



Chris Thompson
Manager
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Municipal Services Division
Building and Development Branch
777 Bay Street
2nd Floor
Toronto, ON
M5G 2E5

RE: Ontario Regulation 332/12 (Building Code)

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) is pleased with the Government of Ontario's recent announcement that it will move forward with the proposed changes to the Ontario Building Code to allow for wood frame building structures for up to six storeys.

If passed, this regulatory change will ensure that Ontario builders are presented with viable and alternative construction options that meet safety, health and structural requirements within the building code.

This announcement benefits the northern Ontario economy by creating a demand for Ontario's wood products which supports the forest industry, a key economic sector of northern Ontario and the province as a whole. By increasing opportunities to build with wood from Ontario's sustainable managed forests, the proposed code changes support forest industry jobs and forest dependent communities.

Amendments to the building code would generate new opportunities for innovation and design as well as reduce the carbon footprint during the construction process. FONOM believes that building code changes will also aim to assist smart growth through the development of diversified buildings.

FONOM stresses the importance of the government to take continued action to ensure that these changes to the Ontario Building Code are implemented.

Sincerely,

Alan Spacek
President