Fire Safety Inspections

An overview of the Fires Prevention and Emergency Response Act-Municipal Inspections and Enforcement





Discussion Points

Fires Prevention And Emergency Response Act

- General inspection powers under the Act
- Local authority and local assistant responsibilities
- Protection from liability
- Fire Inspection Regulation
- Documenting and completing an Order to Remedy





Definitions

- LOCAL ASSISTANT
 - Fire Chief
- LOCAL AUTHORITY
 - municipality, incorporated community, local government district
- DESIGNATE
 - a designated inspector, a local assistant, a person exercising a delegated power, duty or function





Sec 20- Local Authorities

- Local authority must enforce the Mb Fire Code in accordance with the Act
- Must inspect prescribed buildings
- Ensures local assistant carries out those inspections
- Ensures records of inspections are kept for at least 7 years





Sec 23- Local Assistant May Delegate

- Must be in writing and may delegate powers, duties and functions
- TO ANOTHER EMPLOYEE OF THE SAME LOCAL AUTHORITY
- Subject to limitations and conditions as set out in the delegation
- Local Authority required to report delegation and or change in local assistant to Fire Commissioner





Sec 7- Right of Entry

A designate can enter onto land or premises at any reasonable time to conduct a fire safety inspection

OTHER THAN A DWELLING then

You require consent of the owner or occupant
Or by warrant to enter





Sec 7- Fees for inspections

Local authority may charge a fee for inspections

- if inspection carried out by local assistant
- can be applied to land taxes







Sec 9/10- General Inspection Powers

- Examine or require production of documents and records
- Require equipment or device be operated
- Conduct tests, take samples, photos, videos- electronic or otherwise
- Take any other person, equipment, or materials to assist with inspection
- Make any reasonable inquiry with any person orally or in writing







Sec 11- Immediate Actions May Be Taken

- Cause land or premises to be closed and persons removed
- Post fire watch, make repairs to fire safety systems
- Install temp safeguards including extinguishers and smoke alarms
- Eliminate ignitions sources, remove material or anything that constitutes a fire menace
- Do anything else that is reasonably required to immediately reduce threat to life or property





Sec 12- Orders in Writing

- May apply to owner, occupant or both
- Remove anything that may constitute fire hazard
- Make repairs or demolish
- Install or modify things
- Discontinue manufacturing, producing or fabricating
- Close land or premises until corrective actions that have been ordered have been completed
- Take any other measure necessary for fire safety on the land or premises and to remedy any contravention of the Act





Sec 13- Service of Orders

- Action taken under sec. 11:
 - Must give 'notice' to owner and occupant promptly
 - Notice must describe location and reason/s
- Closure under section 12:
 - Post on the land or premises
 - Serve on owner if owner in MB and whereabouts are known
- Order under section 12:
 - Serve on owner and any occupant of the land
 - Personally, ordinary mail, electronic mail, fax or another method that allows proof of receipt





Sec 15- Administrative Penalty

May be issued by Fire Commissioner

- If person failed to comply with an Order under Section 12
- Order stated penalty may be imposed
- And is in the public interest
 - □ First contravention \$2500.00
 - □ Second or subsequent \$5000.00





Sec 41- Protection From Liability

No action or proceeding may be brought against the fire commissioner, a designate or any other person acting under the authority of this Act for anything done or not done, or for any neglect,

- (a) in the performance or intended performance of a duty under this Act or the regulations; or
- (b) in the exercise or intended exercise of a power under this Act or the regulations;

unless the person was acting in bad faith.





Fire Inspection Regulation

| | Table | | |
|----------------------|---|-----------|---|
| Column 1 | Column 2 | 12 months | Hospital |
| Inspection Period | Building Use | 36 months | Licensed premises, as defined in |
| 12 months | Elderly persons' housing unit or hostel, as defined in <i>The Elderly</i> | | The Liquor and Gaming Control Act |
| | and Infirm Persons' Housing Act | 36 months | Public or private school, as |
| 12 months | Child care centre licensed under The Community Child Care | | defined in <i>The Education</i> Administration Act |
| | Standards Act | 36 months | Recreation centre, including |
| 12 months | Personal care home, as defined in The Health Services Insurance | | without limitation, an arena, curling rink and community club |
| | Act | 36 months | Hotel or motel |
| 12 months | Residential care facility, as defined in the <i>Manitoba Fire</i> <i>Code</i> , Manitoba Regulation 155/2011 | 36 months | Restaurant located in a building that contains one or more dwelling units |





Fire Inspection Regulation

High hazard occupancies to be inspected 2(1) A local authority must ensure that a fire safety inspection of a high-hazard industrial occupancy within its boundaries is conducted at least once in each of the following inspection periods:

(a) the period beginning on the coming into force of this section and ending on July 1, 2017;

(b) each 24 month period after July 1, 2017







Collecting Information:

Notebook, notes Photographs Videos Measurements Documents Interviews Inspection check sheet





Collecting Information:

Notebook, notes

• Serves as primary means of recording information

- Include date and times, names
 - Description of deficiencies
- Diagrams/sketches/measurements
 - Be legible
- Is considered evidence in proceedings

Photographs Videos Measurements Documents Interviews Inspection check sheet





Collecting Information:

Notebook, notes Photographs

- Photos of all sides of the building being inspected
 - Photos of deficiencies
- Assists with recall for completing FSI report/ evidence
- Assists with application for appeals or court proceedings
 - Saved as a history record of the building
 - Use a photo log sheet

Videos Measurements Documents Interviews Inspection check sheet





Collecting Information:

Notebook, notes Photographs **Videos**

- Document large areas
- Document hazardous processes
- Document movement of machinery
 - Use a tracking log sheet Measurements Documents Interviews Inspection check sheet





Collecting Information:

Notebook, notes Photographs Videos

Measurements

- Use a measuring device
 - Record in notebook
- Take photo of deficiency with measuring device display

Documents Interviews Inspection check sheet





Collecting Information:

Notebook, notes Photographs Videos Measurements Documents

- Pre-collection of life safety systems inspections, safety plan, SDS
 - Manufacturer's specifications/ equipment spec sheets
 - Applicable training records, preventative maintenance
 - Previous inspection results including 3rd party
 - Building owner/occupier/owner's agent
 - Letters of understanding

Interviews Inspection check sheet





Collecting Information:

Notebook, notes Photographs Videos Measurements Documents Interviews

Owner/owner's agent, occupier

- Supervisory staff
 - Employees

Third party interests (insurance/certification agencies/suppliers)

Inspection check sheet





Collecting Information:

- Notebook, notes Photographs Videos Measurements Documents Interviews Inspection check sheet
- To track and log rough results during inspection
- Used as a guideline to refresh memory of requirements
 - Supply to client as a pre-cursor to inspection
 - An aid for establishing and following a routine
 - Ensure thorough assessment





Ownership Information

"The owner or owner's authorized agent shall be responsible for carrying out provisions of this code" (MFC, Div C, 2.2.1.1)

Evidence

- Company records
- Land title checks
- Municipal records
- Business name check
- Lease agreements
- Websites
- Inspection history

- Business cards
- Personal identification
- Verbal confirmation
- Status within the business hierarchy
- Court documents
- Social media





Completing Order to Remedy

Six components to a fire safety inspection report:

- Header
- Check sheet
- Narrative
- Administrative notice
- Signature
- Indemnification





Report Components

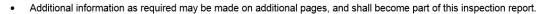
| Fire Safety Inspection Report / Order to Remedy | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------|-----------|---|--|
| Nam | e of Occupant | | Group (select one) | Division (select one) | Occup | ancy | | |
| Build | ling Address | | Town/Community | | Inspec | tion Date | e | |
| Nam | Name of Owner or Authorized Agent Contact Person for Inspection Phone N | | ne No. | | | | | |
| Address of Owner or Authorized Agent Inspector(s) & Phone No. Repor | | ting No. | | | | | | |
| | MANITOBA Inspection Observations Meets MB Fire Cod | | | | Code | | | |
| ID | FIRE CODE ARTICLE | | | Yes | No | N/A | | |
| Α | | EXTERIOR | | | | | | |
| 1 | MFC 2.5.1.5. | Fire department access is maintained clear of obstructions. | | | | | | |
| 2 | MFC 6.4.1.1. | Private fire hydrants are serviced / maintained clear of obstructions.(NFPA 25) | | | | | | |
| 3 | MFC 2.5.1.4. | Fire department connections are accessible and free of obstructions. | | | | | | |
| 4 | MFC 2.7.1.6. | Means of egress shall be maintained in good repair and free of obstructions | | ons | | | | |
| 5 | MFC 3.1.1.4. | Exterior natural gas or propane installations are protected. (CAN/CSA-B149.1) | | | | | | |
| 6 | MFC 2.6.1.6. | Chimneys are visibly maintained and in good repair. | | | | | | |
| 7 | MFC 3.3.5.3 | | | | | | | |
| В | | MECHANICAL SERVICE SPACES | | | | | | |
| 1 | MFC 2.6.1.6. | Heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems are operated, tested and maintained in good operating condition. | | | | | | |
| 2 | MFC 2.6.1.6. | Fuel-fired heating system must be inspected annually, by a person acceptable to the Authority Having Jurisdiction (<i>MB Amendment</i>) | | | | | | |

The following deficiencies have been identified and require the following corrective action(s), to be completed by the noted compliance date.



| ID | MFC Article No. | Deficiency | Corrective Action | Compliance Date |
|----|--------------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
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Header

Check Sheet



Report Components

Administrative Penalty:

The required corrective action(s) listed above are to be completed by the noted compliance date, or you may be subject to an Administrative Penalty, as provided for under section 15.1(1) of *The Fires Prevention and Emergency Response Act*

Request for Review of Order:

In accordance with Section 15 of The Fires Prevention and Emergency Response Act (C.C.S.M.c. F80), you have the right to request, in writing, a review of this order by the Manitoba Fire Commissioner within 14 days of issue, or the period specified for compliance if it is less than 14 days. Should you choose to waive that right; the order will be considered final. Your request must include:

- a) a copy of the order
- b) your name and contact information, and
- c) the reason(s) for the request.

Please submit your request to: Fire Commissioner Office of the Fire Commissioner 508-401 York Ave. Winnipeg, MB R3C 0P9

Signature/ Authority

Administrative

Notice/s

| Date | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Inspector(s) Name | |
| Inspector(s) Signature | |
| Authority Having Jurisdiction | |
| Address | Phone No. |
| Report provided to: | |

Indemnification

| The report is solely based on conditions existing on The Owner or their Authorized Agent shall be solely |
|--|
| responsible for carrying out the provisions of the Manitoba Fire Code. |





Follow-up Report

Records:

- Completed actions
 - To finalize process
- Identifies outstanding items
- Extends compliance dates
- Tracks compliance
- Reinforces administrative notices

NOTE:

Not for use with new findings

| Fire Safety Inspection Follow-Up Report / Order to Remedy | | | | | |
|---|---------------------|-----------|-------------------------|--|--|
| Name of Occupant Group Division (select one) (select one) | | Occupancy | | | |
| Building Address | Town/Community | | Initial Inspection Date | | |
| Name of Owner or Authorized Agent Contact Person for Inspection | | Phone No. | | | |
| Address of Owner or Authorized Agent | Follow-up Inspectio | n Date | Reporting No. | | |

All corrective actions have been completed.

Deficiencies noted below require an extension of original Compliance Date as indicated.

| ID | MFC Article No. | Deficiency Corrective Action | Compliance Date |
|----|--------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| | | | |
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Additional information as required may be made on additional pages, and shall become part of this inspection report.

Administrative Penalty:

The required corrective actions(s) listed above are to be completed by the noted compliance date, or you may be subject to an Administrative Penalty, as provided for under section 15.1(1) of *The Fires Prevention and Emergency Response Act*.

| Date | |
|------------------------|--|
| Inspector(s) Name | |
| Inspector(s) Signature | |
| Report provided to: | |





Manitoba Municipal Act

The Municipal Act has several articles that may also be referenced..

- 232 and 233 by-law creating powers
- 239 Municipal inspections and enforcement
- 245 Municipality remedying contraventions; closures; cost recovery
- 387 Building inspections
- 402 Indemnification





OFC Support

Municipal Support

- Mentoring opportunities
- Fire Safety Inspections forms are available on OFC website
- Administrative penalties bulletin
- Fire protection surveys and risk assessments
- Assist with bylaws construction
- Assist with program development
- > M.A.D. meetings

Manitoba Emergency Services College

Courses:

- Fire Inspector Level I
- Fire Inspector Level II
- High Hazard Inspections







Questions?









