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As of May 2017 **"the City of Vancouver"** made amendments to the 2015 Fire Bylaw 11312, **Relating to Carbon Monoxide alarms and Smoke Alarms and existing homes**, these amendments to the fire bylaw were passed and as of May 17 2017 they are now in effect .

This information will be of use to many customers such as Property management companies, strata boards, and hotels.

<http://vancouver.ca/your-government/fire-bylaw.aspx>

Please visit the City of Vancouver's website for more information.

I have included a few excerpts taken from May 2 2017 public meeting. The full pdf is attached in your email.

"The 2015 Fire By-law 11312 was the result of an extensive regulatory review for the purpose of modernization and harmonization with the Provincial Fire Code. Many unique-to-Vancouver provisions were determined to be either no longer required, or already implemented with the adoption of the Provincial Fire Code. The remaining unique-to-Vancouver provisions that were identified as consistent with Council objectives were retained. Amendments to the Fire By-law are now proposed which will serve to further protect people and property, as well as ensure the efficient administration of the By-law.

The significant amendments proposed are:

- 1. Requirement for carbon monoxide alarms in existing dwelling units.**
- 2. Smoke alarm in older homes permitted to be battery-operated.**

CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS IN EXISTING HOMES

Carbon monoxide is an odourless, colourless, deadly gas. It can be produced in lethal amounts and go undetected for long periods of time when a fuel burning appliance such as a furnace is not operating properly, or when portable generators are operating indoors, or when barbecue appliances with still hot coals are brought indoors.

The Building By-law requires the installation of carbon monoxide (CO) alarming devices in every new building containing a residential occupancy and which also contains a fuel-fired appliance, or a vehicle parking garage. CO alarming devices are relatively inexpensive, approximately \$50 per unit. The unit may be either hard-wired, electrically plugged-in, or battery operated. Every year, several close calls have been recorded in Vancouver and in British Columbia, with some resulting in death. In 2014, a family of five nearly perished when their furnace was operating improperly and carbon monoxide was leaking into the home. Just last month, a family of four people in Ashcroft, B.C. died as a result of carbon monoxide poisoning due to a malfunctioning appliance. In both cases, there were no carbon monoxide alarming devices installed in the homes.

A new Fire By-law provision is proposed that will make the installation of CO alarming devices **mandatory in all existing apartment buildings and dwelling units**, including single family homes, which contain a fuel-fired appliance, or an attached garage.

Locations within a dwelling which would require a CO alarming device are stipulated in the Building By-law. For example, in a multi-family building where each unit has a natural gas or a wood-burning fireplace, a CO alarming device is required in each bedroom or outside the bedroom within 5 m of the bedroom door. In a multi-family building where there are no fireplaces or other fuel-fired appliance, but there is a parking garage or a boiler room in the basement, only those dwelling units which share a common floor or wall with the parking garage or the boiler room require a CO alarming device in each bedroom or outside the bedroom within 5 m of the bedroom door. It is proposed that the requirements for a CO alarming device become effective on the date of enactment of this Fire By-law amendment by-law.

CO alarming devices are readily available in hardware stores and supermarkets. VFRS will inform the public through its Public Information Officer issuing a media release, providing additional information on the city website, and inclusion into the city's print advertisement. Enforcement will be similar to the enforcement of the current requirement for smoke alarms to be installed retroactively in existing homes. VFRS will not be actively going door to door into each single family residence to inspect. VFRS will, however, respond to complaints and will include CO alarming devices in the list of items to be checked in buildings that are routinely inspected. **Many jurisdictions in North America already have legislation mandating CO alarming devices in existing homes.** In the United States, twenty-six states have enacted Amendments to the 2015 Fire By-law - 11620 4 statutes requiring alarming devices in existing homes. In Canada, the Yukon Territory and the Province of Ontario have enacted legislation in 2013 and 2014 respectively. **We have consulted with the Provincial Office of the Fire Commissioner and they are in agreement with the objective of making CO alarming devices retroactive in existing homes."**

If you require additional information on the Kidde Carbon Monoxide alarms or Smoke alarms please call or visit our website at

<http://www.kidde.com/fire-safety/en/ca/>

Warm regards

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A Century of Fire Safety

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