

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS CITY OF BRANTFORD CONTRACTORS

Q: Who will be responsible for the Program and answering my questions?

A: Jill Thompson, RN – Manager of Health, Wellness & Safety, City of Brantford

Q Where can I get more information?

A: Online Information: City of Brantford Website at www.brantford.ca/AMP

Email: AMP@brantford.ca

Telephone Hotline: 519-759-4150 extension #2259

City Staff: Property Managers and/or Facilities Management Staff

Updates will be made available to all contractors on an ongoing basis as part of the City of Brantford's Asbestos Management Program (AMP). Site records will be on-site for each building or available through the Property Manager for the respective building.

As part of its Asbestos Management Program, the City will be re-inspecting/inspecting all City owned or operated buildings. Only approved contractor and/or trained staff will complete the re-inspections/inspections on behalf of the City. This typically involves a visual inspection and collection of samples for laboratory examination of building materials to determine asbestos content, if any, and update site records.

Q: What is the City's responsibility regarding asbestos in City owned or leased buildings?

A: The City's obligation is to effectively manage asbestos containing materials (ACMs) by development, implementation and maintenance of an AMP which is intended to disclose the location, type and condition of asbestos containing materials, if any, in buildings owned or operated by the City. Other aspects of the program include worker training, reporting procedures, inspection at regular intervals and repair or removal of ACMs as may be required.

Q: What is your responsibility as a contract service provider?

A: Unless within the scope of the proposed work, please ensure all workers on site do not disturb or remove ACMs without prior notification and authorization by the responsible department within the City of Brantford.

If you have been retained to provide contracted services, please ensure you have received a copy of the site records for the building at which you will be performing work, prior to commencing work.

Q What is the plan to deal with the asbestos containing materials?

A: The City of Brantford will hire expert consulting firm(s) to conduct re-inspections/ inspections on behalf of the City. The result will be a citywide inventory of asbestos containing materials for all City owned or operated buildings. From this inventory, site records will be developed and posted in a visible and accessible location at each building.

The City of Brantford will continue to develop its AMP, including procedures for the property maintenance and handling of ACMs. It will include preventative measures to reduce the probability of damage to ACMs as well as procedures for routine maintenance, cleaning, responses and ongoing annual re-inspections.

The City of Brantford will communicate with all contractors regarding the relevant information and notification of any repairs or removals.

The City will retain the services of qualified consultants and contractors to evaluate and remove/repair ACMs, as required in order to maintain a healthy environment.

Q: What will happen now?

A: Each building will be inspected or re-inspected, which may include sampling and analysis from discrete locations. Exposure to airborne asbestos fibres during sampling/analysis is negligible. Contractors, employees and occupants can be present. Contractors retained to inspect/re-inspect are trained in the process of sampling/analysis and the use of control measures and will be following approved procedures to carry out their work.

Q; What is the timeframe for re-inspection/inspection for asbestos containing materials?

A: It is estimated that re-inspections/inspections will begin in January with an estimated completion date of July 2013, subject to the retention of qualified consultants.

Q: Where will asbestos be if it is in buildings?

A: Building materials known to contain ACMs include (but are not limited to):

- Sprayed-on fire-proofing on structural steel members
- Floor materials – vinyl sheet flooring and floor tiles
- Ceiling tiles (mostly 12” x 12,” seldom 2’ x 4’ or 2’ x 2’)
- Boiler system insulation (parging cement and air-cell) – piping and fittings such as valves, elbows, tees, hangers and gaskets
- HVAC system insulation – on chillers, duct work, gaskets
- Drywall joint compound (drywall mud)
- Texture coatings – stucco, layers of plaster
- Asbestos-containing vermiculite (granular-type insulation found in attics and wall cavities)
- Cement (Transite) materials – siding, roof sheets, underground sewer piping, tiles
- Fire-stop and fire-shield materials

In commercial, institutional and industrial buildings, the use of ACMs is more common than in residential buildings. Please note that ACMs that remain intact pose negligible health risk.

Q: Should I stop doing my work?

A: If your work involves the disturbance of ACMs and therefore is creating an airborne hazard, then yes, stop work immediately and contact the Health & Safety Division so the nature of the work can be assessed by trained staff.

It is the City of Brantford's intention to manage ACMs in accordance with legislation. If ACMs are present (and in poor condition) in a City-owned or operated building, they will be repaired or removed, as may be required.

If ACMs are present in mass quantities and found to be in poor condition, such that repair or removal of ACMs means temporarily displacing an employee from their workspace, appropriate accommodations will be made. Note: displacement would only occur when high hazards or high risk situations exist, and are often rare occurrences.

Q: What buildings owned by the City are included?

A: The City of Brantford Asbestos Management Program applies to all City owned and operated buildings. City owned or operated facilities built prior to the mid-1980s will be re-inspected/inspected for ACMs. If ACMs are present (and in poor condition) in a City owned or operated building, they will be repaired or removed, as may be required.

Q: Who is responsible for legislation about asbestos in buildings?

A: ACMs are legislated by Ontario Regulation 278/05 entitled, "Designated Substance – Asbestos on Construction Projects and in Buildings and Repair Operations," which is made under Ontario's *Occupational Health and Safety Act* and is enforced by Ontario's Ministry of Labour.