



November 8, 2012



Letter of Notice

Architect, Designers, Engineers, the Construction Industry, Contractors, Suppliers providing services through-out Yukon and Building Owners

RE: Requirements for the Installation of Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms

We are writing to alert you of the 2010 Edition of the National Building Code requirement that pertains to the installation of smoke alarms and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms.

Smoke Alarms conforming to CAN/ULC-S531, "Smoke-Alarms," shall be installed in conformance with CAN/ULC-S553, Installation of Smoke-Alarms." as follows:

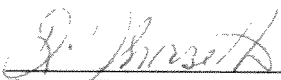
- In each sleeping room not within a dwelling unit, and
- In each sleeping room within a care occupancy, and
- In each sleeping room within a dwelling unit, and
- In a location between the sleeping rooms and the remainder of the storey, and if the sleeping rooms are served by a hallway, the smoke alarm shall be located in the hallway, and
- There shall be at least one smoke alarm installed on each storey, of a dwelling unit, including basements, and
- Ancillary spaces and common spaces not in dwelling units in a house with a secondary suite, and
- Smoke alarms shall be installed on or near the ceiling, and
- Smoke alarms shall be installed with permanent connections to an electrical circuit, have no disconnect switch between the overcurrent device and the smoke alarm, **be provided with a battery as an alternative power source** that can continue to provide power to the smoke alarm for a period of no less than 7 days in the normal condition, followed by 4 minutes of alarm, and
- Where more than one smoke alarm is required in a dwelling unit, the smoke alarms shall be wired so that the activation of one alarm will cause all alarms within the dwelling unit to sound, and
- Smoke alarms in a house with a secondary suite shall be wired so that the activation of any one smoke alarm causes all smoke alarms within the house with a secondary suite to sound.
- If a building is not supplied with electrical power, smoke alarms are permitted to be battery-operated.
- Where instructions are necessary to describe the maintenance and care required for smoke alarms to ensure continuing satisfactory performance, they shall be posted in a location where they will be readily available to the occupants for reference.
- Suites of residential occupancy are permitted to be equipped with smoke detectors in lieu of smoke alarms, provided a fire alarm system has been installed in conformance with CAN/ULC-S524, "Installation of Fire Alarm Systems".

Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarms conforming to CAN/CSA-6.19, "Residential Carbon Monoxide Alarming Devices," shall be installed in every building with a residential or care occupancy that contains a fuel-burning appliance or an attached garage, as follows:

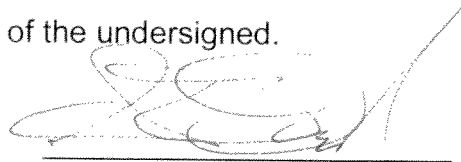
- Have no disconnect switch between the overcurrent device and the CO alarm, where the CO alarm is powered by the dwelling unit's electrical system, and
- Be mechanically fixed at a height recommended by the manufacturer.
- Where a room contains a solid-fuel-burning appliance, a CO alarm shall be mechanically fixed:
 - at the manufacturer's recommended height where these instructions specifically mention solid-fuel-burning appliances, or
 - in the absence of specific instructions related to solid-fuel-burning appliances, on or near the ceiling.
- Where a fuel-burning appliance is installed in a suite of residential or care occupancy, a CO alarm shall be installed:
 - inside each bedroom, or
 - outside each bedroom, within 5m of each bedroom door, measured following corridors and doorways.
- Where a fuel-burning appliance is installed in a service room that is not in a suite of residential or care occupancy, a CO alarm shall be installed:
 - either inside each bedroom, or
 - if outside, within 5 m of each bedroom door, measured following corridors and doorways, in every suite of residential occupancy that shares a wall or floor/ceiling assembly with the service room, and
 - in the service room.
- For each suite of residential or care occupancy that shares a wall or floor/ceiling assembly with an attached garage or that is adjacent to an attic or crawl space to which the attached garage is also adjacent, a CO alarm shall be installed:
 - inside each bedroom, or
 - outside each bedroom, within 5m of each bedroom door, measured following corridors and doorways.
- Where CO alarms are installed in a house with a secondary suite including their common spaces, the CO alarms shall be wired so that the activation of any one CO alarm causes all CO alarms within the house with a secondary suite including their common spaces to sound.
- Battery-operated carbon monoxide alarms are permitted, but they must be mechanically fixed to a surface.

Please be advised that the 2010 Edition of the National Building Code requires that all smoke alarms be provided with a battery back-up. This requirement will be actively enforced as of January 1, 2013.

Should you have any questions please contact one of the undersigned.



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