

# **First Preventers**

## **Building and Fire Officials**





## PARADIGM SHIFT

- Fundamental change in an individual's or a society's view of how things work in the world
- Customers expect things a certain way
  - More information
  - Less regulation
  - Savings of their \$\$\$





## The Dynamics of OUR Jobs Have Changed !

- Why???
  - People want to know Why...
  - People are better educated (???)
- - People are more demanding
  - don't want to accept the traditional answer... because the code says so...





#### **Our Code Officials Response to Change**

- Become more knowledgeable in all areas of the Codes
- Our Code Officials must be availed to more training in the variety of specialty areas
- Our Code Officials must be seen as a Municipal Risk Manager
- Our Code Officials must work with other allied professionals to strengthen a UNIFIED approach to Life Safety









# WE

#### The FIRST PREVENTERS



#### Teamwork?

COMING TOGETHER IS A BEGINNING KEEPING TOGETHER IS PROGRESS WORKING TOGETHER IS SUCCESS

- HENRY FORD







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## **Our View on Education**

- Our mandate to educate, train and promote brought about the establishment of semi-annual seminars and our annual trade show.
- Our association answers the growing need for some type of forum in which building officials from all areas of the province can discuss and resolve common problems.





#### **First Preventers**

- "First Preventers" is a phrase you are hearing and reading about more and more
- *"First Preventers"* are the unsung heroes in countless communities saving lives and protect property.
- "First Preventers" those many unheralded and mostly unknown code officials who head off serious harm by checking and double-checking code compliance.





## Who Are These Folk?

- A First Preventer may go under the title of
  - building inspector
  - ➢ fire chief
  - ➢ fire inspector
  - building official
  - property manager
  - code enforcement officer
  - structural engineer
  - plan reviewer
  - electrical inspector
  - structural safety official
  - plumbing inspector or
  - simply building safety official.





#### **PLANT THE SEED**





## **REAP THE REWARDS**



## **Mission of a First Preventer**

- Our common mission:
  - to prevent harm by ensuring compliance with allied building safety codes before a disaster occurs.
  - —allied building safety codes administered by First Preventers play a major role in saving lives, protecting property and reducing recovery costs often paid for by taxpayer dollars.





### **Customer Needs**

- Engaged *before* a build or renovation
  - design professionals
  - building official plans review and permit process
  - fire officials
- Engaged *during* the build
  - design professionals
  - building officials
  - fire officials





Before

During

After

#### **Customer Needs**

- Engaged *after* a build or renovation
  - design professionals
  - building official plans review and permit process
  - fire officials
- Engaged *after* for maintenance Before
  - fire officials
  - building officials
  - design professionals





uring

After

#### **BUILDING OFFICIAL**

- Very familiar with MBC
- Building is properly classified
- Building designed correctly
- Building built correctly according to proper Article(s) of the Building Code
- Life Safety systems included
   (Active/Passive Systems)
- Building Official is familiar with Fire Code requirements

#### FIRE OFFICIAL

- Very familiar with the MFC
- Identifies occupancy class
- Building used as designed
- Occupancy use has not changed and/or created undue hazards
- Life Safety systems maintained
   (Active/Passive Systems)
- Fire Official is familiar with Building Code requirements











#### **Building Manager**















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## Life Safety: OUR Common Goal



#### Allied First Preventers Working Together to Ensure Life Safety





## The Goal

- To seek the participation of Fire Officials to form a Working Group, allied to the MBOA to educate, train and promote continuing education in the field of Fire and Life Safety through comprehensive Inspection Services
- To validate through joint efforts the understanding that the Building and Fire Codes are companion documents and the efforts of all Code Officials is to ensure safety





#### **Our Image**





**Understand Customer Expectation** 



## **Task Ahead**

- To educate and promote joint information sharing
- Communication with stakeholder groups is essential
  - Building officials
  - Fire officials
  - CAO's and Elected Officials
  - Design professionals
- Develop a marketing strategy to attract
  members



#### **Task Ahead**

#### **ACBOA Proposal for Canada:**

#### **Proposal: Access Federal Funds for Building / Fire Inspection Departments**

 Properly enforced building & fire codes are one of the best means of protecting Canadians from natural and man-made disasters that will impact our homes, businesses, schools, places of worship, and all other types of construction in the built-environment.





#### Outcomes

- Creation of 'E-Blast' informational mailer
- Inspector's Tool Box Infogram
- Increased Municipal Awareness
- Opportunities for meetings/training opportunities with Allied Professionals
- Informational sessions with Customers/Clients/ Home Shows/Tradesmen Meetings etc.





#### **Inspector's Tool Box Infogram**









## Our Key to Success Life Safety and Fires Prevention Begins with Code Enforcement









