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PROVINCE OF BC CODES & REGULATIONS UPDATE

The Canadian Institute of Plumbing and Heating has been notified that the Province of BC has issued:

1. A bulletin outlining code clarification pertaining to backflow requirements for solar domestic hot water; and
2. Notification of a public review on three proposals related to high-efficiency toilets, solar hot water ready homes, and letters of assurance.

Clarification of Code Requirements

An information bulletin clarification of 2006 BC Building Code Regulations pertaining to backflow prevention for solar domestic hot water systems is now available on BC's provincial website: http://www.housing.gov.bc.ca/building/bulletins/B09_02_shwr_sdhw_backflow.pdf

- The current BC Building Code does not require any additional safeguards for Solar Domestic Hot Water;
- Systems beyond those required by the CSA standards, unless a make-up water connection is made directly to the solar heat transfer loop.

Public Input Sought

The province is seeking input on the following three proposals:

- a. High-Efficiency Toilets - Building Code requirement for high-efficiency toilets (including dual-flush units) and urinals in new construction. The requirement supports greening the BC Building Code and Living Water Smart, BC's water plan. It allows for HET's (both single- and dual-flush technologies) for residential applications. For industrial/commercial/institutional (ICI) applications, it mandates that 6 lpf technology (single- or dual-flush) be used as there are drain line concerns with 4.8 lpf HET technology in ICI applications.
- b. Solar Hot Water Ready - Local government option to require Solar Hot Water Ready construction for new single family houses, which supports the 100,000 Solar Roofs Initiative and the Province's commitment to reduce GHG emissions.
- c. Letters of Assurance - Update to the Building Code's Letters of Assurance. The update responds to industry requests and supports the Modernization Strategy's shift toward more clearly defined responsibilities and accountabilities.

You are invited to comment on these proposals through the public review until September 14, 2009. The online review can be accessed at: <http://www.housing.gov.bc.ca/building/consultation/index.htm>

The Canadian Institute of Plumbing & Heating is a not-for-profit trade association. Founded in 1933, the Institute is a vibrant organization committed to providing members with the tools for success in today's competitive environment. More than 250 companies are members of this influential Canadian industry association. They are the manufacturers, wholesaler distributors, master distributors, manufacturers' agents and allied companies who manufacture and distribute plumbing, hydronic heating, industrial, waterworks and other mechanical products. CIPH wholesalers operate more than 700 warehouses and showrooms across Canada. Total industry sales exceed \$5 billion annually.



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