



Shaping Tomorrow's Global
Built Environment Today

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ASHRAE Society President, 2026-2027

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August 19, 2026

The Honorable Rob Flack
Minister
Municipal Affairs and Housing

College Park, 17th Floor, 777 Bay St
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2J3

Sent via email to: minister.mah@ontario.ca

Re: Incorporating ASHRAE Standard 241 and Guideline 44 into the Ontario Building Code

Minister Flack,

I am writing on behalf of ASHRAE, the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, regarding updates to Ontario's building code, and the City of Toronto's request for ASHRAE Standard 241 and ASHRAE Guideline 44 to be incorporated into the code.

ASHRAE, founded in 1894, is a global professional and technical society of more than 54,000 members, including approximately 5,200 members in Canada. ASHRAE and its members focus on building systems, energy efficiency, indoor air quality, refrigeration, building water systems, sustainability and resilience. Through research, standards development, publishing, certification and continuing education, ASHRAE shapes tomorrow's global built environment today.

We wish to bring to your attention a motion from the City of Toronto, Item 2026.HL34.4, *Public Health Role in Indoor Air Quality*, recognizing the important role that indoor air quality plays in protecting public health and strengthening community resilience. As part of the adopted item, the Board of Health requested that the Province of Ontario take steps to improve indoor air quality, including "updating the Ontario Building Code to incorporate ASHRAE Standard 241 and ASHRAE Guideline 44-2024." This action recognizes the important role that indoor air quality plays in protecting public health and strengthening community resilience.

Toronto requested that ASHRAE Standard 241-2023 *Control of Infectious Indoor Aerosols* and ASHRAE Guideline 44-2024 *Protecting Building Occupants from Smoke During Wildfire and Prescribed Burn Events* be incorporated into Ontario's building code.

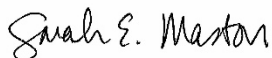
ASHRAE Standard 241-2023 *Control of Infectious Indoor Aerosols* establishes the minimum requirements for control of infectious aerosols to reduce risk of disease transmission in new and existing buildings, and major renovations to existing buildings, including requirements for both outdoor air system and air cleaning system design, installation, commissioning, operation, and maintenance.

ASHRAE Guideline 44-2024 *Protecting Building Occupants from Smoke During Wildfire and Prescribed Burn Events* provides a comprehensive set of recommendations to safeguard indoor air quality (IAQ) during wildfire and prescribed burn events.

Together, these resources provide building owners, designers, and operators with practical, science-based approaches to improving indoor air quality and preparing buildings for periods of elevated risk.

ASHRAE respectfully urges the Ministry to support the Toronto Board of Health's request that ASHRAE Standard 241 and Guideline 44 be incorporated into the Ontario Building Code. We appreciate your consideration of this important issue, and we stand ready to provide technical expertise and support as Ontario considers updates and changes to the building code. Please contact me, or have your staff contact GovAffairs@ashrae.org, with any questions or requests for additional information.

Sincerely,



Sarah E. Maston, P.E.
ASHRAE Society President, 2026-2027



David Sinclair, P.Eng
ASHRAE Toronto Chapter President 2026-2027



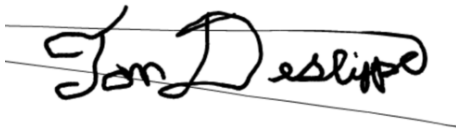
Syed Hassan
President, ASHRAE Windsor Chapter



Christopher Hofland, M.Eng., P.Eng., CEM, CMVP, CCP
ASHRAE Hamilton Chapter President 2026-2028

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Matthew Moore'.

Matthew Moore, P.Eng
ASHRAE Ottawa Valley Chapter President 2026-2027

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Tom Deslippe', written over a horizontal line.

Tom Deslippe
ASHRAE London Chapter President 2026-2027