



## Asbestos: A Nemesis and much more...

### Scary & Common

...what to know and what to do!

Asbestos is **commonly found** in a variety of building materials used in industrial, commercial, institutional, and **residential buildings** constructed **prior to the early 1980s**.

#### Building Materials List

The Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) identified the following building components that are known to contain asbestos:

- Loose-fill vermiculite insulation
- Vinyl floor tiles and sheet flooring
- Acoustical ceiling tiles, wallboard and plaster
- Clapboard; shingles and felt for roofing
- Exterior siding
- Pipe and boiler coverings
- Adhesives such as caulking, putty, roof patching, furnace cement

#### Critical facts

It is critical to determine if Asbestos Containing Materials (ACMs) are present in a building, **BEFORE a renovation or demolition**. Job sites can be delayed or shutdown until the site can be remedied.

Long-term exposure to airborne asbestos fibres has been **linked to serious illnesses** including malignant lung cancer, mesothelioma and asbestosis.

Known ACM presence is required as a due diligence **PRIOR** to property purchase and sale.

#### Collection & Testing with Fisher

Unless you are a trained professional, it is strongly advised not to disturb or gather suspected material containing asbestos.

Fisher CALA-Accredited Laboratories will arrange to have a trained technician come to your location to collect samples for lab analysis.

If you are a professional and collecting asbestos samples, **a special form called a chain of custody must be completed** and received with the sample. This ensures the sample can be tracked from its source.

#### How to Submit Asbestos Sample for Testing:

All information about the sample must be included if you are an intermediary consultant.

- Fields include: contact information (client), name of sample, submission (where sample was located and how it arrived to the lab).
- Place sample in a **NEW** dry ziploc bag.
- Deliver, courier or mail the sample(s) with the completed Chain of Custody form to our Lab.

Read more about **your role with health and safety as it pertains to properties**. It is accessible through our resource library. You'll find us at: [fishereng.com](http://fishereng.com).