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We plan to work with interested municipalities and other stakeholders on transitioning certain green building standards related to building construction (which are currently being implemented through the site plan process) into the Ontario Building Code. This will be achieved through an interim Building Code amendment by the summer of 2023.

For municipalities interested in promoting leading practices, this approach would maintain consistent construction standards in Ontario that provide important benefits to building product manufacturers, designers and builders, while also continuing to demonstrate Ontario's commitment to enhancing green standards.

In addition, Ontario has consulted on advancing harmonization of energy efficiency requirements in buildings by aligning Ontario's Building Code with selected National Code tiers as minimum energy efficiency requirements in the next edition of the Code in 2024.

In future editions of the Building Code, Ontario will work within the National Code development system to promote further alignment of national, provincial and municipal requirements for energy efficiency and other relevant green building standards.

I also wish to clarify that aspects of green standards that are not brought into Ontario's Building Code because they do not involve building construction (including green infrastructure, cool paving, biodiversity, tree plantings etc.) will continue to be optional standards that can be required through municipal by-law and implemented through site plan control. To ensure these matters are understood, the Ministry plans to update its online site plan guidance to reflect Green Building Standards early in 2023.

During the transition period, until the green standards are authorized in the Building Code, we would anticipate that municipalities will continue to use site plan control to address green standards to the extent possible.

I have asked Mansoor Mahmood, Director of the Building and Development Branch, to connect with municipal officials on the proposed green standards to be included in the Ontario Building Code. He can be reached at 416-992-2855 or mansoor.mahmood@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,



Steve Clark
Minister

- C. Chief Administrative Officers
Kate Manson-Smith, Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Mansoor Mahmood, Director, Building and Development Branch