



# Greater Sudbury Fire Services

## Fire Prevention Division

# Vulnerable Occupancies:

## Legislative and Operational Changes



# Vulnerable Occupancies:

## Legislative and Operational Changes

### *History*

Over the past three decades, nearly 50 seniors have died in blazes in care residences without sprinklers, including 21 in Mississauga in 1980.



# Vulnerable Occupancies:

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Here is a brief list of some of these tragedies;

- 1980, 21 people died in a nursing home fire in Mississauga, Ont.
- 1995, a fire at the Meadowcroft Place retirement home in Mississauga, Ont., left 8 people dead.
- 2009, a retirement home fire in Orillia, Ont., killed four people.
- 2011, a fire at a retirement home fire in Timmins, Ont., killed one person.
- 2012 a nursing home fire in Hawkesbury, Ont., killed two people.



# Vulnerable Occupancies:

## Legislative and Operational Changes

### *History*

Muskoka Heights Fire, 2009





# Vulnerable Occupancies:

## Legislative and Operational Changes

### Legislative Changes:

Regulation 150/13 amended the Ontario Fire Code.

Additional changes are included in Regulation 364/13 and 365/13

All amendments came into effect on January 1, 2014.



# Vulnerable Occupancies:

## Legislative and Operational Changes

### Regulation 150/13 changes to the Fire Code include;

1. A new definition for Care Occupancy
2. Section 9.4 – Health care Facilities
3. A new section – (9.7) - affecting Buildings with a Care Occupancy or Retirement Home
4. Division C, Section 1.2 - Qualifications
5. Section 2.8 – Fire Safety Planning



# Vulnerable Occupancies:

## Legislative and Operational Changes

### **The new definition of care occupancy is:**

Care occupancy means an occupancy in which special care is provided by a facility, directly through its staff or indirectly through another provider, to residents of the facility ;

(a) who require special care because of cognitive or physical limitations; and,

(b) who, as a result of those limitations, would be incapable of evacuating the occupancy, if necessary, without the assistance of another person.



# Vulnerable Occupancies:

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### **The definition of Retirement Home is:**

Retirement home means a retirement home regulated under the Retirement Homes Act, 2010, regardless of whether it is a care occupancy or a residential occupancy.

Under the Retirement Home Act, the definition is;

The Building is occupied primarily by persons 65 years of age or older, and occupied/intended to be occupied by at least 6 persons not related to operator, and the operator makes at least 2 care services available.





# Vulnerable Occupancies:

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### **The definition of Care and Treatment Occupancy is:**

Care and treatment occupancy means an occupancy in which persons receive special care and treatment.  
(Health Care Facilities)

i.e. Public Hospitals, Private Hospitals, Nursing Homes



# Vulnerable Occupancies:

## Legislative and Operational Changes

### Section 9.4 – Health care Facilities

- Long term Care Homes and Homes for Special Care that are Care or Care and Treatment Occupancies now require Sprinkler Protection
- Building size determines the NFPA standard that applies to each occupancy
- The Compliance time for the installation of Sprinkler Systems is January 1, 2025



# Vulnerable Occupancies:

## Legislative and Operational Changes

### New Fire Code Section 9.7

- Applies to buildings containing a Care Occupancy or Retirement Home
- Retirement home means a retirement home regulated under the Retirement Homes Act, 2010, regardless of whether it is a care occupancy or a residential occupancy



# Vulnerable Occupancies:

## Legislative and Operational Changes

### New Fire Code Section 9.7

- As well as complying with Section 9.7, care occupancies and retirement homes must also comply with the technical requirements of Section 9.5 or 9.6
- These technical requirements include;
  - i. Article 2 – Containment
  - ii. Article 3 – Means of Egress
  - iii. Article 4 – Fire Alarm and Detection
  - iv. Article 5 – Suppression
- If a conflict exists between 9,5/9.6 and 9.7, 9.7 will prevail



# Vulnerable Occupancies:

## Legislative and Operational Changes

### **Fire Code Section 9.7 contains the following requirements:**

- Self-closing devices
- Emergency lighting in principal access to exits
- Fire Alarm and Sprinkler Systems must have provisions to notify the Fire Dept.
- Smoke alarms in each suite and in each sleeping room not within a suite
- Exceptions exist for the above items



# Vulnerable Occupancies:

## Legislative and Operational Changes

### Fire Code Section 9.7 contains the following requirements:

- Voice communication System in buildings over 18 metres high
  - Various options are available through the building code, the fire code or if existing public address systems are present



# Vulnerable Occupancies:

## Legislative and Operational Changes

### Fire Code Section 9.7 and Sprinkler Systems:

- Buildings 3 stories or less, sleeping accommodation for 10 persons or less, NFPA 13D
- Buildings 6 stories or less, NFPA 13R
- All other buildings, NFPA 13
- Exceptions exist;
  - i. Existing sprinkler systems may be acceptable
  - ii. Buildings 3 stories or less, sleeping not provided for more than four persons and inter-connected smoke alarms



# Vulnerable Occupancies: Legislative and Operational Changes

## Compliance Schedule

Requirements for Retirement Homes\*, Care Occupancies, and Care and Treatment Occupancies in Ontario Regulation 150/13

### Compliance Schedule

Fire Code Reference	Requirement <i>This text is provided for convenience purposes only. For complete and accurate reference, please refer to Ontario Regulation 150/13.</i>	Compliance Date					
		Jan 1, 2014	Mar 1, 2014	Jan 1, 2016	Jan 1, 2017	Jan 1, 2019	Jan 1, 2020
<b>Division B – Section 2.8 Fire Safety Planning</b>							
2.8.1.1.(1)	Fire safety plan required for all facilities	√					
2.8.2.1.(6),(7)	Training of supervisory staff under a fire safety plan must be recorded and retained.	√					
2.8.2.2.(1)	Sufficient supervisory staff required to carry out the duties as outlined in fire safety plan.	√					
2.8.3.2.(1)	A fire drill must be carried out once a year, for a scenario approved by the Chief Fire Official representing the lowest staff level complement in order to confirm compliance with Sentence 2.8.3.2.(1).	√					
2.8.3.3	The Chief Fire Official must be notified within a time period approved by the Chief Fire Official of every drill carried out under Sentence 2.8.3.2.(2.1).	√					
<b>Division B – Section 9.4 Health Care Retrofit</b>							
9.4.5.5.	Sprinkler system required in buildings that contain either a home for special care with more than ten (10) residents or a long-term care home if the occupancy of the home is a care occupancy or a care and treatment occupancy.						√
<b>Division B – Section 9.7 Buildings with a Care Occupancy or Retirement Home Retrofit</b>							
9.7.1.3.	Requirements in this Article are in addition to the technical requirements of Sections 9.5 and 9.6 which apply to retirement homes and care facilities.						
9.7.2.1.	Self-closing devices are required on doors to suites and sleeping rooms not in suites. (See Exceptions below.)				√		
9.7.3.1.	Emergency lighting: Must have in all exit stairways, public corridors and principal access to exits in buildings over three (3) storeys high or buildings that provide sleeping accommodation for more than ten (10) persons.			√			
9.7.4.1.	Fire alarm monitoring is required, except when interconnected smoke alarm system is provided.			√			
9.7.4.2.	Notification to fire department, where sprinkler system is activated except where fire alarm system or interconnected smoke alarm system has provision to notify fire department			√			
9.7.4.3.	Smoke alarm required in each suite or sleeping room not within a suite that is not equipped with a smoke detector.		√				
9.7.4.4.	Voice communication systems are required in buildings that contain a care occupancy or a retirement home on a floor that is 18 metres above grade – various options permitted.			√			
9.7.5.1.	Sprinkler system meeting NFPA 13 requirements in all buildings, unless otherwise specified. (See Exceptions below.)						√
<b>Division C – Section 1.2 Qualifications</b>							
1.2.3.2.(1)	Every person required to implement a fire safety plan must have completed an acceptable training program/course acceptable to the Fire Marshal.						√
1.2.4.2.(1)	Every Chief Fire Official responsible for approving a fire safety plan must have completed an acceptable training program/course acceptable to the Fire Marshal.						√
<b>Exceptions – Design Options</b>							
Div. B – 9.7.2.1.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Self-closing devices are not required if public corridor is divided into at least two (2) zones by fire separations and               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each zone can accommodate, in addition to its own occupants, the occupants of the adjacent zone based upon allowing 1.6 m<sup>2</sup> per person.</li> <li>The travel distance from any point in one zone to another zone does not exceed 25 m and contains smoke-tight doors with self-closing devices.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Self-closing devices are not required for buildings not greater than three (3) storeys high that provide sleeping accommodations for not more than ten (10) persons.</li> </ol>						
Div. B – 9.7.5.1.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NFPA 13D – Buildings not greater than three (3) storeys high providing sleeping accommodations for no more than ten (10) persons. Minimum water quantity requirements apply.</li> <li>NFPA 13R – Buildings not greater than six (6) storeys high.</li> <li>Existing sprinkler systems meeting specified discharge density.</li> <li>No sprinkler system required where building is provided with interconnected smoke alarms, is no more than three (3) storeys high and provides sleeping accommodation for no more than four (4) persons.</li> </ol>						

\* Regulated by the Retirement Homes Act, 2010





# Vulnerable Occupancies:

## Legislative and Operational Changes

### Qualifications

Effective January 17, 2017, the person responsible for implementing the Fire Safety Plan for a Care Occupancy, a Care and Treatment Occupancy or a Retirement Home must complete an Office of the Fire Marshal approved course.

In addition, the Chief Fire Official who approves a Fire Safety Plan for a Care Occupancy, a Care and Treatment Occupancy or a Retirement Home must also complete an Office of the Fire Marshal approved course.



# Vulnerable Occupancies:

## Legislative and Operational Changes

### Building Inspections

Before inspections can be conducted, we must ensure the building is properly classified.

Building Classifications include;

- i. 'A' – Assembly Occupancies
- ii. 'B' – Detention, Care and Treatment, Care Occupancies
- iii. 'C'- Residential Occupancies
- iv. 'D' - Business and Personal Services Occupancies
- v. 'E' – Mercantile Occupancies
- vi. 'F' - Industrial Occupancies



# Vulnerable Occupancies:

## Legislative and Operational Changes

### Building Inspections

#### Building Code – Fire Code Connection/Relationship

- A building is built using the Ontario Building Code, which includes the required fire safety measures
- The fire safety measures of a building are maintained using the Ontario Fire code



# Vulnerable Occupancies:

## Legislative and Operational Changes

### Building Inspections

Greater Sudbury Building Services and Greater Sudbury Fire Services have begun a coordinated data collection project.

The data we are collecting will be analyzed to determine if the facility is properly classified according to the Ontario Building Code.

This will assist Building Services and Fire Services to apply the appropriate code when inspecting the facilities and thereby ensuring compliance with all fire safety requirements.



# Vulnerable Occupancies: Legislative and Operational Changes

## Building Inspections

A prescribed checklist  
has been included in  
Fire Marshal Directive  
2014-002



### Annual Inspection Checklist for Care Occupancies, Care and Treatment Occupancies, and Retirement Homes

As prescribed by Ontario Regulation 364/13 and by Fire Marshal's Directive 2014-002, upon receipt of notice of a fire drill in a care occupancy, care and treatment occupancy, or retirement home as described in Article 2.8.3.3., Div. B of the Fire Code, the fire chief or other identified responsible person must ensure a fire safety inspection is carried out. The inspection shall be consistent with OFM TG-01-2012 *Fire Safety Inspections and Enforcement* and PFSG 04-40D-03 *Inspections upon Request or Complaint*, as published on the OFMEM website.

This checklist, forming part of Directive 2014-002, represents the minimum expected level of inspection to be conducted annually as prescribed in Ontario Regulation 364/13.

Please note that the absence of observable deficiencies during this inspection does not relieve the owner from their obligation to be in compliance with all applicable Fire Code requirements that may not be identified in the checklist below.

Building Name	Building Occupancy type, on file <input type="checkbox"/> Care Occupancy <input type="checkbox"/> Care and Treatment Occupancy <input type="checkbox"/> Retirement Home (licensed)
Building Address	Inspection Date: _____ Next Inspection Date due by: _____
Date of Construction _____ Date of Additions _____ Date of Renovations _____	Building Height _____ storeys Building Area _____ m <sup>2</sup> Construction Combustible <input type="checkbox"/> Non-combustible <input type="checkbox"/> Sprinklered Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Name of Owner or Authorized Agent	Inspector Name
Address of Owner or Authorized Agent	Inspector Phone Number
e-mail address of Owner or Authorized Agent	Inspector Mailing Address

#### A. EXTERIOR

ID	Fire Code Reference (Div. B)	Fire Code Requirement (for accurate reference, refer to Ontario Regulation 213/07, as amended)	Observable Deficiencies Noted		
			Yes	No	N/A
1	2.4.1.1.	(6) Outdoor storage receptacles, such as dumpsters, used for combustible materials shall be located so that they do not create a fire hazard to buildings.			
2	2.5.1.2.	(1) Fire access routes and access panels or windows provided to facilitate access for firefighting operations shall not be obstructed by vehicles, gates, fences, building materials, vegetation, signs or any other form of obstruction.			
3		(2) Fire department sprinkler and standpipe connections shall be clearly identified and maintained free of obstructions for use at all times.			
4	2.5.1.3.	Fire access routes shall be maintained so as to be immediately ready for use at all times by fire department vehicles.			
5	6.6.4.3.	Hydrants shall be readily available and unobstructed for use at all times.			



# Vulnerable Occupancies:

## Legislative and Operational Changes

### Fire Safety Planning – OFC Section 2.8

- Retirement Homes are now included in the scope of fire safety planning (2.8.1.1)
- Training of Supervisory Staff must now be recorded
- Training records must be retained for 2 years
- The existing requirement to provide sufficient Supervisory Staff in Care Occupancies and Care and Treatment Occupancies now applies to Retirement Homes



# Vulnerable Occupancies:

## Legislative and Operational Changes

## Fire Safety Planning – OFC Section 2.8

### Fire Drills

- In addition to monthly fire drills, 1 annual drill for an approved scenario representing the lowest staffing level must be conducted.
- The Chief Fire Official must be notified within an approved time period of the drill.



# Vulnerable Occupancies:

## Legislative and Operational Changes

### Process for Compliance

In order for a Care Occupancy, Care and Treatment Occupancy or Retirement Home to be compliant with the Ontario Fire Code, the following conditions must be completed/approved;

1. Approved Fire Safety Plan
2. Approved and completed Fire Drill
3. A completed/Finalized Fire Inspection





# Vulnerable Occupancies:

## Legislative and Operational Changes

## Process for Compliance

### Important Items to Note

1. Fire Drills will be scheduled twice per week, Tuesday and Thursday at 1:30 PM
2. Fire Drills will be held between April 1<sup>st</sup> and October 31<sup>st</sup> every year
3. In the event that all Tuesday and Thursday Fire Drills are booked, Wednesday Fire Drills will be scheduled



# Vulnerable Occupancies:

## Legislative and Operational Changes

### Process for Compliance

1. A request for a Fire Drill must be submitted to Fire Services at least 30 days in advance
2. Within 7 working days from this request, the Occupancy's Fire Safety Plan must be submitted to Fire Services for approval. The following documents must be included with the Fire Safety Plan;
  - i. The requested Fire Drill Scenario
  - ii. All monthly Fire Drill Records
  - iii. All Training records



# Vulnerable Occupancies:

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### Process for Compliance

4. Fire Services will inform the person responsible for requesting the fire drill once the Fire Safety Plan and the Drill Scenario Request have been approved.
5. On the day of the Fire Drill, the following Fire Services Personnel will attend at the site;
  - i. The Fire Drill Coordinator
  - ii. Fire Prevention Officers
  - iii. The first 2 responding Fire Stations for the Occupancy



# Vulnerable Occupancies:

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### Process for Compliance

6. All Fire Services personnel will observe the Fire Drill and record comments in writing.
7. Following the Drill, the Fire Drill Coordinator will collect the recorded notes from the Fire Crews
8. The Fire Crews will then proceed to conduct a Tactical Pre- Plan for the Occupancy. This information will be compiled, analyzed and shared with all Greater Sudbury Fire Crews. The off-duty fire crews that would respond to this facility will, over the next short while, contact the occupancy and request a mutually agreeable time to attend the facility for a site tour.



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### Process for Compliance

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### Greater Sudbury Process for Compliance

9. At this time the Fire Drill Coordinator will review the comments from the Fire Crews and Fire Prevention Staff, and conduct a debriefing session with the facility staff to note the successes of the drill, as well as point out any areas that would require improvement.



# Vulnerable Occupancies:

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## Process for Compliance

### The Building Inspection

Building Inspections will commence in January. The Fire Prevention Officers will contact the Occupancy and find an acceptable time to conduct the inspection.

Fire Marshal Inspection orders will be issued for all Fire Safety Violations that are noted during the inspection. Compliance time will be permitted, depending on the severity of the violation.



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Fire at L'Île Verte, Quebec Nursing Home





# Vulnerable Occupancies:

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*Questions???*

*Thank you!!*