



**Advisory:**

October 4, 2022

**Subject:**

Secondary suites, shut off valves, and potable water distribution systems

**Background:**

The [National Plumbing Code 2020](#) requires that potable water distribution systems in residential buildings containing more than one dwelling have a shut-off valve installed on the water supply to each dwelling unit to ensure that, when the water supply to one suite is shut off, the water supply to the remainder of the building is not interrupted.

**Advisory:**

Builder, designers, and installers are reminded that new or under construction secondary suites will be expected to meet this requirement as secondary suites are considered a separate dwelling unit per the definition found in The [National Plumbing Code 2020](#) as they operate under a single tenancy.

As this requirement may have considerable impact on existing completed and covered suites applying for secondary suite status The City of Calgary, as the authority having jurisdiction, may accept, as an alternative, the installation of a shut off valve at each and all fixtures in the building to meet the intent of the requirement.

**Reference:**

The [National Plumbing Code 2020 2.6.1.3. Shut-off Valves](#)