subjects and a proficiency of >3.3 GPA

Winner: Anna Mielnik

#### Inspection Orders - Seneca College Chapter Inaugural Dinner

BY NICOLE HIGGINS FIRE PROTECTION TECHNOLOGIST

On March 8, 2012, the Seneca College Student Chapter of the Canadian Fire Safety Association held their inaugural dinner meeting. The key speaker was Susan Clarke, Fire Protection Engineer, and President of The Canadian Fire Safety Association who presented the topic of "Inspection" Orders". The CFSA Seneca Student Chapter as well as several faculty member from the Seneca College Fire Protection Engineering Technology Program were in attendance.

Highlights of the event included the Seneca Chapter presenting Stu Evans, current Seneca College Math Professor, past CFSA board member, and previous Fire Protection Program Co-ordinator at Seneca College with a Lifetime Achievement award. Mr. Evans began his career in 1974 as a math teacher for the Mechanical Engineering program at Seneca College, and in 1986 he became Co-ordinator for Seneca's Fire Protection Program. Although Stu is no longer Co-ordinator he has continued to provide leadership and wisdom for Seneca College's Fire Protection and Preservice programs, helping to provide labs that are second to none.

This event, held at Seneca College (Newnham Campus), was a great success and an excellent way for the Fire Protection students to network with Fire Safety specialists in the industry. It is important to have industry supporting student growth and development throughout the Fire Protection industry.

#### **Exploring Various Tools**

The Fire Protection and Prevention Act (FPPA) plays a key role in achieving compliance with the requirements of the Ontario Fire Code. Inspection orders are based on the immediate risk of life safety. However, the FPPA 19.(2) permits that an inspector may, without warrant, enter and inspect land and premises for the purposes of assessing fire safety.

As the Fire Code has developed over the years; often the intent of the literal Code is misunderstood. More often than not the Scope and Application statements are glanced over, and exemptions, permissions and references are not addressed. It is imperative that all Scope and Application statements, along with any exceptions, permissions and references get reviewed such that the full understanding and intent of the Code requirement is met.

Violations with respect to the Fire Code may be addressed by compliance with the prescriptive provisions of Division B, or by the completion and submission for approval of an Alternative Solution because "Regardless of the Compliance option, a violation is still a violation". Alternate Solutions have been utilized to assist in providing an "alternative" way to meet the prescriptive requirements of the Code while maintaining both fire and life safety within the facility where the inspection order was issued.



#### Writing and Issuing Inspection Orders

When an inspection order is issued the reason for the Order and as well as an explanation of the action is required be provided to the addressee (i.e., if the lack of a fire separation between floors would cause smoke and fire spread then a fire separation is required to be provided between floors) by the inspection officer. The FPPA must ensure that conflicts with the law - OFC, OBC or otherwise are resolved prior to the order being issued.

Upon receipt of a violation, corrective measures are reguired to be taken. A Fire Marshal review will include the review of the evidence of the occupancy type, evidence of the actual violation (photos if available) and evidence of the risk. The OFM does not "connect the dots" and all supporting evidence is required to be given to the Fire Marshal reviewing the final case. The Fire Marshal will review the Order including all evidence. Once the decision has been made a caution to the owner and fire department that decision does not relieve the owner from compliance with bylaws or other law. Each inspection order is done in a case-by-case basis, and no appeal to the decision is available.

An inspection order is required to be provided where a closure of a premise is considered proper (FPPA 21.(2)). Closure of a premise includes the prevention of use of land or premises until a corrective action can be taken, this is required to be approved by the Fire Marshal. However, the Fire Marshal is not required to be involved where the risk of fire poses immediate threat to life and the fire department has the right to remove or reduce that threat.

Overall, I would like to thank Susan Clarke for the presentation given regarding Inspection Orders. Several Fire Protection students I spoke with after the event were thrilled with the support from the Fire Protection industry, as well as the support Seneca College Faculty provided them. Hopefully these events will continue as it was a valuable experience for all of those involved.

Prepared by:

Nicole Higgins Fire Protection Technologist



# **Membership**Application Form

#### Why Corporate Membership?

Corporate Membership is cost effective because it allows any number of individuals from your organization to participate in the many functions provided by CFSA throughout the year. Any number of persons can attend our monthly dinner meetings/ technical sessions or our annual conference at the preferred member's rate. Your advertisement in the CFSA journal is circulated to CFSA's membership of over 250 professionals in the Fire Safety Industry.

**Corporate** 

Includes 3 individual memberships; Company recognition in each of the four issues of the CFSA journal.

#### **Corporate Plus**

Includes 6 individual memberships; Company recognition and a 1/2 page advertisement in each of the four issues of the CFSA journal.

#### **Individual Member:**

Includes four issues of the CFSA journal and discounted rates at Association functions.

#### **Student Member:**

Includes four issues of the CFSA journal and discounted rates at Association functions.

#### **Associate Member:**

For individuals and companies located beyond a radius of 150 km from the Greater Toronto Area. Includes four issues of the CFSA journal and discounted rates at Association functions.

#### **Provincial/Territorial Chapter:**

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.

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#### CFSA Application for MEMBERSHIF

**HOW TO APPLY:** You can either apply by mail/fax or simply by downloading our printable registration form (PDF format).

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

- Architect
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- Fire Protection Manufacturer/Supplier
- Other (please specify)
- Engineer
- Fire Service
- Fire Consultant
- Building Owner/ Developer/Manager

#### 2012 Membership Fees

			Fee	HST	Total
0	Corporate	\$	398.23	\$ 51.77	\$ 450.00
0	Corporate Plus	\$	774.34	\$ 75.66	\$ 850.00
0	Individual Member	\$	80.00	\$ 10.40	\$ 90.40
0	Student Member	\$	25.00	\$ 3.25	\$ 28.25
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From May 10 to June 30, 2012, the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services, Office of the Fire Marshal is inviting public comment on a package of proposed changes for the next edition of the Ontario Fire Code (OFC).

These proposed changes have been compiled in consideration of a variety of submissions and reflect Ontario's ongoing participation in the development of a national coordinated code development strategy by including changes that harmonize, to the extent possible, with changes to the National Fire Code (NFC).

The proposed changes do not represent government policy and your views will be considered before the government makes final decisions regarding the next edition of the OFC.

Note that a separate initiative is underway to review fire safety provisions for vulnerable residents. As this review is proceeding on a different schedule, technical changes contained in the current consultation package do not include proposals dealing with the subject of vulnerable occupancies.

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