

# Setting the Standard

## Key Updates from Building and Technical Standards

May #2 2026

### Public Review of Proposed Model Code Changes Now Open

The Canadian Board for Harmonized Construction Codes (CBHCC) is inviting code users, interested parties, and the broader public to take part in the first public review of the 2030 code cycle.

Proposed changes to the National Model Codes in this review address modular construction compliance and prescriptive compliance for Energy Performance Tier 2, among other key topics, including:

- Accessibility
- Airtightness
- Automatic sprinkler systems
- Drainage systems
- Fire protection
- Heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems
- Plumbing materials and equipment

The public review runs from April 27 to June 22, 2026. Those interested in participating in the review can access the proposed changes on the [CBHCC website](#) and provide feedback.

The public review gives Canadians and interested organizations a chance to help shape the National Model Codes. After the review, comments will be assessed by the relevant code development committees and recommendations on the proposed changes will be made to the CBHCC. Approved changes will be included in the 2030 editions of the Codes, which provinces and territories may adopt or adapt into their regulation.

For more information, please contact the CBHCC at [CBHCCSecretary-SecretaireCCHCC@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca](mailto:CBHCCSecretary-SecretaireCCHCC@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca).

### Henry's Law Introduced by the Province to Enhance Protection from Dangers of Carbon Monoxide

The Minister of Government Relations introduced *The Building Code (Henry's Law) Amendment Regulations, 2026* on May 5, 2026. This amendment to the National Building Code of Canada requires a carbon monoxide (CO) alarm in every residential suite or unit in a residential occupancy where a person sleeps in Saskatchewan. The enhanced regulations, known as Henry's Law, are named in honour of Henry Losco, who passed away from CO poisoning in Regina in December 2025.

“Henry Losco’s tragic death demonstrated that Saskatchewan residents need stronger protection from the dangers of carbon monoxide in their homes,” Minister of Government Relations Eric Schmalz said. “Henry’s Law ensures that more CO alarms are positioned to provide protection, promoting the safety that is fundamental to communities and in building a strong Saskatchewan.”

Carbon monoxide is an invisible, odourless, poisonous gas produced by fuel-burning appliances such as natural gas furnaces, stoves, water heaters and fireplaces. CO can build up to dangerous levels when appliances or equipment are not working properly, are poorly ventilated or malfunction. Without a working CO alarm, continued exposure to CO can lead to confusion, drowsiness, loss of consciousness, brain damage and death.

Henry’s Law will require CO alarms in all multi-unit residential buildings consisting of apartments, condominiums, houses with secondary suites and all other buildings with multiple residential suites by November 1, 2026, regardless of when the building was initially built or last renovated. This timeframe allows the ministry to offer education to building owners, local authorities, building officials and industry associations about their obligations under these amendments.

To learn more about protecting your home from CO and Henry’s Law, visit [saskatchewan.ca](https://saskatchewan.ca).

## Construction Codes Advisories and Guides

BTS is currently creating and updating its advisories and guides to ensure they reflect current codes and standards. As part of this effort, the following documents have been recently posted:

- [Carbon Monoxide and Smoke Alarms for Multi-Unit Residential Buildings](#) – Updated May 2026

### Contact Us:

Building and Technical Standards  
306-787-4113  
[btstandards@gov.sk.ca](mailto:btstandards@gov.sk.ca)

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