


Association of Manitoba Municipalities

“Creating Safer Communities
through Prevention, Preparation
& Partnerships”

November 2006
Douglas M. Popowich
Fire Commissioner




“Creating Safer Communities”

Changes to the Fires Prevention Act
(Bill 30)


&

Information, Issues and Concerns
regarding emergency preparedness
and response and fire department
operations.



“Creating Safer Communities” Changes to the Act

New Workplace Safety and Health
Regulations regarding fire
department activities.

A stylized silhouette of a mountain range in shades of teal, located at the bottom right of the slide.

“Creating Safer Communities” Why the Changes?

- Fires and other emergencies continue to occur
- Public Expectation
- Risk Management
- Clarification of Roles and Responsibilities
- Safety for Responders



“Creating Safer Communities” Changes to the Fires Prevention and Emergency Response Act Bill 30

a) Emergency Response

- Clarification of Roles, Responsibilities & Authorities.

“Local →Regional →Provincial→Federal”

- Definitions in line with EMO.

- When Provincial resources are required, the Office of the Fire Commissioner is in charge of the site.

- Incident Management System to be consistent with that of the OFC—Incident Command. (by Regulation)

- Local authority to report annually on services provided.

“Creating Safer Communities” Changes to the Act

“Emergency Management”

- Incident Command Training

ICS 100 available on the internet

ICS 200/300 one week course

ICS for Agency executives now available

- b) Why ICS?

OFC, MB Conservation, MB Health, RCMP, are currently using these.

“Creating Safer Communities” Urban Search and Rescue



“Creating Safer Communities” Changes to the Act

Part 6, Fire Investigations

- Local authority to investigate all fires.
- Must contact OFC with respect to specific fires.
- Must complete report on fires.

Fire Commissioner or designate:

- Ability to enter adjacent land or premises for investigations.
- May close land or premises during investigation.
- Authority to take whoever necessary to assist.
- Authority to seize documents, things, records.

“Creating Safer Communities” Changes to the Act

Part 6, Fire Inspections

- Local authority to adopt Manitoba Fire Code.
- Local authority required to inspect **prescribed** buildings.
- Fire Commissioner to inspect prescribed buildings.
- Full authority to enter buildings to conduct inspections.
- Municipality may contract this service by agency or personnel approved by OFC.
- Municipalities may charge for inspections.

“Creating Safer Communities” Changes to the Act

Part 7, Actions and Orders, after an investigation or inspection the Fire Commissioner or designate may:

- Cause land or premises to be closed immediately and persons removed.
- Post a fire watch, make repairs to existing fire safety systems and install temporary fire guards.
- Remove combustive or explosive material and anything else that may constitute a fire menace.
- Do any other reasonable thing immediately required to reduce threat to life or property.

“Creating Safer Communities” Changes to the Act

Part 11, Actions and Orders, after an investigation or inspection, the Fire Commissioner or designate may:

- Issues orders to remove things, demolish things, install or modify things or equipment.
- Close land or premises.
- Take other measures necessary for fire safety.
- Orders must set out to review or appeal process.
- Orders must set out time frames for compliance.
- Costs may be recovered.

“Creating Safer Communities” Changes to the Act

Part 15, Review or appeal of Orders:

- Reviews or appeals must be in writing.
- 14 days maximum time frame for action .
- Fire Commissioner deals with appeal of inspection from local authority.
- Court of Queen’s bench deals with appeal of inspection order by Fire Commissioner.

“Creating Safer Communities” Changes to the Act

Part 17, Inquiries:

-Fire Commissioner may conduct inquiries.

“Creating Safer Communities”

TOTAL FIRES

<u>Number of Fires</u>	<u>Estimated Loss</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	
2000	4758	\$75.3 m	28
2001	4714	78.6 m	20
2002	5377	83 m	21
2003	6186	93.3 m	12
2004	5256	82.7 m	19
2005	5261	103.4 m	18
Average	5259	\$86.05 m	19.6

“Creating Safer Communities”

Last five years, Rural Manitoba

“Targeted Fires”

Day Care/Nursery Schools	15 Fires
Schools	208 Fires
Hospitals/Nursing Stations	61 Fires
Homes for the Elderly	62 Fires

“Creating Safer Communities”

Inspections are to ensure life safety measures are in place. What is the inspection going to include?

- If required, working fire alarm system.
- Sufficient and un-obstructed means of egress and exit lights and emergency lighting.
- Internal fire protection systems are in operating condition:
 - sprinklers
 - standpipes
 - extinguishing systems and fire extinguishers



“Creating Safer Communities”

Cont.....

- Where required, approved emergency evacuation plans.
- General housekeeping and safety.
 - improper use of extension cords
 - over accumulation of combustibles
 - unsafe practices or conditions

“Creating Safer Communities” Changes to the Act

Fire Inspections

OFC is committed to;

- Including AMM in the working group developing any regulation. Committee now in existence for fire inspections.
- Continue to provide training.
- Assist any local assistant in conducting inspections over the next 2 years.

“Creating Safer Communities” Changes to the Act

Part 33 – 43, General Matters:

- Fire Commissioner may establish guidelines for fire suppression practices and procedures including training requirements and numbers of fire fighters and types of vehicles appropriate for activity.
- Education programs regarding fire safety and protection.
- May investigate emergency response activities.

“Creating Safer Communities” Changes to the Act

Part 46, Regulations:

- Limitations, restrictions, conditions that apply to delegation of powers and functions of local assistants.
- Standards for fire protection equipment.
- Classes and types of buildings requiring inspections.
- Prescribing matters to be included in a local incident management system.
- Certification requirements of individuals trained in fire suppression, fire investigation, fire safety inspections, hazardous materials response and search and rescue.

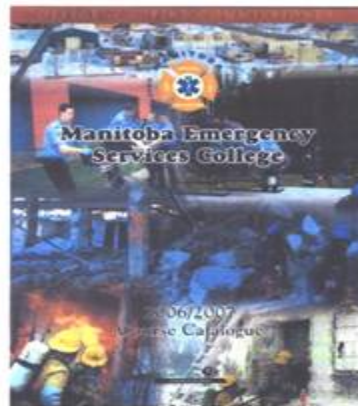


OFFICE of the FIRE COMMISSIONER

Manitoba Emergency Services College Codes & Standards Investigations
Municipal Support Emergency Response Administration



Confidential Course Evaluation Open the MESC Course Catalogue in PDF Format



Manitoba
Labour and
Immigration



Fire Commissioner's Message

Public Fire Paramedic Program

MESC Conference

Fire & Life Safety Education

Accreditation

MESC On-Line Training

Critical Incident Stress Management

Fire Statistics

Operations

Urban Search & Rescue

Ground Search & Rescue

Acts & Regulations

Lending Library

MESC Application/Registration Forms

Emergency Services Forms

CPAT Testing

Burning Issues

Practical Training Site

Mutual Aid Financial Incentives

Employment Opportunities

Accommodations

Contact Us

Send your comments about this webpage to firecomm@gov.mb.ca

“Creating Safer Communities” Changes to the Act

- ✓ “Workplace Safety & Health Regulations”
- ✓ Part 42 (Pages 328 – 332)
- ✓ Yellowknife Incident

“You as the employer are responsible for the safety and health of your employees”

Are you aware of these regulations?



Questions?

