

# AGREEMENT FOR INSPECTION SERVICES

(Including Scope and Limitations of the Inspection)

FILE NUMBER

**Between:**

**1330319 ALBERTA LTD.**

Operating under the tradename HOME-ALYZE®

(the "Company", or "we")

-and-

\_\_\_\_\_ (the "Client", or "you")

**Address for Inspection:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (the "Property")

## THE INSPECTION

Upon execution of this Agreement we agree to provide a single non-invasive visual only inspection of the readily accessible features and components of the Property at a particular point in time (the "Inspection").

The Inspection shall be non-invasive, and will not involve removal, upheaval, damage to or disassembly of any components of the Property. The Inspection will be performed in accordance with the Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics which are attached to this agreement. In performing the Inspection under these parameters it is important for you to understand that we cannot tell you everything about the Property and, more particularly, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, we cannot tell you about the features and components of the Property that **are not** readily accessible.

For a standard Inspection we will have the written Profile and Assessment Report including all attachments, (collectively the "Report") available for you at the end of the Inspection if you attend, or within one week if you reside in Canada if you do not attend the Inspection. The Inspection results will not be deemed complete until the Report has been prepared and delivered.

During the Inspection, the homeowners' rights and privacy will be respected, including adherence to any restrictions they choose to impose. If additional visits to the Property or time are required for any reason, additional fees may be charged. A minimum two-hour fee, at our then current billing rate, will apply for any additional work, time spent and/or re-attendance to the Property for any reason.

## SCOPE OF THE INSPECTION

The scope and limits of the Inspection are defined and further described in the attached Standards of Practice. While the following list is not exhaustive, it is of particular importance to note that the Inspection will be limited to a non-invasive visual only inspection of the readily accessible features and components of the Property and the Inspector will not, among other things:

- (a) inspect any area that poses a threat to the safety of him or herself or anyone else;
- (b) identify concealed conditions or latent defects;
- (c) inspect systems and components that are not readily accessible;
- (d) determine the strength, adequacy, effectiveness or efficiency of any system or component;
- (e) operate any system or component that is shut down, inoperable, does not respond to normal operating controls, or items that are not installed;
- (f) predict future conditions including but not limited to failures in systems, components, processes, maintenance, leakage, water ingress, etc.;
- (g) move furniture, equipment or stored items;
- (h) operate any shut-off or other control valves;
- (i) inspect appliances;
- (j) inspect the interior or the concealed/restricted exterior of any heat exchangers, flues or chimneys;
- (k) disturb insulation or vapor retarders;
- (l) inspect or test water quality, quantity, source of water, or the sewer system serving the Property;
- (m) evaluate environmental hazards or confirm the presence of hazardous substances including **asbestos and mould**;   
INITIALS
- (n) evaluate pest infestations including household pets, birds, squirrels, rodents, insects and wood destroying organisms;
- (o) evaluate geological stability, erosion or soil conditions;
- (p) assess underground systems or components thereof;
- (q) evaluate security, fire alarms, intercom, communication, remote control or any low voltage electrical systems and equipment;
- (r) evaluate fire control, solar, wind, or geothermal systems or components;
- (s) inspect sauna, steam shower, pool, hot tub, underground sprinklers, water conditioners and containers or recreational facilities;
- (t) comment on obvious cosmetic deficiencies related to maintenance, cleaning or housekeeping, including but not limited to paint, wall finishes, ceiling finishes, flooring, window treatments and screens;
- (u) inspect outbuildings or other structures not attached to the dwelling other than a carport or a regular garage, and
- (v) determine the cause of any condition or deficiency.

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As the Inspection is a non-invasive visual only inspection of the readily accessible features and components of the Property that, in addition to the above limitations, is subject to the limitations contained in the attached Standards of Practice, there are many limitations to the opinions and information that can be provided. Throughout the Inspection inferences may be drawn which cannot be confirmed by direct observation. Furthermore, comments made on items and issues that are beyond the scope of the standard Inspection are not to be considered information based on a complete and adequate assessment of such components.

INITIALS

### THE PROFILE AND ASSESSMENT REPORT

The Report forms an integral part of this Agreement and should be read in its entirety after the Inspection is complete. The Report is intended only for the use of the Client.

In the event that there are **health or safety concerns** relating to the Property, we may, at our sole discretion, **release the pertinent information from the Inspection findings to any other person.**

### THE CLIENT'S RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

You agree to pay the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (includes applicable taxes) for the cost of the Inspection and the Report, and to pay a service fee of \$40.00 (forty dollars) for any dishonored cheques.

If the inspector recommends that you engage specialized tradespersons or experts, you shall be responsible for retaining such specialized tradespersons or experts at your own expense and in a timely manner. If you do not do so, or do not make the repairs and/or adjustments recommended as a result of the Inspection or in the Report, then you risk the possibility of consequential damages to that component, other affected components and the general health, well being and safety of the occupants. All recommendations involving the presence or possible presence over time of moisture and water in the Property can involve mould, deterioration, damage and failure if not properly repaired or addressed by qualified contractors.

You agree to make all arrangements for access by the Inspector to the Property and surrounding lands for the purposes of performing the Inspection which is scheduled for \_\_\_\_\_ (month/day/year).

### LIMITATIONS OF THE INSPECTION

The Inspection is **not a technically exhaustive study of the Property**, is limited to a single non-invasive visual only inspection of the readily accessible features and components of the Property at a particular point in time, and the Inspector cannot offer an expert opinion regarding engineering, compliance with building codes, local bylaws, building efficiency or the cost of any specific repair or improvement.

The Inspection and Report is completed within a limited time frame and is subject to all of the limitations contained in this Agreement and in the Standards of Practice attached to the Agreement. Based on these limitations, all of which are understood by the client, it is further understood by the client as to why a low fee is charged for the Inspection and Report in comparison to the value of the Property.

The Inspection and Report **do not** constitute a guarantee, warranty or insurance policy pertaining to the Property.

The condition of certain readily accessible features and components of the Property, provided they are capable of being inspected pursuant to a single non-invasive visual only inspection, will be randomly sampled by the Inspector. Examples include window/door operation, hardware and screens, electrical receptacles, switches and lights, cabinets, countertops, mounts and functions, insulation thickness, mortar, masonry, paint and caulking integrity and roof covering materials. Assumptions may be made based on the random sample inspected by the Inspector.

Some problems may not exist, be obvious, or capable of discovery by the Inspector due to the aforementioned limitations at the time of the Inspection, or may only be apparent under certain conditions. The Inspection is based on observations at the time of a single visit and is subject to the conditions and limitations present at that time. The limitations that an Inspector may face include, but are not limited to: time restrictions, defects concealed by occupants' possessions, snow cover on roofs and other surfaces, vegetation, gravel, decks, solar panels, decks covered with carpet or membrane, new paint or other finishes, partially restricted or not readily accessible areas and components (such as: building paper, house wraps, flashings, window flanges, wall cavities), systems that have been secured or winterized, restrictive weather and/or temperature conditions, etc.

If any utilities are not on at the time of the Inspection, such as water, electricity and gas, we cannot turn them on. We will also be unable to fully assess all systems since utilities may affect more than one system within the Property.

The Inspection is not able to positively determine or confirm the presence of environmental hazards or concerns including, but not limited to asbestos, mould or fungus. In the event that the Report or the Inspector advises the Client of a potential environmental concern, or the Client has any reason to suspect that there may be an environmental concern, it is recommended that the Client retain the services of an environmental specialist.

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The Company makes no representation, warranty or guarantee on the future life of systems and items inspected. The Inspection will not determine whether the Property complies with the building code or local bylaws **or the suitability of the Property for any use**. The Inspection and Report is also subject to the stated limitations in the Agreement, the Report, and the Standards of Practice.

Due to the inherent limitations of the Inspection, the Client should be aware that there will be some deficiencies in the Property that are not identified in the Report **including, without limitation, some of the exempted items referred to under the heading "SCOPE OF THE INSPECTION" and in the Standards of Practice attached to this Agreement**. The Company recommends anticipating and budgeting annually for 1% - 3% of the value of the Property for maintenance items and unforeseen repairs.

**In the event that:**

- (a) a discrepancy, claim or dispute arises from the performance of the Inspection or from the Report, and
  - (b) you promptly notify the Company within a reasonable time, and in any event no later than seven (7) days after the condition complained of is discovered, and
  - (c) the Company is given a reasonable opportunity to re-visit the Property before any repairs are commenced,
- then we may re-inspect the Property. If we did not note a condition which, in our sole discretion, was apparent at the time of the original Inspection, then we may, at our sole discretion, and upon execution of a release form satisfactory to the Company, refund to you the full price paid by you for the Inspection and Report, provided that we shall have no legal obligation to do so and shall have no other responsibility to you.

**You confirm that no representation is made, or implied, as to the advisability of the purchase of the Property.**

**Any general comments made orally, or in the Report, about conditions, systems or costs which are beyond the scope of the Inspection are provided as a courtesy only and do not represent or form part of the Inspection or the Report.**

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**INDEMNIFICATION**

You agree to indemnify and save the Company and Inspector, as well as the Company's officers, employees, subcontractors and agents, or their successors and assigns, harmless from any claim arising out of the use of the Report by any other person or persons.

You hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Company and the Inspector, as well as the Company's officers, employees, subcontractors and agents, and their successors and assigns, from any claim advanced by the owner or tenant of the Property or any other person arising out of the Inspection. Should the Company, or the Inspector be called on to give testimony, prepare to attend court, or assist in preparation for litigation as a result of the Inspection, additional fees will be charged at the Company's then hourly rate for all time spent, including additional inspections, research, report preparation, consultation, traveling, court appearances and/or for time waiting (in our office or elsewhere) to testify.

In the event you commence legal proceedings against the Company in respect of anything arising in respect of the Inspection or the Report, and if those proceedings are not completely decided in your favor, you agree that you shall be liable to the Company for damages, including to the Company's reputation, and for all charges, expenses, disbursements and legal fees incurred by the Company or any of its representatives, on a complete indemnity basis, including a reasonable fee for all time spent by the Company's personnel in investigating, research, preparation for, and attendance at court hearings and examinations.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

The Company's goal is to identify major observable problems. While we strive to improve your knowledge of the Property, an all inclusive list of deficiencies is not provided.

We strongly recommend that you participate in the visual only inspection process by accompanying the inspector to observe and improve your understanding of the Property. You should not take unnecessary risks, such as climbing on anything or touching electrical or heating equipment. You acknowledge that participation is at your own risk. If you choose not to so attend, then you accept full responsibility for the consequences of your failure to do so.

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the Province or Territory in which the Company is resident and registered and the laws of Canada. Said Provincial or Territorial Courts shall have sole jurisdiction over interpretation and resolution of any disputes arising from this Agreement.

The headings in this Agreement are for ease of reference only and shall not affect the construction or interpretation of this Agreement.

If any portion of this agreement is found to be invalid or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions shall remain in force between the parties.

**The Client acknowledges that there are no verbal representations or warranties, and that the provisions of this Agreement, including the attached Standards of Practice, the Profile and Assessment Report (including all attachments to the Report) constitute the entire agreement between the parties with respect to this subject matter.** No amendments or additions may be made to this Agreement unless they are in writing and initialled by both parties.

You understand that personal information on this and other forms has been collected for the purposes of facilitating the inspection service you have ordered, for follow-up communications, for business audit and development purposes, and to address anything pertaining to this Agreement For Inspection Services. You understand that such information may be disclosed, without further consent, to your agents and representatives, to professional or trade affiliates of the Company, and to its consultants for the purposes stated. Personal information will **not be disclosed** to any third party, other than those identified, without your consent. By signing below you are consenting to the collection, use, disclosure, and retention of your personal information.

**You hereby acknowledge that you are aware of, and had the opportunity to review this agreement prior to the commencement of the Inspection. Whether or not you exercised the right to review this agreement you hereby accept all the terms and conditions of this Agreement.**

I \_\_\_\_\_ am authorized to sign this agreement on behalf of the client(s).  
Print Name

Dated at \_\_\_\_\_, this \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
City and Province month/day/year time  AM  PM

**CLIENT:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
signature  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
print name

**1330319 ALBERTA LTD.**

2716 - 21 Ave S  
 Lethbridge, AB T1K 1H8

403-327-1090

License no. 332620

Current \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_

For the Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
signature

Inspector: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
print name License no.

AGREEMENT PRE-SIGNED on \_\_\_\_\_  
month/day/year

**EACH COMPANY IS INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED**

**FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS**

I hereby instruct the Company to accept payment from \_\_\_\_\_ for this inspection service on my behalf.

name  
 Client: X \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

I hereby instruct the Inspector to discuss these findings with my realtor, agent or representative, if so requested by them.

Client: X \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

**INVOICE & RECEIPT**

**1330319 ALBERTA LTD.**

Operating under the tradename HOME-ALYZE®

PAYABLE AT TIME OF INSPECTION

FILE NUMBER

Inspection fee ----- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_\_

Travel ----- \_\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_\_

Delivery ----- \_\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_\_

Long Distance (Fax/Phone) ----- \_\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_\_

SUB-TOTAL ----- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_\_

GST# 853057214 ----- \_\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT**

-MC  -VISA  -AMEX  -CASH  -CHEQUE # \_\_\_\_\_  
 - PAID BY THIRD PARTY  - PAYMENT BY FAX/PHONE/EMAIL

\_\_\_\_\_  
(credit card number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(name on card)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(expiry date)

X \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature for credit card or payment received)

**Client Attendance**

- Yes  - No  - Partly \_\_\_\_\_

AIR MILES® reward miles awarded



# Canadian Association Of Home & Property Inspectors

## 2012 NATIONAL STANDARDS OF PRACTICE

The National Standards of Practice are a set of guidelines for home and property inspectors to follow in the performance of their inspections. They are the most widely accepted Canadian home inspection guidelines in use, and address all the home's major systems and components. The National Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics are recognized by many related professionals as the definitive Standards for professional performance in the industry.

These National Standards of Practice are being published to inform the public on the nature and scope of visual building inspections performed by home and property inspectors who are members of the Canadian Association of Home and Property Inspectors (CAHPI).

The purpose of the National Standards of Practice is to provide guidelines for home and property inspectors regarding both the inspection itself and the drafting of the inspection report, and to define certain terms relating to the performance of home inspections to ensure consistent interpretation.

To ensure better public protection, home and property inspectors who are members of CAHPI should strive to meet these Standards and abide by the appropriate provincial/regional CAHPI Code of Ethics.

These Standards take into account that a visual inspection of a building does not constitute an evaluation or a verification of compliance with building codes, Standards or regulations governing the construction industry or the health and safety industry, or Standards and regulations governing insurability.

*Any terms not defined in these Standards shall have the meaning commonly assigned to it by the various trades and professions, according to context.*

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*Glossary Note: Italicized words are defined in the Glossary.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

**1.1** The Canadian Association of Home and Property Inspectors (CAHPI) is a not-for-profit association whose members include the following seven provincial/regional organizations: CAHPI-British Columbia., CAHPI-Alberta, CAHPI-Saskatchewan, CAHPI-Manitoba, OAHI (Ontario), AIBQ (Quebec), and CAHPI-Atlantic. CAHPI strives to promote excellence within the profession and continual improvement of inspection services to the public.

## 2. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

**2.1** The purpose of these National Standards of Practice is to establish professional and uniform Standards for private, fee-paid home inspectors who are members of one of the provincial/regional organizations of CAHPI. Home Inspections performed to these National Standards of Practice are intended to provide information regarding the condition of the systems and components of the building as inspected at the time of the Home Inspection. This does NOT include building code inspections.

These National Standards of Practice enable the building being inspected to be compared with a building that was constructed in accordance with the generally accepted practices at the time of construction, and which has been adequately maintained such that there is no significant loss of *functionality*.

It follows that the building may not be in compliance with current building codes, standards and regulations that are applicable at the time of inspection.

These National Standards of Practice apply to inspections of part or all of a building for the following building types:

- single-family dwelling, detached, semi-detached or row house
- multi unit residential building
- residential building held in divided or undivided co ownership
- residential building occupied in part for a residential occupancy and in part for a commercial occupancy, as long as the latter use does not exceed 40% of the building's total area, excluding the basement.

## 2.2 THE INSPECTOR SHALL:

### A. inspect:

1. *readily accessible*, visually observable *installed systems*, and *components* of buildings listed in these National Standards of Practice.

### B. report:

1. on those *systems* and *components* installed on the building inspected which, in the professional opinion or judgement of the *inspector*, *have a significant deficiency* or are unsafe or are near the end of their *service lives*.
2. a reason why, if not self-evident, the *system* or *component has a significant deficiency* or is unsafe or is near the end of its *service life*.
3. the inspector's recommendations to correct or monitor the reported deficiency.
4. on any *systems* and *components* designated for inspection in these National Standards of Practice which were present at the time of the *Home Inspection* but were not inspected and a reason they were not inspected.

**2.3** *These National Standards of Practice are not intended to limit inspectors from:*

- A. including other inspection services in addition to those required by these National Standards of Practice provided the *inspector* is appropriately qualified and willing to do so.
- B. excluding *systems* and *components* from the inspection if requested by the client or as dictated by circumstances at the time of the inspection.

## 3. GENERAL LIMITATIONS AND EXCLUSIONS

### 3.1 GENERAL LIMITATIONS:

- A. Inspections performed in accordance with these National Standards of Practice
  1. are not *technically exhaustive*.
  2. will not identify concealed conditions or latent defects.

### 3.2 GENERAL EXCLUSIONS:

**A.** The *inspector* is not required to perform any action or make any determination unless specifically stated in these National Standards of Practice, except as may be required by lawful authority.

**B.** *Inspectors* are NOT required to determine:

1. condition of *systems* or *components* which are not *readily accessible*.
2. remaining life of any *system* or *component*.
3. strength, adequacy, effectiveness, or efficiency of any *system* or *component*.
4. causes of any condition or deficiency.
5. methods, materials, or costs of corrections.
6. future conditions including, but not limited to, failure of *systems* and *components*.
7. suitability of the property for any use.
8. compliance with regulatory requirements (codes, regulations, laws, ordinances, etc.).
9. market value of the property or its marketability.
10. advisability of the purchase of the property.
11. presence of potentially hazardous plants, animals or insects including, but not limited to wood destroying organisms, diseases or organisms harmful to humans.
12. presence of any environmental hazards including, but not limited to toxins, carcinogens, noise, and contaminants in soil, water, and air.
13. effectiveness of any *system* installed or methods utilized to control or remove suspected hazardous substances.
14. operating costs of *systems* or *components*.
15. acoustical properties of any *system* or *component*
16. design adequacy with regards to location of the home, or the elements to which it is exposed.

**C.** *Inspectors* are NOT required to offer or perform:

1. any act or service contrary to law, statute or regulation.
2. *engineering, architectural* and technical services.
3. work in any trade or any professional service other than *home inspection*.
4. warranties or guarantees of any kind.

**D.** *Inspectors* are NOT required to operate:

1. any *system* or *component* which is *shut down* or otherwise inoperable.
2. any *system* or *component* which does not respond to *normal operating controls*.
3. shut-off valves.

**E.** *Inspectors* are NOT required to enter:

1. any area which will, in the opinion of the *inspector*, likely be hazardous to the *inspector* or other persons or damage the property or its *systems* or *components*.

2. *confined spaces*.

3. spaces which are not readily accessible.

**F.** *Inspectors* are NOT required to *inspect*:

1. underground items including, but not limited to storage tanks or other indications of their presence, whether abandoned or active.
2. *systems* or *components* which are not *installed*.
3. *decorative* items.
4. *systems* or *components* located in areas that are not readily accessible in accordance with these National Standards of Practice.
5. detached structures.
6. common elements or common areas in multi-unit housing, such as condominium properties or cooperative housing when inspecting an individual unit(s), including the roof and building envelope.
7. test and/or operate any installed fire alarm system, burglar alarm system, automatic sprinkler system or other fire protection equipment, electronic or automated installations, telephone, intercom, cable/internet systems and any lifting equipment, elevator, freight elevator, wheelchair lift, climbing chair, escalator or others;
8. pools, spas and their associated safety devices, including fences.

**G.** *Inspectors* are NOT required to:

1. perform any procedure or operation which will, in the opinion of the *inspector*, likely be hazardous to the *inspector* or other persons or damage the property or its *systems* or *components*.
2. move suspended ceiling tiles, personal property, furniture, equipment, plants, soil, snow, ice, or debris.
3. *dismantle* any *system* or *component*, except as explicitly required by these National Standards of Practice.

## 4. STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS

### 4.1 THE INSPECTOR SHALL:

#### A. inspect:

1. *structural components* including visible foundation and framing.
2. by *probing* a sample of structural components where deterioration is suspected or where clear indications of possible deterioration exist. *Probing* is NOT required when *probing* would damage any finished surface or where no deterioration is visible.

#### B. describe:

1. foundation(s).
2. floor structure(s).
3. wall structure(s).
4. ceiling structure(s).
5. roof structure(s).

#### C. report:

1. on conditions limiting access to structural components.
2. methods used to *inspect* the *under-floor crawl space*
3. methods used to *inspect* the attic(s).

### 4.2 THE INSPECTOR IS NOT REQUIRED TO:

- A. provide any *engineering service* or *architectural service*.
- B. offer an opinion as to the adequacy of any *structural system* or *component*.

## 5. EXTERIOR SYSTEMS

### 5.1 THE INSPECTOR SHALL:

#### A. inspect:

1. exterior wall covering(s), flashing and trim.
2. all exterior doors.
3. attached or *adjacent* decks, balconies, steps, porches, and their associated railings.
4. eaves, soffits, and fascias where accessible from the ground level.
5. vegetation, grading, and surface drainage on the property when any of these are likely to adversely affect the building.
6. walkways, patios, and driveways leading to dwelling entrances.
7. landscaping structure attached or adjacent to the building when likely to adversely affect the building.
8. attached garage or carport.
9. garage doors and garage door operators for attached garages.

#### B. describe

1. exterior wall covering(s).

#### C. report:

1. the method(s) used to inspect the exterior wall elevations.

### 5.2 THE INSPECTOR IS NOT REQUIRED TO:

#### A. inspect:

1. screening, shutters, awnings, and similar seasonal accessories.
2. fences.
3. geological, geotechnical or hydrological conditions.
4. *recreational facilities*.
5. detached garages and outbuildings.
6. seawalls, break-walls, dykes and docks.
7. erosion control and earth stabilization measures.

## 6. ROOF SYSTEMS

### 6.1 THE INSPECTOR SHALL:

#### A. inspect:

1. *readily accessible* roof coverings.
2. *readily accessible* roof drainage systems.
3. *readily accessible* flashings.
4. *readily accessible* skylights, chimneys, and roof penetrations.

#### B. describe

1. roof coverings.

#### C. report:

1. method(s) used to inspect the roof(s).

### 6.2 THE INSPECTOR IS NOT REQUIRED TO:

#### A. inspect:

1. antennae and satellite dishes.
2. interiors of flues or chimneys.
3. other *installed* items attached to but not related to the roof system(s).

## 7. PLUMBING SYSTEMS

### 7.1 THE INSPECTOR SHALL:

#### A. inspect:

1. interior water supply and distribution *systems* including all fixtures and faucets.
2. drain, waste and vent *systems* including all fixtures.
3. water heating equipment and associated venting systems.
4. water heating equipment fuel storage and fuel distribution systems.
5. fuel storage and fuel distribution *systems*.
6. drainage sumps, sump pumps, and related piping.

#### B. describe:

1. water supply, distribution, drain, waste, and vent piping materials.
2. water heating equipment including the energy source.
3. location of main water and main fuel shut-off valves.



## 7.2 THE INSPECTOR IS NOT REQUIRED TO:

### A. inspect:

1. clothes washing machine connections.
2. wells, well pumps, or water storage related equipment.
3. water conditioning *systems*.
4. solar water heating *systems*.
5. fire and lawn sprinkler *systems*.
6. private waste disposal *systems*.

### B. determine:

1. whether water supply and waste disposal *systems* are public or private.
2. the quantity or quality of the water supply.

### C. operate:

1. safety valves or shut-off valves.

## 8. ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS

### 8.1 THE INSPECTOR SHALL:

#### A. inspect:

1. service drop.
2. service entrance conductors, cables, and raceways.
3. service equipment and main disconnects.
4. service grounding.
5. interior components of service panels and sub panels.
6. distribution conductors.
7. overcurrent protection devices.
8. a *representative number* of *installed* lighting fixtures, switches, and receptacles.
9. ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCI) (if appropriate).
10. arc fault circuit interrupters (AFCI) (if appropriate).

#### B. describe:

1. amperage and voltage rating of the service.
2. location of main disconnect(s) and subpanel(s).
3. *wiring methods*.

#### C. report:

1. presence of solid conductor aluminum branch circuit wiring.
2. absence of carbon monoxide detectors (if applicable).
3. absence of smoke detectors.
4. presence of ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCI).
5. presence of arc fault circuit interrupters (AFCI).

### 8.2 THE INSPECTOR IS NOT REQUIRED TO:

#### A. inspect:

1. remote control devices unless the device is the only control device.
2. alarm *systems* and *components*.
3. low voltage wiring, *systems* and *components*.
4. ancillary wiring, *systems* and *components* not a part of the primary electrical power distribution *system*.

5. telecommunication equipment.

#### B. measure:

1. amperage, voltage, or impedance.

## 9. HEATING SYSTEMS

### 9.1 THE INSPECTOR SHALL:

#### A. inspect:

1. *readily accessible* components of *installed* heating equipment.
2. vent systems, flues, and chimneys.
3. fuel storage and fuel distribution *systems*.

#### B. describe:

1. energy source(s).
2. heating method(s) by distinguishing characteristics.
3. chimney(s) and/or venting material(s).
4. combustion air sources.
5. exhaust venting methods (naturally aspirating, induced draft, direct vent, direct vent sealed combustion).

### 9.2 THE INSPECTOR IS NOT REQUIRED TO:

#### A. inspect:

1. interiors of flues or chimneys.
2. heat exchangers.
3. auxiliary equipment.
4. electronic air filters.
5. solar heating *systems*.

#### B. determine:

1. system adequacy or distribution balance.

## 10. FIREPLACES AND SOLID FUEL BURNING APPLIANCES

(Unless prohibited by the authority having jurisdiction)

### 10.1 THE INSPECTOR SHALL:

#### A. inspect:

1. system components
2. vent systems and chimneys

#### B. describe:

1. fireplaces and solid fuel burning appliances
2. chimneys

### 10.2 THE INSPECTOR IS NOT REQUIRED TO:

#### A. inspect:

1. interior of flues or chimneys
2. screens, doors and dampers
3. seals and gaskets
4. automatic fuel feed devices
5. heat distribution assists whether fan assisted or gravity

#### B. ignite or extinguish fires

#### C. determine draught characteristics

#### D. move fireplace inserts, stoves, or firebox contents

## 11. AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEMS

### 11.1 THE INSPECTOR SHALL:

#### A. inspect

1. permanently *installed* central air conditioning equipment.

#### B. describe:

1. energy source.
2. cooling method by its distinguishing characteristics.

### 11.2 THE INSPECTOR IS NOT REQUIRED TO:

#### A. inspect

1. electronic air filters.
2. portable air conditioner(s).

#### B. determine:

1. system adequacy or distribution balance.

## 12. INTERIOR SYSTEMS

### 12.1 THE INSPECTOR SHALL:

#### A. inspect:

1. walls, ceilings, and floors.
2. steps, stairways, and railings.
3. a *representative number* of countertops and *installed* cabinets.
4. a *representative number* of doors and windows.
5. walls, doors and ceilings separating the habitable spaces and the garage.

#### B. describe:

1. materials used for walls, ceilings and floors.
2. doors.
3. windows.

#### C. report

1. absence or ineffectiveness of guards and handrails or other potential physical injury hazards.

### 12.2 THE INSPECTOR IS NOT REQUIRED TO:

#### A. inspect:

1. *decorative* finishes.
2. window treatments.
3. central vacuum *systems*.
4. *household appliances*.
5. *recreational facilities*.

## 13. INSULATION AND VAPOUR BARRIERS

### 13.1 THE INSPECTOR SHALL:

#### A. inspect:

1. insulation and *vapour barriers* in unfinished spaces.

#### B. describe:

1. type of insulation material(s) and *vapour barriers* in unfinished spaces.

#### C. report

1. absence of insulation in unfinished spaces within the building envelope.
2. presence of vermiculite insulation

### 13.2 THE INSPECTOR IS NOT REQUIRED TO:

#### A. disturb

1. insulation.
2. *vapour barriers*.

#### B. obtain sample(s) for analysis

1. insulation material(s).

## 14. MECHANICAL AND NATURAL VENTILATION SYSTEMS

### 14.1 THE INSPECTOR SHALL:

#### A. inspect:

1. ventilation of attics and foundation areas.
2. mechanical ventilation *systems*.
3. ventilation systems in areas where moisture is generated such as kitchen, bathrooms, laundry rooms.

#### B. describe:

1. ventilation of attics and foundation areas.
2. mechanical ventilation *systems*.
3. ventilation systems in areas where moisture is generated such as: kitchens, bathrooms and laundry rooms.

#### C. report:

1. absence of ventilation in areas where moisture is generated such as: kitchens, bathrooms and laundry rooms.

### 14.2 THE INSPECTOR IS NOT REQUIRED TO:

1. determine indoor air quality.
2. determine system adequacy or distribution balance.

## GLOSSARY

### Adjacent

Nearest in space or position; immediately adjoining without intervening space.

### Alarm Systems

Warning devices, installed or free-standing, including but not limited to; carbon monoxide detectors, flue gas and other spillage detectors, security equipment, ejector pumps and smoke alarms.

### Architectural Service

Any practice involving the art and science of building design for construction of any structure or grouping of structures and the use of space within and surrounding the structures or the design for construction, including but not specifically limited to, schematic design, design development, preparation of construction contract documents, and administration of the construction contract, adequacy of design for the location and exposure to the elements.

### Automatic Safety Controls

Devices designed and installed to protect *systems* and *components* from unsafe conditions.

### Component

A part of a *system*.

### Confined Spaces

An enclosed or partially enclosed area that:

1. Is occupied by people only for the purpose of completing work.
2. Has restricted entry/exit points.
3. Could be hazardous to people entering due to:
  - a. its design, construction, location or atmosphere.
  - b. the materials or substances in it, or
  - c. any other conditions which prevent normal inspection procedure.

### Decorative

Ornamental; not required for the operation of the essential *systems* and *components* of a building.

### Describe

To *report* a *system* or *component* by its type or other observed, significant characteristics to distinguish it from other *systems* or *components*.

### Determine

To find out, or come to a conclusion by investigation.

### Dismantle

To take apart or remove any component, device, or piece of equipment that would not be taken apart or removed by a homeowner in the course of normal and routine home owner maintenance.

### Engineering Service

Any professional service or creative work requiring engineering education, training, and experience and the application of special knowledge of the mathematical, physical and engineering sciences to such professional service or creative work as consultation, investigation, evaluation, planning, design and supervision of construction for the purpose of assuring compliance with the specifications and design, in conjunction with structures, buildings, machines, equipment, works or processes.

### Functionality

The purpose that something is designed or expected to fulfill.

### Further Evaluation

Examination and analysis by a qualified professional, tradesman or service technician beyond that provided by the *home inspection*.

### Home Inspection

The process by which an *inspector* visually examines the *readily accessible systems* and *components* of a building and which *describes* those *systems* and *components* in accordance with these National Standards of Practice.

### Household Appliances

Kitchen, laundry, and similar appliances, whether *installed* or freestanding.

### Inspect

To examine *readily accessible systems* and *components* of a building in accordance with these National Standards of Practice, *where applicable* using *normal operating controls* and opening *readily openable access panels*.

### Inspector

A person hired to examine any *system* or *component* of a building in accordance with these National Standards of Practice.

### Installed

Set up or fixed in position for current use or service.

### Monitor

Examine at regular intervals to detect evidence of change.

### Normal Operating Controls

Devices such as thermostats, switches or valves intended to be operated by the homeowner.

### Operate

To cause to function, turn on, to control the function of a machine, process, or system.

**Probing**

Examine by touch.

**Readily Accessible**

Available for visual inspection without requiring moving of personal property, *dismantling*, destructive measures, or any action which will likely involve risk to persons or property.

**Readily Openable Access Panel**

A panel provided for homeowner inspection and maintenance that is within normal reach, can be removed by one person, and is not sealed in place.

**Recreational Facilities**

Spas, saunas, steam baths, swimming pools, exercise, entertainment, athletic, playground or other similar equipment and associated accessories.

**Report**

To communicate in writing.

**Representative Number**

One *component* per room for multiple similar interior *components* such as windows and electric outlets; one *component* on each side of the building for multiple similar exterior *components*.

**Roof Drainage Systems**

Components used to carry water off a roof and away from a building.

**Sample**

A representative portion selected for inspection.

**Service Life/Lives**

The period during which something continues to function fully as intended.

**Significant Deficiency**

A clearly definable hazard or a clearly definable potential for failure or is unsafe or not functioning.

**Shut Down**

A state in which a *system* or *component* cannot be operated by *normal operating controls*.

**Solid Fuel Burning Appliances**

A hearth and fire chamber or similar prepared place in which a fire may be built and which is built in conjunction with a chimney; or a listed assembly of a fire chamber, its chimney and related factory-made parts designed for unit assembly without requiring field construction.

**Structural Component**

A component that supports non-variable forces or weights (dead loads) and variable forces or weights (live loads).

**System**

A combination of interacting or interdependent components, assembled to carry out one or more functions.

**Technically Exhaustive**

An inspection is technically exhaustive when it is done by a specialist who may make extensive use of measurements, instruments, testing, calculations, and other means to develop scientific or engineering findings, conclusions, and recommendations.

**Under-floor Crawl Space**

The area within the confines of the foundation and between the ground and the underside of the floor.

**Unsafe**

A condition in a *readily accessible, installed system* or *component* which is judged to be a significant risk of personal injury during normal, day-to-day use. The risk may be due to damage, deterioration, missing or improper installation or a change in accepted residential construction Standards.

**Vapour Barrier**

Material used in the building envelope to retard the passage of water vapour or moisture.

**Visually Accessible**

Able to be viewed by reaching or entering.

**Wiring Methods**

Identification of electrical conductors or wires by their general type, such as "non-metallic sheathed cable" ("Romex"), "armored cable" ("bx") or "knob and tube", etc.

*Note - In these National Standards of Practice, redundancy in the description of the requirements, limitations and exclusions regarding the scope of the Home Inspection is provided for clarity not emphasis.*

*(CAHPI acknowledges The American Society of Home Inspectors®, Inc. (ASHI®) for the use of their Standards of Practice (version January 1, 2000)*

(AUGUST 22/12 VER. F)

# CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF HOME & PROPERTY INSPECTORS

## CAHPI Code of Ethics for the Home Inspection Profession

Integrity, honesty, objectivity and courtesy are fundamental moral principles embodied by this code. The provincial associations and their individual members (hereinafter referred to as “members”) of CAHPI agree with and pledge to uphold these principles as the set of ideals guiding member conduct. This code of ethical conduct for the home inspection profession is accepted and understood to be a professional duty accompanying CAHPI membership.

Members shall comply with this Code in its entirety and shall avoid potential conflicts of interest or activities that compromise or appear to compromise professional independence, objectivity, or inspector integrity. Members shall discharge their duties with fidelity to the public, their clients and fellow-professionals and with fairness and impartiality to all. Members shall uphold the honor and dignity of the profession and avoid association with any enterprise of questionable character that would place the member in a potential conflict of interest.

The members shall always act in good faith toward all.

Specifically:

- 1) Members shall avoid conflicts of interest or activities that compromise, or appear to compromise, professional independence, objectivity or inspector integrity.
  - a) Members shall not inspect properties for compensation in which they have, or expect to have, a financial or vested interest of any kind.
  - b) Members shall promptly and fully disclose to the client any interest in a business that may potentially affect the quality of the inspection work to be performed.
  - c) The inspection shall not be used as a vehicle to garner additional work in another field.
  - d) Members shall not perform inspections under contingency arrangements whereby any compensation or future referrals are dependent on reported findings or on the future sale of the property.
  - e) Members shall not directly or indirectly compensate realty agents, brokers or other parties having a financial vested interest in the closing or settlement of real estate transactions, for the future referral of inspections or for the inclusion on a list of “preferred” providers/inspectors or similar arrangements that may appear to compromise the above mentioned principles.
  - f) Members shall not accept compensation, directly or indirectly, from more than one party unless agreed to by all parties involved.
  - g) Members shall not accept compensation, directly or indirectly, for referring or recommending contractors, service providers and/or products to inspection clients or any other party having an interest in the property being inspected.

2. Members shall act in good faith to all.

- a) Members shall only perform inspection services, accompanied with expressed opinions, based on genuine conviction within their limits of education, training and experience.
- b) Members shall always be objective in their reporting and not knowingly overstate or understate the significance of observed conditions.
- c) Members shall not disclose inspection results, property or client information without client approval.
- d) Members shall report/disclose to the occupants, or their agents, any apparent serious defect that creates an imminent potential for harm arising from exposure to the defect.

3. Members shall avoid activities that may harm the public, discredit themselves, or reduce public confidence in the profession or a fellow member.

- a) Members shall refrain from advertising, promoting or marketing of inspector services, designations or qualifications that are fraudulent, false, deceptive, or misleading.
- b) Members shall make every effort to uphold, maintain and improve the professional integrity, reputation and practices of the home inspection profession. Members shall report any substantive and willful violations of this code to the Canadian Association of Home and Property Inspectors.

4. Duty to the profession and Association:

- a) Members shall strive to meet and maintain the ideals and goals of the Association and the home inspection industry.
- b) Members shall refrain from engaging in any act or practice that would be deemed harmful, libelous, or damaging to the Association, Association employees, Association Directors or fellow members.
- c) Members shall abide by the Association's by-laws, Standards and policy documents.
- d) Members shall display the Association's trademarks, logos and designations in the approved manner only. Co-appearance with other logos, trademarks and designations shall be by the Association's written approval only and be in compliance with the Association's policies.