

COMMUNIQUÉ

du commissaire des incendies

October 16, 2014

No. 2014-17

ONTARIO REGULATION 194/14, CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

The Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management (OFMEM) is pleased to announce that [Ontario Regulation 194/14](#) was filed on October 14, 2014 and came into force on October 15, 2014. This regulation made under the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997* (FPPA) amends the 2007 Fire Code (Ontario Regulation 213/07). The FPPA was recently amended by the *Hawkins Gignac Act [Carbon Monoxide Safety], 2013* to allow for the development of requirements related to the presence of unsafe levels of carbon monoxide (CO).

These important amendments represent a significant milestone in CO safety in Ontario and reflect the government's commitment to improve the safety of residents from the effects of unsafe levels of CO. The amendments deal with the installation, maintenance, testing and replacement of CO alarms in existing residential occupancies. In addition, changes related to the maintenance, testing and replacement of smoke alarms have been made to maintain consistency with the CO alarm requirements.

Ontario Regulation 194/14 incorporates recommendations made by the Carbon Monoxide Technical Advisory Committee (CO TAC). The CO TAC was established by the OFMEM in January 2014 and included representation from the fire service, municipalities, safety agencies, professional associations, owners/landlords, alarm manufacturers and affected provincial ministries.

The testing and maintenance elements of the regulation come into force on October 15, 2014, while the CO alarm installation and replacement requirements will have a phased implementation of 6 months (April 15, 2015) or 1 year (October 15, 2015) from the in-force date, depending on the building size.

The OFMEM gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the CO TAC in the development of this regulation. The OFMEM further extends its appreciation to all stakeholders who provided feedback on the summary of the proposal during the public consultation period.

A series of [technical questions and answers](#) pertaining to Ontario Regulation 194/14 and CO alarm requirements, including questions and answers related to enforcement provisions, is posted on the OFMEM Web site.

Resources to assist fire departments in raising public awareness of CO alarm requirements and the importance of CO prevention will also be posted on the OFMEM Web site. An OFMEM *Public Education Matters* e-bulletin listing these resources and the corresponding links will be sent to fire departments within the next few days.

Enquiries regarding the new regulation and CO alarm requirements should be directed to staff members of the Technical Services Section of the OFMEM, who can be reached by e-mail at FireSafetyStandards@ontario.ca or by telephone at (416) 325-3100.