

February 1999 97-DI-025

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**REPLACEMENT OF CENTRAL HEATING FURNACES  
IN SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCES**

This Interpretation has been developed jointly by the Director/Administrator, Building Safety and the Administrator, Gas Safety to clarify the combustion air and mechanical ventilation requirements when an existing central heating furnace is being replaced.

When an existing propane or natural gas-fired furnace is replaced with a new gas-fired unit, installation of the new furnace shall conform with the requirements of CAN/CGA-B149.1, "Natural Gas Installation Code," or CAN/CGA-B149.2, "Propane Installation Code."

In accordance with Clause 1.1.2.1.(1)(m) of the Alberta Building Code 1997, the requirements of the Code apply to the replacement of a central heating furnace (electric, oil or gas-fired) serving an existing forced-air heating system.

Unless special acceptance is received from the authority having jurisdiction, a combustion air supply must be provided in accordance with the respective documents in the preceding paragraph and with Standata 97-DI-006, "Combustion Air for Dwelling Units."

When an existing furnace is being replaced with a new furnace, an insulated fresh air intake duct, minimum 100 mm in size, connected to the return air plenum, must be provided to supply ventilation air to the occupied space. Alternatively, the above fresh air duct may be sized in accordance with Subsection 9.32.3. of the Alberta Building Code 1997. Installation of dampers in the new fresh air intake ductwork shall conform with requirements of Sentences 9.32.3.12.(14), (15) and (16).

**Note:**

The existing venting system must be checked by the installer, to ensure that it is acceptable for use with the replacement appliance according to the manufacturer's certified installation instructions. The existing horizontal venting system and the chimney lining may not meet the requirements of the applicable installation codes. These items must be checked by the installer and be upgraded to meet the current requirements of the installation standards.

C. LaRose  
Administrator  
Gas Safety

C.M. Tye  
Director/Administrator  
Building Safety

ISSUE OF THIS INTERPRETATION IS  
AUTHORIZED UNDER ARTICLE 2.5.1.5. OF THE  
ALBERTA BUILDING CODE 1997 BY THE  
DIRECTOR/ADMINISTRATOR.

C. M. TYE



SAFETY CODES COUNCIL

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