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National Building and Fire Codes Update: Midrise Combustible Construction

Presentation Abstract

The boundaries of acceptable solutions in the National Model Codes are constantly being evaluated to provide research- and technology-based solutions for the construction industry. Every five years, the Canadian Commission of Building and Fire Codes (CCBFC) undertakes the responsibility of publishing a new edition of the National Model Codes in the hopes to reduce regulatory compliance barriers and improve construction practice. The presentation will offer details and explanations of the recently proposed changes that introduce two new building types which establish the basis for 6 storey combustible residential and office buildings. The highlights include proposed changes to the National Building and Fire Codes.



Speaker Bio

Sefton Hyde-Clarke is a technical advisor for the Canadian Codes Centre at the National Research Council and is responsible for the development of the National Model Codes. Based in Ottawa, Sefton serves as the lead technical advisor to the Standing Committee on Hazardous Materials and Activities responsible for the National Fire Code as well as the Joint Task Group on Combustible Construction responsible for the introduction of 6 storey midrise combustible construction in the National Building and Fire Codes. He has significant experience and knowledge of the National Building and Fire Codes from his time working for the Federal Fire Commissioner's Office. Sefton has been an active participant in the local National Capital Region Society of Fire Protection Engineers since 2008. His future work at NRC includes residential sprinkler systems and water-miscible flammable liquids.