

## 2006 Building Code Change Request Form

Do you agree to permit sharing all information on this form with the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes and Building Code Review Committees for the purposes of code development?

Yes  No

I am submitting this on behalf of:  Myself, or  
 Organisation (Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs)

Your Title: President

Your Name: Fire Chief Tim Beckett

Address: 353 Bayly St. West, Suite 206,

City: Ajax

Province: Ontario

Postal Code: L1S 6M2

Telephone: 905-426-9865

Facsimile: 905-426-3032

Email: tim.beckett@kitchener.ca

Your function:  Fire Chief

CODE CHANGE REQUEST:

To an existing provision of the Building Code. Code Reference of the requested change :

Add a new code provision. Add a Sentence to DivB 3.2.4.21.

Have you forwarded this change to the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes as a proposed amendment to the model National Building or Plumbing Codes?  Yes  No

Personal information provided on this form is collected under the authority of the Building Code Act, 1992 and will be used for the purpose of code development. Please direct any questions about the collection of information by mail to the following address:

Manager, Code Development, Legislation and Appeals

Building and Development Branch

777 Bay Street 2nd Fl., Toronto, Ontario M5G 2E5

telephone: (416) 585-6666

or by facsimile at: (416) 585-7531

**Proposed Change**

<p><b>REQUESTED CHANGE/ADDITION:</b> What wording do you propose for the change?</p>	<p><b>Add new Sentence to Div B 3.2.4.21.</b> <b>New sentence (10)</b> Where a dwelling unit or sleeping room may be occupied by persons with disabilities, a notification system that addresses the needs of the disabled person, shall be installed to function as a smoke alarm in the dwelling unit or sleeping room. Notification systems shall be approved by the authority having jurisdiction prior to installation.</p>
<p><b>Problem:</b> Why should the existing provision be revised? If requesting an addition to the Code, what is missing?</p>	<p>Ontario has a broad and varied population that also has equally broad and varied needs. The OBC should be prepared to support the basic life safety needs of these residents. We have made moves forward in terms of fire alarm systems and emergency planning, but we have not addressed the most fundamental location, the home.</p> <p>The current code is only written to support able bodied persons vis a vis smoke alarms, in that they require audible sound patterns.</p>
<p><b>Justification/Explanation:</b> How does the requested change address the problem?</p>	<p>The change will ensure that suitable systems are provided to alert persons to fire conditions within the home or living space.</p>
<p><b>Objective(s):</b> Which of the Code's objectives does the requested change address? See Part 2 of Division A of the Building Code for the list of objectives.</p>	<p>OS 1 An <i>objective</i> of this Code is to limit the probability that, as a result of the design or <i>construction</i> of a <i>building</i>, a person in or adjacent to the <i>building</i> will be exposed to an unacceptable risk of injury due to fire.</p> <p>OS3 An <i>objective</i> of this Code is to limit the probability that, as a result of the design or <i>construction</i> of the <i>building</i>, a person in or adjacent to the <i>building</i> will be exposed to an unacceptable risk of injury due to hazards.</p> <p>OP1 An <i>objective</i> of this Code is to limit the probability that, as a result of its design or <i>construction</i>, a <i>building</i> will be exposed to an unacceptable risk of damage due to fire.</p>
<p><b>Cost/Benefit Implications:</b> Will the change entail any added costs? Will it provide benefits that are measurable?</p>	<p>Yes there will be an additional cost to the constructor. By example, new visual notification systems for persons with hearing impairments can range in price from \$60.00 for a single device to several hundred for a complete system. However the cost is not much more than conventional devices of a good quality.</p>
<p><b>Enforcement Implications:</b> Can the requested change/addition be enforced by the infrastructure available to enforce this Code? Will its enforcement require an increase in resources?</p>	<p>The authority having jurisdiction, whether Building or Fire Departments will need to review proposed installations, however this may easily be accomplished within the existing plan review process.</p>

<p><b>Other Comments:</b> For example, identify other Code requirements affected by the requested change.</p>	<p>The placement of this change may be affected by other proposed changes to the OBC regarding smoke alarms.</p> <p>The Ontario Fire Code will require updating to ensure existing dwelling units and sleeping rooms are also equipped.</p> <p>This proposed change is consistent with a proposed change in Part 9. These systems may need to be purpose designed, and therefore no standard has been referenced.</p>
<p><b>Attached Supporting Material:</b></p>	<p>At it's 2010 Annual General Meeting, the Ontario Municipal Fire Prevention Officers association passed the following resolution:</p> <p><b>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED</b> the Ontario Municipal Fire Prevention Officers Association Inc. petition the Ontario Association of Fire Chief's for their support in requiring the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to include these mandatory life safety devices and installation in residential buildings with physically challenged occupancies and to ensure impaired life saving equipment necessary to alert such challenged escape the ravages of fire be installed in all sleep rooms.</p> <p><u>Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act [2005]</u>, Passed unanimously in the Ontario Legislature, this Act commits the government of Ontario to create, implement, and enforce standards of accessibility with respect to goods, services, facilities, accommodation, employment, buildings, structures and premises for the 16 per cent of Ontarians with disabilities.</p> <p><u>Ontario Superior Court of Justice's Fusca v. Municipal Property Assessment Corporation and The Corporation of the Town of Markham [2007]</u> The Court ruled that a deaf resident is entitled to the 10% tax exemption pursuant to the seniors and disabled exemption under s.3 (1) 22 of the Assessment Act, beginning the 2006 taxation years since this deaf resident purchased a visual notification system ("VNS") to install in his new home. The VNS is designed to make persons with hearing disabilities aware of typically auditory events in the home, such as doorbell, telephones and fire alarms, by flashing lights in the home.</p>