



# Safety Codes Council

## MINUTES OF THE FIRST FIRE SUB-COUNCIL MEETING OF 2025

**DATE:** January 23, 2025

**TIME:** 9:02 a.m. to 10:53 a.m.

**LOCATION:** Videoconference

**PRESENT:** **Sub-Council Members**  
Chris Taylor, Chair  
Cameron Bardas  
Kevan Jess  
Barry Fielden  
Abdel Selmi  
Greg Wolf  
Mark Heiderich  
Cammie Laird  
Hunter Langpap, Vice Chair  
William Ross  
Jamie Vasseur  
Stephen Suen  
Glenn Baxter  
Mark Wilson

**Safety Codes Council**  
Jennifer Johnson

**Alberta Municipal Affairs**  
Tina Parker, Mike Baker

**REGRETS:** Abbas Abbas, Mike Bradford

**GUESTS:** n/a

**RECORDER:** Jennifer Johnson

**2025 MEETINGS:** May 29

## 1. Meeting Opening

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. A round table introduction was held and videoconference functionality was reviewed, and members were reminded that their primary duty is to act in the interest of safety in the built environment for the benefit of all Albertans.

### 1.1 Agenda Adoption

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Item 4.6. Shaft Detector Discussion

**Cameron Bardas/Mark Wilson moved that the agenda be adopted, as amended; CARRIED**

### 1.2 Adoption of the Minutes

**Barry Fielden/Mark Heiderich moved to adopt the minutes of the September 19 meeting, as circulated; CARRIED**

## 2. Matters for Decision

### 2.1. Closed Session

**Stephen Suen/Cameron Bardas moved to enter into closed session; CARRIED**

**Kevan Jess/Stephen Suen moved to exit closed session; CARRIED**

#### 2.1.1. Nomination of Jamie Vasseur to represent Urban Municipalities

**Glenn Baxter/Barry Fielden moved to recommend to the Board appointment of Jamie Vasseur to the Fire Sub-Council to represent Urban Municipalities for a term ending January 31, 2028, effective immediately; CARRIED**

## 3. Review Matters Arising/Action List

	Item	Action	Date Initiated	Responsible	Status/Update
1.	Qualified persons registry development	The new code establishes the wording for a registry to be created but it is not mandatory that one be created. Updates as available.		Municipal Affairs	Still under review.
2.	Energy storage systems – marking/plaque requirements on buildings	Members to bring suggestions (placement, wording, etc.) to this meeting and the Fire Administrator will then reach out to the other administrators with these suggestions.		All	No update.

3.	Increasing Hydrogen Use	<p>Bring forward more information, as available, about increasing hydrogen use that may be applicable to the fire discipline.</p> <p>The Chair will discuss potential opportunities with the Chair of GSC.</p>		All	The Chair discussed with the Chair of the Gas Sub-Council. That group has made a recommendation on the BNQ 1784 which is currently with Municipal Affairs. Can be closed.

## 4. Matters for Discussion

### 4.1. Interconnected Heat Alarms for Garages

The following was discussed:

- ANSI/UL S589 certified heat alarms are currently not accepted for use in Alberta, while other jurisdictions such as Ontario and Manitoba do allow for them.
- The member representing Fire Officials requested input from other members on whether they support bringing this topic to the Electrical Sub-Council for discussion.
- Members agreed it would be worth investigating a path forward for the use of these alarms in Alberta.
- Council staff will facilitate adding this as a topic of discussion for an upcoming ESC meeting.

[Johnson]

### 4.2. Working Group Reports

#### 4.2.1. Code Review

It was reported that there had been no meeting since the past meeting, but that a meeting was to occur after close of the Sub-Council meeting.

#### 4.2.2. Exterior Insulation

- The FSC Chair of the working group explained that he needs to step down due to other commitments.
- Working group and Council staff will investigate whether it's possible to get the technical expertise necessary to continue, or if the working group will need to be closed.

**Kevan Jess/Hunter Langpap moved that Mark Heiderich be named as Co-Chair of the Exterior Insulation Working Group; CARRIED.**

#### 4.2.3. Risks Related to Energy Storage, Charging, and Collection

- The working group co-chair uploaded an interim report to the member portal.
- The group continues to work to identify priority objectives as the scope remains very broad.

#### **4.3. BSC Liaison Report**

The BSC Liaison reported:

- The Building Sub-Council met on January 9<sup>th</sup>
- The Building Administrator gave a presentation on Energy Storage Systems which may be of interest to the Fire Sub-Council as well.
- Members discussed the need to better define a secondary suite.

#### **4.4. Administrator/AMA Report**

The Administrator reported:

- There is a STANDATA in the member portal for members to review, please provide any comments directly to the Technical Advisor or the Fire Administrator by February 13, 2025.
- Mike Baker is retiring and his last day of work will be April 17<sup>th</sup>.

#### **4.5. Council Updates**

##### **Dr. Sauer - Award Nominations Open**

- The Safety Codes Council is now accepting nominations for the 2025 Dr. Sauer Award.
- Each year this award is presented to a sub-council member who exemplifies the commitment, passion, and energy of Dr. Kenneth Sauer, the first Chair of the Safety Codes Council.
- To qualify for this award a sub-council member must be nominated by their peers. Please consider nominating a fellow sub-council member who you feel shows dedication to improving quality of life in Alberta's communities.
- Click here for more information: [Dr. Sauer Nominations 2025](#)
- The deadline to nominate a fellow sub-council member is March 26, 2025.

##### **Learning Opportunities – Speaker Ideas Requested**

- We held our first webinar for Members in November with a presentation on ISO 9001 by Michael Hart which was attended by almost half our members.
- We are in the process of planning more learning opportunities for 2025 and would love to hear from you.
- Please let us know what types of topics you'd be interested in learning more about as well as suggestions for possible speakers, if you have them.
- Email Gerry Letendre at [Gerry.letendre@safetycodes.ab.ca](mailto:Gerry.letendre@safetycodes.ab.ca) or Jennifer Johnson at [Jennifer.Johnson@safetycodes.ab.ca](mailto:Jennifer.Johnson@safetycodes.ab.ca)

#### **4.6. Shaft Detector Discussion**

The following was discussed:

- With the adoption of CAN/ULC Standard 536-2019 the fire alarm industry is struggling to
- find direction regarding deficiencies, particularly related to detectors located at the top of elevator shafts.
- Members discussed whether information contained in the appendix is enforceable.

- Depending on how it is interpreted, there could be an extremely high number of buildings with deficiencies which could cause a substantial cost to owners to replace detectors.

**Mark Wilson/Kevan Jess moved to create a working group to provide clarity on deficiencies according to CAN/ULC S536-2019; CARRIED.**

**Mark Wilson/Cameron Bardas moved that membership of the working group include Kevan Jess, Glenn Baxter, Jamie Vasseur with Mark Wilson as Chair and the Fire Administrator to provide support from Municipal Affairs; CARRIED.**

## **5. Meeting Finalization**

### **5.1. Round Table**

- The Alberta Fire Chiefs Association has formed a data committee to create a provincial system. The group is currently investigating what data is being collected by local fire departments.
- The National Code Committee selection process is complete, applicants should find out soon if they've been approved to sit on a committee.
- Alberta is starting to see more development in the area of hydrogen and compressed natural gas filling stations.

### **5.2. Next Meeting**

The next meeting was reconfirmed for May 29, 2025 at the Council office at 9:00 a.m.

### **5.3. Meeting Adjournment**

**Jamie Vasseur/Barry Fielden moved to adjourn the meeting; CARRIED**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

– NEW ACTION ITEMS –

**4.1. Interconnected Heat Alarms for Garages**

The following was discussed:

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[Johnson]

## **– MOTIONS –**

### **1. Meeting Opening**

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### **4. Matters for Discussion**

#### **4.2.2. Exterior Insulation**

- The Chair of the working group explained that he needs to step down due to other commitments.
- Working group and Council staff will investigate whether it's possible to get the technical expertise necessary to continue, or if the working group will need to be closed.

**Kevan Jess/Hunter Langpap moved that Mark Heiderich be named as Co-Chair of the Exterior Insulation Working Group; CARRIED.**

#### **4.6. Shaft Detector Discussion**

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## **5. Meeting Finalization**

### **5.3. Meeting Adjournment**

**Jamie Vasseur/Barry Fielden moved to adjourn the meeting; CARRIED**



**– WORKING GROUP MEMBER LISTS –**

<b>WORKING GROUP</b>	<b>WORKING GROUP MEMBERS (<u>Chair</u>)</b>
<b>Code Review</b>	<b><u>Chris Taylor</u></b> Glenn Baxter, Jamie Vasseur, Kevan Jess Municipal Affairs: Tina Parker, Mike Baker
<b>Exterior Insulation</b> (Joint w/ BSC) <i>formed Nov 25, 2021</i>	<b><u>Mark Heiderich (FSC co-chair), Cam Buskell (BSC co-chair)</u></b> Rick Gratton, Keith Jansen, Richard Friesen
<b>Risks Related to Energy Storage, Charging, and Collection Systems</b> (Joint w/BSC and ESC)	<b><u>Barry Fielden (FSC co-chair), Ralph Jonker (BSC co-chair), Greg Briggs (ESC co-chair)</u></b> Mark Wilson, Glenn Baxter
<b>ULC S536-2019 Clarity re: Deficiencies</b>	<b><u>Mark Wilson</u></b> Kevan Jess, Glenn Baxter, Jamie Vasseur Municipal Affairs: Tina Parker