

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**
Building and Development
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**Ministère des
Affaires municipales
et du Logement**
Direction du bâtiment
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Téléphone: (416) 585-6666
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May 16, 2016

Chief Building Official
[insert name of municipality]

Dear Municipal Chief Building Official:

As you know the, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is responsible for administering the Building Code Act, 1992 and the Building Code. To support this, the ministry currently provides Building Code Advisory Services. Advisors assist users in understanding the technical requirements of the Code and how they are enforced; however, they are not responsible for interpreting the Building Code or determining how it should be applied in specific circumstances. This is the responsibility of municipalities and other enforcement bodies.

To improve service to municipalities, the ministry is implementing a one-window service delivery model which would better enable and support the provision of technical advice to municipalities. Each municipality will be assigned a specific Building Code Advisor from the Building and Development Branch as their point of contact. Municipalities will direct all questions related to the Building Code to their designated advisor, who will be responsible for providing answers/advice back to the municipality in a timely manner.

In your municipality, your designated Code Advisor is [*insert name of advisor*] who can be reached at [*insert e-mail address*] or (416) 585-[XXXX].

In addition to this, the ministry has worked with the Ontario Building Officials Association (OBOA) and the Large Municipal Chief Building Officials Association (LMCBO) to enable Building Code Advisors to regularly attend local OBOA chapter meetings, as well as technical committees of the Large Municipalities Chief Building Officials Association (LMCBO). This provides further opportunity to hear ministry updates, discuss emerging Building Code issues and help advise future Building Code amendments.

The ministry will continue to explore opportunities to enhance services to municipalities through additional web materials and issuing Building Code technical bulletins that can support the effective understanding and enforcement of the Code. As we implement further initiatives we will inform you.

The ministry remains committed to supporting municipalities in fulfilling their Building Code enforcement responsibilities, and welcome further suggestions on how this might best be accomplished. If you have any questions related to the above, please contact James Douglas, Manager of Building Code Operations and Technical Support, at (416) 585-7174, or james.douglas@ontario.ca.

Yours truly,

Brenda Lewis
Director

cc. Al Shaw, President of the Ontario Building Officials Assoc.
Ralph Kaminski, Chair, Large Municipalities Chief Building Officials Assoc.

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This document is provided for the purpose of increasing public awareness of the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's stealth retreat from providing technical information to users of the Ontario Building Code. During the first 40 years of the existence of the Ontario Building Code, this valuable technical information had contributed to uniform interpretations of the Ontario Building Code and promoted greater efficiency in the design and construction industry. Ontario's building designers, manufacturers, and contractors are no longer being provided with technical advice about the Ontario Building Code.

For fee-based professional advice, you may wish to contact:

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