Setting the Standard

Key Updates from Building and Technical Standards

October 2026

Henry's Law Takes Effect November 1: New Carbon Monoxide Alarm Requirements for Multi-Unit Residential Buildings

The Minister of Government Relations introduced *The Building Code (Henry's Law) Amendment Regulations, 2026* on May 5, 2026. This amendment to the National Building Code of Canada requires a carbon monoxide (CO) alarm in every residential suite or unit in a residential occupancy where a person sleeps in Saskatchewan. The enhanced regulations, known as Henry's Law, are named in honour of Henry Losco, who passed away from CO poisoning in Regina in December 2025.

"Henry Losco's tragic death demonstrated that Saskatchewan residents need stronger protection from the dangers of carbon monoxide in their homes," Minister of Government Relations Eric Schmalz said. "Henry's Law ensures that more CO alarms are positioned to provide protection, promoting the safety that is fundamental to communities and in building a strong Saskatchewan."

Carbon monoxide is an invisible, odourless, poisonous gas produced by fuel-burning appliances such as natural gas furnaces, stoves, water heaters and fireplaces. CO can build up to dangerous levels when appliances or equipment are not working properly, are poorly ventilated or malfunctioning. Without a working CO alarm, continued exposure to CO can lead to confusion, drowsiness, loss of consciousness, brain damage and death.

Effective November 1, 2026, Henry's Law requires CO alarms in all multi-unit residential buildings including apartments, condominiums, houses with secondary suites and all other buildings with multiple residential suites, regardless of when the building was initially built or last renovated. Building owners should ensure their properties comply with the new requirements before the regulations come into force.

To learn more about protecting your home from CO and Henry's Law, visit saskatchewan.ca.

Public Review of Proposed 2025 National Model Code Changes Now Open

The Canadian Board for Harmonized Construction Codes (CBHCC) is inviting code users, interested parties, and the broader public to take part in its fall public review of proposed changes to the 2025 National Model Codes.

Proposed code changes in this public review address several topics, including:

- Accessibility
- Conformity assessment
- Energy efficiency for houses
- Flammable and combustible liquids
- Radon mitigation
- Structural design (Part 9)
- Updates to referenced documents

The public review runs from October 26 to December 21, 2026. Those interested in participating in the review can access the proposed changes on the CBHCC website and provide feedback.

The public review gives Canadians and interested organizations a chance to help shape the National Model Codes. After the review, comments will be assessed by the relevant code development committees, and recommendations on the proposed changes will be made to the CBHCC. Approved changes will be included in the 2030 editions of the Codes, which provinces and territories may adopt or adapt into their regulation.

For more information, please contact the CBHCC by email at CBHCCSecretary-SecretaireCCHCC@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca.

Contact Us:

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