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**MCAM COVID – INDUSTRY NOTICE – Office of the Fire Commissioner & City of Winnipeg  
March 23, 2020**

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**OFFICE OF THE FIRE COMMISSIONER (OFC)**

*Faced with the growing concerns and uncertainties over COVID-19, and our commitment to provide a safe environment for our inspectors as well as reduce the potential of spreading the virus, and in an effort to align with the City of Winnipeg, effective Thursday, March 19, Inspection and Technical Services will be suspending interior residential and commercial inspections, related to boilers, pressure vessels, gas fired appliances and elevators. Some of this work may have the ability to be completed through alternative means such as through video, photos or via phone. This will be on a case by case scenario, so please contact the area inspector to see if this is an option. Any emergency calls for heat will still be a priority and vetted through the specific area program manager to determine if it's an "absolute emergency". We ask everyone to please use good judgement before declaring a situation is an emergency. An emergency is when both health and safety is at risk. For instance, gas and heat for care homes would be a emergency. Once it has been determined the inspection required is a true emergency, you will be asked the following series of questions:*

1. Will our inspector require someone on site to meet them for the appointment?
2. Is inside access required? Can the inspectors safely get to equipment from outside?
3. If the inspection requires the inspector to go indoors, are there safety protocols in place to minimize the risk of transmission of potential virus?
4. Has anyone at the worksite or your company travelled in the last 14 days *internationally including to the United States*?
5. Has anyone in at the worksite or your company had close contact (face-to-face contact within 2 meters/6 feet) with someone who is ill with cough and/or fever and who has traveled internationally within 14 days prior to their illness onset? (Contact may be in Canada or during travel)
6. Has anyone at the worksite or your company been in contact in the last 14 days with someone that is confirmed to be a case of COVID-19?
7. Has anyone at the worksite or your company had laboratory exposure while working directly with specimens known to contain COVID-19?

*We are following the guidance of Manitoba Health and realize transmission is possible even when an individual is asymptomatic (not showing signs of illness), therefore, we request that the minimum number of people required to perform the inspection be present, and our inspectors have been instructed to enforce "social distancing" measures by remaining a minimum 6 feet apart (2 meters) at all times.*

*We thank you for your patience during this crisis, OFC*

**CITY OF WINNIPEG**

Additional measures have been put in place to support digital permit application submission.

Commercial and Housing Building Permit Applications can now be submitted online/email to be reviewed electronically. When issued, a pdf permit will be emailed with a link to a ZIP file to download approved supporting documentation.

Details are available online at:

<https://www.winnipeg.ca/ppd/permits/DigitalBuildingPermitSubmission.stm>

Any questions please contact:

204-986-5140

[ppd-permit@winnipeg.ca](mailto:ppd-permit@winnipeg.ca)