

Re: False Alarm

A fire alarm sounded in the early hours of New Year's Day. Investigation showed that it was set off when a person leaving the building pulled the alarm in the lobby. As a direct consequence of this false alarm ...

- 1) Five fire trucks arrived at 50 Quebec. Since it was a false alarm, the Fire Department is entitled to charge the building \$300 for each one of the five trucks that was dispatched to the scene, for a total of \$1,500.
- 2) The sound of the alarm continued for several minutes, until the arrival of the fire trucks. During this time, a speaker in one of the 03 units was silenced, which in turn caused the speaker in every 03 unit from the main floor to the penthouse floor to become inoperable. This created two more problems:
 - a. Twenty-five units were without not only the in-unit mechanism which sounds the alarm, but also the Public Address system itself which is used to broadcast information, so they all missed the announcement about the false alarm.
 - b. It is a legal requirement in Ontario for every unit in a high-rise building to have a working in-unit alarm system. The 03-unit system has been restored, so it has not been necessary this time to hire a fire alarm service company to locate the source of the disconnect (which of course would have been an added expense).

If anyone requires instructions for fire safety at 50 Quebec, please pick up a copy of the information sheet "Fire Safety Tips" in the Health & Safety Committee's rack in the Meeting Room, or log on to www.ycc323.com and review the Health & Safety Committee's section on Brochures.