



FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS TO UPGRADING EXISTING BUILDINGS

CROSS CANADA CHAPTERS TECHNICAL SESSION

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 25TH, 2024

10:30-12:30 PDT 11:30-2:30 MDT 1:30-3:30 EDT

FREE ONLINE EVENT

Registration required to receive meeting link – Registration link [here](https://www.pathlms.com/sfpe/courses/74891/webinars/51952) or
<https://www.pathlms.com/sfpe/courses/74891/webinars/51952>

Alterations to existing buildings represent around half the volume of construction activity in Canada. Yet, the National Building Code of Canada (NBCC) does not include a practical means for achieving acceptable fire and life safety in existing structures. The current mechanism in the NBCC is to use Alternative Solutions to demonstrate an equivalent or higher level of performance to the Acceptable Solutions in the Code. Existing buildings do not readily align with new construction which has led to an inconsistent, largely prescriptive approach across Canada. Many Fire Protection Engineers recognize that a holistic approach allows for more creativity in dealing with numerous existing conditions and can result in significant reductions in construction costs and permit processing times. The presentations will provide background, challenges, and possible solutions to the current disconnects in building regulations, in part contributing to the cost of affordable housing. The final presentation will include case studies and examples of projects on historic and heritage buildings in Old Montreal, illustrating complexities with existing conditions.

PRESENTERS

BOB HEIKKILA, MBA, P.Eng. CP, FEC: Director with Jensen Hughes

JOHN IVISON, P.Eng.(ret.) CP FSFPE: Principal John Ivison Associates

PASCAL CARON, Ing. PMSFPE: Past President and current board member of SFPE Saint-Laurent Chapter

AGENDA

1:30 - 1:40	Welcome	Kieran Ager – Prairies Provinces Chapter President
1:40 - 1:50	Bob Heikkila	Challenges: Alternative Solutions Approach to Existing Buildings
1:50 - 2:25	John Ivison	Holistic Approach Using Site Assessments/Formal AHJ Agreements
2:25 - 2:35	Break	SFPE Update
2:35 - 3:10	Pascal Caron	Old Montreal Historic and Heritage Buildings: Case Studies
3:10 - 3:25	Questions	Maxime Fortin – St. Laurent Chapter President
3:25 - 3:30	Closing	Lindsay Ranger – National Capital Region President

This is the first joint event hosted by the SFPE Canadian Chapters. The SFPE Canadian Chapters Collaboration Group is working on creating a new SFPE Canada organization that will provide representation on national efforts related to fire protection engineering. We are also celebrating the creation of the Prairies Provinces Chapter and the Atlantic Canada Chapter.

Society of Fire Protection Engineers

Engineering a Fire Safe World