



**MINUTES OF THE  
SECOND FIRE SUB-COUNCIL MEETING OF 2021**

**DATE:** March 18, 2021

**TIME:** 9:00 a.m. to 12:25 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Videoconference

**PRESENT:** *Sub-Council Members*

Michael Bos, Chair  
Cameron Bardas  
Allan Blatz  
Joseph Davis  
Robbin Foxcroft, Vice Chair South  
Mark Heiderich  
Cammie Laird  
Hunter Langpap, Vice Chair North  
John Penzo  
Stephen Suen  
Marc Royer  
Chris Taylor

*Safety Codes Council*

Kathryn Derkach, Jennifer Johnson

*Alberta Municipal Affairs*

Tina Parker, Cindy Yan

**REGRETS:** Richard Friesen

**GUESTS:** Rick Gratton, BSC Liaison; Glen Baxter, Ken Uzeloc, Andrew Smith (item 4.1)

**RECORDER:** Jennifer Johnson

**2021 MEETINGS:** May 20, September 16, November 25

## 1. Meeting Opening

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A round table introduction was held and teleconference tips were provided.

### 1.1 Agenda Adoption

**Robbin Foxcroft/Cameron Bardas moved that the agenda be adopted, as circulated; CARRIED**

### 1.2 Adoption of the Adoption of January 21 Minutes

**Chris Taylor/Mark Heiderich moved to adopt the minutes of the January 21 meeting, as circulated; CARRIED**

## 2. Matters for Decision

### 2.1. Closed Session

**Marc Royer/Robbin Foxcroft moved to go into closed session; CARRIED.**

**Robbin Foxcroft/Cameron Bardas moved to come out of closed session; CARRIED**

#### 2.1.1. Appointment of Glenn Baxter or Ken Uzeloc to represent Major Municipalities South

**Marc Royer/Hunter Langpap moved to recommend to the Board appointment of Glenn Baxter to the Fire Sub-Council to represent Major Municipalities South for a term ending January 31, 2024, effective immediately; CARRIED.**

## 3. Review Matters Arising/Action List

	Item	Action	Date Initiated	Responsible	Status/Update
1.	Qualified Persons Registry (E.2.06.11)	Communicate status of registry	Nov 23/16	Orr	No update.
2.	Fire Inspection Reports	Administrator awaiting approval from Members on documents. If acceptable the Administrator requests Council to post on their website and supply as part of training	May 13/20	Blatz/Laird	Documents were approved. Administrator will work with Council to determine best way to distribute.  Item can be removed, will update through Administrator's report.

3.	Farm Buildings	Administrator will provide updates on farm building issues as they arise.	Jan 21/21	Parker	Item 4.1 on agenda
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## 4. Matters for Discussion

### 4.1. Farm Buildings

Andrew Smith from APEGA/BSC presented and the following was discussed:

- Primary concerns include a) the permit process for farm buildings under the existing code and b) harmonization with the proposed “Large Farm Buildings” in the upcoming NBC2020
- Farm buildings have become far more complex since the farm building exclusion was introduced decades ago
- It is untrue that the building code doesn’t apply to farm buildings; there are some it doesn’t apply to but many are being built that it *should* apply to
- Important to ensure a qualified person (i.e. an SCO) is making that determination
- An upcoming STANDATA will help clarify what is classified as a farm building
- It is not clear why a building permit is not required for farm buildings; the permit regulation does not have a specific exclusion for farm buildings
- Concerns were raised that large farm buildings may not have appropriate access for firefighters or egress for farm workers; interconnected roof spaces also a concern for firefighters
- Need to ensure stakeholders are consulted and engaged in the discussion
- The presentation was accepted as information and sub-council members agreed with the information presented in principle

### 4.2. Environmental Scanning

What has changed over the past year and what is the impact? The following was discussed:

- No Safety Codes Council conference means less opportunities to meet for learning and sharing of information; less organic discussion taking place and less opportunity interdisciplinary discussion
- Budget cutbacks and short staffing situations in many municipalities is resulting in reluctance to take on new projects; this may be partially responsible for lack of agenda items
- Additional pressure on members and their organizations; people being put in different roles and taking on new responsibilities
- Questions to consider: Are there things we are missing? How would we know? What can we do better/different to find out what issues are arising and address them?
- If the conference is cancelled again, would there be other opportunities for training and information sharing?
- It was decided that time will be scheduled for informal discussion after the next meeting for those who would like to participate
- Leave on agenda; members are asked to go back to their nominating organizations and identify any issues to be brought forward

[Council Staff/All]

### 4.3. Working Group Reports

#### 4.3.1. Code Review

A report was included in the portal and the following was discussed:

- The working group was able to reach consensus on a number of items to be harmonized as well as some to remain the same, the group was unable to reach consensus on Section 2.15 and further discussion is needed
- There was discussion around possibly including that section in an Interpretation STANDATA
- The Administrator requested time to review prior to any recommendations being made
- Members are encouraged to review the report in the portal and bring any questions or comments to the next meeting
- Council staff will create a portal for the working group to upload documents

[Council Staff]

#### 4.4. BSC Liaison Report

The BSC Liaison reported:

- BSC decided against creating a new seat for the Refrigeration and Heating Association but did form a working group to identify issues related to that industry
- Nominating organizations were selected for the Energy Efficiency seat
- Structural Design of Residential Buildings STANDATA will be issued
- Presentation was given on the effects of hail damage to roofing and siding
- Code change proposal from Trade Offs for Sprinklers in Part 9 Buildings Working Group was approved and will be forwarded to Municipal Affairs
- Interior Stairways for Roof Access working group completed work on recommended STANDATA
- Discussion around professional involvement on residential occupancy for 4 units or fewer

#### 4.5. Administrator/AMA Report

The Administrator reported:

- Public at large appointments are in the process of being finalized
- Working at home until further notice
- Will bring back update on storage for lithium batteries, nothing to report at this time
- Hoping for a draft copy of the new Fire Code by the fall
- After the new code comes into force in 2022, Municipal Affairs will review all current STANDATAs and publish whichever ones apply

#### 4.6. Council Updates

A written report was included in the portal and updates were provided on:

- COVID-19 Update
  - In light of the province's directives for a safely staged relaunch, the Council will continue to offer services remotely
  - Please visit our website for updates on programming and services offered by the Safety Codes Council
- Information from the Distilleries working group is now on the Council website, feel free to share this information within the industry
- Member training coming up

- New Member Orientation – March 23
- Effective Meetings Workshop – April 13/14
- Appeals Training April 27/28
- Meeting invitations – if you don't see an option to "accept/yes" and "decline/no", please reply to the meeting invitation by email to indicate whether you will attend
- Nominating Organization Contacts
  - If you know that the main contact for your nominating organization has changed, please let Gerry (Gerry.letendre@safetycodes.ab.ca ) know
  - If you are in the last year of your term, please double check that your contact hasn't changed, this will help us when looking for new nominees and reappointments

## **5. Meeting Finalization**

### **5.1. Round Table**

- Discussion was held regarding releasing reports on fire protection systems to people other than the building owner; it was clarified that the owner would have to provide permission for that information to be disclosed
- Chris Taylor: New president at BOMA has set up quarterly meetings with sub-council representatives, members looking forward to more engagement with the nominating organization
- Joe Davis: Electrical Contractor Association has upcoming training for SCOs and AHJs, also looking at putting together a course on fire systems
- It was asked if anyone is aware of any 12 Story Mass Timber builds happening in their jurisdiction; some proposed concepts but nothing formal
- Discussion regarding existing shawarma cookers requiring fire suppression

### **5.2. Next Meeting**

The next meeting was reconfirmed for May 20, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

### **5.3. Meeting Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

– NEW ACTION ITEMS –

**4.2. Environmental Scanning**

- Leave on agenda; members are asked to go back to their nominating organizations and identify any issues to be brought forward

[Council Staff/All]

**4.3. Working Group Reports**

**4.3.1. Code Review**

- Council staff will create a portal for the working group to upload documents

[Council Staff]

– MOTIONS –

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**– WORKING GROUP MEMBER LISTS –**

<b>WORKING GROUP</b>	<b>WORKING GROUP MEMBERS (<u>Chair</u>)</b>
Code Review	<u>Chris Taylor</u> Marc Royer, Glenn Baxter, Hunter Langpap Municipal Affairs: Cindy Yan