

Hurononia



PREVENT HOME WORKSHOP & GARAGE FIRES

Because of the flammable materials that are so commonly stored in home workshops and garages, it is no wonder that fires originate in these areas and spread farther, causing more injuries and incurring more cost through damaged or destroyed property, than other areas of your home. Our colleagues from the Markham Fire Department were recently quoted as saying that *"in 2018 the garage surpassed the kitchen as the leading room of origin in fires we responded to ... a lack of early detection in the garage typically allows fires to go undetected and intensify."* The USA and Canadian fire protection agencies have these tips for exercising good garage fire prevention techniques that we'd like to share with you:

- Storage of flammable materials - oil, propane, paint thinner, gasoline, paints, varnishes and industrial cleaners should be stored in CSA approved containers and away from possible ignitable sources and appliances. Consider storing these flammable items in a shed away from your home. If that is not possible, keep these items on high shelves away from appliances that produce heat.
- Do not leave matches or lighters in the garage or workshop.
- Do not plug appliances into extension cords to charge them - plug them directly into a wall socket, and plug only one appliance into a socket at one time
- Install and know how to properly use the appropriate fire extinguisher for the garage/workshop.
- Keep the work surfaces, floors and storage areas clean. Remove garbage, paper products, oily rags and wood shavings regularly.
- Carpets, rugs and non-fire-retardant tarps or cardboard should not be used on the floor, as these may absorb flammable liquids and cause a fire.
- Install a heat alarm - in addition to smoke and CO alarms - in your garage. The heat alarm will sound if the temperature rises too high.
- If you are building a new residence, or doing renovations consider installing: a 20-minute fire-rated door that is self-closing and self-latching from the garage into the house, a ceiling made with 5/8-inch Type X gypsum board (or the equivalent) if you have living space above the garage, a wall with 1/2-inch gypsum board (or the equivalent) if the wall attaches the garage to your home and an attic hatch cover if you have attic access from the garage.



Prevent home garage fires.

Store flammable items like oil, gasoline, paints, propane and varnishes in a shed away from your home.

U.S. Fire Administration



FEMA



[Click here to contact us](#) to discuss your fire safety products and services for your home garage or workshop.

SPRING CLEANING: OUTDOOR

As many of our customers are preparing their cottage properties for summer, we'd like to remind you to clear a 10-metre zone around your property. **The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry** recommend in the 10 to 30-metre zone that you prune evergreens and regularly clean up accumulated branches and needles to help reduce the risk of surface fires spreading to your cottage. Take note of where vegetative debris accumulates around your property as this could indicate where the wind could blow embers to ... ensure these areas, in particular, are tidied regularly. [Click here to download The Homeowners Fire Smart Manual.](#)

HURONIA OUT AND ABOUT IN OUR COMMUNITY!

Congratulations to our COO, Kevin Leonard who has recently been appointed Chair of the **Township of Tiny Police Services Board**, where he will continue to assist in overseeing how policing is provided in the community by working with citizens and local organizations to ensure policing services are meeting the needs of the community. On a national stage, Kevin was elected Director-at-Large for the Monitoring Community, **at the most recent annual general meeting of the Canadian Security Association.**

Reghan Ellis and Jacqueline McArthur braved the rainy AND snowy weather up in Muskoka and represented Huronia at the **28th Annual Muskoka Builders' Association Home & Cottage Show**. The ladies made some great new contacts, networked with some colleagues and gave away some prizes to some lucky winners!



Reghan Ellis and Jacqueline McArthur representing Huronia at the 28th Annual Muskoka Builders' Association Home and Cottage Show.



Gerald (in red) from Huronia Alarm & Fire Security Inc. walking a mile!

Finally, a huge round of applause goes out to our Muskoka office for participating in the **Muskoka Walk a Mile In Her Shoes event for the YWCA Muskoka**, which took place on Sunday May 26, 2019 at the Bracebridge Rotary Centre.

The event is intended to help raise awareness, provide educational programs, workshops and advocate on violence prevention.

All proceeds from the event were donated to YWCA Muskoka to help them continue to make positive changes for women and girls in their community.



Huronia

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