



Corporation of the Municipality of Temagami

Memo No.  
2018-M-016

Memorandum to council

Staff  
 Committee

**Subject:** Township of Norwich letter  
**Agenda Date:** Mar 22, 2018  
**Attachments:** Introduction and Preface to the Building Code

**RECOMMENDATION**

This memorandum is:

To be received for information  
**OR**  
 To recommend that:

That Council receive memo 2018-M-016 regarding the proposed changes to the Ontario building Code.

**INFORMATION**

After reviewing the letter from the Township of Norwich, I agree that there is some burden put on Municipal Building Departments in respect to training for new code requirements, in regards to energy conservation, resource conservation and environmental protection. But I do feel that the Building Code is the best place to address these issue and most of the burden is placed on the designers and Architects before permit applications get to the municipality for review.

Energy conservation, resource conservation and environmental protection, are not new to the Building Code, as per the attached introduction they were included in the 2012 version of the Ontario Building Code along with changes to renovations to existing building, barrier free access requirements and a list of other changes..

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# Preface

## Introduction

The Building Code is a regulation made under the Building Code Act, 1992. This edition of the Building Code Compendium contains the Supplementary Standards referenced by the Code and additional explanatory material and is prepared for purposes of convenience only. For the authoritative text of the Building Code regulation, see the official volumes. The 2012 Building Code was enacted by Ontario Regulation 332/12, which comes into force on January 1, 2014.

The Building Code sets out technical requirements for the construction (including renovation) and demolition of buildings, the change of use of existing buildings where the change would result in an increase in hazard and the maintenance and operation of on-site sewage systems. The technical requirements of the Building Code do not have application to existing buildings other than the maintenance and operation of on-site sewage systems and buildings which undergo a change of use where the change would result in an increase in hazard.

The Code is essentially a set of minimum provisions respecting the safety of buildings with reference to public health, fire protection, accessibility and structural sufficiency. It is not intended to be a textbook on building design, advice on which should be sought from professional sources. Its primary purpose is the promotion of public safety through the application of appropriate uniform building standards.

The 2012 Building Code updates the previous edition of the Building Code, which dates from 2006. Many of the changes introduced into the 2012 Building Code will increase the level of harmonization between Ontario's Code and those in other Canadian jurisdictions. As well, the 2012 Building Code is written in an objective-based format which is intended to promote innovation and flexibility in design and construction.

## The Building Code and the Model National Construction Codes

The Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes (CCBFC), supported by the National Research Council (NRC), released new editions of the model National Building, Plumbing and Fire Codes (mNBC, mNPC and mNFC) in 2010. These Codes have no legal status unless adopted by a province, territory or municipality.

Ontario's 2012 Building Code applies throughout Ontario and is based in large measure on the 2010 mNBC and mNPC. However, differences between the model National Codes and Ontario's Building Code occur. Ontario's 2012 Building Code has Ontario-specific requirements in areas such as energy efficiency, water conservation, renovation of existing buildings, and barrier-free access. Ontario has also moved to consolidate construction requirements from other legislation into the Building Code, including those related to on-site sewage systems, pools, spas, food premises, private sewers and private water supplies.

## Objective-Based Code Format

The 2012 Building Code is Ontario's second edition of the Building Code published in an objective-based format. The objective-based format augments specific technical requirements by identifying the underlying objectives and sub-objectives of those requirements (see table below). Each technical requirement that is an acceptable solution in Division B is linked to one or more of the objectives, as well as functional statements, through the Attribution Tables in Supplementary Standard SA-1. Some objectives were developed jointly by the NRC and Canadian provincial/territorial jurisdictions.