



*Stay safe this winter!*

**The Office of the Fire Marshal reminds you to check your home for fire hazards.**

- Have your **heating appliance** checked by a professional.
- Make sure your **chimney** is clean and that the liner is in good repair. Rust, separated seams, and interior collapse are signs that your chimney must be replaced.
- Check all **ductwork, heating vents and registers**. Dust and other combustibles can collect on your heating elements over the summer.
- A **working smoke alarm** is your first defence in the early detection of fire. Install one on every level of your home. Make sure you change its battery regularly.
- A **carbon monoxide detector** will help protect you against toxic gases and deadly fumes. These should be placed in furnace and laundry rooms, hallways and in any room containing a heating unit.
- Portable **fuel-fired heaters and gas lanterns** need ventilation when used indoors. Before operating these appliances, make sure gases are properly vented outdoors.
- Prevent deadly gases from entering your home. Don't run your **car's engine or a portable generator** in an attached garage or next to an open door or window where the exhaust can enter your home.
- Never attempt to **thaw a frozen pipe** with a torch or other form of open flame. Call a professional. You may also try using a hair dryer or electric pipe heat tape.