


Building By-law Fast Facts

MECHANICAL SYSTEMS

The City of Yellowknife (the City) is updating the Building By-law. The proposed By-law includes the latest requirements and regulates minimum standards for all mechanical systems. Heating, ventilation, air conditioning (HVAC), plumbing and sprinkler systems, are mechanical systems in a building that keep it safe, comfortable, and affordable. The By-law also details specifications for insulation, wall construction, windows, and other factors that affect energy efficiency.

Outlined below are key elements of and changes to the Building By-law in relation to mechanical systems. Look for this symbol  to identify changes.

The Big Picture

The NWT *Cities, Towns and Villages Act* gives the City the authority to adopt a Building By-law. The City has chosen to adopt a Building By-law that oversees the safety of new construction, as well as alterations, and additions to existing buildings. It does this through building inspections, and by ensuring builders comply with the standards in the Building By-law.

The mechanical systems of a building are key components in ensuring its safety and energy efficiency. Building owners are responsible for making sure their building is safe. The standards set out in the City's Building By-law help ensure that safety. These standards also help building owners reduce operating costs by requiring a minimum standard of energy efficiency.

DID YOU KNOW





The Building By-law adopts the National Energy Code with respect to mechanical equipment. These include: heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems such as heat recovery ventilation, pipe and duct insulation, and building automation and control systems to optimize equipment operation. The Building By-law appends the National Energy Code within it. As the National Energy Code changes, the changes automatically flow through to the City's Building By-law. This means energy standards in the City Building By-law are always consistent with national standards.





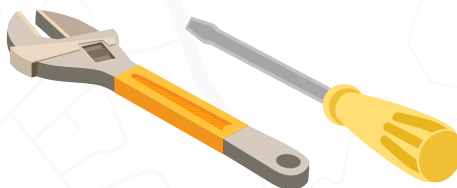
Quick Facts

 A Certified Sprinkler System Designer or a Registered Design Professional (Mechanical Engineer) may design a sprinkler system for a small residential building. This provides more options for builders and may reduce costs;

 A Registered Design Professional (Mechanical Engineer) is required for all Part 3 buildings with sprinkler systems (buildings where large groups of people assemble, such as an auditorium);

- The Building By-law ensures safety is built in; building owners are responsible for the safety of their buildings;
- The National Energy Code of Canada for Buildings has minimum standards for mechanical equipment efficiency, and forms part of the review process of City construction applications; and

- The Building By-law, through National Safety Codes, requires large residential buildings, such as apartments, or nonresidential buildings, such as an office or retail space, to have mechanical systems designed by a Registered Design Professional.



Find Out More

Review the Building By-law and learn about the change at www.yellowknife.ca/BuildingBylaw

For subject-specific information, check out these factsheets:

- [Background](#)
- [Building Standards and Enforcement](#)
- [Construction: Building for a Northern Climate](#)
- [CityView: Features and Benefits](#)

Have questions or feedback? Email: BuildingBylaw@yellowknife.ca

