Community Housing
John Orr Tower – Fire Devices

Each apartment has the following fire detection equipment installed

A smoke detector
- Is located on the ceiling of your entrance hall
- It has an intermittent blinking signal
- The smoke detector, if activated, will beep
- The beeping is localized to your apartment
- In certain situations e.g., burnt toast, or humid conditions, generally having some air flow into the apartment via an open window or fanning the detector will make the beeping stop

A heat detector
- Is located on the ceiling in your entrance hall
- Any tampering with or activation of the heat detector registers on the main system for the building and is treated as an emergency
- When “trouble on the line” is made known, maintenance staff will respond, regardless of the day or time, to see what the problem is, and once fixed will reset the system

Silencing switch
- Is located on the wall in your entrance hall, generally near the storage closet
- There is a button that you can press to silence the beeping for 10 minutes. If there is a problem, you will hear beeping again after the 10 minutes are up
- The silencing switch simply is used to silence the communication speaker
- There will be a beeping sound when the monthly fire alarm test of the building is completed
- The monthly building test takes place the last Monday of every month except for the month of December. For the month of December, we test on the last working Monday of the month for Queen’s employee’s
- The test lasts for a short time (5 to 10 minutes)

Communication speaker
- Is located above the silencing switch
- The fire department communicates to the apartment through this device
- It is also the fire alarm signal

Sprinklers are provided in units and hallways from the 16th floor down to the 10th floor

In the hallways outside the apartments there are:
Communication speakers, smoke detectors, pull stations, fire hoses and fire extinguishers. Once the alarms are activated, the speakers in the hallway and the speakers within the apartments will sound. You can silence the speaker within your apartment for 10 minutes but it is recommended that you evacuate the building.

The main panel is located in the 1st floor main entrance

If you are having a problem with any of the above devices, please contact our office at 533-2501 during the week or on the weekends/after hours call the Queen’s Emergency Report Centre at 533-6080.

Tampering with any of these devices is an offence under the Fire Code and could lead to fines starting at $300 from the Fire Department, $500 from the Fire Marshall’s Office + call-in fees from maintenance staff. Fines are subject to change without notice.

As a reminder, we test the fire alarm system for the building on the last working Monday of every month.