

## BULLETIN 04-2012

May, 2012

**TO:                   LICENSED GAS CONTRACTORS  
                          LICENSED GAS FITTERS  
                          WHOLESALEERS**

**SUBJECT:            GAS FIRE PLACE/GAS HEATER INSTALLATION**

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All gas fireplaces and heaters that are certified to CSA 2.33 Vented Gas Fireplace Heaters have special requirements when it comes to clearances to combustibles.

The standards that these fireplaces and heaters are constructed to carry this definition for combustibles:

“**COMBUSTIBLE MATERIAL** – As pertaining to materials adjacent to or in contact with heat producing appliances, vent connectors, gas vents, chimneys, steam and hot water pipes and warm air ducts, shall mean materials made of or surfaced with wood, compressed paper, plant fibers, or other materials that are capable of being ignited and burned. Such material shall be considered combustible even though flame-proof, fire-retardant treated, or plastered.”

This definition is more stringent than the definition in the CSA B149.1 code book:

“**NONCOMBUSTIBLE** – Material that conforms to CAN/ULC-S114 requirements for noncombustibility.”

Ensure that any material placed within the zone specified by the heater/fireplace manufacturer for non-combustible material has only non-combustible material installed. As an example, cement board and steel sheets are considered non-combustible. Fire-rated drywall or gypsum wallboard is considered combustible and cannot be used in a non-combustible material zone.

Any material that does not meet this strict requirement for non-combustibles as specified above will have to be replaced.

Thank you for your co-operation in the matters of public safety.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G. L. Williams". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

G. L. Williams, P. Eng.  
Chief Gas Inspector