



RESPONSE TO PETITION

Prepare in English and French marking 'Original Text' or 'Translation'

PETITION No.: **421-02391**

BY: **MR. OLIPHANT (DON VALLEY WEST)**

DATE: **MAY 28, 2018**

PRINT NAME OF SIGNATORY: **SIGNED BY THE HONOURABLE NAVDEEP BAINS**

Response by the Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development

SIGNATURE

Minister or Parliamentary Secretary

SUBJECT

Building Code

ORIGINAL TEXT

REPLY

The National Model Codes are overseen by the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes (CCBFC) – an independent committee of experts that was established by the National Research Council of Canada (NRC).

The CCBFC has decided to replace the National Farm Code from 1995 by incorporating the technical requirements, such as fire safety, structural safety, egress, etc., into the National Building and Fire Codes by way of a new classification. As you note, the provisions currently being considered for the next iteration of the Code do not mention the protection of animals, however certain circumstances will require protection features such as sprinklers, fire alarms, and fire separations. While this does not directly attribute to the protection of animals, these provisions have been updated and enhanced for occupant safety, which are expected to benefit the animals indirectly. The updated National Building and Fire Codes will be released in 2020, and their adoption and enforcement will be governed at the provincial and territorial level.

The Code development process is an open and consultative process that relies on the voluntary contributions of standing technical committees and task group members, as well as input from industry, the regulatory community, special interest groups and the public.

Petitioners would be welcome to submit a code change request at https://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/solutions/advisory/codes_centre/code_change_request.html reflecting their views on this matter.

Code changes or amendments are made through the CCBFC, which is an established independent process. As a result, the Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development is not in a position to direct the National Research Council to revise its policy and add protection of animals from fire as an objective in the updated National Farm Building Code.