



# FIRE SAFETY MAINTENANCE INSPECTION CHECKLIST

## RESIDENTIAL

1 <sup>st</sup> DATE	TIME	2 <sup>nd</sup> DATE	TIME	BUILDING ADDRESS:			OCC.GRP:	OCCUPANCY USE:
BUILDING NAME:				BUILDING OWNER NAME:			BUILDING OWNER PHONE:	
BUILDING OWNER EMAIL:		BUILDING OWNER MAILING ADDRESS: (if different from building)				BUILDING CONTACT SUITE #		
BUILDING CONTACT NAME:		BUILDING CONTACT TITLE:		BUILDING CONTACT EMAIL:		BUILDING CONTACT PHONE :		
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>								
				N/A	Y	N	COMMENT	
1.1	Fire Safety Plan ( <i>If Fire Alarm in Bldg.</i> )			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
1.2	Fire Alarm System inspected annually			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
1.3	Smoke Alarms inspected/cleaned/tested annually			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
1.4	CO Alarms inspected/cleaned/tested annually			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
1.5	Sprinkler System inspected annually			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
1.6	Standpipe/Hose System inspected annually			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
1.7	Private Hydrant inspected annually			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
1.8	<b>Commercial Cooking Equipment</b>							
1.8.1	Fixed Extinguishing System inspected bi-annually			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
1.8.2	Exhaust Hood inspected & cleaned bi-annually			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
1.9	Ventilation Sys Incl. CO Detectors checked annually			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
1.10	Proof of Dryer ventilation cleaning			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
1.11	Fire Extinguishers checked monthly (in log or on tag)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
1.12	<b>Emergency Lights</b>							
1.12.1	Emergency Lights inspected annually			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
1.12.2	Emergency Lights monthly log (self-contained units)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
1.13	Egress & Exit Doors tested monthly log			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
1.14	Furnace inspected annually			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
1.15	Chimney inspected annually			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
1.16	Emergency Generator inspected monthly/annually			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
1.17	Elevator inspection report (6+ storeys)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
1.18	MSDS Book in an acceptable location			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>EXTERIOR</b>								
				N/A	Y	N	COMMENT	
2.1	Civic Number posted and visible (4" min.)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
2.2	Fire Apparatus access to at least one building face			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
2.3	Private Hydrant unobstructed & accessible			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
2.4	FD Connection: accessible/capped/swivels work			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
2.5	Fuel Cylinders/Tanks in safe condition ( <i>Visual</i> )			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
2.6	Garbage Containers (10' from Building)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
2.7	Exit / Egress Pathway(s) clear and unobstructed			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
2.8	Outside Exit Landings & Steps in safe condition			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>FIRE DETECTION SYSTEMS</b>								
				N/A	Y	N	COMMENT	
3.1	Fire Alarm System in working order ( <i>Visual</i> )			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
3.2	Monitoring Company info on panel ( <i>If FA monitored</i> )			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
3.3	Pull Stations visible & accessible			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
3.4	Signs above Pull Stations ( <i>If not monitored</i> )			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
3.5	Apartment Smoke Alarms working ( <i>Random Check</i> )			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
3.6	Apt CO Alarms working ( <i>Random Check if installed</i> )			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS</b>								
				N/A	Y	N	COMMENT	
4.1	<b>Sprinkler System:</b>							
4.1.1	System is in working order ( <i>Visual</i> )			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
4.1.2	Spare Sprinklers (min 6) in cabinet			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
4.1.3	Sprinkler Wrench in cabinet			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
4.2	<b>Standpipe / Hose System:</b>							
4.2.1	Standpipe/Hose System maintained ( <i>Visual</i> )			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
4.3	<b>Portable Fire Extinguishers:</b>							
4.3.1	Fire Extinguishers inspected annually ( <i>Check Tag</i> )			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
4.3.2	Fire Extinguishers Wall mounted and accessible			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
4.4	<b>Commercial Cooking Equipment:</b>							



# FIRE SAFETY MAINTENANCE INSPECTION CHECKLIST RESIDENTIAL

4.4.1	Exhaust Hood System adequately cleaned (Visual)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4.4.2	Manual Pull visible & accessible	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4.4.3	K Class Extinguisher wall mounted and accessible	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
FIRE SEPARATIONS		N/A	Y	N	COMMENT
5.1	Doors in closed position	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5.2	Door self-closing/latching devices working	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5.3	Walls/ceilings free from holes and openings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
EXITS		N/A	Y	N	COMMENT
6.1	Exit doors operable and accessible	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
6.2	Exits and Hallways are illuminated ( <i>Adequately</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
6.3	Exit Signs are illuminated	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
6.4	Acceptable Locking Devices	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
6.5	Exit / Egress Pathway(s) clear and unobstructed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6.6	Egress Windows acceptable ( <i>If not sprinklered</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6.7	Emergency Lights working ( <i>Random Check</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
STORAGE		N/A	Y	N	COMMENT
7.1	In a neat and orderly fashion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.2	18" below sprinkler heads	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.3	39" below ceiling if non-sprinklered	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.4	3' from electrical panels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.5	Service Rooms free from storage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.6	Propane Tanks stored inside building - Removed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.7	Flammable/combustible liquids properly stored	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.8	Haz-Mat materials properly stored	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
BUILDING SERVICES		N/A	Y	N	COMMENT
8.1	Furnace/Chimney in a safe condition ( <i>Visual</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.2	Electrical Wiring in a safe condition ( <i>Visual</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.3	Extension cords properly used (temporary use only)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.4	Electrical Components secure ( <i>Visual</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.5	Electrical Panel, Outlet & Switches have face plates	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.6	Garbage Room (excessive amount or room)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.7	Laundry Room (lint traps)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

## COMMENTS: (Print Only)

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FIRE PREVENTION OFFICER NAME:	FIRE PREVENTION OFFICER PHONE:	FIRE PREVENTION OFFICER EMAIL:	FIRE PREVENTION OFFICER FAX:	
			902 490-5228	
STATION OFFICER NAME (Print)	STATION OFFICER PHONE	STATION OFFICER EMAIL	STATION	PLATOON

With your co-operation we have completed a Fire Safety Maintenance Inspection (to the level of firefighter training) concerning fire safety in your building (all accessible areas). The items marked "N" require your attention.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Follow up required with appointment	Date:		Time:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Forward to Fire Prevention Officer – Out of Scope				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Forward to Fire Prevention Officer – Non-Compliance				
<input type="checkbox"/>	No Deficiencies				



# HALIFAX REGIONAL FIRE AND EMERGENCY

## Fire Prevention Division

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## FIRE SAFETY MAINTENANCE INSPECTION GUIDE

### *RESIDENTIAL*



# 1 ADMINISTRATION

## 1.1 Fire Safety Plan (If Fire Alarm in Bldg.)

Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.8.1.1., 2.8.2.1.

*A Fire Safety Plan (FSP) is required in Residential Occupancies required by the NBC to have a fire alarm system.*

*NBC Determination of Requirement for a Fire Alarm System in Residential Occupancies:*

- *A fire alarm system shall be installed in a building in which an automatic sprinkler system is installed (1997 to date).*
- *Except as permitted by Sentences (3) to (5), a fire alarm system shall be installed in a building that is not sprinklered throughout and that contains a residential occupancy with sleeping accommodation for more than 10 persons,*
- *Where each dwelling unit in an apartment building that is not sprinklered has direct access to an exterior exit facility leading to ground level, a fire alarm system is not required if*
  - *not more than 4 dwelling units share a common means of egress, or*
  - *the building is not more than 3 storeys in building height.*
- *A fire alarm system is not required in a hotel or motel 3 storeys or less in building height that is contained in a building that is not sprinklered provided each suite has direct access to an exterior exit facility leading to ground level.*

*Where a FSP is required in buildings or areas as described above, the FSP shall be prepared in cooperation with the fire department and other applicable regulatory authorities and shall include:*

- *the emergency procedures to be used in case of fire, including*
  - *sounding the fire alarm*
  - *notifying the fire department,*
  - *instructing occupants on procedures to be followed when the fire alarm sounds,*
  - *evacuating occupants, including special provisions for persons requiring assistance,*
  - *confining, controlling and extinguishing the fire,*
- *the appointment and organization of designated supervisory staff to carry out fire safety duties,*
- *the training of supervisory staff and other occupants in their responsibilities for fire safety,*
- *documents, including diagrams, showing the type, location and operation of the building fire emergency systems,*
- *the holding of fire drills,*
- *the control of fire hazards in the building, and*
- *the inspection and maintenance of building facilities provided for the safety of occupants.*
- *the FSP shall be reviewed at intervals not greater than 12 months to ensure that it takes account of changes in the use and other characteristics of the building.*

- ✓ **If the building has a fire alarm system they are required to have a FSP.**



- ✓ Ask the property owner or owner's agent if the FSP is being reviewed annually to ensure that it takes account of changes in the use and other characteristics of the building.
- ✓ A FSP will include the applicable items listed above. Some property owners or owner's agents may feel that because they have "evacuation procedures" posted in their building that this means they have an approved FSP. Evacuation procedures are only one part of a FSP - unless the FSP addresses the other applicable requirements of a FSP as listed above it does not meet the requirements of the NFC.
- ✓ If they cannot provide you with a copy of their FSP check the N Box on the FSMI form and instruct the owner or owner's agent to contact the FPO at their earliest convenience to address the requirement of a FSP. FPO contact information is found on the bottom of the FSMI Checklist that you will be e-mailing them.

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## 1.2 Fire Alarm System inspected annually

*Code Reference and Summary- NFC 6.3.1.2. (1), Div C 2.2.1.2.*

*All fire alarm systems are required to be inspected annually.*

*Where tests, inspections, maintenance or operational procedures are required to be performed on a fire safety system, records shall be made and the original or a copy shall be retained at the premises for examination by the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ).*

- ✓ Ask to see a copy of the inspection report to ensure that there are no outstanding deficiencies.
- ✓ HRFE Form FP-377 may be considered an acceptable equivalent.
- ✓ Unless the record from the qualified company verifies that there are no deficiencies, check the N Box on the FSMI form.
- ✓ Tell the property owner, owner's agent or occupant that a report from a qualified company must be provided at the time of re-inspection. The owner must show proof that deficiencies have been corrected. It is not acceptable for them to just say that all deficiencies have been corrected.

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## 1.3 Smoke Alarms inspected/cleaned/tested annually

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 6.7.1.1.(1), CAN/ULC CAN/ULC-S552-02, 3.2., NFC Div C 2.2.1.2.*

*Smoke alarms shall be inspected, tested and maintained in conformance with CAN/ULC-S552, "Maintenance and Testing of CAN/ULC-S552-02.*

*Where tests, inspections, maintenance or operational procedures are required to be performed on a fire safety system, records shall be made and the original or a copy shall be retained at the premises for examination by the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ).*

*Testing and inspections shall be carried in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations or where the manufacturer's instructions are not available, testing shall be performed in accordance with Subsection 3.2, Annual Maintenance and Testing. Additionally, testing and inspections shall be performed in accordance with Subsection 3.3, Replacement; and Subsection 3.4, Additional Testing.*



## FIRE SAFETY MAINTENANCE INSPECTION GUIDE RESIDENTIAL

- ✓ Ask to see a copy of the annual smoke alarm maintenance logs. (Remember that Smoke alarms are standalone units, not smoke detectors which are tied to the building Fire Alarm System and tested with the FA System).
- ✓ If there is no record kept check the N Box on the FSMI.
- ✓ Instruct the property owner or owner's agent to begin doing the annual inspections and keeping the required records.

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### 1.4 CO Alarms inspected/cleaned/tested annually

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 6.7.1.1.(3), Div C 2.2.1.2.*

*Carbon monoxide alarms shall be inspected, tested and maintained in conformance with the manufacturer's instructions.*

*Where tests, inspections, maintenance or operational procedures are required to be performed on a fire safety system, records shall be made and the original or a copy shall be retained at the premises for examination by the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ).*

- ✓ Ask if there are carbon monoxide alarms in the building (other than CO detectors installed in ventilation systems - see FSMI Checklist line item 1.9 for more information). If yes, ask to see a copy of the annual carbon monoxide alarm maintenance logs. If no, suggest (required if built after 2010) that, CO alarms be installed in Service Rooms containing a fuel burning appliance and in apartments that have a fuel-burning appliance within them (furnace/woodstove/gas fireplace etc.) and/or are located above, below or beside a Service Room containing a fuel-burning appliance or a Parking Garage.
- ✓ If there are required carbon monoxide alarms and there are no maintenance records kept check the N Box on the FSMI.

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### 1.5 Sprinkler System inspected annually

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 6.4.1.1. (1), Div C 2.2.1.2.*

*As per NFPA 25 requirements, all sprinkler systems shall be inspected annually.*

*Section 4 of the NFPA further states that records shall be made for all inspections, tests, and maintenance of the system and its components and shall be made available to the authority having jurisdiction upon request. Records shall indicate the procedure performed (e.g., inspection, test, or maintenance), the organization that performed the work, the result, and the date.*

*Where tests, inspections, maintenance or operational procedures are required to be performed on a fire safety system, records shall be made and the original or a copy shall be retained at the premises for examination by the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ).*

- ✓ Ask to see a copy of the inspection report to ensure that there are no outstanding deficiencies.
- ✓ HRFE Form FP-377 may be considered an acceptable equivalent.



## FIRE SAFETY MAINTENANCE INSPECTION GUIDE RESIDENTIAL

- ✓ Deficiencies are usually shown on the last page and are enforceable. If a report has "recommendations", they are not enforceable the same way that deficiencies are.
- ✓ Unless the record from the qualified company verifies that there are no deficiencies, check the N Box on the FSMI form.
- ✓ Tell the property owner, owner's agent or occupant that a report from a qualified company must be provided at the time of the re-inspection. The owner must show proof that deficiencies have been corrected. It is not acceptable for them to just say that all deficiencies have been corrected.

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### 1.6 Standpipe/Hose System inspected annually

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 6.4.1.1. (1) Div C 2.2.1.2.*

*Standpipe and Hose Systems shall be inspected and tested to meet the minimum requirements for the routine inspection, testing, and maintenance of standpipe and hose systems as listed in NFPA 25.*

*Where tests, inspections, maintenance or operational procedures are required to be performed on a fire safety system, records shall be made and the original or a copy shall be retained at the premises for examination by the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ).*

- ✓ Ask to see a copy of the current (one year or less) inspection report to ensure that there are no outstanding deficiencies.
- ✓ HRFE Form FP-377 may be considered an acceptable equivalent.
- ✓ Unless the record from the qualified company verifies that there are no deficiencies, check the N Box on the FSMI form.
- ✓ Tell the property owner, owner's agent or occupant that a report from a qualified company must be provided at the time of the re-inspection. The owner must show proof that deficiencies have been corrected. It is not acceptable for them to just say that all deficiencies have been corrected.

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### 1.7 Private Hydrant inspected annually

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 6.4.1.1. (1), Div C 2.2.1.2.*

*As per the requirements of NFPA 25, private hydrants shall be inspected annually. All equipment shall be maintained in proper working condition, consistent with the manufacturer's recommendations. Hydrants shall be lubricated annually to ensure that all stems, caps, plugs, and threads are in proper operating condition.*

*Where tests, inspections, maintenance or operational procedures are required to be performed on a fire safety system, records shall be made and the original or a copy shall be retained at the premises for examination by the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ).*

- ✓ Ask to see a copy of the inspection report to ensure that there are no outstanding deficiencies.
- ✓ HRFE Form FP-377 may be considered an acceptable equivalent.
- ✓ Unless the record from the qualified company verifies that there are no deficiencies, check the N Box on the FSMI form.





- ✓ Tell the property owner, owner's agent or occupant that a report from a qualified company must be provided at the time of the re-inspection. The owner must show proof that deficiencies have been corrected. It is not acceptable for them to just say that all deficiencies have been corrected

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## 1.8 Commercial Cooking Equipment

### 1.8.1 Fixed Extinguishing System inspected bi-annually

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*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.6.1.9.(2), Div C 2.2.1.2.*

*Maintenance of the fire-extinguishing systems and listed exhaust hoods shall be made by properly trained, qualified, and certified person(s) acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction at least every 6 months.*

*All actuation components, including remote manual pull stations, mechanical or electrical devices, detectors, and actuators, shall be checked for proper operation during the inspection in accordance with the manufacturer's listed procedures.*

*Where tests, inspections, maintenance or operational procedures are required to be performed on a fire safety system, records shall be made and the original or a copy shall be retained at the premises for examination by the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ).*

- ✓ Ask to see a copy of the bi-annual inspection report to ensure that there are no outstanding deficiencies.
- ✓ HRFE Form FP-377 may be considered an acceptable equivalent.
- ✓ Unless the record from the qualified company verifies that there are no deficiencies, check the N Box on the FSMI form.
- ✓ Instruct the property owner, owner's agent or occupant that a report from a qualified company must be provided at the time of the re-inspection. The owner must show proof that deficiencies have been corrected. It is not acceptable for them to just say that all deficiencies have been corrected.

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### 1.8.2 Exhaust Hood inspected & cleaned bi-annually

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*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.6.1.9.(2), Div C 2.2.1.2.*

*Maintenance of the fire-extinguishing systems and listed exhaust hoods shall be made by properly trained, qualified, and certified person(s) acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction at least every 6 months.*

*Hoods, grease removal devices, fans, ducts, and other appurtenances shall be cleaned at frequent intervals to prevent surfaces from becoming heavily contaminated with grease or other residues.*

*The entire exhaust system shall be inspected for grease buildup by a properly trained, qualified, and certified company or person(s) acceptable to the AHJ and in accordance with the NFC.*

*Upon inspection, if the exhaust system is found to be contaminated with deposits from grease-laden vapors, the contaminated portions of the exhaust system shall be cleaned by a properly trained, qualified, and certified company or person(s) acceptable to the AHJ.*





*Certificates of inspection & cleaning, and reports of areas not cleaned, shall be submitted to the AHJ.*

*Where tests, inspections, maintenance or operational procedures are required to be performed on a fire safety system, records shall be made and the original or a copy shall be retained at the premises for examination by the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ).*

- ✓ Ask to see a copy of the bi-annual inspection report to ensure that there are no outstanding deficiencies.
- ✓ HRFE Form FP-377 may be considered an acceptable equivalent.
- ✓ Unless the record from the qualified company verifies that there are no deficiencies, check the N Box on the FSMI form.
- ✓ Instruct the property owner, owner's agent or occupant that a report from a qualified company must be provided at the time of the re-inspection. The owner must show proof that deficiencies have been corrected. It is not acceptable for them to just say that all deficiencies have been corrected.

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## 1.9 Ventilation Systems Including CO Detectors checked annually

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.6.1.6., 7.2.3.3, Div C 2.2.1.2..*

*Heating, ventilating and air-conditioning systems, including appliances, chimneys and flue pipes, shall be operated and maintained so as not to create a hazardous condition.*

*Except for self-contained systems within dwelling units, disconnect switches for mechanical air-conditioning and ventilating systems shall be operated at intervals not greater than 12 months to establish that the system can be shut down in an emergency.*

*Controls for air-handling systems used for venting in the event of a fire shall be tested to ensure that air is exhausted from each floor area to the outdoors. (High Buildings)*

*Where tests, inspections, maintenance or operational procedures are required to be performed on a fire safety system, records shall be made and the original or a copy shall be retained at the premises for examination by the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ).*

- ✓ Ask to see a copy of the annual ventilation system checks.
- ✓ If there is a parking garage in the building ask to see the annual CO detector check section of the records.
- ✓ If there is no record kept check the N Box on the FSMI.
- ✓ Instruct the property owner or owner's agent to begin doing the annual inspections and keeping the required records.

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## 1.10 Proof of Dryer ventilation cleaning

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.4.7.1, NFC 2.6.1.6.*

*Electrical installations shall be used and maintained so as not to constitute an undue fire hazard.*

*Heating, ventilating and air-conditioning systems, including appliances, chimneys and flue pipes, shall be operated and maintained so as not to create a hazardous condition.*



- ✓ Clothes dryers are required to be installed, exhausted, operated and maintained as per manufacturer's instructions.
- ✓ Manufacturer's instructions require that the exhaust ducting be cleaned and inspected once a year to prevent lint build-up, and, that the interior of the appliance and exhaust duct be cleaned once a year by qualified service personnel.
- ✓ Ask the property owner, owner's agent or occupant when the exhaust ducting was last cleaned & inspected to ensure there is no accumulation of lint creating an undue fire hazard.
- ✓ If the property owner, owner's agent or occupant does not have a record of the dryer ducting being cleaned & inspected within the last 2 years, check the N Box on the FSMI form.
- ✓ Ask to view the manufacturer's requirements for the inspection and maintenance for the appliance and instruct the property owner, owner's agent or occupant to have the appliance inspected as per these instructions. (Manufacturer's requirements will most likely require annual inspections)

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#### 1.11 Fire Extinguishers checked monthly (in log or on tag)

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 6.2.1.1., Div C 2.2.1.2.*

*Fire extinguishers shall be inspected at a minimum of 30-day intervals and at more frequent intervals when circumstances require.*

*Where manual inspections are conducted, records for manual inspections shall be kept on a tag or label attached to the fire extinguisher, on an inspection checklist maintained on file, or by an electronic method.*

*Records shall be kept to demonstrate that at least the last 12 monthly inspections have been performed.*

*Personnel making manual inspections shall keep records of all fire extinguishers inspected, including those found to require corrective action.*

*Where at least monthly manual inspections are conducted, the date the manual inspection was performed and the initials of the person performing the inspection shall be recorded.*

*Periodic inspection shall include a check of at least the following items:*

- *Location in designated place*
- *No obstruction to access or visibility*
- *Pressure gauge reading or indicator in the operable range or position*
- *Fullness determined by weighing or hefting for self-expelling-type extinguishers, cartridge-operated extinguishers, and pump tanks*
- *Condition of tires, wheels, carriage, hose, and nozzle for wheeled extinguishers*
- *Indicator for non-rechargeable extinguishers using push-to-test pressure indicators*
- *Verifying that operating instructions on nameplates are legible and face outward*
- *Checking for broken or missing safety seals and tamper indicators*
- *Examination for obvious physical damage, corrosion, leakage, or clogged nozzle*

*When an inspection of any fire extinguisher reveals a deficiency in any of the conditions listed above, immediate corrective action shall be taken.*



- ✓ Ask the property owner or owner's agent if they keep the portable fire extinguisher monthly inspection records on the portable fire extinguisher tag or in a separate log.
- ✓ If in a separate log, ask to see the records at this time.
- ✓ If kept on the portable fire extinguisher tag, defer this item to be addressed with Section 4.3 of this Guide – Portable Fire Extinguishers.
- ✓ If there is no record kept of the portable fire extinguisher monthly inspections (either on the portable fire extinguisher tag or in a separate log), check the N Box on the FSMI.
- ✓ Instruct the property owner or owner's agent to begin doing the monthly inspections and keeping the required records.

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## 1.12 Emergency Lights

### 1.12.1 Emergency Lights inspected annually

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*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 6.5.1.6.(2)(b), Div C 2.2.1.2.*

*Unit equipment for emergency lighting shall be inspected, tested and maintained in conformance with the NFC. Self-contained emergency lighting unit equipment shall be inspected at intervals not greater than 12 months to ensure that the unit will provide emergency lighting for a duration equal to the design criterion under simulated power failure conditions (30 minutes for residential occupancies / 2 hours in the room with the generator transfer switch if there is a generator for emergency power systems).*

*After completion of this test, the charging conditions for voltage and current and the recovery period shall be tested to ensure that the charging system is functioning in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.*

*Where tests, inspections, maintenance or operational procedures are required to be performed on a fire safety system, records shall be made and the original or a copy shall be retained at the premises for examination by the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ).*

- ✓ Both direct wired and plug-in style self-contained units are to be inspected annually by a qualified person trained to perform the required tests. Emergency lighting supplied by an emergency generator is inspected within Section 1.16 Emergency Generator inspected annually.
- ✓ HRFE Form FP-377 may be considered an acceptable equivalent.
- ✓ Ask to see a copy of the inspection report to ensure that there are no outstanding deficiencies.
- ✓ Unless the record from the qualified company verifies that there are no deficiencies, check the N Box on the FSMI form.
- ✓ Tell the property owner, owner's agent or occupant that a report from a qualified company must be provided at the time of the re-inspection. The owner must show proof that deficiencies have been corrected. It is not acceptable for them to just say that all deficiencies have been corrected.

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### 1.12.2 Emergency Lights monthly log (self-contained units)

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*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 6.5.1.6., Div C 2.2.1.2.*

*Self-contained emergency lighting unit equipment shall be tested at intervals not greater than one month to ensure that*

- (a) pilot lights are functioning and not obviously damage or obstructed,*
- (b) the terminal connections are clean, free of corrosion and lubricated when necessary*
- (c) the terminal clamps are clean and tight as per manufacturer's specifications, and*
- (d) the battery surface is kept clean and dry.*

*Where tests, inspections, maintenance or operational procedures are required to be performed on a fire safety system, records shall be made and the original or a copy shall be retained at the premises for examination by the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ).*

- ✓ Both direct wired and plug-in style self-contained units are to be checked monthly by a qualified person trained to perform the required monthly checks. Emergency lighting supplied by an emergency generator is inspected within Section 1.16 Emergency Generator inspected annually.
- ✓ Ask the property owner or owner's agent to see their monthly maintenance records.
- ✓ If there is no record kept of the emergency lighting monthly inspections, check the N Box on the FSMI.
- ✓ Instruct the property owner or owner's agent to begin doing the monthly inspections and keeping the required records.

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### 1.13 Egress & Exit Doors tested monthly log

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.7.2.1, 2.7.2.2., Div C 2.2.1.2..*

*All doors forming part of a means of egress shall be tested at intervals not greater than one month to ensure that they are operable.*

*The safety features of revolving doors shall be tested at intervals not greater than 12 months.*

*Sliding doors that are required to swing on their vertical axes in the direction of egress when pressure is applied shall be tested at intervals not greater than 12 months.*

*When doors are equipped with electromagnetic locks, these locks shall be tested at intervals not greater than 12 months.*

*Where tests, inspections, maintenance or operational procedures are required to be performed on a fire safety system, records shall be made and the original or a copy shall be retained at the premises for examination by the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ).*

- ✓ Ask to see a copy of the monthly egress and exit door maintenance logs.
- ✓ If there is no record kept check the N Box on the FSMI.
- ✓ Instruct the property owner or owner's agent to begin doing the annual inspections and keeping the required records.

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## 1.14 Furnace inspected annually

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.6.1.6., Div C 2.2.1.2.*

*Heating, ventilating and air-conditioning systems, including appliances, chimneys and flue pipes, shall be operated and maintained so as not to create a hazardous condition.*

- ✓ Heating appliances are required to be operated and maintained as per manufacturer's instructions.
- ✓ Ask to see a copy of the annual inspection report to ensure that there are no outstanding deficiencies.
- ✓ If the property owner, owner's agent or occupant does not have an annual inspection report check the N Box on the FSMI form.
- ✓ Ask to view the manufacturer's requirements for the inspection and maintenance for the appliance and instruct the property owner, owner's agent or occupant to have the appliance inspected as per these instructions. (Manufacturer's requirements will most likely require annual inspections)

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## 1.15 Chimney inspected annually

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.6.1.4., Div C 2.2.1.2.*

*Heating, ventilating and air-conditioning systems, including appliances, chimneys and flue pipes, shall be operated and maintained so as not to create a hazardous condition.*

*Every chimney, flue and flue pipe shall be inspected to identify any dangerous condition:*

- *at intervals not greater than 12 months,*
- *at the time of addition of any appliance, and*
- *after any chimney fire.*

*NFC Appendix A states:*

*External inspection of enclosed chimneys and surrounding construction may require the installation of one or more access openings in the enclosure surrounding the chimney. The presence of scorched or charred adjacent combustible construction will indicate the need for further investigation of the cause of the overheating.*

*Internal inspection of chimneys can be accomplished by lowering a light from the top, insertion of a light at the bottom or at intermediate locations, together with the use of one or more mirrors.*

*During inspection of a chimney connected to an operating appliance, the presence of dense smoke at the outlet will indicate improper operation of the appliance, incorrect sizing of the chimney or that unsuitable fuels are being used. These factors must be promptly corrected to reduce the accumulation of combustible deposits on the chimney and flue pipe walls.*

*The presence in a chimney of deposits of soot or creosote in excess of 3 mm (1/8") thick will indicate the need for immediate cleaning, possible modification of burning procedures, and more frequent inspections.*

*Chimneys, flues and flue pipes shall be cleaned as often as necessary to keep them free from dangerous accumulations of combustible deposits.*

*NFC Appendix A states:*

*The presence in a chimney of deposits of soot or creosote in excess of 3 mm (1/8") thick will indicate the need for immediate cleaning, possible modification of burning procedures, and more frequent inspections.*





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*Where tests, inspections, maintenance or operational procedures are required to be performed on a fire safety system, records shall be made and the original or a copy shall be retained at the premises for examination by the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ).*

- ✓ Chimneys are required to be inspected annually (qualified person).
- ✓ Ask to see a copy of the annual inspection report to ensure that there are no outstanding deficiencies. The annual inspection should address the inspection requirements as listed in Appendix A of the NFC (listed above).
- ✓ If the property owner, owner's agent or occupant does not have an annual inspection report check the N Box on the FSMI form.
- ✓ Instruct the property owner or owner's agent to have a qualified person inspect the chimney and to have any necessary repairs done to ensure that the chimney functions as designed and with no undue fire hazards.

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### 1.16 Emergency Generator inspected monthly/annually

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 6.5.1.1.(1), Div C 2.2.1.2.*

*Emergency Power Systems shall be inspected, tested and maintained in conformance with CAN/CSA-C282, "Emergency Electrical Power Supply for Buildings."*

*A permanent log of the inspection, testing, and maintenance of the emergency electrical power supply system shall be maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's manual of operating and maintenance instructions.*

*This log shall be kept on site and shall include:*

- (a) the date on which an inspection, testing, and maintenance exercise was carried out;*
- (b) the name(s) of the person(s) who performed the inspection, testing, and maintenance;*
- (c) notes on any unsatisfactory conditions observed or discovered and the steps taken to correct such*
- (d) conditions; and*
- (e) copies of the design and installation performance test certificates.*

*Where tests, inspections, maintenance or operational procedures are required to be performed on a fire safety system, records shall be made and the original or a copy shall be retained at the premises for examination by the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ).*

- ✓ Ask the property owner or owner's agent to see their maintenance log book(s) for the generator.
- ✓ If there is no record of the required maintenance, check the N Box on the FSMI.
- ✓ Instruct the property owner or owner's agent to have a qualified person, trained to perform all maintenance work as per manufacturer's operating & maintenance instructions, inspect the emergency power system and keep the required records.

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## 1.17 Elevator Inspection Report

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 7.2.2.1, Div C 2.2.1.2.*

*Emergency service features of elevators in residential buildings whose floor level is more than 18 m above grade shall be tested to ensure that they operate in conformance with appropriate provincial, territorial or municipal requirements.*

*Tests to ensure operation in conformance with ASME A17.1/CSA B44 "Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators" shall be performed on*

- *in-car emergency service switches*
- *manual key-operated recall switches located outside an elevator shaft, and*
- *automatic emergency recall systems.*

*At intervals not greater than 12 months, the building emergency power systems shall be operated and all elevators supplied with emergency power shall be tested with no other source of electrical power.*

*Where tests, inspections, maintenance or operational procedures are required to be performed on a fire safety system, records shall be made and the original or a copy shall be retained at the premises for examination by the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ).*

- ✓ This section of the NFC applies to elevators in residential buildings more than 18 m high, measured between grade and the floor level of the top storey (approx. 6 storeys).
- ✓ Ask the Property Owner for the annual elevator testing records showing that all fire safety related components of the elevator system function as designed. (bulleted items above)
- ✓ As per Peter McClare, Chief Elevator Inspector for the Province, the following are some items to look for in the records and/or when walking through the building and looking at the elevators:
  - Check to see if the maintenance records for the alarm and sprinkler test gives any indication of proper elevator recall or have the fire signals been tested by elevator service provider.
- ✓ An elevator responding to a fire initiating device should recall to the main lobby.
- ✓ A fire initiating device at lobby level should send the elevator to a designated alternative floor.
- ✓ Is there a fire initiating device in the elevator hoist way? Has it been checked? These are often overlooked as building owners must coordinate with the elevator contractors and the alarm companies.
- ✓ If the building maintenance personnel are familiar with manual fire recall as they should be the inspectors could witness this operation.
  - When a keyed recall is initiated the elevator should recall to the main lobby.
  - The elevator emergency buzzer should be ringing until the elevator fully opens its door at the main lobby and then it should silence.
  - The Fire Hat jewels should lite in the elevator car and on the hall station next to the elevator door.
  - The elevator should reset to automatic operation when reset with the elevator fire key
- ✓ Check to make sure the jewel (the light that indicated fire service) is not broken.

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## 1.18 MSDS Book is in an acceptable location

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 5.1.5.1., A 3.2.7.6. (2)*

*A Fire Safety Plan shall be prepared for areas where processes and operations that involve a risk from explosion, high flammability or related conditions that create a hazard to life safety take place.*

*In addition to the information required in a FSP, the location and identification of storage and use areas for specific products and the names, addresses and telephone numbers of persons to be contacted in case of fire during non-operating hours shall be included.*

*It is assumed that Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) will in many cases be provided as part of the documentation for the "Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations," or the "Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System."*

- ✓ Although we do not generally get to this section of the Fire Code for residential occupancies, you may encounter buildings with larger quantities of potentially hazardous materials (buildings with swimming pools) stored on site. If so, ask if Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) are available and accessible.
- ✓ Forward any outstanding haz-mat concerns to Operations Chief, Haz-Mat Units and/or area FPO for follow-up if you have concerns.

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## 2 EXTERIOR

### 2.1 Civic Number posted and visible (4" min.)

*Code Reference and Summary - By-law C-300*

*As per HRM Civic Addressing By-Law (C-300), civic numbers must be posted on the front of the building and be visible from the street. If the building is more than 100 ft. (30m) from the road and/or is hidden from view, the sign must be posted at the beginning of the driveway.*

*To meet regulations, the sign should be at least 48 inches (1.2m) from the ground.*

*Civic numbers shall be in Arabic numerals only.*

*The minimum height of numerals on residential properties shall not be less than 4 inches, and not less than 8 inches on non-residential properties.*

*The color of the numerals shall clearly contrast with the background upon which the numbers are displayed.*

- ✓ Civic numbers shall be posted in a location, and be of sufficient size to be seen from the street.
- ✓ If the building is set back from the street or has multiple suites such as an apartment complex, instruct the property owner or owner's agent to have proper building or suite-identifying signage posted on the buildings and/or suites, with the main civic numbers clearly visible from the street.
- ✓ Bottom line ... as emergency responders, is the civic number clearly visible to you should you be responding to an emergency at this location?

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### 2.2 Fire Apparatus access to at least one building face

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.5.1.1.(1)*

*Fire department vehicles shall have direct access to at least one face of every building by means of a street, yard or roadway in conformance with the NBC.*

*Streets, yards and roadways provided for fire department access shall be maintained so as to be ready for use at all times by fire department vehicles.*

*Vehicles shall not be parked to obstruct access by fire department vehicles and signs shall be posted prohibiting such parking.*

- ✓ Is there access to the building for Fire Department vehicles?

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### 2.3 Private Hydrant unobstructed & accessible

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 6.4.1.1., NFPA 25 Ch. 7*

*As per the requirements of NFPA 25, private hydrants shall be kept free of snow, ice, or other materials and protected against mechanical damage so that free access is ensured.*



*As per HRWC, Standard Specifications Section: 33 11 00 Water Mains – Part 3, .8 – Hydrants that come off a service connection on private property are considered “private” unless approved by the HRWC. Paint private hydrants “safety yellow”.*

- ✓ Check to ensure that the hydrant is clearly identified, clear of obstructions and readily accessible for use by firefighters.

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### 2.4 FD Connection: accessible/capped/swivels work

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.5.1.4.(1), NFC 6.4.1.1.(1)*

*Access to fire department connections for sprinkler or standpipe systems by firefighters and their equipment shall be maintained free of obstructions at all times.*

- ✓ Locate the fire department connection for the building.
- ✓ Assess surroundings - are there shrubs, vehicles, fuel supply tanks etc. blocking the connection?
- ✓ Instruct property owner or owner's agent to remove obstructions and/or post proper extra signage to identify and to increase the fire department connection visibility and accessibility.
- ✓ Check to ensure the connection's protective caps are in place, swivels work and that no objects have been jammed inside.

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### 2.5 Fuel Cylinders/Tanks in safe condition (Visual)

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.6.1.1., B-139 6.3.2, 6.5.4., B-149.1 9.1.2., B-149.2 7.*

*Heating, ventilating and air-conditioning appliances and equipment shall be installed in conformance with the NBC.*

*Cylinders/tanks shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and the Standard to which the tank was manufactured.*

*Cylinders/tanks shall be accessible after installation so that they can be inspected.*

*The cylinder/tank foundation shall be non-combustible and shall be designed to prevent uneven settlement of the cylinder/tank and to prevent overturning or uplifting of the cylinder/tank. A cylinder/tank shall be securely supported to prevent settling, sliding, toppling, or lifting.*

*Cylinder/tanks shall be protected from physical damage incident to outdoor use. Snow, ice, or rain falling from a roof can damage cylinders/tanks and their connections.*

- ✓ Fuel cylinders/tanks are to be maintained in a safe condition.
- ✓ They should be on non-combustible bases c/w non-combustible supports.
- ✓ Look for signs of leaking, rust, damage or change in position due to deterioration, frost movement or accident.
- ✓ If installed in an area which provides vehicle passage cylinders/tanks need to be provided with vehicle protection.



- ✓ A proper vehicle protection system (concrete or steel post barriers firmly affixed to the ground) is required to protect these installations.

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## 2.6 Garbage Containers (10' from Building)

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.4.1.1.(6)*

*Outdoor storage receptacles, such as dumpsters used for combustible materials, shall be located so that they do not create an undue fire hazard to surrounding buildings.*

- ✓ Garbage containers should be located at least 10 feet from the building and shall not block an exit or means of egress from a building, or be placed in a position as to block fire department access to a building.
- ✓ Unless approved to do so by the AHJ, refuse bins should not be placed any closer than 10 feet to a building.

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## 2.7 Exit / Egress Pathway(s) clear and unobstructed

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.7.1.6., 2.7.1.7.(1)*

*Means of egress shall be maintained in good repair and free of obstructions.*

*Means of Egress means a continuous path of travel provided for the escape of persons from any point in a building or contained open space to a separate building, an open public through fare, or an exterior open space protected from fire exposure from the building and having access to an open public through fare.*

*Means of egress includes exits and access to exits.*

*Exterior passageways and exterior exit stairs serving occupied buildings shall be maintained free of snow and ice accumulations.*

- ✓ There should be nothing blocking the "mean of egress" (includes any part of the access to exit, or exit door).
- ✓ There shall be NO storage in required exits or access to exits.
- ✓ Pathways leading from required exit doors should be maintained free of snow and ice to allow for safe exiting from the building to a separate building, an open public through fare, or an exterior open space protected from fire exposure.

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## 2.8 Outside Exit Landings & Steps in safe condition

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.7.1.6., NFC 2.7.1.7.*

*Means of egress shall be maintained in good repair and free of obstructions.*

*Exterior passageways and exterior exit stairs serving occupied buildings shall be maintained free of snow and ice accumulations.*

- ✓ Outside exit landings and steps shall be maintained in a safe condition and shall be:



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- ✓ Free from excess rot.
- ✓ Secured to insure stability.
- ✓ Structurally sound.
- ✓ Clear of obstructions (ice, snow, furniture)

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## 3 FIRE DETECTION SYSTEMS

### 3.1 Fire Alarm System in working order (Visual)

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 6.3.1.1., NFC 6.3.1.2.*

*Fire alarm and voice communication systems shall be maintained in operable condition at all times.*

*As per Section 5 of the CAN/ULC-S536, Standard for the Inspection and Testing of Fire Alarm Systems, the following daily inspections shall be conducted to confirm the operability of the fire alarm system:*

- *Status of the primary and remote trouble signal indicators;*
- *Status of the primary 'power-on' or equivalent indicator.*

*As per Section 33 of the Fire Safety Regulations, where a fire protection system or any part of it is shut down for repairs or is inoperative for more than 2 hours, the owner of the building containing the fire system shall*

- *notify the fire department, and*
- *provide a sufficient number of trained people to patrol the building until the fire protection system is restored to operating condition.*

*Every owner of a building shall develop procedures to notify occupants of the building if a fire or other emergency occurs when the fire alarm and detection system are shut down or inoperative.*

*As per Section 6.3 of F-100, no fire alarm system shall be silenced or reset without authorization from the Fire Chief. Further, the Fire Chief and building occupants shall be notified by the owner when a fire alarm system is out of service or malfunctions, altered, repaired or additions are made, or placed back in service.*

- ✓ Check the fire alarm panel for the "green power on indicator light". No other lights should be lit. i.e. "trouble" (usually yellow) or "silenced alarm" mode (usually red). You may also come across panels that have a small LED screen which may say "system in working order" or some other wording to indicate that the system is NOT in "trouble" mode or "silenced alarm mode".
- ✓ Check the indicator lights on detectors in the halls/stairwells etc.
- ✓ Where alarm panels or detectors are found in "trouble" mode, the N Box on the FSMI shall be checked. The property owner, owner's agent or occupant shall be instructed to have the alarm system inspected by a qualified company and repaired as soon as possible.
- ✓ Where the alarm panel is found in "silenced alarm" mode, or otherwise "out of service", the property owner, owner's agent or occupant shall be instructed to have the alarm system inspected by a qualified company as soon as possible. The call to their "alarm" company requesting immediate assistance should be made while you are there.
- ✓ If the fire alarm system cannot be put back in service within two (2) hours, a fire watch shall be put in place.

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### 3.2 Monitoring Co. information on panel (If FA is monitored)

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 6.3.1.3.(1), CAN/ULC-S561-03, 9.2.2.*

*Where a building fire alarm system is monitored, CAN/ULC-S561-03 requires that the company name and phone number of the fire signal receiving center company and a clear statement that the equipment is being monitored*



*and that notification must be given prior to working on or testing of the fire alarm system be prominently displayed on the signal transmitting unit, the fire alarm control unit and/or the extinguishing system equipment. At no time shall there be conflicting or inaccurate information displayed.*

*Further, alarm signals received by the fire signal receiving center from the fire alarm control unit ... shall be treated as fire alarms and the fire signal receiving center shall contact the appropriate public fire service communication center within a maximum of 30 s of the receipt of the signal. Unless authorized in writing by the authority having jurisdiction there shall be no premises verification of the fire alarm signal.*

- ✓ Keep in mind that if the system is monitored the name and phone number of the company that is monitoring the system should be clearly affixed to the fire alarm panel.
- ✓ If the system is not monitored a sign (see 3.4 below) requesting that the fire department be notified, and including the telephone number of the department should be posted at each pull station.
- ✓ If a fire alarm system is monitored, this is a good opportunity to remind building owners or owner's agents that codes require that, if an alarm is activated, the monitoring company is required to dispatch the fire department first as opposed to calling the owner, owner's agent or occupant first and allowing them to decide whether or not to dispatch fire.

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### 3.3 Pull Stations visible & accessible

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.1.3.1.(1), NBC, CAN/ULC-S524-04 5.2.2., 2.8.2.1.(1)(a)(i), 6.3.1.2.(2)*  
*Manual stations shall be installed so as to be visible at all times.*

*A Fire Safety Plan prepared in cooperation with the fire department shall include the emergency procedures for sounding the fire alarm that are to be used in case of fire.*

*Fire alarm and detection system components shall be accessible for purposes of inspection or maintenance.*

- ✓ Check to ensure that all pull stations are visible and accessible to the general public. They should not be blocked by plants, furniture etc.
- ✓ If walls on which pull stations are mounted are painted a color which makes it difficult to locate the pull station (such as red, brown or another dark color), the owner, owner's agent or occupant should be instructed to paint the area around the pull station white, (or another visibly contrasting color) to provide adequate visibility for the public to easily locate the pull station.

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### 3.4 Signs above Pull Stations (If Not Monitored)

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.8.2.7. (3), 2.1.4.1.(1)(2), 2.1.4.2.(1)*

*Where a fire alarm system has been installed with no provision to transmit a signal to the fire department, a sign shall be posted at each manually actuated signaling box requesting that the fire department be notified, and including the telephone number of the department.*

*Where a sign, notice, placard or information is required to be posted, it shall be clearly legible and permanently mounted in a conspicuous or prominent location in proximity to the situation to which it refers and, shall be maintained as such.*



- ✓ If the fire alarm system is not being monitored by a qualified central station to dispatch the fire department if a pull stations is activated, signs should be posted at ALL manual pull stations.
- ✓ Signs should not be faded and/or difficult to read.
- ✓ Owners, owner's agent or occupants can obtain signs by calling 311 and requesting a response from the Fire Prevention Division.



- ✓ Pull Station Warning Sign:

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### 3.5 Apartment Smoke Alarms working (Random Check)

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 6.7.1.1.(1), CAN/ULC-S552-02 3.1.4., 3.1.5., 3.2., 3.3.*

*Maintenance and Annual Testing*

*The exterior of the smoke-alarm shall be vacuumed with a household vacuum cleaner. A brush attachment may assist in removing accumulated dust on the cover.*

*Caution: AC powered smoke-alarms should only be vacuumed externally and no attempt should be made to open the case.*

*After vacuuming, each smoke-alarm shall be tested using smoke or simulated smoke intended to test smoke-alarms. Smoke may be generated with a smouldering incense stick, punk stick, or a cotton string in a suitable metal or fire resistant container.*

*Caution 1: Dispose of smoldering material used in this test in a manner that does not create a fire hazard.*

*Caution 2: Open flames should not be used to test the operation of smoke-alarms.*

*Battery operated smoke-alarms shall be inspected to ensure that the battery is securely connected to the battery clips.*

*Smoke-alarm batteries shall be inspected to ensure that battery terminals have not corroded and batteries have not leaked. Where batteries are leaking or corroded, the smoke-alarm shall be replaced.*

*The smoke-alarm battery shall be inspected to ensure that it is the correct type recommended by the manufacturer. Smoke-alarms requiring alkaline type batteries shall have only alkaline batteries installed. Rechargeable batteries shall not be used in smoke-alarms unless specifically recommended by the manufacturer.*

- ✓ Smoke alarms within individual suites (i.e. not smoke detectors which are tied into the Fire Alarm System) should be checked randomly by knocking on apartment doors. Usually checking one or two apartments is sufficient to determine compliance.



- ✓ Let the occupant know that you are with the Fire Department and are performing a FSMI in the building and ask the occupant if it is alright if you come in and check their smoke alarm.
- ✓ If more than one apartment is found with a smoke alarm that is not working, check the N Box on the FSMI and instruct the owner or owner's agent to have the smoke alarms checked in all the suites to ensure they are working. Any smoke alarms found not working shall be repaired or replaced and a list of same provided to you on the day of the re-inspection.

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### 3.6 Apt CO Alarms working (Random Check if installed)

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 6.7.1.1.(3), NFC 6.7.1.1.(1), CAN/ULC-S552-02 3.4.5.*

*Carbon monoxide detectors shall be inspected, tested and maintained in conformance with the manufacturer's instructions.*

*If smoke-alarms are interconnected with carbon monoxide detectors, the carbon monoxide detectors shall be tested in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.*

- ✓ If there are CO alarms in the building, ask the owner or owner's agent which apartments they are located in.
- ✓ Carbon monoxide alarms in residential occupancies are generally found in the following locations:
  - Adjacent to sleeping areas if the apartment/condo has a fuel-burning appliance.
  - Adjacent to sleeping areas of all condo/apartment units above, below and beside a service room containing a fuel burning appliance.
  - Adjacent to sleeping areas of all condo/apartment units above, below and beside a parking garage.
- ✓ Carbon monoxide alarms within individual suites that are not tied into the Fire Alarm System (confirm this with owner or owner's agent prior to pushing test button) should be checked randomly by knocking on apartment doors. Usually checking one or two apartments is sufficient to determine compliance.
- ✓ Let the occupant know that you are with the Fire Department and are performing a FSMI in the building and ask the occupant if it is alright if you come in and check their carbon monoxide alarm.
- ✓ If more than one apartment is found with a carbon monoxide alarm that is not working, check the N Box on the FSMI and instruct the owner or owner's agent to have the carbon monoxide alarms checked in all the suites that have them installed to ensure they are working. Any CO alarms found not working shall be repaired or replaced and a list of same be provided to you on the day of the re-inspection.

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## 4 FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS

### 4.1 Sprinkler System:

#### 4.1.1 System is in working order (Visual)

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 6.4.1.1. (1), NFPA 25 4.1.1.*

*The responsibility for properly maintaining a water-based fire protection system shall be that of the owner of the property.*

- ✓ While in the sprinkler room, check to ensure that the main valve is in the OPEN position and that system gauges are showing adequate pressure (visual).

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#### 4.1.2 Spare Sprinklers (min 6) in cabinet

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 6.4.1.1. (1), NFPA 13 6.2.9.7., 6.2.9.7.1, NFPA 25 5.4.1.4.(1)(2), 5.4.1.5.*

*NFPA 25 states that a supply of at least six spare sprinklers (never fewer than six) shall be maintained on the premises so that any sprinklers that have operated or been damaged in any way can be promptly replaced.*

*The sprinklers shall correspond to the types and temperature ratings of the sprinklers in the property and shall be kept in a cabinet located where the temperature to which they are subjected will at no time exceed 100°F (38°C).*

*The stock of spare sprinklers shall include all types and ratings installed and shall be as follows:*

- *For protected facilities having under 300 sprinklers — no fewer than six sprinklers.*
- *For protected facilities having 300 to 1000 sprinklers — no fewer than 12 sprinklers.*
- *For protected facilities having over 1000 sprinklers — no fewer than 24 sprinklers.*

*The supply of spare sprinklers shall be inspected annually for the following:*

- (1) The proper number and type of sprinklers*
- (2) A sprinkler wrench for each type of sprinkler*

*NFPA 13 states that a list of the sprinklers installed in the property shall be posted in the sprinkler cabinet. The list shall include the following:*

- (1) Sprinkler Identification Number (SIN) if equipped; or the manufacturer, model, orifice, deflector type, thermal sensitivity, and pressure rating*
- (2) General description*
- (3) Quantity of each type to be contained in the cabinet*
- (4) Issue or revision date of the list*

- ✓ Check inside the spare sprinkler cabinet to ensure that an adequate number and type of spare sprinkler heads are available and accessible.

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### 4.1.3 Sprinkler Wrench in cabinet

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*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 6.4.1.1. (1), NFPA 25 5.4.1.6.*

*NFPA 25 states that a special sprinkler wrench shall be provided and kept in the cabinet to be used in the removal and installation of sprinklers.*

*One sprinkler wrench shall be provided for each type of sprinkler installed.*

- ✓ Check inside the spare sprinkler cabinet to ensure that an adequate number and type of sprinkler wrenches are available and accessible.

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## 4.2 Standpipe / Hose System:

### 4.2.1 Standpipe/Hose System maintained (Visual)

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*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 6.4.1.1. (1), NFPA 25 6.4.1.*

*NFPA 25 states that Standpipe and Hose System equipment that does not pass the inspection or testing requirements shall be repaired and tested again or replaced.*

- ✓ Check to ensure that hose, hose cabinets, nozzles etc. appear to be properly maintained.
- ✓ You may come across a building where the hose has been removed from the cabinet. This is ONLY acceptable if the property owner has a letter from the Fire Prevention Division authorizing them to do so. If further information is required, contact the area FPO for clarification.

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## 4.3 Portable Fire Extinguishers:

### 4.3.1 Fire Extinguishers inspected annually (Check Tag)

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*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 6.2.1.1.(1), NFPA 10-2007, 7.1.2., 7.2.2., 7.3.1.1.(1)*

*Portable extinguishers shall be inspected, tested and maintained in conformance with NFPA 10, "Portable Fire Extinguishers."*

*Maintenance Frequency - All Fire Extinguishers (Annual Check)*

*Persons performing maintenance and recharging of extinguishers shall be certified.*

*Fire extinguishers shall be subjected to maintenance at intervals of not more than 1 year, at the time of hydrostatic test, or when specifically indicated by an inspection or electronic notification.*

*Each fire extinguisher shall have a tag or label attached that indicates the month and year recharging was performed, identifies the person performing the service, and identifies the name of the agency performing the work.*

*Verification-of-Service Collar (Maintenance or Recharging)*

*Each extinguisher that has undergone maintenance that includes internal examination or that has been recharged shall have a verification-of-service collar located around the neck of the container.*





*The collar shall contain a single circular piece of uninterrupted material forming a hole of a size that does not permit the collar assembly to move over the neck of the container unless the valve is completely removed.*

*The collar shall not interfere with the operation of the fire extinguisher.*

*The collar shall include the following information:*

- *Month and year the service was performed, indicated by a perforation such as is done by a hand punch*
- *Name of the agency performing the maintenance or recharge*

*Portable fire extinguishers shall be maintained in a fully charged and operable condition and shall be kept in their designated places at all times when they are not being used.*

- ✓ Check extinguishers to see if they have had their required annual "maintenance inspection" within the last year. There must be a current annual inspection tag from a qualified company attached to the extinguisher.
- ✓ If the owner or owner's agent stated (FSMI Checklist line item 1.11) that the record of the monthly portable fire extinguisher check was being kept on the back of the annual inspection tag check the tag for same.
- ✓ The owner or owner's agent monthly check should include the following:
  - Located in designated place
  - No obstruction to access or visibility
  - Pressure gauge reading or indicator in the operable range or position
  - Condition of tires, wheels, carriage, hose, and nozzle for wheeled extinguishers
  - Indicator for non-rechargeable extinguishers using push-to-test pressure indicators
  - Verifying that operating instructions on nameplates are legible and face outward
  - Checking for broken or missing safety seals and tamper indicators
  - Examination for obvious physical damage, corrosion, leakage, or clogged nozzle

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#### 4.3.2 Fire Extinguishers Wall mounted and accessible

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*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.1.5.1.(2), NFPA 10-2007, 6.1.3.*

*Portable extinguishers in proximity to a fire hazard shall be located so as to be accessible without exposing the operator to undue risk.*

*Portable extinguishers that are subject to corrosion shall not be installed in a corrosive environment unless they are provided with appropriate corrosion protection.*

*Fire extinguishers shall be conspicuously located where they are readily accessible and immediately available in the event of fire.*

*Fire extinguishers shall be located along normal paths of travel, including exits from areas.*

*Fire extinguishers shall not be obstructed or obscured from view.*

*In large rooms and in certain locations where visual obstructions cannot be completely avoided, means shall be provided to indicate the extinguisher location.*

*Portable fire extinguishers other than wheeled extinguishers shall be installed using any of the following means:*

- *Securely on a hanger intended for the extinguisher*
- *In the bracket supplied by the extinguisher manufacturer*



- *In a listed bracket approved for such purpose*
- *In cabinets or wall recesses*
- ✓ Extinguishers should be visible & wall mounted (or in a proper cabinet) in a safe, accessible location.
- ✓ Check to ensure that portable fire extinguishers are visible and accessible to the general public. They should not be blocked by plants, furniture etc.

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## 4.4 Commercial Cooking Equipment:

### 4.4.1 Exhaust Hood System adequately cleaned

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.6.1.9.(2), NFPA 96-2008 11, NFC 2.6.1.9.(3)*

*Hoods, grease removal devices, fans, ducts, and other appurtenances shall be cleaned at frequent intervals to prevent surfaces from becoming heavily contaminated with grease or other residues.*

*The entire exhaust system shall be inspected for grease buildup by a properly trained, qualified, and certified company or person(s) acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction and in accordance with the table below.*

*Upon inspection, if the exhaust system is found to be contaminated with deposits from grease-laden vapors, the contaminated portions of the exhaust system shall be cleaned by a properly trained, qualified, and certified company or person(s) acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.*

*Hoods, grease removal devices, fans, ducts, and other appurtenances shall be cleaned to remove combustible contaminants prior to surfaces becoming heavily contaminated with grease or oily sludge.*

<i>Schedule of Inspection for Grease Buildup</i>	<i>Inspection Frequency</i>
<i>Type or Volume of Cooking</i>	
<i>Systems serving solid fuel cooking Operations</i>	<i>Monthly</i>
<i>Systems serving high-volume cooking operations, such as 24-hour cooking, charbroiling, or wok cooking</i>	<i>Quarterly</i>
<i>Systems serving moderate-volume cooking operations</i>	<i>Semi-annually</i>
<i>Systems serving low-volume cooking operations, such as churches, day camps, seasonal businesses, or senior centers</i>	<i>Annually</i>

*When an exhaust cleaning service is used, a certificate showing the name of the servicing company, the name of the person performing the work, and the date of inspection or cleaning shall be maintained on the premises.*

*After cleaning or inspection is completed, the exhaust cleaning company and the person performing the work at the location shall provide the owner of the system with a written report that also specifies areas that were inaccessible or not cleaned.*

- ✓ A qualified company's inspection tag should be affixed to the system.



- ✓ Ask the property owner or owner's agent to remove, or have removed, one or two of the filters or baffles so you can look for grease build up in the hood.
- ✓ Visually check to see if the system is being adequately cleaned (cleaned at frequent intervals to prevent surfaces from becoming heavily contaminated with grease or other residues).
- ✓ If you do not feel the system is being adequately cleaned, refer to the Table above and instruct the property owner or owner's agent on an improved cleaning frequency to correct the problem.

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#### 4.4.2 Manual Pull visible & accessible

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*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.6.1.9.(2)(5), NFPA 96-2008, 10.5, 2.8.1.2.(1), 1.4.1.2.*

*A readily accessible means for manual activation shall be located between 1067 mm and 1219 mm (42 in. and 48 in.) above the floor, be accessible in the event of a fire, be located in a path of egress, and clearly identify the hazard protected.*

*A manual actuation device shall be located a minimum of 3 m (10 ft.) when possible and a maximum of 6 m (20 ft.) from the protected kitchen appliance(s) within the path of egress.*

*Manual actuation using a cable-operated pull station shall not require more than 178 N (40 lb) of force, with a pull movement not to exceed 356 mm (14 in.) to actuate the fire suppression system.*

*The automatic and manual means of system activation external to the control head or releasing device shall be separate and independent of each other so that failure of one will not impair the operation of the other.*

*The manual means of system activation shall be permitted to be common with the automatic means if the manual activation device is located between the control head or releasing device and the first fusible link.*

*An automatic sprinkler system shall not require a manual means of system activation.*

*Instructions for manually operating the fire-extinguishing system shall be posted conspicuously in the kitchen and shall be reviewed with employees by the management.*

*Those occupants of a building who have some delegated responsibility for the fire safety of other occupants under the fire safety plan shall be trained in the fire emergency procedures described in the fire safety plan before they are given any responsibility for fire safety.*

- ✓ Check to ensure that the manual pull station(s) are visible and accessible. They should not be blocked by carts, work tables, bus carts etc.
- ✓ Are the instructions for operating the manual pull station(s) clearly posted?
- ✓ If there is more than one fixed system in the kitchen, is it clear which manual pull activates which system?
- ✓ Ask a kitchen staff employee (random) to describe to you the procedure to follow in the event of a fire in the kitchen.
- ✓ If the employee is unclear on the fire safety procedures to follow, instruct the property owner or owner's agent to ensure all staff given any responsibility for fire safety are provided with training in fire emergency procedures.

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#### 4.4.3 K Class Extinguisher Wall mounted and accessible

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*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.6.1.9.(2), NFPA 96-2008, 10.2, 10.10., NFPA 10-2007 5.5.5., 6.6.1., 6.1.3.*

*Fire extinguishers provided for the protection of cooking appliances that use combustible cooking media (vegetable or animal oils and fats) shall be listed and labeled for Class K fires.*

*Fire extinguishers shall be conspicuously located where they are readily accessible and immediately available in the event of fire. Portable extinguishers in proximity to a fire hazard shall be located so as to be accessible without exposing the operator to undue risk.*

*Maximum travel distance shall not exceed 30 ft. (9.15 m) from the hazard to the extinguishers.*

*Fire extinguishers shall not be obstructed or obscured from view. In large rooms and in certain locations where visual obstructions cannot be completely avoided, means shall be provided to indicate the extinguisher location.*

*Portable fire extinguishers other than wheeled extinguishers shall be installed using any of the following means:*

- *Securely on a hanger intended for the extinguisher*
- *In the bracket supplied by the extinguisher manufacturer*
- *In a listed bracket approved for such purpose*
- *In cabinets or wall recesses*

*A placard shall be conspicuously placed near the extinguisher that states that the fire protection system shall be activated prior to using the fire extinguisher.*

- ✓ Check to be sure that there is a "K Class" portable fire extinguisher in the kitchen.
- ✓ Check to ensure that the required placard near the K Class portable fire extinguisher stating that the fire protection system shall be activated prior to using the K Class portable fire extinguisher is not faded and/or difficult to read.
- ✓ Check for monthly and annual maintenance and inspections as per Section 1.11 Fire Extinguishers checked monthly (in log or on tag) and Section 4.3.1. Fire Extinguishers inspected annually (Check tag)

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## 5 FIRE SEPARATIONS

### 5.1 Doors in closed position

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.2.2.4.(4)*

*Where Closures are damaged so as to affect the integrity of their Fire-Protection Rating, they shall be repaired so that their integrity is maintained.*

- *Closure means a device or assembly for closing an opening through a Fire Separation or an exterior wall, such as a door, a shutter, wired glass or glass block, and includes all components such as hardware, closing devices, frames and anchors.*
- *Fire-Protection Rating means the time in minutes or hours that a Closure will withstand the passage of flame when exposed to fire under specified conditions of test and performance criteria, or as otherwise prescribed in the NBC.*
- *Fire Separation means a construction assembly that acts as a barrier against the spread of fire.*

*Closures in Fire Separations shall not be obstructed, blocked, wedged open, or altered in any way that would prevent the intended operation of the Closure.*

- ✓ Doors that separate one occupancy from another, a shared egress or exit route from a suite (including service rooms), or, a room within a suite that is required to be separated from the remainder of the suite by a Fire Separation shall be kept closed.
- ✓ Self-closing devices and/or fire rated glass are good indicators that the door forms part of a fire separation.

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### 5.2 Door self-closing/latching devices working

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.2.2.4.(1)(c)*

*Defects that interfere with the operation of Closures in Fire Separations shall be corrected, and such Closures shall be maintained to ensure that they are operable at all times by:*

- *keeping fusible links and other heat-actuated devices undamaged and free of paint and dirt,*
  - *keeping guides, bearings and stay rolls clean and lubricated,*
  - *making necessary adjustments and repairs to door hardware and accessories to ensure proper closing and latching,*
  - *repairing or replacing inoperative parts of hold-open devices and automatic releasing devices.*
- ✓ Check door closing and door latching devices by opening the door and letting it close on its own. Check to be sure the door closes all the way and that the latch catches as designed. You should not be able to push the door open without using the door knob or other latch disengaging device.
  - ✓ Check to make sure there is nothing interfering with the doors designed operation. No wedges, unapproved hold-open devices or disconnected self-closing devices.

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### 5.3 Walls/Ceilings free from holes and openings

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.2.1.2.(1)*

*Walls and ceilings that separate one occupancy from another, a shared egress/exit from a suite, or, a room within a suite that is required to be separated from the remainder of the suite by a Fire Separation shall be free from holes and openings.*

*Where Fire Separations are damaged so as to affect their integrity, they shall be repaired so that the integrity of the fire separation is maintained.*

- ✓ Visually check for holes/openings in walls, ceilings or doors.
- ✓ Check for damage or holes which may not have been properly repaired following work being carried out in the building.
- ✓ Holes in walls, openings around pipes (sprinkler, plumbing, wires etc.) shall be stopped with a certified product installed as per the manufacturer's instructions.
- ✓ Ask owner to provide proof of product used.

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## 6 EXITS

### 6.1 Exit doors operable and accessible

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.7.2.1.(1)*

*Exit means that part of a means of egress, including doorways, that leads from the floor area it serves to a separate building, an open public through fare, or an exterior open space protected from fire exposure from the building and having access to an open public through fare.*

*Means of Egress means a continuous path of travel provided for the escape of persons from any point in a building or contained open space to a separate building, an open public through fare, or an exterior open space protected from fire exposure from the building and having access to an open public through fare. Means of egress includes exits and access to exits.*

*Access to Exits means that part of a means of egress within a floor area that provides access to an exit serving the floor area.*

*Means of egress shall be maintained in good repair and free of obstructions.*

- ✓ Required exit hallways and doors leading from the building shall be clear and in working condition at all times. There should be nothing blocking the access to the exit, or exit door.
- ✓ Check doors to make sure they open easily. There should be no chains/locks, bars etc.

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### 6.2 Exits and Hallways are illuminated (Adequately)

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.7.3.1.(2)*

*Every exit, public corridor or corridor providing access to exit for the public shall be equipped to provide illumination to an average level of not less than 50 lx at floor or tread level and at all points such as angles and intersections at changes of level where there are stairs or ramps.*

*Public Corridor means a corridor that provides access to exit from more than one suite.*

*Exit means that part of a means of egress, including doorways, that leads from the floor area it serves to a separate building, an open public through fare, or an exterior open space protected from fire exposure from the building and having access to an open public through fare.*

*Exits shall be illuminated during times when the building is occupied.*

- ✓ Check to ensure that there is adequate lighting provided in exit hallways and stairways. You should be able to easily see your feet at floor level and/or on stair treads.

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### 6.3 Exit Signs are illuminated

*Code Reference and Summary -2.7.3.1.(2), NBC 3.4.5.*

*Exit signs shall be illuminated during times when the building is occupied.*

*Internally illuminated exit signs shall be continuously illuminated and*



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- (a) *where illumination of the sign is powered by an electrical circuit, be constructed in conformance with CSA C22.2 No. 141, "Emergency Lighting Equipment," or*
- (b) *where illumination of the sign is not powered by an electrical circuit, be constructed in conformance with CAN/ULC-S572, "Photoluminescent and Self-Luminous Signs and Path Marking Systems."*

*Externally illuminated exit signs shall be continuously illuminated and be constructed in conformance with CAN/ULC-S572, "Photoluminescent and Self-Luminous Signs and Path Marking Systems."*

#### *CSA C22.2 No.141 Definitions:*

*Exit sign - A device used in buildings to identify the most direct path of egress for emergency purposes. It contains a legend and optional directional indicator(s). The exit sign is considered to be internally illuminated if the legend and optional directional indicator or background, or both, are illuminated by a light source contained within the assembly supporting the legend and optional directional indicator.*

*Type 1 exit sign - an internally lighted exit sign that is permanently connected to a single source of power (usually ac).*

*Type 2 exit sign - an internally lighted exit sign that is permanently connected to a normal source of power (usually ac) and a separate external source of power (usually dc) that is activated upon failure of the normal power supply.*

*Type 3 exit sign - an internally lighted exit sign that is permanently connected to a single external source of power (usually ac) and an internal dc power supply. The internal power supply may consist of an automatic load-control device, storage battery, and means for charging the battery.*

*Legend - the word or words required to be contained on an exit sign, including "EXIT" or "SORTIE", or both.*

#### *CAN/ULC-S572 Definitions:*

*Exit Sign(s) - A general term used to refer to an exit light, exit fixture, self-luminous exit sign or photoluminescent exit sign, depicted as a text or graphical symbol.*

*Photoluminescent System(s) - Having the property of emitting light that continues for a length of time after excitation by visible or invisible light has been removed.*

*Self-Luminous - Illuminated by a self-contained energy source other than a battery, such as radioactive tritium gas. Operation is independent of external power supplies or other external forms of energy.*

#### *OFM, Ted G. Ross Commentary 09 Sep 2011:*

*There has been discussion around the meaning of the requirement that externally illuminated exit signs be continuously illuminated. The intent of this requirement was for non-photoluminescent signs which may not be visible unless continuously illuminated. Photoluminescent signs are intended to be continuously illuminated only while the building is occupied and normal power is available. In the event of normal power failure the photoluminescent exit signs do not require an emergency source of illumination.*

*Photoluminescent signs have been available for over a decade in NS and have been accepted as an alternative to internally illuminated and externally illuminated signs.*

- ✓ Exit signs may be internally or externally illuminated.
- ✓ Check to ensure that exit signs in the building are illuminated.



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## 6.4 Acceptable Locking Devices

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.7.1.1.(1), 1.4.1.2., NBC 3.3.1.13., 3.4.6.16.(3)*

*Principal entrance doors, exit doors and doors to suites, including exterior doors of dwelling units, and other doors in an access to exit shall*

- be openable from the inside or in traveling to an exit without requiring keys, special devices or specialized knowledge of the door-opening mechanism, or*
- in the case of exit doors, be controlled by electromagnetic locking mechanisms*

*Except for doors serving a single dwelling unit and doors to accessory buildings and to garages serving a single dwelling unit, door release hardware on doors in a means of egress shall be operable with one hand and the door shall be openable with not more than one releasing operation.*

*Every exit door, except doors serving a single dwelling unit, shall be designed and installed so that when the latch is released the door will open in the direction of exit travel under a force of not more than 90 N applied to the door release hardware.*

*The permission to have additional door releasing devices is intended to allow the use of a security chain, night latch or dead bolt to supplement the normal door latching device. These are permitted for dwelling units and locations where guests in a hotel or motel require additional security.*

- ✓ The locking device shall be operable with one hand and the door shall be openable with not more than one releasing operation.
- ✓ Keyed locks, multiple locks, chain & padlock etc. are not acceptable except that the use of a security chain, night latch or dead bolt is allowed on an apartment and/or motel/hotel suite door.

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## 6.5 Exit / Egress Pathway(s) clear and unobstructed

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.7.1.6.(1), 1.4.1.2.*

*Means of egress shall be maintained in good repair and free of obstructions.*

*Means of Egress means a continuous path of travel provided for the escape of persons from any point in a building or contained open space to a separate building, an open public thorough fare, or an exterior open space protected from fire exposure from the building and having access to an open public thorough fare. Means of egress includes exits and access to exits.*

*Access to Exits means that part of a means of egress within a floor area that provides access to an exit serving the floor area.*

- ✓ There should be nothing blocking the "mean of egress" which includes any part of the access to exit, or exit door.
- ✓ There shall be NO storage in required exits or access to exits.

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## 6.6 Egress Windows acceptable (If not sprinklered)

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.7.1.1.(1)*

*Means of egress shall be provided in buildings in conformance with the NBC.*

*Except where the suite is sprinklered, each bedroom or combination bedroom in a \*Part 9 Building shall have at least one outside window or exterior door openable from the inside without the use of keys, tools or special knowledge and without the removal of sashes or hardware. The window shall:*

*(a) provide an unobstructed opening of not less than 0.35 m<sup>2</sup> in area with no dimension less than 380 mm, and*

*(b) maintain the required opening during an emergency without the need for additional support.*

*\*Part 9 applies to Residential Buildings of 3 storeys or less in building height and having a building area not exceeding 600 m<sup>2</sup>.*

*Where a window opens into a window well, a clearance of not less than 550 mm shall be provided in front of the window. Where the sash of a window swings towards the window well, the operation of the sash shall not reduce the clearance in a manner that would restrict escape in an emergency.*

*Where a protective enclosure is installed over the window well the enclosure shall be openable from the inside without the use of keys, tools or special knowledge of the opening mechanism.*

*Every bedroom in an unsprinklered suite should have at least one window or door opening to the outside that is large enough and easy enough to open so that it can be used as an exit in the event that a fire prevents use of the building's normal exits. The minimum unobstructed opening specified for escape windows must be achievable using only the normal window operating procedure. The escape path must not go through nor open onto another room, floor or space. Where a bedroom is located in an unsprinklered suite in a basement, an escape window or door must be located in the bedroom. It is not sufficient to rely on egress through other basement space to another escape window or door.*

*One method that is often used to improve the resistance of windows to forced entry is the installation of metal "security bars." However, while many such installations are effective in increasing resistance to forced entry, they may also reduce or eliminate the usefulness of the window as an exit in case of fire or other emergency that prevents use of the normal building exits. Indeed, unless such devices are easily openable from the inside, their installation in some cases would contravene the requirements of Article 9.9.10.1., which requires every bedroom that does not have an exterior door to have at least one window that is large enough and easy enough to open that it can be used as an exit in case of emergency. Thus an acceptable security bar system should be easy to open from the inside while still providing increased resistance to entry from the outside.*

- ✓ Windows that are designed to open should be easy to open from the inside.
- ✓ Check to ensure that windows are not painted, nailed or warped making them difficult to open.
- ✓ There are special circumstances where a security bar system is acceptable on a required egress window if the device is easily openable from the inside without the use of tools, keys or special knowledge. If you are unsure, call the area FPO.
- ✓ The FSMI program is intended for Part 3 buildings and this clause would not apply. In some rare cases (multi use buildings) this may apply. Consult with an FPO before calling this up.

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## 6.7 Emergency Lights working (Random Check)

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 6.5.1.1.(1), 6.5.1.6.(2)a., 2.1.3.7.(2),  
Emergency lighting shall be maintained in operating condition.*

- ✓ Check to ensure bulbs are not burned out and that the lighting units function as designed.
- ✓ Self-contained units can be checked by either unplugging them or using the test button to see if they are working correctly.
- ✓ When bulbs come on, check to ensure that they are directed in the most effective way to light access to exits during a disruption of power. Bulbs should be directed at the floor area to light access to exits, not directed at tables, walls etc.

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## 7 STORAGE

### 7.1 In a neat and orderly fashion

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.4.1.1 (1)*

*Combustible waste materials in and around buildings shall not be permitted to accumulate in quantities or locations that will constitute an undue fire hazard.*

- ✓ Storage should be neat and orderly and not blocking any important access routes such as those leading to fire alarm panels, service rooms, exits, important documents (Haz-Mat, FSP etc.)
- ✓ Use your judgment - consider what fire load and usage the building or space was designed for. i.e. If the building was designed as a residential occupancy, it would not have the same fire protection features built into it as it would if it had been designed as a garbage storing facility. If it shouldn't be there - get rid of it.
- ✓ Another good example is a bedroom chock full of newspapers or other non-subsidary storage. The room was designed as a bedroom - bed, dresser, clothes etc. - not for the storage of 500 newspapers.
- ✓ Always consider the fire load in the space vs. the fire load the space was designed for. i.e. Clothes on the floor do not increase the fire load as compared with clothes neatly hung in the closet. If both loads are the same, and are not excessive to the designed use, the main consideration from a fire safety perspective would be "are the clothes on the floor impeding an access to an exit?"

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### 7.2 Eighteen inches (18") below sprinkler heads

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 3.2.2.3.(4), NFC 6.4.1.1 (1)*

*In sprinklered buildings, the clearance between the top of storage and ceiling sprinkler deflectors shall conform to the standard used to design the sprinkler system.*

*Objects against walls are permitted to ignore the minimum spacing rules as long as the sprinkler is not directly above the object.*

*The 18" does not apply to storage against the wall as long as the sprinkler head is NOT directly above the storage. It is important to remember that this storage height threshold requirement is based considering the storage as an obstruction to the spray pattern of the sprinkler. In other words, the 18 inch clearance is intended to ensure that the sprinkler spray pattern can develop and distribute water on the floor throughout its coverage area, including on the other side of the obstruction. In the case of storage against a wall there is no obstruction because the sprinkler is not intended to protect floor area on the other side of the storage.*

- ✓ The requirement is to keep storage at least 18" below the lowest part of the sprinkler head.
- ✓ Look across the top of storage to ensure there are no obstructions above/around the sprinkler heads which may prevent proper functioning.

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### 7.3 Thirty nine inches (39") below ceiling if non-sprinklered

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 3.2.1.1.(1)(a.), A 3.2.1.1.(1)(a.), NFC 3.2.2.3.(2), A 3.2.2.3.(2)*

*In un-sprinklered buildings, a clearance of not less than 1 m between the top of storage and the underside of the floor or roof deck shall be maintained.*

*In un-sprinklered buildings, a clear space is required above the storage to permit hose streams to be directed onto the top of the storage.*

- ✓ The requirement is to keep storage at least 39" from the storage to the ceiling.
- ✓ Look across the top of storage to ensure there are no obstructions closer than the required 39".

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### 7.4 Three feet (3') from electrical panels

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.4.7.1 (1), CSA C22.1.09 2-308, 2-312.*

*Electrical installations shall be used and maintained so as not to constitute an undue fire hazard.*

*Electrical Code:*

*Working Space Around Electrical Equipment:*

*A minimum working space of 1 m with secure footing shall be provided and maintained about electrical equipment such as switchboards, panel boards, control panels, and motor control centres that are enclosed in metal, except that working space is not required behind such equipment where there are no renewable parts such as fuses or switches on the back and where all connections are accessible from locations other than the back.*

*The space shall be in addition to the space required for the operation of draw-out-type equipment in either the connected, test, or fully disconnected position and shall be sufficient for the opening of enclosure doors and hinged panels to at least 90 degrees.*

*Accessibility for Maintenance:*

*Passageways and working space around electrical equipment shall not be used for storage and shall be kept clear of obstruction and arranged to give authorized persons ready access to all parts requiring attention.*

- ✓ No storage of any kind shall within 3' of an electrical panel.
- ✓ No storage of any kind in an Electrical Service Room.

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### 7.5 Service Rooms free from storage

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.4.1.1.(2), A-2.1.4.1.1.(2)*

*Combustible materials, other than those for which the location, room or space is designed, shall not be permitted to accumulate in any part of an elevator shaft, ventilation shaft, means of egress, service room or service space.*

*The defined term "service rooms" includes boiler rooms, furnace rooms, incinerator rooms, garbage rooms, janitors' closets and rooms to accommodate air-conditioning or heating appliances, pumps, compressors and electrical services.*



*The intent is to discourage the use of these rooms for the storage of miscellaneous combustible materials. If storage space is needed in a building, a room that does not contain building service equipment should be provided.*

*Even in garbage rooms, combustible materials should not be allowed to accumulate. When the garbage is periodically cleared from the room, the room should be empty, except for the garbage container itself.*

- ✓ Service rooms must be kept free of storage.

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## 7.6 Propane Tanks stored inside building – Removed

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 3.1.1.4 (2)(b) → CAN/CSA-B149.2-05 6.5.*

*The storage and handling of liquefied petroleum gases shall conform to:*

- (a) CAN/CSA-B149.1, "Natural Gas and Propane Installation Code," and*
- (b) CAN/CSA-B149.2, "Propane Storage and Handling Code."*

*Except as permitted in this Code, a cylinder that contains propane liquid or vapour shall not be stored or used inside any structure. Exceptions include: cleaning and polishing equipment, construction sites, portable food-serving carts and welding, cutting, and preheating processes. Note that there are many specific restrictions for these uses.*

*Not more than 3 cylinders manufactured to TC Specification 39, 2P and 2Q and known as "single-trip" or "non-refillable" cylinders shall be stored in a dwelling unit.*

- ✓ No more than three (3) 1 lb, non-refillable propane cylinders (plumber torch type) can be stored inside a dwelling unit. It is recommended that, where possible, even these types of propane cylinders not be stored inside buildings.
- ✓ If you come across propane cylinder storage (exceeding three (3) 1 lb cylinders) inside a building, instruct the property owner or owner's agent to remove the cylinder(s) from the building immediately and while you are there.
- ✓ Be sure to explain the seriousness of the hazard.
- ✓ Only propane powered machinery designed and approved for use inside buildings shall be used inside buildings.
- ✓ Tank valves must remain closed when the machines are not operating.
- ✓ Extra tanks shall be stored outside in a safe, protected area away from exits and/or openings.

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## 7.7 Flammable/combustible liquids properly stored

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 4.2.3., 4.2.4., 1.4.1.2.*

*Flammable liquids and combustible liquids shall not be stored on exterior balconies.*

*Smoking shall not be permitted in areas where flammable liquids and combustible liquids are stored.*

*Areas where flammable liquids and combustible liquids are stored shall be kept clean and free of ground vegetation and accumulations of combustible materials not essential to operations.*

*Containers and portable tanks for flammable liquids or combustible liquids shall be built in conformance with*



## FIRE SAFETY MAINTENANCE INSPECTION GUIDE

### RESIDENTIAL

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*CSA B376-M, "Portable Containers for Gasoline and Other Petroleum Fuels," and CSA B306-M, ULC/ORD-C30, "Safety Containers,"*

*Containers for flammable liquids or combustible liquids shall be distinctly marked or labelled in easily legible type that is in contrast to any other printed matter on the label with a warning to indicate that*

- the material in the container is flammable*
- it should be kept away from heat, sparks and open flames*
- it should be kept closed when not in use*

*The maximum quantity of flammable liquids or combustible liquids stored in a fire compartment with a fire-resistance rating of at least 1 h shall be:*

- When a single class of flammable liquid or combustible liquid is stored in a fire compartment with a fire-resistance rating of at least 1 h, the total quantity of liquid shall not exceed*
  - 30 L of Class I liquids,*
  - 150 L of Class II liquids, or*
  - 600 L of Class IIIA liquids.*
- When 2 or more classes of flammable liquid or combustible liquid are stored in the same building, the total quantity permitted for each class of liquid shall be calculated as follows:*
  - $qI/30 + qII/150 + qIIIA/600 < 1$*
  - Where*
  - $qI$  = the actual quantity of Class I liquids present,*
  - $qII$  = the actual quantity of Class II liquids present,*
  - $qIIIA$  = the actual quantity of Class IIIA liquids present.*

*Fire compartment means an enclosed space in a building that is separated from all other parts of the building by enclosing construction providing a fire separation having a required fire-resistance rating.*

*Quantities of flammable liquids or combustible liquids exceeding those permitted above are permitted, provided they are kept*

- in storage cabinets conforming to Subsection 4.2.10., except that the total quantity of flammable liquids and combustible liquids stored in such cabinets shall not exceed the quantity permitted for one cabinet, or*
- in a storage room conforming to Subsection 4.2.9. and having no openings that communicate directly with the public portions of the building.*

*And, shall not be located above or below the first storey.*

*Not more than 30 L of flammable liquids and combustible liquids, of which not more than 10 L shall be Class I liquids, are permitted to be stored in each dwelling unit.*

*Not more than 50 L of flammable liquids and combustible liquids, of which not more than 30 L shall be Class I liquids, are permitted to be stored in a garage or shed attached to a dwelling unit.*

*Access for Firefighting – Required aisles and other access paths shall be maintained to permit the unobstructed movement of personnel and fire department apparatus so that firefighting operations can be carried out in any part of an area used for storage, use or handling of flammable liquids or combustibles liquids.*

- ✓ **Storage of flammable and combustible liquids in or around residential occupancies shall be stored in proper containers and/or cabinets and/or storage rooms; clearly marked and in a safe manner.**



- ✓ Flammable liquids and combustible liquids shall not be stored on exterior balconies.
- ✓ Smoking shall not be permitted in areas where flammable liquids and combustible liquids are stored.
- ✓ Areas where flammable liquids and combustible liquids are stored shall be kept clean and free of ground vegetation and accumulations of combustible materials not essential to operations.
- ✓ Access for firefighting shall be provided.
- ✓ Storage of flammable and combustible liquids within a dwelling unit is restricted to a maximum of 30 L, of which not more than 10 L can be a Class I flammable liquid (gasoline, rubbing alcohol, turpentine). (This does not apply to appliances and their ancillary equipment such as oil tanks for fuel burning appliances).
- ✓ Where garages or sheds are attached to a dwelling unit, they may be used for the storage of up to 50 L of flammable and combustible liquids, of which not more the 30 L can be a Class I flammable liquid.
- ✓ Below are some examples of flammable and combustible liquids which may be found in residential occupancies.

#### Flammable Liquids:

- Flammable liquids are classified as Class I Liquids and are described as any liquid that has a flash point below 100F (37.8 C). Class I liquids are further classified as follows:
  - Class IA Liquids - liquids that have flash points below 73 F (22.8 C) and boiling points below 100 F (37.8 C)
  - Class IB Liquids - liquids that have flash points below 73 F (22.8 C) and boiling points at or above 100 F (37.8 C)
    - Gasoline, rubbing alcohol
  - Class IC Liquids - those liquids that have flash points at or above 73 F (22.8 C) but below 100 F (37.8 C)
    - Turpentine

#### Combustible Liquids:

- Combustible liquids are classified as Class II or III Liquids and are described as any liquid that has a flash point at or above 100 F (37.8 C). Combustible liquids are classified as Class II or Class III as follows:
  - Class II Liquid - any liquid that has a flash point at or above 100 F (37.8 C) and below 140 F (60 C)
    - Diesel, furnace fuel, kerosene, motor oil, varsol, mineral spirits
  - Class IIIA - any liquid that has a flash point at or above 140 F (60 C), but below 200 F (93 C)
    - Linseed oil, mineral oil, oil based paints
  - Class IIIB - any liquid that has a flash point at or above 200 F (93 C)
    - Anti-freeze, bio-diesel, vegetable oil

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## 7.8 Haz-Mat materials properly stored

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.1.2.2.(1), 3.2.7., 3.3.4., A-3.2.7.13.(1), A-3.2.7.6.(2)*



*Activities that create a hazard and that are not allowed for in the original design shall not be carried out in a building unless provisions are made to control the hazard in conformance with the NFC.*

*Areas where dangerous goods are stored shall be kept free of waste packaging materials, debris of any kind, or any spilled product.*

*Broken packages or containers of dangerous goods shall be moved to a safe location and the product repackaged and labeled as soon as possible.*

*Products classified as dangerous goods shall display appropriate identifying labels from the time they enter a facility until they are issued as finished products or waste material.*

*Firefighters need to identify the substances they may encounter in a building during a fire. Labeling of products to comply with the "Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System" (WHMIS) or other provincial, territorial or federal regulations is deemed to satisfy this requirement.*

*The following are examples of basic principles that should apply to any storage situation involving dangerous goods:*

- Chemicals should not be stored using an alphabetical sequence system but should be grouped according to compatibility.*
- Organic materials should not be stored with either strong acids or oxidizers.*
- Alkalies should not be stored with strong acids or chlorinated hydrocarbons.*
- Strong acids should not be stored with oxidizers.*
- Sulphites, bisulphites and sulphides should not be stored with acids.*

- ✓ Take note of any hazardous materials stored on site.
- ✓ Review MSDS sheets and the FSP to check that proper storage, safety practices, safety concerns and care and control of these products are being adhered to.
- ✓ Forward any outstanding haz-mat concerns to Operations Chief, Haz-Mat Units and/or area FPO for follow-up if you have concerns.

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## 8 BUILDING SERVICES

### 8.1 Furnace/Chimney in a safe condition (Visual)

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.6.1.1.(1), 2.6.1.6.(1), 2.6.1.4., A-2.6.1.4.(3)(a.)*

*A chimney, flue, or flue pipe shall be replaced or repaired to eliminate:*

- *any structural deficiency or decay, and*
- *all abandoned or unused openings that are not effectively sealed in a manner that would prevent the passage of fire or smoke.*

*Structural deficiencies are deviations from required construction, such as the absence of a liner or inadequate design of supports or ties. Instances of decay are cracking, settling, crumbling mortar, distortion, advanced corrosion, separation of sections, or loose or broken supports.*

*Chimneys, flues and flue pipes shall be cleaned as often as necessary to keep them free from dangerous accumulations of combustible deposits.*

- ✓ Check the heating appliance/chimney for any visual fire safety concerns:
- ✓ Fuel supply tank, shut off valves (each appliance), and fuel lines (protected).
- ✓ Fuel leakage.
- ✓ Condition of appliances, electrical connections (no bare terminations).
- ✓ Room condition (sooty - possibly inadequate ventilation to appliances, possible CO leakage).
- ✓ Flue pipe (corrosion holes, missing any of the three required sheet metal screws in each section joint).
- ✓ If applicable, check fire box area for corrosion or cracks.
- ✓ Mortar - cracked/missing, ensure tight fit where flue pipe enters the chimney.
- ✓ Chimneys clean out door in place, in working order.
- ✓ Open clean out door to ensure the chimney is clean and is not clogged.
- ✓ If you have a mirror you may wish to view up the chimney, looking for blockages or material build-ups within the chimney flue liner.
- ✓ If you have concerns re the safe condition of the furnace and/or chimney, instruct the property owner or owner's agent to have a qualified person inspect the furnace and/or chimney and to have any necessary repairs done to ensure that the furnace and/or chimney functions as designed and with no undue fire hazards.

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### 8.2 Electrical Wiring in a safe condition (Visual)

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.4.7.1.(1)*

*Electrical installations shall be used and maintained so as not to constitute an undue fire hazard.*

- ✓ View building's exposed (visible) wiring to ensure that there are NO bare wires exposed or unused wire ends that have not been properly terminated (wire connector).
- ✓ Check to ensure there are NO excessive accumulations of water around or under electrical wires or panels.





- ✓ Electrical circuits should not be overloaded.
- ✓ Fuses or breakers should be of proper type and size.
- ✓ Warm or hot outlets or switches may indicate that an unusual condition exists and that an Electrician should check the wiring as soon as possible.

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### 8.3 Extension cords properly used (temporary use only)

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.4.7.1.(1), CSA C22.1.09 4-010.,*

*Electrical installations shall be used and maintained so as not to constitute an undue fire hazard.*

- ✓ Extension cords are "temporary" power supply lines. They are not designed to replace required hard wired installations.
- ✓ Extension cords shall not be:
  - Permanently installed to provide power to an appliance.
  - Altered to extend an appliance's power supply.
  - Placed under rugs or carpeting
  - Taped to secure the cord to combustible surfaces or floor areas.
  - Run across floor areas used as a means of egress or walkway without proper cord protection.
  - Run as to interfere with doors designed as part of a means of egress.
  - Passed through wall, ceilings, doors etc.
  - "Frayed", "deteriorated," or "damaged".
- ✓ If extension cords are required to used:
- ✓ Look for a certification mark on all electrical cords such as that of CSA Group. This shows that the cord has been tested and certified to the applicable standard for safety and performance.
- ✓ Check appliance and extension cords to see if they are worn or damaged. Look for worn insulation and splices on the cord, and loose or exposed parts on the plug.
- ✓ Make sure the extension cord is heavy enough for the intended load. For any device that draws more than 7 amps, use a heavy-duty cord.
- ✓ Extension cords or plugs should not become hot when plugged in - it may be overloaded and should be replaced with a new and/or heavier cord.
- ✓ Extension cords should not be connected together and should be replaced with a single cord that is long enough to reach from the appliance to the outlet without stretching.
- ✓ Only cords that are clearly marked for outdoor use should be used outdoors.
- ✓ Always unplug an extension cord when it is not in use, never unplug by pulling on the cord.

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### 8.4 Electrical Components secure (Visual)

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.4.7.1.(1), CSA C22.1.09*

*Electrical installations shall be used and maintained so as not to constitute an undue fire hazard.*



- ✓ All hardwired electrical components (outlets, light fixtures, boxes and panels) shall be securely attached to surfaces by mechanical fasteners.

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## 8.5 Electrical Panel, Outlet & Switches have face plates

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.4.7.1.(1), CSA C22.1.09*

*Electrical installations shall be used and maintained so as not to constitute an undue fire hazard.*

- ✓ These components are designed and approved with proper covers - "as a unit". All covers shall be in place and secured to these components as designed.

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## 8.6 Garbage Room (excessive amount or room)

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.4.1.1.(1) (2), A-2.4.1.1.(2), 2.4.1.2.*

*Combustible waste materials in and around buildings shall not be permitted to accumulate in quantities or locations that will constitute an undue fire hazard.*

*Combustible materials, other than those for which the location, room or space is designed, shall not be permitted to accumulate in any part of an elevator shaft, ventilation shaft, means of egress, service room or service space.*

*Vertical service space means a shaft oriented essentially vertically that is provided in a building to facilitate the installation of building services including mechanical, electrical and plumbing installations and facilities such as elevators, refuse chutes and linen chutes.*

*The defined term "service rooms" includes boiler rooms, furnace rooms, incinerator rooms, garbage rooms, janitors' closets and rooms to accommodate air-conditioning or heating appliances, pumps, compressors and electrical services.*

*The intent is to discourage the use of these rooms for the storage of miscellaneous combustible materials. If storage space is needed in a building, a room that does not contain building service equipment should be provided. Even in garbage rooms, combustible materials should not be allowed to accumulate. When the garbage is periodically cleared from the room, the room should be empty, except for the garbage container itself.*

*Where rooms are provided for the storage of combustible waste materials, such rooms shall conform to the NBC.*

*Except as required by Sentence 3.6.3.3.(9), a room for the storage of combustible refuse shall be separated from the remainder of the building by a fire separation with a fire-resistance rating not less than 1 h, and be sprinklered.*

*Storage of refuse consisting of combustible materials including waste paper, cardboard and plastic, and non-combustible materials such as glass and metallic containers can be accumulated in these rooms for the purpose of recycling. This storage is allowed in consideration of a less stringent collection schedule when compared to that of garbage or refuse, which is collected regularly.*



*A floor drain shall be provided in a garbage room, incinerator room or boiler room serving more than one dwelling unit.*

*The room or bin into which a refuse chute discharges shall be of sufficient size to contain the refuse between normal intervals of emptying, be impervious to moisture and be equipped with a water connection and floor drain for washing-down purposes.*

*A room into which a refuse chute discharges shall contain no service equipment that is not related to refuse handling and disposal*

*Rooms for the temporary storage of combustible refuse in all occupancies or for public storage in residential occupancies shall be separated from the remainder of the building by a fire separation having not less than a 1 h fire-resistance rating, except that a 45 min fire separation is permitted where the fire-resistance rating of the floor assembly is not required to exceed 45 min, or where such rooms are sprinklered.*

- ✓ Garbage/recyclables should be emptied from the garbage room on a regular basis so as not to accumulate in quantities that will constitute an undue fire hazard.
- ✓ Garbage rooms are designed for the temporary storage of garbage /recyclables only. There should be no storage of any other items.
- ✓ When the garbage/recyclables are periodically picked up from the room, the room should be empty. Where garbage and recyclables are picked up on an alternating regular schedule, some garbage or recyclables may be left in the room temporarily until the regularly scheduled pick-up date for the garbage or recyclables.
- ✓ Refuse Chutes should be maintained to function as designed.
- ✓ Garbage rooms should have no holes in walls/ceilings or any part of the required fire separation (at least 45 minutes).

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## 8.7 Laundry Room (lint traps)

*Code Reference and Summary - NFC 2.2.2.4.(4), 2.4.1.4.(1), 2.1.5.1.(1)(2) --> NFPA 10 6.1.3.1., NBC 3.3.1.2., 3.2.4.11.(3)f., 6.2.3.8.*

### NFC

*Closures in fire separations shall not be obstructed, blocked, wedged open, or altered in any way that would prevent the intended operation of the closure.*

*Lint traps in laundry equipment shall be cleaned after each use of the equipment.*

*Portable Fire Extinguishers shall be selected and installed in accordance with NFPA 10, "Portable Fire Extinguishers."*

### NFPA 10

*Fire extinguishers shall be conspicuously located where they are readily accessible and immediately available in the event of fire.*

### NBC



*In a building of residential occupancy, a laundry room in a floor area that is not within a dwelling unit shall be separated from the remainder of the building by a fire separation having a fire-resistance rating not less than 1 h. The fire-resistance rating of the fire separation required is permitted to be less than 1 h but not less than 45 min provided the fire-resistance rating required by Subsection 3.2.2. is permitted to be less than 1 h for the floor assembly above the floor area, or the floor assembly below the floor area, if there is no floor assembly above. The fire separation is not required to have a fire-resistance rating if the floor area in which the laundry room is located is sprinklered throughout.*

*If a fire alarm system is required in a building that is not sprinklered, fire detectors shall be installed in laundry rooms in buildings of residential occupancy, but not those within dwelling units. Fire detectors need not be provided within floor areas that are sprinklered.*

*Exhaust ducts connected to laundry drying equipment shall be independent of other exhaust ducts, accessible for inspection and cleaning, and constructed of a smooth corrosion-resistant material.*

*Where collective venting of multiple installations of laundry-drying equipment is used, the ventilation system shall be connected to a common exhaust duct that is vented by one central exhaust fan and incorporates one central lint trap, include an interlock to activate the central exhaust fan when laundry-drying equipment is in use, and be provided with make-up air.*

*Exhaust ducts or vents connected to laundry-drying equipment shall discharge directly to the outdoors.*

- ✓ Laundry room doors are not to be blocked or tied open except by approved hold open devices connected to building Fire Alarm System.
- ✓ Check to ensure lint traps are clean. As it is unrealistic for a property owner or owner's agent to be on site to clean the lint trap after each use it is acceptable to the AHJ that a sign be posted in the laundry room which states that the lint traps are to be cleaned after each use.
- ✓ Although there is no code requirement that a portable fire extinguisher be installed in the laundry room, if one is not, one must be close by and visible upon exiting the laundry room without having to guess which direction to go to find one.
- ✓ Check to ensure that the fire separation for the laundry room is maintained - there are no holes in the walls or ceilings and the door closes and latches as designed.
- ✓ Depending on what year the building was built (code of the day) and whether the building is sprinklered or not, there may or may not be a fire detector in the laundry room. If there is a fire detector in the laundry room check to ensure that it is not painted over, dusty etc. and that the indicator light is on.
- ✓ Visually check both the inside and the back of the dryer(s) looking for lint build-up, disconnected or excessively long length(s) of duct(s) or combustible waste/lint thrown behind the dryer(s). Manufacturer's instructions require that the exhaust ducting be cleaned and inspected once a year to prevent lint build-up, and, that the interior of the appliance and exhaust duct be cleaned once a year by qualified service personnel.

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