

Why You Need a Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarm

Carbon monoxide is a poisonous gas generated by the incomplete combustion of fuels such as natural gas, wood, oil and propane. It is colourless, odourless and tasteless. It will not be detected by a fire alarm or smoke alarm and you will not know it is present, but, if you inhale it, **you will either become ill or die.**

A CO detector should be installed near your sleeping area, but not on the ceiling. It should not be installed near fuel-burning appliances. In some municipalities, a CO detector **must** be installed in newly constructed houses and apartments.

HOW TO REDUCE THE DANGER OF CARBON MONOXIDE

- 1) Have your furnace, wood stove and fireplace regularly checked and serviced by a licensed professional.
- 2) Ensure there is an adequate supply of fresh air coming into your home for the proper operation of your furnace, wood stove or fireplace.
- 3) Never operate your barbecue (either propane or charcoal) in an enclosed area such as your garage.
- 4) Do not leave your car running in an attached garage.
- 5) Do not operate your gasoline-powered lawn mower, snowblower or chainsaw in your workshop or garage.

For more information about home or auto insurance or for a free, no-obligation quote, call the CUMIS Insurance program today at **1-800-810-2847** to speak with one of our licensed insurance representatives.

Source: Insurance Bureau of Canada, www.ibc.ca

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