



Plumbing Industry Advisory Council



Chairman **Paul McDonald** (Bradford White) reports:

Harmonization of Standards, Codes & Regulations:

The primary focus of recent PIAC activity has been the harmonization of standards, codes and regulations. As various

jurisdictions jump to address environmental concerns, the long-standing due process of regulatory development is often being bypassed as policy-makers need to be seen taking action.

PIAC is involved in a long list of issues from federal down to municipal levels. On code uniformity it is working with the Canadian Commission on Fire and Building Codes (CCFBC) and their provincial participants from the Provincial/Territorial Policy Advisory Committee on Codes (PTPACC). CIPH has also written to all Provincial Deputy Ministers urging those officials to develop, promote and harmonize regulations and to direct their regulators to consult with CIPH and its members whenever new regulations are being proposed that affect the industry.

PIAC has also been working effectively at the municipal level to present its position on issues such as sewer-use bylaws in Winnipeg, proposed banning of food-waste disposers in London, HET acceptance in Vancouver, and backflow prevention in the city of Barrie. In all cases, industry was able to address its concerns and receive favourable outcomes for the plumbing industry.

Consumer Product Safety Act – Bill C-36

A Canadian Consumer Product Safety Act was reintroduced to Parliament on June 9, 2010. Under the leadership of CIPH, a coalition of 12 industry associations has been maintained and a lobbyist retained. A position statement has been prepared by the coalition for the Health Minister, the Hon.

Leona Aglukkaq to use during Question Period and reference the Coalition as one of supporters of the bill when Parliament resumes in September. CIPH staff will meet with Health Canada on September 10th in Ottawa to begin addressing the policy and guidance documents that will affect industry and to start the discussion on the framework under development to support the Act. For more information on Bill C-36 [click here](#)

NRCan Boiler and Water Heater Efficiencies

Natural Resources Canada has released new proposals for setting future fuel efficiency standards for Commercial Boilers and all Hot Water Heaters. Many of the proposals are unacceptable to industry as both the implementation timelines and the expected efficiencies are not feasible targets for the industry to meet. CIPH is actively leading consultations and formal responses to these proposals to express the industry concerns.

Plumbing Inspector Training Program ready for launch

A new program developed by CSA and CIPH for training of plumbing inspectors is ready. Information and registration for this online training program can be found on the CSA e-learning website at: <http://www.csa.ca/cm/ca/en/training/elearning>.

New CACP Task Force to Assist Regulatory Harmonization

At the recent CACP meeting in Digby, Nova Scotia, a new task force was approved to gather information on water conservation and energy efficiency regulations that affect the plumbing industry. The CACP is a unique mix of industry certification organizations and provincial regulators. This group will assist harmonization efforts by openly gathering and sharing information about best practices, regulatory mistakes and any other experiences that will help regulators develop practical, enforceable and uniform rules across industry, municipal and provincial borders.