Attention All Members:

The British Columbia Government recently announced the Fire Sprinkler Working Group recommendations on how best to move forward with the issue of Residential Sprinkler bylaws in British Columbia. With the new adoption and implementation of the British Columbia Uniform Building Code Act, there was strong concern by the Canadian Automatic Sprinkler Association, British Columbia Fire Chiefs Association, NFPA Canada and other industry supporters regarding the potential impact that the new Uniform Building Code Act will have on existing Residential Sprinkler municipal bylaws. The British Columbia Government has recently announced that it will be adopting and implementing the majority of the recommendations made by the British Columbia Fire Sprinkler Working Group. This will allow existing and new British Columbia communities to “opt in” to a uniform regulation that will continue to allow residential sprinklers to protect British Columbia communities. It will also provide the opportunity for other communities to “opt in” to the regulation if they can meet the criteria described in the regulation.

The Canadian Automatic Sprinkler Association would like to thank the British Columbia Government and the Building & Safety Standards Branch staff for their efforts on this important issue. We believe the Fire Sprinkler Working Group recommendations will help provide a standardized and uniform residential sprinkler regulation that will help provide clarity on the implementation, design, and approval process of residential sprinkler systems for existing and new British Columbia communities. This streamlined and uniform approach will help address the concerns that were made by industry stakeholders about the lack of consistency in the various residential sprinkler bylaws, but will maintain the opportunity for existing and new British Columbia communities to adequately protect their communities from the threat of fire with the protection of a residential sprinkler system.

To view more information regarding this announcement please visit the British Columbia Government website:
http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/construction-industry/building-codes-standards/building-act/working-groups

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About C.A.S.A: C.A.S.A. is the voice of the sprinkler industry in Canada, representing contractors, designers and manufacturers across Canada. C.A.S.A. is a national leader in home fire safety and injury prevention through the use of residential fire sprinklers. Incorporated in 1961 C.A.S.A. has long been the leading advocate of fire sprinklers in Canada in the fight to reduce deaths as a result of fire. For more information on residential sprinklers please visit the following web site: www.casa-firesprinkler.org

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