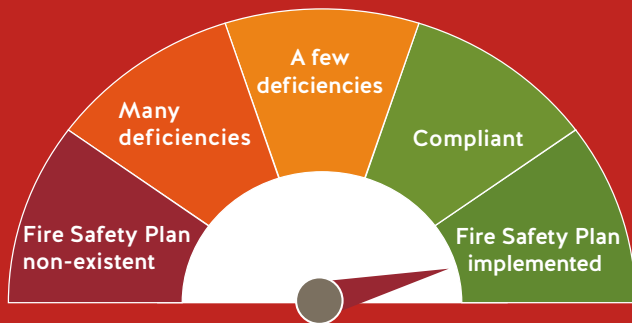


Your Fire Safety Plan

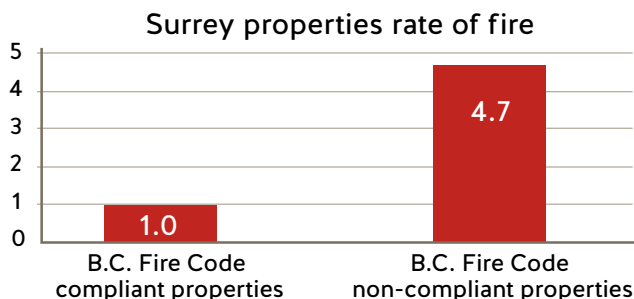


If you don't have a Fire Safety Plan or it's been indicated that yours is deficient, please read below to learn how to create or improve it

1. Why create or improve your Fire Safety Plan?

Catastrophic losses, from human, property or environmental causes, can have significant impact on your company's production, morale, and continued viability. The damage and downtime resulting from even a "small fire" can be detrimental to your company's ability to remain in business.

The preparation, implementation, and maintenance of a quality Fire Safety Plan can help to prevent fires and minimize the damage when they occur. For example, the City of Surrey statistics revealed that properties with BC Fire Code violations are 4.7 times more likely to experience a fire than a compliant property. This speaks volumes to the benefits of a good Fire Safety Plan solidly implemented.



The three objectives of a Fire Safety Plan are:

- 1 Fire Prevention** including:
 - Control of fire hazards in buildings
- 2 Occupant safety** including:
 - Appointment, training, and organization of supervisory staff
 - Emergency procedures to be used in case of fire
 - Regularly holding fire drills
- 3 Fire control and extinguishment** including:
 - Documents showing the type, location, and operation of the fire equipment systems
 - Inspection and maintenance of the building facilities

From a business perspective, these objectives are sensible. The cost of a fire will typically be higher than the cost to produce, implement, and maintain a Fire Safety Plan. The building owner or owner's authorized agent is ultimately responsible for ensuring that the plan is correct, complete, and implemented in order to achieve the objectives.

2. How to create or improve your Fire Safety Plan?

A new, comprehensive Fire Safety Plan Development Guide is now available in B.C. It's a three-part Fire Safety Plan Guide.

This guide is intended to assist owners and operators of industrial operations and other businesses and, where required, help them to develop and implement effective Fire Safety Plans. The guide has been designed in an easy to use, step-by-step format, with some checklists and examples that can be useful for preparing a comprehensive Fire Safety Plan.

Building owners and operators can use the guide themselves or hire third-party Fire Safety Plan consultant to use the guide and produce a BC Fire Code compliant Fire Safety Plan. **For complex operations or significant fire hazards, using the services of a Subject Matter Expert is recommended.**

Copies of the guide and checklists can be downloaded from the Fire Prevention Officers' Association of BC website. The instructions are on the right.

Remember: The Fire Safety Plan should not sit on a shelf until a fire official asks to see it. It's a plan that must be effectively implemented to prevent fires and protect occupants and property. It must be reviewed annually to be sure it remains current.

Download the Development Guide

The Fire Safety Plan was developed to encourage the implementation of a consistent, effective Fire Safety Plan to help prevent fires and save lives. These resources have been developed in collaboration with the Fire Inspection and Prevention Initiative (FIPI), Office of the Fire Commissioner, The Fire Chiefs' Association of BC, and the Fire Prevention Officers' Association of BC.

Follow these two easy steps to download and access the free online Fire Safety Plan Development Guide and resources to customize the Fire Safety Plan for your building.

Step 1 — Visit the Fire Prevention Officers' Association website at www.fpoa.bc.ca

Step 2 — Under the Prevention tab, scroll down and select Fire Safety Plan

Once you've selected Fire Safety Plan, you can access and download the following resources:

- A comprehensive outline of the Fire Safety Plan visual guidelines, including tips on how to build a comprehensive plan
- A three-part documentation guide
 - Part 1 — Collection of relevant information
 - Part 2 — Instructions for documentation
 - Part 3 — Template guide to developing a Fire Safety Plan
- Fire Safety Plan review checklist
- Fire hazard identification checklist

Building owners can use the template to customize your Fire Safety Plan to meet the needs of your individual building and municipal requirements.