WOOD HEATING

Will the city force me to remove my new wood burning appliance?

The least we can say is that the city of Montreal has scared many citizens throughout Quebec! In fact, by introducing a by-law which forces citizens to remove any wood burning appliance that emits more than 2.5 g/h, the city of Montreal has raised a doubt in the minds of many consumers who live outside the city and wish to get a stove or a fireplace. Their questions are legitimate. Could my city implement legislation similar to that of the island of Montreal? Must I absolutely have a device that emits less than 2.5 g/h?

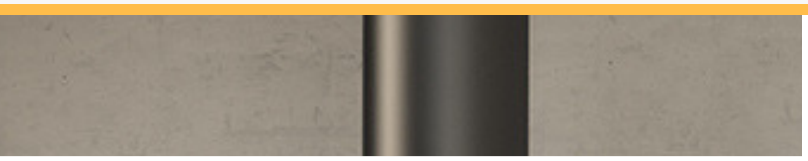
AS A MANUFACTURER, WE BELIEVE THAT THE "MONTREAL" PHENOMENON WILL NOT EXTEND TO OTHER CITIES IN QUEBEC.

Currently, the province of Quebec has its own regulation on wood heating which applies to the vast majority of municipalities outside the island of Montreal. For example, a consumer who wants to purchase a stove or fireplace that is not part of an exempt category must choose a device with emissions below 4.5 g/h. Should this rate change, it would only apply to devices purchased as of the date of the regulation. Regardless of the changes, it would not make existing devices illegal.

In fact, this approach is favored everywhere in Canada and the United States, with the exception of the island of Montreal. Montreal, in our opinion, is now recognizing its error. Why would a city oppose its citizens by forcing them to remove a device that already emits as little as 4.5 g/h? A city that really wants to improve air quality would instead tackle obsolete, uncertified equipment with pollutant emissions ten times greater than 4.5 g/h.

'' THE DISCONTENT OF MONTREAL CITIZENS HAS BROUGHT SEVERAL CITIES TO REFLECT AND THEY WILL PROBABLY AVOID MAKING THE SAME MISTAKES ''

Marc-Antoine Cantin,
President of SBI



We advise consumers who contact us to choose a device that meets their needs: price, look, features.

If the chosen device is in a regulated category, it must have emissions below 4.5 g/h, with the exception of Montreal. We do not endorse the speech of some sellers who seem to "force" at all costs the sale of devices at 2.5 g/h, using as a pretext a potential mandatory withdrawal by the municipality. We believe that this tactic is dishonest and is way too restrictive on the choice of available models. However, if a device whose emissions are less than 2.5 g/h is really meeting the needs of the consumer, then it is perfectly normal and sound to encourage this purchase.