



Fuels Safety Program	Ref. No.: FS-150-09	Rev. No.:
ADVISORY	Date: July 2009	Date:

Subject: Gas Fireplace Showrooms
Sent to: Posted on TSSA Web-Site

The amended Section 4.1.3, for Ontario, of the CAN/CSA-B149.1-05 – “Natural Gas and Propane Installation Code” states: “An appliance, accessory, component, equipment or any other item shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer’s certified instructions and this Document”.

The Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) recognizes the uniqueness of fireplace showrooms. Often there are 20 or more fireplaces in one showroom. The owner of building will not permit the tenet to cut 20 or more holes in the walls and ceiling to allow the venting of the fireplaces. The ability to operate a fireplace for demonstration purpose in a showroom is a critical selling function. Often the vents from one or more fireplaces are connected to a common header which does not comply with the certified instructions. In an effort to enforce the regulations, promote safety and recognizing the need for these showrooms to continue with their daily business, TSSA will consider variances which will allow the operation of these fireplaces for display purpose.

To apply for a variance, submit a completed variance application form along with the required deposit. The application form shall reference Section 4.1.3 of the CAN/CSA-B149.1-05 Code. This form can be located at: <http://www.tssa.org/regulated/fuels/fuelsForms.asp>.

This variance covers only the venting of the fireplaces. All other aspects of the installation shall comply with the CAN/CSA-B149.1 installation code and the certified instructions. In submitting a variance the following information is required.

1. A design of your fireplace showroom. The design shall be submitted by professional Engineer knowledgeable in venting. The design shall deal with the installation of the fireplaces and shall include the following:
 - a. A list of fireplaces commonly vented. This shall include the manufacturer, model, input rate and type of fireplace (Direct Vent., Gravity Vent, Insert, Etc).
 - b. A drawing showing the venting arrangement. Included shall be dimensions, materials used, fabrication, termination, etc
 - c. Clearance to combustibles.
 - d. Combustion air source.
2. Design Considerations:
 - a. The venting system shall be capable of venting any one or all of the fireplaces connected to that header.
 - c. Demonstrate there is sufficient combustion air supply to handle all fuel burning appliances in operation at one time, including non fireplaces. Building exhaust fans need to be considered.
 - d. All fireplaces must be certified, no prototypes.

3. Other Requirements:

- a. Fireplace showrooms shall be equipped with Carbon Monoxide Detectors which will alarm at 25 ppm. If there are living accommodations in a section of the building attached to the fireplace showroom, the Carbon Monoxide Detectors shall be interlocked to shut off the gas supply to the fireplaces in the event the C.O. level exceeds 10 ppm.
- b. Fireplace showrooms shall be equipped with a fire suppression system (extinguisher or other)
- c. All variances are subject to inspection and testing.