

Ontario to License Home Inspectors

New Law Would Strengthen Consumer Protection, Level Playing Field for Business

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Today, Minister of Government and Consumer Services Marie-France Lalonde announced Ontario's intent to introduce legislation this fall that would, if passed, regulate the province's home inspection industry in order to better protect consumers.

If passed, the proposed changes would:

- Require home inspectors to be licensed with proper qualifications
- Set minimum standards for contracts, home inspection reports, disclosures, and the performance of home inspections
- Establish an independent Administrative Authority to administer and enforce the home inspection licensing legislation and associated regulations

These changes would ensure consumers benefit from quality advice, are protected from surprise costs and aware of safety issues before buying a home. This will also create a level playing field for the home inspection industry, preventing inspectors with little or no training from competing with qualified professionals by offering lower rates.

Protecting Ontario's consumers is part of the government's economic plan to build Ontario up and deliver on its number-one priority to grow the economy and create jobs. The four-part plan includes helping more people get and create the jobs of the future by expanding access to high-quality college and university education. The plan is making the largest infrastructure investment in hospitals, schools, roads, bridges and transit in Ontario's history and is investing in a low-carbon economy driven by innovative, high-growth, export-oriented businesses. The plan is also helping working Ontarians achieve a more secure retirement.

QUOTES

" Our government is committed to protecting consumers, which is why introducing this proposed legislation remains a top priority for my ministry. If passed, this proposed legislation will help to build a stronger foundation for the industry and even better protect consumers throughout the home-buying process."

- Marie-France Lalonde

Minister of Government and Consumer Services

QUICK FACTS

- Home inspectors are one of the only professionals involved in a real estate transaction who are not provincially regulated.
- Approximately 65 per cent of resale homes sold annually receive a home inspection.
- There are approximately 1,500 home inspectors in Ontario.
- The proposed legislation the government intends to introduce was based on [35 recommendations](#) made by a 16-member expert panel which were then supported by both industry and consumers.

LEARN MORE

- Learn more about [consumer protection and your home.](#)

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