

RENE G. CASKANETTE, B.A.SC., P. Eng.

CONSULTING FORENSIC ENGINEER

- Fire & Explosion Cause and Origin Investigation (Approximately 1580 Investigations)
- Accident Reconstruction - Motor Vehicle Accidents (Approximately 670 Investigations)
- Civil Engineering – Roofs, foundations, fire, wind, water and vibration damage (Approximately 1080 Investigations)
- Failure Analysis - Product Liability and Subrogation (Approximately 550 Investigations)
- Personal Injury Accident Investigation – Slips, Trips, Falls (Approximately 440 Investigations)
- Environmental Claims, Fuel Oil Spills, Mouldy Structures (Approximately 260 Investigations)
- Expert Witness, Litigation Support
- Risk Assessment of Industrial and Commercial Properties (Approximately 1500 Inspections)
- Fire Protection Engineering, including Fire Code Issues, Building Code Issues

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

- Bachelor of Applied Science (Civil Engineering), University of Waterloo, 1980

ADDITIONAL COURSES & SEMINARS

- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), Annual General Meeting, Las Vegas, 2016
- International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI) Annual General Meeting, Las Vegas, 2014
- Indoor Air Quality Association (IAQA) annual conference, Las Vegas, March 5 to 8, 2012
- Canadian Oil Heat Association (COHA) annual conference, Niagara Falls, September 16, 2011
- Ministry of the Environment (MOE), Training on O. Reg. 511/09 changes, Toronto, 2010
- COHA annual conference, Collingwood, October 6, 2010
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), Annual General Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada, 2010
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), Annual General Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada, 2008
- Canadian Society of Forensic Science (CSFS), Annual Meeting, Calgary, 2005.
- International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI), Annual General Meeting, Reno, Nevada, 2003.
- Mould in Buildings –An Awareness Seminar, Pinchin Environmental, Kitchener, 2002.
- IAAI, Annual General Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1999
- SAE 1999, Annual General Meeting, Detroit, Michigan, 1999
- Annual General Meeting, International Association of Arson Investigators, Toronto, 1997
- Rural Fire Investigation Seminar, IAAI, 1995
- Annual General Meeting, IAAI, Biloxi, Mississippi, 1994
- Kinesic Interviewing Seminar, IAAI, 1993
- How to Conduct a Fire Investigation – University of Wisconsin, 1988
- International Symposium on Major Hazards of Pressure Liquefied Gases, University of New Brunswick, 1987
- Propane Safety Seminar, Superior Propane, 1987
- HAZTECH Seminar, International Centre, 1987
- Fire Safety Education and Training, Canadian Fire Safety Association, 1987
- Fire Hazards and their Control, University of Toronto, 1987
- Engineering – Forensic Aspects, University of Toronto, 1987
- Fire Investigation Level III, Ontario Fire College, 1987
- Fire Investigation Level II, Ontario Police College, 1986
- Large Loss Investigation – Factory Mutual Engineering Association, 1982
- Loss Prevention Engineering II – Factory Mutual Engineering Association, 1981
- Loss Prevention Engineering I – Factory Mutual Engineering Association, 1980

EMPLOYMENT BACKGROUND

Caskanette Udall Consulting Engineers

President, November 2005 – Present

Forensic Engineering Services to Insurance and Legal Clientele

Caskanette & Associates, Consulting Engineers

President, July 1998 – November 2005

Forensic Engineering Services to Insurance and Legal Clientele

Walters Forensic Engineering

President & CEO, January 1, 1997 – July 1998

Forensic Engineering Services to Insurance & Legal Clientele

Walters Forensic Engineering

Vice President Operations, 1994 – 1996

Forensic Engineering Services to Insurance & Legal Clientele

Walters Forensic Engineering (Kitchener)

Branch Manager, 1989 – 1998

- Forensic Engineering Services to Insurance & Legal Clientele

Walters Forensic Engineering (Toronto)

Unit Manager – Civil Engineering Services, 1988 – 1989

Unit Manager – Fire and Explosion Investigation, 1988 – 1989

Ontario Ministry of the Solicitor General, Office of the Fire Marshal (Toronto)

Fire Protection Engineer, Fire Investigations, Fire Code Consultation, 1986 – 1988

Factory Mutual Engineering Association (Toronto)

Loss Prevention Specialist, 1985 – 1986

Loss Prevention Consultant, 1980 – 1985

- Industrial and Commercial Property Insurance Company

Ainsley and Associates Consulting Engineers (Collingwood)

Site Supervisor – Municipal Services, 1979

Corporation of the City of Cambridge

Construction Site Supervisor, 1978

Traffic Studies and Intersection Design, 1977

City of Waterloo

Surveyor and Site Supervisor, 1976 – 1977

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

- Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario (PEO)
- Canadian Association of Fire Investigators (CAFI), with C.C.F.I.-C certification.

LECTURES AND COMMITTEES

- Drone (UAV) applications in industry, and property insurance, Unica Insurance, 2014
- Subrogation claims involving Plumbing Failures, 2013, various insurers.
- NFPA 921 use at trial, Canadian Defense Lawyers Conference, Toronto, 2012
- Municipal Liability, OTLA Toronto, October 2010
- Remediation of roadside fuel spills from vehicle accidents, Economical Toronto, 2010
- Fuel oil tank failure causes, Guarantee Company, 2010
- Mould, lead paint and asbestos claims handling, Allstate and contractors, 2010
- Property claims and environmental claims, Economical, 2009
- Fuel Oil Spill causes and remediation, Kitchener OIAA January meeting, 2007
- Ontario Building Code changes, ING Insurance, London, 2006
- Fuel Oil Spill Remediation, ING Insurance, London, 2006
- Fire Cause and Origin Investigation, Ontario Mutual Insurance Association, Cambridge, 2006
- Fuel Oil Spill Remediation, Cooperators Insurance, Cambridge, 2006
- Reconstruction of Night Time Accidents, Gore Mutual, Cambridge, 2005
- Wood burning Appliance Fires, OIAA, London chapter, 2005
- Fuel oil spills remediation, Guarantee Company, Woodstock, 2004
- Fuel oil spills and property claims, Gore Mutual, Cambridge, 2001
- University of Waterloo, Fire Investigation lecture for graduate engineers, 2001
- Motor vehicle accidents, Royal Insurance, Hamilton, 1999
- OTLA – Forensic Engineering Presentation, Kitchener Courthouse, 2000
- Forensic Engineering Training Lecturer, Throughout Canada, 1997, 1998
- Dryer Fires, CBC Marketplace, 1995
- IAAI Ontario Chapter President, 1993/94
- IAAI Fire Investigation Seminar Trainer - Hamilton, 1992
- IAAI Fire Investigation Seminar Trainer - Windsor, 1991
- IAAI Fire Investigation Seminar Speaker - London, Hamilton, 1990
- Executive member IAAI Ontario Chapter - Director, 1989 to 1995
- University of Toronto, Continuing Education Department - Lecturer, 1989 and 1990
- Speaker at numerous seminars and conferences related to Fire Investigation
- Fire History in Ontario, What Lessons Have We Learned, Ontario Fire College, 1987
- Toronto Home Builders, Fire Safety Committee, 1987
- Ontario Farm Safety Association, Silo Fires Committee, 1987
- Fuel Safety Branch, Marina Refueling Fire Safety Committee, 1987
- Plant Emergency Organizations, Ontario Industrial Fire Protection Association, 1986

PAPERS AND ARTICLES

- Fuel Safety Program in Ontario, Without Prejudice, February, 2014.
- Oil Tank Failures, Without Prejudice, November, 2010
- Home Fires, KW OIAA chapter magazine, January, 2007
- Electrical Fire Investigations, Canadian Independent Adjusters (CIAA) magazine, December, 2004
- Candle Fires, CIAA magazine, December, 2004
- Arc Fault Circuit Interrupters, CIAA magazine, December, 2004
- Mould Claim Investigations, CIAA magazine, April, 2004, KW OIAA newsletter, Jan., 2004
- Tire Failures, KW OIAA Newsletter, January 2004, CIAA magazine
- Swimming Pools, Without Prejudice, June, 2004
- Automatic Sprinklers, Without Prejudice, March, 2004
- Braking Systems, Without Prejudice, 2003
- Child Safety Seats, Without Prejudice, 2003
- Glass Failures, Without Prejudice, 2003
- Ice and Snow Melting, Without Prejudice, 2003, CIAA magazine
- Dust Ghosting, CIAA magazine, Without Prejudice, 2003

- Home Heating Oil Spills, Without Prejudice, 2002
- Bicycle Accidents & Cyclist Injuries, OIAA Newsletter, 2001, CIAA magazine, January, 2007
- Scalding & Thermal Shock, OIAA Newsletter, 2001
- Roof Collapses, OIAA Newsletter, 2001
- Cooking Fires, OIAA Newsletter, 2001
- Accident Reconstruction for Beginners, OIAA Newsletter; Without Prejudice; CIAA magazine, 2000
- Smoke Alarms, OIAA Newsletter, 2000, Without Prejudice, 2000; CIAA magazine, 2000
- Industrial Fires, OIAA Newsletter, 2000, Without Prejudice, 2000; CIAA magazine, 2000
- I Saw the Light, OIAA Newsletter, 2000, Without Prejudice, 2000; CIAA magazine, 2000
- Winter Wonderland, OIAA Newsletter, 2000; Without Prejudice, 2000; CIAA magazine, 2000
- NFPA 921 Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations, OIAA Newsletter, 1999; Without Prejudice, 2000; CIAA magazine, 2000
- Playground Injuries, OIAA Newsletter, 1999; Without Prejudice, 1999; CIAA magazine, 1999
- Concrete Wall Collapses - Who is Liable? OIAA Newsletter; Without Prejudice; CIAA, 1999
- Physical Evidence, OIAA Newsletter, 1999; Without Prejudice, 1999; CIAA magazine, 1999
- Fires Caused by Spontaneous Combustion, OIAA Newsletter; Without Prejudice; CIAA, 1999
- Wood Ignition, OIAA Newsletter, 1999; Without Prejudice, 1999; CIAA magazine, 1999
- Seatbelts, OIAA Newsletter, 1999; Without Prejudice, 1999; CIAA magazine, 1999
- Motor Vehicle Accidents on Roadways, OIAA Newsletter; Without Prejudice; CIAA magazine, 1999
- Failure Analysis, OIAA Newsletter, 1999; Without Prejudice, 1999; CIAA magazine, 1999
- Slips, Trips, Stumbles and Falls, OIAA Newsletter; Without Prejudice; CIAA magazine, 1999
- Insurance Claims & The Internet, OIAA Newsletter; Without Prejudice; CIAA magazine, 1999
- Electric Dryer Fires, OIAA Newsletter, 1999; Without Prejudice, 1999; CIAA magazine, 1999
- New Ontario Fire Code, OIAA Newsletter, 1999; IAAI Newsletter; Without Prejudice, 1999
- All Shook Up – Vibration Claims, OIAA Newsletter; Without Prejudice, 1999; CIAA magazine, 1999
- Fires Attributable to Residential Natural Gas Regulator Failures, CAFI, 1988
- Char Depth and Time of Burning, CAFI Newsletter, 1987
- Chimney Fires, IAAI Newsletter
- Explosions, OIAA Newsletter
- Ford Vehicle Steering Column Fires, OIAA Newsletter
- Aluminum Wiring Hazards, OIAA Newsletter
- Spontaneous Ignition Fires, OIAA Newsletter
- Vehicle Fires, OIAA Newsletter
- Wood Heating Fires, OIAA Newsletter
- Hagersville Tire Fire, OIAA Newsletter

COURT EXPERIENCE

- Provided expert testimony on behalf of plaintiffs and defendants in civil trials at various court levels in Ontario, Saskatchewan, and the Northwest Territories, approximately 52 times.
- Provided expert testimony on behalf of the Crown, and the accused, during criminal trials at the Provincial and Supreme Court levels in Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan approximately 24 times.
- Provided expert testimony at Coroners Inquests in Ontario, approximately 10 times.
- Provided expert testimony at Fire Code Commission hearing 1 time.
- Provided expert testimony at Insurance Mediation in Manitoba 1 time and Ontario 1 time.
- Provided expert testimony at Insurance Appraisal in Ontario 2 times.
- Provided expert testimony at Insurance Arbitration in Ontario 1 time.
- Provided expert testimony at Landlord/Tenant Hearing in Ontario 2 times.

(Revised January 14, 2023)