

Appendix A: Summary of Section 5.6 National Fire Code of Canada 2010

Section 5.6 of the National Fire Code of Canada (NFCC) contains provisions for construction site fire safety. The section applies to buildings or parts of buildings that are undergoing construction, alteration or demolition.

A number of Provinces and territories have adopted the NFCC with little or no modification, including:

- Saskatchewan
- Newfoundland and Labrador Manitoba
- Northwest Territories
- Québec
- Nova Scotia
- New Brunswick
- Yukon

British Columbia and Alberta have province-specific construction and demolition safety sections in their provincial fire codes. The British Columbia provisions are consistent with the NFCC. The 2014 Ontario Fire Code contains provisions for buildings under demolition and limited provisions for buildings during repairs or renovations; however, it does not include requirements for fire and life safety at construction sites.

The table below summarizes key sections of the NFCC which apply to buildings (such as mid-rise wood) under construction. A number of requirements contained in the NFCC outlined below were used in the development of the draft provincial "best practices" guideline.

NFCC 2010 Section	Title	Summary
5.6.1.1.	Application	Section 5.6 of the NFCC applies to construction site fire safety. The section applies to buildings or parts of buildings that are undergoing construction, alteration or demolition.
5.6.1.2.	Protection of Adjacent Buildings	The purpose of this section is to the probability of the spread of fire from the building under construction to adjacent properties while emergency responders are performing their duties.
5.6.1.3.	Fire Safety Plan	The fire safety plan is a document which outlines the roles and responsibilities of site personnel to carry out fire safety duties, emergency procedures to follow in the event of a fire and measures for controlling fire hazards in and around the buildings. It is required to be prepared prior to the commencement of construction.

NFCC 2010 Section	Title	Summary
5.6.1.4.	Access for Firefighting	It is essential that emergency responders are not delayed in accessing fire protection equipment on site in order to limit fire spread. This section outlines requirements for unobstructed access to equipment (such as portable fire extinguishers) and access to the site, including all levels of a building under construction.
5.6.1.5.	Portable Fire Extinguishers	
5.6.1.6.	Standpipe Systems	In a multi-storey building, a standpipe system is a series of pipes which connect water supply to hoses for fire fighting. The NFCC contains provisions for the progressive construction of the standpipe system under construction. Ontario's Occupational Health and Safety Act regulations contain similar provisions.
5.6.1.7.	Hot Surface Applications	"Hot works" refer to construction processes which provide potential ignition sources to flammable material. The NFCC contains requirements for the use of certain construction techniques and devices which pose ignition risks.
5.6.1.8.	Ignition Sources	
5.6.1.14.	Watch	In order to limit the probability of a fire in the building under construction, the NFCC contains requirements for personnel to keep watch and tour the site for potential fires.
5.6.1.15.	Smoking Restrictions	The NFCC contains a number of other specific requirements intended to facilitate the prompt response to a fire situation. In the case of smoking restrictions and storage of dangerous goods, the intent is to limit the ignition of combustible material.
5.6.1.16.	Provision of Egress	
5.6.1.17.	Fire Warning	
5.6.1.18.	Storage and Use of Dangerous Goods	
5.6.1.19.	Temporary Enclosures	
5.6.1.20.	Disposal of Combustible Refuse	