

Home Safety Assessment Form



National Indigenous
Fire Safety Council Project
Projet du conseil national
autochtone de la sécurité-incendie

Community:	Date:
Occupant Name:	Address:

Number of occupants in home:	Number of bedrooms:	Number of floors:	Approximate square footage:
Occupant signature of accepted entry for Home Safety Assessment:			
Assessor's name:			

EXTERIOR					
QUESTION			CONSIDERATIONS	RECOMMENDED ACTION	ASSESSOR'S COMMENTS
CIVIC ADDRESS					
1. Is the house address visible?	YES	NO	N/A	If outside safety or rescue personnel respond, they will need an address to find the home.	If No - Recommend house numbers be a different colour than the background, illuminated and reflective, making it easy see from the street.
EXTERIOR FUEL TANK OR GAS METER:					
2. Do they have visible shutoff valves?	YES	NO	N/A	During an emergency, the gas or propane may need to be shut off for the safety of responders.	If No - Recommend the shutoff valves be located and tested in the on and off position.
ELECTRICAL SERVICE ENTRY:					
3. Are the electrical wires securely attached to the building, and free from tree limbs?	YES	NO		If the electrical wires are not securely attached to the building or are knocked off the building, there is a possibility of electrical shock.	If No - Recommend contacting the utility provider. Tree limbs should be removed.
STEPS AND HANDRAILS:					
4. Are the steps and handrails free of rot and cracks? Are the stairs and handrails secure?	YES	NO	N/A	Steps and handrails that are in poor shape may break when someone is using them. This could cause someone to fall or become injured.	If No - Recommend steps and/or handrails be repaired and secured.

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EXTERIOR					
QUESTION			CONSIDERATIONS	RECOMMENDED ACTION	ASSESSOR'S COMMENTS
STEPS AND HANDRAILS:					
5. Is the walkway and stairs free from trip hazards?	YES	NO	Trip hazards could cause injuries to people coming or going from the home. Trip hazards may become less obvious in the dark, rain or snow.	If No - Recommend repair and/or removal of any trip hazards.	
EXTERIOR OUTLETS:					
6. Do the exterior outlets have working covers; are they GFCI outlets; is there proper current flow to the outlets; does the outlet breaker work?	YES	NO	N/A	If proper outlets and covers are not in place, there is a risk of electric shock.	If No – Recommend repair or replace as necessary.
EXTERIOR DOORS:					
7. Are all exterior doors clear of obstructions and in good working order so they can be used in case of an emergency?	YES	NO	In an emergency, if any of the exits are blocked, there is a chance people will not be able to escape.	If No - Recommend obstructions be removed and doors fixed if required so they work properly.	
INTERIOR					
QUESTION			CONSIDERATIONS	RECOMMENDED ACTION	ASSESSOR'S COMMENTS
SMOKE / CO DETECTORS:					
8. Are there smoke/CO detectors installed in the home?	SMOKE:		Smoke/CO detectors alert the occupants in the house of the danger of a fire or elevated carbon monoxide levels.	If No - Recommend installation where needed, change batteries and check expiration dates Recommend a minimum of 1 smoke/CO detector on each floor.	Date of installation and/or expiry date (smoke alarm)
Do they work when tested?	CO:				Date of installation and/or expiry date (CO detector)
	YES	NO			
	YES	NO			

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FIRE EXTINGUISHERS:					
9. Is there a minimum of 1 fire extinguisher on each floor?	YES	NO	In case a small fire takes place, any person in the home could use the fire extinguisher to put the fire out and prevent a more serious large fire.	If No - Recommend purchasing at least 1 (Class A,B,C) fire extinguisher per floor. Recommend 1 fire extinguisher be installed in the kitchen. Fire extinguishers should be placed within 30 feet of furnaces and/or wood stoves.	If Yes - Check expiration date, class and pressure gauge (needle is in the Green) to ensure they will work if needed.
DOORS AND WINDOWS:					
10. Are all doors and windows clear of obstructions and do they open?	YES	NO	In an emergency, if any of the exits are blocked, there is a chance people will not be able to escape.	If No - Recommend obstructions be removed and doors and windows be fixed if required so they work properly and can be used in case of an emergency.	
11. Is the home free of black mould-like stains, a musty scent or any evidence of water leaking or seeping in?	YES	NO	The presence of mould indicates an underlying issue. Mould and damp conditions can cause a variety of health issues.	If no - Recommend the cause of the mould / dampness be identified and fixed. A qualified person should perform a mould test and recommend mitigation.	
If no, EHO / Remediation Contact advised?	YES	NO			
Name: _____ Phone: _____					
STAIRCASE AND HANDRAILS:					
12. Is the staircase clear of obstructions and are the stairs and handrails secure?	YES	NO	N/A	Obstructions on the stairs can be a trip hazard and can make it hard for people to escape the building safely and for responders to get in to provide help. Unsecured steps and/or handrails could cause someone to fall or become injured.	If No - Recommend removing obstructions so that stairs are clear in case of an emergency. Repair steps and handrails as required.

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QUESTION			CONSIDERATIONS	RECOMMENDED ACTION	ASSESSOR'S COMMENTS
PLUMBING:					
13. Are the bathroom, kitchen and/or laundry room sinks free of leaks?	YES	NO	Mould and damp conditions can cause a variety of health issues. Leaking water will cause decay to the building.	If No— Recommend leaks are repaired. If there is mould, have a test performed by a qualified person.	
ELECTRICAL:					
14. Is the electrical panel easy to access and free from clutter?	YES	NO	In the case of an emergency, rescue personnel may need to turn off the electricity at the panel.	If No - Recommend moving obstructions a minimum of 4 feet in front of the panel and 2 feet from the sides.	
15. Are outlets installed within 6 feet of sinks, baths or any other water source GFCI outlets?	YES	NO	There is a high chance that someone using an item that is plugged in near water could suffer an electric shock if the item comes into contact with water and the outlet is not a GFCI outlet.	If No - Recommend replacing any outlets within 6 feet of a water source with GFCI outlets.	
16. Are electrical outlets in all rooms in the house functioning and there have been no problems with any of the outlets?	YES	NO	Proper electrical current will keep the wires from overheating when used. If improper electrical current travels through the wiring, over time it could overheat and start a fire.	If No – Recommend there may be a polarity issue. Have the electrical current flow tested.	
17. Do all light switches and outlets have covers and are they free from discolouration?	YES	NO	Light switch and outlet covers are there to prevent any possible shock hazards. If the covers are discoloured, this is a sign that there may be a problem with the electrical current flow.	If No— Recommend any damaged covers be replaced.	

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QUESTION			CONSIDERATIONS	RECOMMENDED ACTION	ASSESSOR'S COMMENTS
HEATING SYSTEMS:					
18. Is the furnace clear of obstructions and combustible materials?	YES	NO	N/A	Furnaces require at least 2 feet of clearance around them to remain cool and not overheat. If the furnace was to overheat, it will not work properly, may breakdown or may even catch fire.	If No - Recommend removing obstructions and combustible materials a minimum of 2 feet away from the furnace.
19. Does the furnace appear to be in good condition? Is it clean and free from dust and discoloration on the main body and venting?	YES	NO	N/A	A furnace is used to heat a home. It also exchanges the air in the home, meaning it freshens the air occupants breathe. It is important to keep the filter and the area around the furnace clean for fresh air.	If No – Recommend a qualified technician service, and if necessary repair, the furnace.
20. Is there a shutoff valve on or near the furnace and does the furnace turn on right away when the thermostat is turned up?	YES	NO	N/A	In the case of an emergency, the responders may need to turn off the gas valve to the furnace. Someone doing maintenance may also need to turn off the gas valve. If the furnace does not react promptly to the thermostat being turned up, this may indicate problems with the furnace.	If No - Recommend a qualified gas technician repair and service the furnace.

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BASEBOARDS AND SPACE HEATERS:						
21. Are the baseboards and space heaters clear of obstructions?	YES	NO	N/A	Baseboards and space heaters operate at high temperatures. It is important to keep articles 2 feet away from baseboards and space heaters when they are on to avoid the possibility of a fire.	If No – Recommend obstructions be moved at least 2 feet away.	
22. Are the baseboards and space heaters functioning properly? When you turn up the thermostat do, they heat up?	YES	NO	N/A	Baseboards and space heaters operate at high temperatures. It is important to make sure they work properly to avoid the possibility of a fire.	If No - Recommend the baseboards and/or space heaters be repaired or replaced as necessary.	
23. Do the baseboards appear to be in good condition? Are they free from dust and discoloration?	YES	NO	N/A	If the baseboards are discoloured with blackish, brown stains they may be over heating which could eventually cause a fire.	If No - Recommend the baseboards be repaired or replaced as necessary.	

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WOOD STOVE:						
24. Is the Exterior chimney free of any cracks, missing bricks or chimney cap, or black creosote buildup?	YES	NO	N/A	A chimney with obvious cracks, missing bricks, missing chimney cap, or creosote buildup most likely has structural damage or is not working properly and the chance of having a chimney fire is much higher.	If No – Recommend the chimney be repaired and serviced by a certified WETT technician.	
25. Does the wood stove and interior chimney appear to be in good condition? Is the glass door free from cracks and black discolouration?	YES	NO	N/A	If a wood stove or chimney has signs of leaking joints or any cracks or discolouration, it is not functioning properly and is becoming a fire hazard.	If No - Recommend a certified WETT technician repair and service as required.	
26. Is there a working smoke/CO detector centrally located on the ceiling but not closer than 20 feet of the wood stove or fireplace?	YES	NO	N/A	It is important not to put the detector too close to the fireplace or woodstove because quite often smoke is released in the home while the wood stove or fireplace is being lit or refuelled. If the detector is too close, it will set off a false alarm.	If No - Recommend a smoke/CO detector be installed (or moved) a minimum 20 feet from the wood stove or fireplace.	
27. Is there a fire extinguisher within 20 feet of the wood stove or fireplace but not closer than 10 feet?	YES	NO	N/A	Fire extinguishers should be kept a minimum of 10 feet away from a woodstove or fireplace. In case there is a fire, you can locate the extinguisher and use it as you approach the wood stove or fireplace.	If No - Recommend a fire extinguisher be placed no closer than 10 feet.	

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HOME SAFETY PLAN:				
28. Does the household have a safety plan and a meeting location in place?	YES NO	A safety plan will let everyone in the home know how to escape and get to a safe meeting location. This will also be very helpful when responders arrive if anyone is missing.	Recommend create, modify and review a plan that consists of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ all escape routes using doors and windows. ▪ a determined meeting place. ▪ do these escape routes work during all seasons? ▪ are the occupants aware that they should not re-enter the home under any circumstance? ▪ Review the safety plan and practice it annually. 	
29. Is there a list of emergency numbers and contacts?	YES NO	In the case of an emergency, there should be a list of emergency numbers close to the phone for anyone who is there to use.	Recommend review or create a new list of numbers that include emergency services and at least 2 people that live close by.	
30. Is there a phone that works without power?	YES NO	If there is a power outage, any house phones that operate on electricity will not work.	Recommend that the house have a phone that works without power.	