

COMMUNIQUÉ

OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL BUREAU DU COMMISSAIRE DES INCENDIES

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Ontario Regulation 87/25: Changes to the Ontario Fire Code and First French Edition of the Ontario Fire Code

On June 2, 2025, the Solicitor General of Ontario approved <u>Ontario Regulation 87/25</u> made under the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997* (FPPA), which introduces changes to the Ontario Fire Code (O. Reg. 213/07) and creates the first French edition of the Code.

The changes to the Ontario Fire Code (OFC) are the first set prepared under the auspices of the Reconciliation Agreement on Construction Codes (see <u>Fire Marshal's</u> <u>Communique 2020-17</u>), and as such, improve harmonization of the OFC with the 2020 National Fire Code of Canada (NFC).

In addition, a number of changes are being made to OFC requirements that are unique to Ontario.

Below are some highlights of the changes introduced by O. Reg. 87/25:

- Improved harmonization with the 2020 NFC on various requirements including requirements for flammable and combustible liquids, dangerous goods, aerosol products, combustible dusts, etc.;
- Alignment with some recent changes to the Ontario Building Code including new requirements for carbon monoxide alarms in existing residential occupancies and care occupancies, new maintenance requirements for mass timber encapsulation materials, new testing requirements for integrated life safety and fire protection systems, new requirements for certain farm buildings, etc.;
- Strengthened fire safety for existing boarding, lodging, and rooming houses and for two-unit residential occupancies through new smoke alarm requirements as well as new requirements for reduced flame-spread ratings of certain interior wall and ceiling finishes; and
- Updated references to more current editions of standards, legislation, and other documents.

O. Reg. 87/25 also introduces a French edition of the OFC that mirrors the content and recent updates made to the English version.

Proposed changes to the OFC were posted for public consultation on the Ontario Regulatory Registry in the summer of 2023 and generated close to 650 comments. The Office of the Fire Marshal gratefully extends its appreciation to all stakeholders who provided feedback during the public consultation period.

The changes to the OFC will come into force on January 1, 2026 with a few exceptions.

For further updates on the OFC, please subscribe to OFM e-Bulletin at the following link: <u>Subscribe to OFM bulletins (mailchi.mp)</u>.

Fire departments with enquiries regarding O. Reg. 87/25 may contact their fire protection adviser directly or may email their queries to <u>askofm@ontario.ca</u>.