



Consultations on Proposed Energy and Water Efficiency Requirements in Manitoba's Building and Plumbing Codes

Questionnaire for Stakeholders

Invitation to Comment

You are invited to comment on recommendations received by the Manitoba Government to establish energy and water efficiency requirements in Manitoba's building and plumbing codes. The deadline for submitting your comments is June 30, 2008.

The government is considering recommendations to develop and implement minimum energy and

water efficiency requirements for new commercial construction and houses. Stakeholders can review the proposed requirements for energy and water efficiency in Manitoba's building and plumbing codes, ask questions, and provide comments online, by e-mail, fax, or mail by June 30, 2008. A series of stakeholder consultation sessions will be held in Winnipeg, Brandon, and Thompson between April 17 and April 24, 2008.



How to Submit Your Input

We value your input and request that you please review the questions on the following pages and provide your responses either electronically online or in hard copy. You may also submit additional comments, evidence and/or supporting documentation. The deadline for receiving responses is June 30, 2008 at 4:30 p.m. Central Daylight Time. All responses received before the deadline will be considered.

You can respond to the questions on the following pages in one of four ways:

1. Complete the questionnaire electronically online at: manitoba.ca/labour/ofc/codeconsultations
2. Complete a hard copy of the questionnaire, and fax to: 204-948-2089 in Winnipeg.
3. Complete a hard copy of the questionnaire, scan and e-mail it to: codeconsultations@gov.mb.ca
4. Complete a hard copy of the questionnaire, and mail to:

Manitoba Labour and Immigration
Office of the Fire Commissioner
Building Policy and Sustainability Unit
508-401 York Avenue
Winnipeg MB R3C 0P8
Phone: 945-3322
Toll free: 1-800-282-8069

In addition to, or in place of, completing the questionnaire you may send a letter addressed to the Building Policy and Sustainability Unit of the Office of the Fire Commissioner to the address above.

More Information and Background Documents

More information on the code consultation process, including a Stakeholder Consultation Discussion Paper and other background documents, may be downloaded from manitoba.ca/labour/ofc/codeconsultations. **You can also download additional copies of the questionnaire from the website. Printed copies of the questionnaire are available** by calling 945-3322 in Winnipeg, toll free 1-800-282-8069, or by visiting the address above.

Part A - Minimum Energy Efficiency Requirements for Buildings and Houses

What should be the minimum required level of energy efficiency in buildings and houses in Manitoba, and how should the requirements be met?

Buildings

Currently, the *Manitoba Building Code* contains no minimum requirements for energy efficiency in buildings.¹ The Manitoba Energy Code Advisory Committee has recommended Manitoba:

- adopt the [Model National Energy Code of Canada for Buildings 1997](#), and
- develop Manitoba amendments requiring a level of building energy efficiency up to 25 per cent better than the *Model National Energy Code of Canada for Buildings 1997*.

The *Model National Energy Code of Canada for Buildings 1997* applies to new buildings and additions to existing buildings. The Manitoba Building Code, based upon the *National Building Code of Canada*, applies to new buildings and the alteration (i.e., rehabilitation, change in use, or addition), reconstruction, demolition, removal, and relocation of existing buildings.

1. All new buildings and additions to existing buildings should be subject to minimum energy efficiency requirements.

- Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree nor Disagree
 Disagree Strongly Disagree

Comments: _____

2. Minimum energy efficiency requirements for new buildings and additions to existing buildings in Manitoba should be set at 25 per cent more energy efficient than Canada's *Model National Energy Code for Buildings 1997*.

- Agree Disagree

- If disagree, what threshold (relative to the *Model National Energy Code for Buildings 1997*) would you recommend and why? _____

3. What education and training should be available to support minimum requirements for energy efficiency in new buildings and additions to existing buildings?

¹ The term *buildings* applies to all buildings except:
• buildings of three storeys or less in height with a building area not exceeding 600 square meters and containing only dwelling units
• buildings of residential occupancy containing not more than one dwelling unit
• buildings less than 10 square meters in building area
• farm buildings

The term *houses* applies to single family houses of three storeys or less.

Houses

Currently, the *Manitoba Building Code* contains minimum requirements for insulation in new houses.

4. Minimum requirements for energy efficiency in new houses in the *Manitoba Building Code* should be expanded to other aspects of house design and construction that also affect energy use (ex: windows, airtightness, heat recovery ventilation, etc.).

- Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree nor Disagree
 Disagree Strongly Disagree

- If strongly agree or agree, please specify which aspects:

- If disagree or strongly disagree, please explain why:

5. Minimum requirements for energy efficiency in new houses should be:

- Prescriptive-based Performance-based Choice between either one

- If Performance-based or *Choice between either one*, Manitoba should consider the feasibility of regulating the energy performance of new houses by requiring a minimum [EnterGuide Rating](#), as is being considered in the provinces of British Columbia, Ontario, and Nova Scotia.

- Strongly Agree Agree
 Disagree Strongly Disagree

Comments: _____

6. What education and training should be available to support additional minimum requirements for energy efficiency in new houses?

PART B – Minimum Water Efficiency Requirements for Buildings and Houses

Taking into consideration the existing standards and technologies, how should water efficiency measures be incorporated into the plumbing code?

Currently, the *Manitoba Plumbing Code*, based on the National Plumbing Code of Canada, contains no minimum requirements for water efficiency in buildings or houses. The Lake Winnipeg Stewardship Board has recommended that Manitoba:

- require all new houses to have low-flush toilets and low-flow faucets
- investigate the handling of grey water in an economic, environmentally sensitive way.

7. All new houses should be required to have water efficient toilets and water efficient faucets.

- Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree nor Disagree
 Disagree Strongly Disagree

Comments: _____

8. All new buildings and additions to existing buildings should be subject to minimum water efficiency requirements.

- Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree nor Disagree
 Disagree Strongly Disagree

Comments: _____

9. An updated *Manitoba Plumbing Code* should allow the use of grey water (i.e., wastewater from sinks, showers, and laundries) in buildings and houses for flushing toilets or outdoor irrigation, so long as there is clear guidance on the technical requirements to ensure human health and life safety.

- Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree nor Disagree
 Disagree Strongly Disagree

Comments: _____

PART C - Potential Barriers to Greener Building Technologies within Existing Codes

Do the existing Manitoba building, plumbing, and fire codes create barriers to the implementation of green building practices or to greener building technologies and products?

10. From your perspective, are there any provisions in the *Manitoba Building Code* that may be a barrier to green building?

- Yes No I do not know

• If yes, please explain:

11. From your perspective, are there any provisions in the *Manitoba Plumbing Code* that may be a barrier to green building?

- Yes No I do not know

• If yes, please explain:

12. From your perspective, are there any provisions in the *Manitoba Fire Code* that may be a barrier to green building?

- Yes No I do not know

• If yes, please explain:

13. Are there any provisions in other standards, regulations or legislation that may be a barrier to green building practices, technologies and products?

- Yes No I do not know

• If yes, please explain:

PART D - Demographic Questions

14. Which of the following applies to you (please select only one):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appraiser | <input type="checkbox"/> Facility Manager/Operator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architect | <input type="checkbox"/> Financier/Lender/Investor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Association (Professional) | <input type="checkbox"/> Homebuilder |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Association (Trade) | <input type="checkbox"/> Insurer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building Code Official | <input type="checkbox"/> Interior Designer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building Owner (Commercial) | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Governmental Org |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building Owner (Multi-Unit Residential) | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Individual |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contractor (Commercial) | <input type="checkbox"/> Product Manufacturer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contractor (Residential) | <input type="checkbox"/> Realtor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Developer (Commercial) | <input type="checkbox"/> Research/Academic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Developer (Residential) | <input type="checkbox"/> Specialty Consultant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Engineer (Civil) | <input type="checkbox"/> Student (Post-Secondary) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Engineer (Electrical) | <input type="checkbox"/> Trades Person |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Engineer (Mechanical) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): |

15. Please tell us if you are a (please select only one):

- Resident of Manitoba
- Resident of province/territory in Canada other than Manitoba
- Resident of a country other than Canada

PART E – Consultation Process

16. Did you attend any of the consultation sessions between April 17-24, 2008?

- Yes No

• If yes, please select all that apply

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thompson, April 17, 2008, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. | <input type="checkbox"/> Thompson, April 17, 2008, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brandon, April 22, 2008, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. | <input type="checkbox"/> Brandon, April 22, 2008, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Winnipeg, April 23, 2008, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. | <input type="checkbox"/> Winnipeg, April 23, 2008, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Winnipeg, April 24, 2008, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. | <input type="checkbox"/> Winnipeg, April 24, 2008, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. |

- If you attended a consultation session, did you find the session useful in understanding the proposed energy and water efficiency requirements in Manitoba's building and plumbing codes?

Yes No

- Comments:

17. Did you access the background materials and resources on the Code Consultations web site at: manitoba.ca/labour/ofc/codeconsultations/?

Yes No

- If yes, did you find this resource helpful?

Yes No

- Comments:

A summary of responses to this consultation will be published in a report to the Minister of Manitoba Labour and Immigration. The report will be available in electronic format at manitoba.ca/labourmanitoba.ca/labour/ofc/codeconsultations. Paper copies will be available on request.

If you would like to receive a notice of the availability of the consultation report after June 30, 2008 please provide your contact information below:

Name		
Organization		
Mailing address		
E-mail		
Phone:		Fax:

Please note that all submissions are subject to *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and may be disclosed during and after the consultation process through various means, including written reports and the Internet.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS

Space is available on the following page if you wish to provide additional comments.

