



# Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency Service

*Public Education & Prevention Division*

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**SUBJECT: Guidelines for Vendors at Exhibitions and Flea Markets**

1. Smoking is not permitted while the building is occupied by the public. Smoking will only be permitted in areas designated as smoking areas .
2. Only equipment approved for use in Canada shall be used. Certified labels shall be visible and attached to appliance, Or the equipment shall be removed from the site.

### **Food Preparation For Resale:**

3. (a) All cooking equipment and procedures producing grease laden vapors shall be installed and protected in accordance with NFPA 96. If provisions of NFPA 96 cannot be met, all cooking shall be done off site.
  - (b) All cooking equipment shall meet or exceed all Canadian certifications and standards.
  - (c) Cooking that does not produce grease laden vapors is permitted. Proof shall be supplied to the HRM Fire Prevention Office, authority having jurisdiction, prior to event taking place.
  - (d) For products capable of producing grease laden vapors, ONLY reheating or warming shall be done at these events.

The following are approved procedures:

- ◆ Electric warming lights, (strongly recommended).
- ◆ Electric or Sterno chaffing dishes. (Sterno cans shall not be placed directly on a combustible surface).
- ◆ Domestic electric frying pans and griddles, (temperature not to exceed 185 degrees Fahrenheit). **Caution** : If at discretion of the authority having jurisdiction, grease laden vapors are being produced, the temperature shall be lowered or the appliance will be removed.

**Food Preparation, For Demonstration Purposes ONLY, Not Resale:**

4. (a) **A.3.3.1.2.(2) Cooking Equipment Ventilation.**

Cooking equipment manufactured for use in dwelling units and other residential suites is often installed in buildings used for assembly and care or detention purposes. It is not obvious from the Code requirements or those of NFPA 96, "Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations," whether a ventilation and grease removal system is required in all assembly and care or detention uses. If the equipment is to be used in a manner that will produce grease-laden vapors that are substantially more than would be produced in a normal household environment, then it would be appropriate to apply the requirements of NFPA 96. If the equipment is used primarily for reheating food prepared elsewhere or is used occasionally for demonstration or educational purposes, there would be no expectation of applying the requirements of NFPA 96. In all cases the circumstances should be reviewed with the authority having jurisdiction.

(b) All deep fat frying including domestic type fryers shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 96.

(c) All cooking appliances shall be used on a firmly supported, stable, Noncombustible surfaces.

(d) A minimum 5 lb. B.C. Type portable fire extinguisher shall be installed at each demonstration booth that cooking is being done.

(e) All cooking vessels shall have an appropriate fitted lid, readily available while in use.

(f) Cooking equipment shall not be left unattended while in use.

(g) All cooking equipment shall be used as per manufactures instructions.

(h) CGA equipment approved for indoor use shall be installed and used in accordance with manufacturers specifications.

(i) All cooking equipment shall meet or exceed all Canadian certifications and standards.

5. All equipment shall be located so as not to place the general public at undue risk from burns or scalds.

6. All propane equipment used at these events shall meet CGA requirements and be pre approved by the Nova Scotia Fire Marshal's Office.

7. All barbeques or approved exterior cooking appliances shall be located a minimum. of 1.5 meters from the structure or means of egress.
8. Vendors are permitted a maximum of 3 lit candles or open flame devices at each display, inaccessible to the public. Candles or open flame devices shall be in a noncombustible holder on noncombustible surfaces.
  - ◆ These devices shall be located and protected so as to prevent accidental contact of the flame with combustible materials.
  - ◆ A minimum. 5 lb ABC Type extinguisher shall be present at each display.
9. All aisles shall be not less than 1100 mm (44") in width.
10. Means of egress and access to exits shall be maintained at all times.
11. Doors in fire separations shall not be blocked or wedged open. If for the reason of patron traffic, doors are to be blocked open, provisions shall be made for the closure of doors during activation of the fire alarm system.
  - ◆ This may include installation of electronic hold open devices to hold doors in the open position which will close doors automatically on activation of the fire alarm system.
  - ◆ Or by assigned security personal who will maintain a presence at these doors at all times while they are held open who will physically close the doors on activation of the fire alarm system.
12. At **NO Time** will any booth, vendor or display be placed or expanded as to interfere with the required building's life safety systems.
13. Portable fire extinguishers shall be installed in accordance NFPA # 10.
  - ◆ If portable fire extinguishers are not supplied by building management, vendors will be required to meet NFPA #10.
14. (a) Electrical installation shall be used and maintained so as not to constitute an undue fire hazard.
  - ◆ All electrical equipment shall be ULC or CSA approved. Modified or non approved equipment shall not be used.
  - ◆ Portable electrical equipment shall be inspected for fire hazards and any defects shall be corrected before equipment is placed in service.
  - ◆ Cables on the floor in areas used by the public shall be secured and protected by approved equipment to prevent damage to cables from foot traffic.
  - ◆ Electrical cables and extension cords shall not be placed under carpets or other materials which may cause the cable to overheat.
  - ◆ A minimum of 1 meter shall be maintained from electrical panels or any other emergency utility shut off at all times.
- (b) Any equipment or material that does not meet Fire service requirements shall be removed immediately from the site.

15. Drapes, Curtains and Decorative Materials including textiles and films used in buildings shall conform to CAN/ULC-109-M /NFPA 701, "Flame Tests of Flame-Resistant Fabrics and Films" When such drapes, curtains and other decorative materials are used.
16. Storage of combustibles materials shall not create a fire hazard.
  - ◆ Large amounts of straw are not permitted, other than for livestock.
  - ◆ Bails of hay or combustibles used for display purposes shall be chemically treated for flame resistance.
  - ◆ Proof of flame resistance treatment shall be supplied to the authority having jurisdiction upon request.
17. Live Christmas trees shall be placed in a water container of adequate size as to supply the tree with sufficient quantities of water to maintain its freshness.
  - ◆ Cut Christmas tree boughs shall not be used for decorative or display purposes, as they are not capable of water absorption causing the boughs to dry out and cause a fire hazard.
  - ◆ Boughs may be permitted to be used if they are chemically treated for flame resistance with proof of flame resistance treatment supplied to the authority having jurisdiction upon request.
18. Motorized vehicles used or stored inside as displays are to have their batteries disconnected and the fuel tank fill cap locked or sealed for the duration of its stay in the building.
  - ◆ All other motorized vehicles not designed to perform work inside the building are to be removed to the exterior of the building after completing their assigned task.
19. Floor plans of proposed events shall be submitted to Fire Prevention Office 30 days prior to event taken place.
  - ◆ Fire prevention officers will be available for consultation for plans review or any other concerns with promoters.
20. All other fire related decisions that require action be taken with regards to the event shall in be made at the site by the authority having jurisdiction/ HRM Fire Prevention Officer.