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Ontario Association
of Architects



Practice Advisory

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Practice Advisory, a newsletter published six times a year, brings to members' attention topics that have an impact on management of either practice or the project.

Ontario's 2024 Building Code: Updated Practice Tips on OBC SB-10 and ASHRAE 90.1

Practice Tips are being updated to reflect the OBC 2024 requirements that came into effect on January 1, 2025. Access the newly updated Practice Tips on ASHRAE 90.1 and OBC SB-10 to help your practice and your clients.

[Learn More](#)



New CCDC Contracts Now Available in Electronic Format

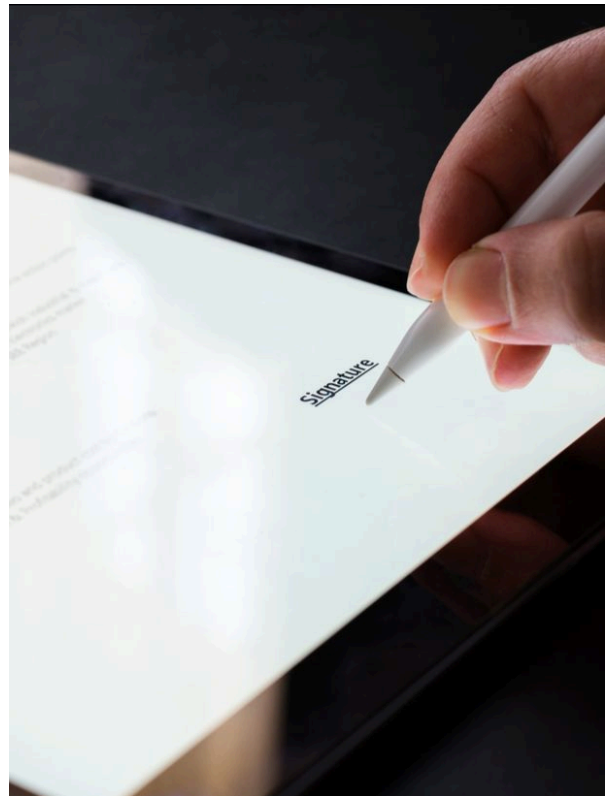
The Canadian Construction Documents Committee (CCDC) has released new versions of key contracts, including CCDC 5A, CCDC 5B, and CCDC 17 for construction management, as well as the CCDC 30 Integrated Project Delivery Contract.

[Learn More](#)

Preparing an RFP Proposal? Check Out this Practice Tip on Problematic Language to Help Identify Risks

Endorsed by Council in June 2025, the refreshed Practice Tip PT. 39.1 provides guidance related to identifying and dealing with problematic RFP language.

[Learn More](#)



OAA Writes Open Letter to Mayor of Toronto Regarding Statement

The Association has sent an open letter to Her Worship **Olivia Chow**, Mayor of Toronto, to express concerns and provide clarification in light of a recent announcement from the City regarding the expansion of its Certified Plans Program.

[Learn More](#)

Additional News and Resources

Toronto's Rental Renovation License Bylaw in Effect Next Week

On **July 31, 2025**, the City of Toronto's **Rental Renovation Bylaw** will be implemented. Established to protect tenants from bad faith evictions, preserve the City's rental housing stock, and establish a transparent and equitable process for landlords to complete necessary renovations responsibly, the bylaw requires landlords to obtain a licence before starting work in instances where vacancy of rental units is deemed necessary for the work being undertaken.

As part of the licence application, landlords have to obtain a report from a “qualified person”—that is, an individual licensed by the OAA or Professional Engineers Ontario (PEO)—to confirm vacant possession is required.

To learn more about Toronto's Rental Renovation Bylaw, **[click here](#)**.

Now Available! Updates to Practice Tips on *Copyright Act*, Scope Creep, and a Template for Changes to OAA Contracts

Endorsed by Council, the refreshed Practice Tips and template provide guidance related to identifying and dealing with scope creep during a project and an overview of the *Copyright Act*. Learn more on the **[OAA Website](#)**.

OAA Responds to CBHCC's Public Consultation for Draft Policy on Greenhouse Gas

The OAA wrote to the Canadian Board for Harmonized Construction Codes (CBHCC) in response to the ongoing consultation on the greenhouse gas (GHG) draft policy positions. **[Click here](#)** to read the letter, which states energy efficiency should remain a key piece of the building codes harmonization process.

Artificial Intelligence Tools and your Practice: List of Resources

Practice Advisory Services (PAS) continues to monitor the evolving impact of artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning on day-to-day practice operations. A curated reading list has been created to provide ongoing updates and insights. Read more on the [OAA Website](#).

Changes to Ontario Fire Code and French Edition Available

On June 2, 2025, the Solicitor General of Ontario approved [Ontario Regulation 87/25](#) made under the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997* (FPPA), which introduces changes to the Ontario Fire Code ([O. Reg. 213/07](#)) and creates the first **French edition of the Code**. [Click here](#) to read more about the updates.

Grenfell Tower Fire: Lessons from an Architectural Catastrophe

On June 14, 2017, Grenfell Tower in North Kensington, London, England, was engulfed in flames, resulting in the tragic loss of 72 lives. The final report of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry was published in September 2024, and the inquiry officially closed in February 2025.

Pro-Demnity Executive Advisor **John Hackett** and Architect **Gordon Grice** have undertaken an examination of the Grenfell Tower Fire Inquiry's findings. [Click here](#) to read more.

OAA Issues Statement on *Bill 17, Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act*

As reported in [OAA News](#), Ontario passed *Bill 17, Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025*, which includes changes to the *Planning Act*, such as amending complete application rules to limit what can be required as part of a complete application. A regulation under the Act excludes:

- sun/shadow reports;
- wind reports;
- urban design reports; and
- lighting reports.

It also updates the *Building Code Act* to prevent municipalities from passing bylaws respecting the construction or demolition of buildings. To read the OAA's statement, [click here](#).

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