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Condos and apartments to require fire sprinklers

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TORONTO - Beginning in two years, new condominiums and apartments higher than three storeys in Ontario will require sprinkler systems, the province announced Wednesday.

As of April 1, 2010, changes to the provincial building code will mean builders will have to ensure any new structure above three floors, and any older one undergoing major renovations, is equipped with sprinklers. They are to be placed throughout the building, including in residential suites, service areas and common areas, such as corridors.

"We are making our safe buildings even safer. These changes to the building code will ensure residents of new high-rises will have the same fire-protection as all other jurisdictions in Canada," said Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Jim Watson.

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