

Hutcheson, Regan

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From: Mike.Marcolongo@mcl.gov.on.ca
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2006 9:47 AM
To: conicks@burlington.ca
Subject: FW: Building Code amendments to promote energy efficiency: announcement of public consultations FYI
Importance: High

Dear Municipal Heritage Committees:

We just learned about this upcoming consultation and thought that you, as heritage community members, may be interested in participating.

As you know, the Ontario Government is committed to energy conservation. We wanted to quickly bring to your attention that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) will be conducting public consultations regarding energy efficiency changes to the Ontario Building Code (OBC).

The OBC (Part 11) allows for compliance alternatives on some code requirements if they are found to be detrimental to the preservation of a heritage building, subject to the satisfaction of the chief building official. A "compliance alternative" is a substitute for a requirement in another Part of the Code.

The code defines a heritage building as "a building designated under the Ontario Heritage Act, or a building that is certified to be of significant architectural or historical value by a recognized, non-profit public organization whose primary object is the preservation of structures of architectural or historical significance and which certification is accepted by the chief building official."

Depending on how they are interpreted and applied, energy conservation measures have the potential to compromise heritage attributes of designated properties. The heritage community may want to consider, for example, whether the proposed Building Code changes will include compliance alternatives that are preferable from a heritage perspective for proposed energy efficiency requirements.

Please note that the MMAH requires comments to be submitted by March 27, 2006. We hope that you are able to ensure that the heritage community's concerns are communicated to MMAH.

Regards,

Mike

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3/2/2006

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Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing <<...OLE_Obj...>> <<...OLE_Obj...>>
Government Begins Consultations On Energy Efficient Buildings
<http://ogov.newswire.ca/ontario/GPOE/2006/02/24/c1536.html?lmatch=&lang=e.html>

Proposed Building Code Amendments Would Promote Energy Conservation

TORONTO, Feb. 24 /CNW/ - As part of its plan to create a greener Ontario, the McGuinty government is holding public information sessions on proposed changes to the Ontario Building Code that would increase the energy efficiency of buildings, Municipal Affairs and Housing Minister John Gerretsen announced today.

"We see an opportunity to use the Building Code to increase the province's energy efficiency and meet our commitment to reduce Ontario's greenhouse gas emissions," said Minister Gerretsen. "Public consultations are the next step in developing higher energy efficiency standards for new buildings and buildings that undergo substantial renovations."

Potential Building Code amendments include:

- increased energy efficiency requirements for houses, including detached, semi-detached and row houses;
- increased energy efficiency requirements for commercial buildings and large-scale residential buildings;
- energy efficiency labeling for houses; and
- changes to enable the use of "green" technologies.

To collect public input on the proposed amendments, ministry staff will be holding five public information sessions across the province:

- March 6: - Ottawa - Travelodge Hotel Ottawa West (1376 Carling Avenue)
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
- March 8: - Sudbury - Holiday Inn (1696 Regent Street)
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
- Toronto - MacDonald Block (900 Bay Street)
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
- March 10: - Thunder Bay - Valhalla Inn (1 Valhalla Inn Road)
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
- London - Best Western Lamplighter Inn (591 Wellington Road)
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

"These consultations are another opportunity for Ontarians to share with us their views on increasing energy efficiency in buildings," said Minister of Energy Donna Cansfield. "Creating a culture of conservation in this province is a major part of the McGuinty government's plan for Ontario's energy future."

The potential amendments to the Building Code would support the

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government's commitment to achieving a five-per-cent reduction in projected peak electricity demand in Ontario in 2007 and would help lower the annual energy costs faced by building owners.

"Our consultations with the public and a wide range of industry stakeholders will help us to reflect the views of Ontarians in any changes to the Building Code," said Gerretsen. "We hope to incorporate new energy efficiency requirements in the next edition of the Building Code, anticipated for release in Spring 2006."

Consultation documents are available online at www.obc.mah.gov.on.ca or by requesting a copy from the Building and Development Branch of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing at 416-585-6515. The government will be accepting mailed-in or online submissions until March 27, 2006.

Further information will be posted on the Building Code website at www.obc.mah.gov.on.ca

Disponible en français

www.mah.gov.on.ca

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For further information: Patti Munce, Minister's Office, (416) 585-6333;
David Brezer, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, (416) 585-6656

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