

**Media Release | INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITY AVAILABLE**

**September, 2018**

**Attention Queensland Media**

**FIRST FLAMMABLE CLADDING, NOW faulty GLASS:**

**PEAK STRATA BODY applauds WATCHDOG for expanding investigations**

Following the combustible cladding crisis, Queensland apartment owners find themselves in troubled water yet again, this time battling glass that doesn't meet minimum safety standards.

It is being reported that the Queensland Building and Construction Commission (QBCC) is investigating the widespread use of unsafe glass which is 'too thin', inadequately attached and could be deadly on high rise balconies and balustrades if it unfastens.

There are fears that the non-compliant glass is spread throughout South East Queensland and will cost owners thousands to replace. (See story here)

The peak strata body warns this could be the tip of the iceberg, with substandard glass panels being imported from China linked to instances of 'exploding' glass panels in recent months.

Strata Community Association (Qld) is the peak industry body for Body Corporate and Community Title Management in Queensland and President Simon Barnard says it is disappointing to see new safety fears put on the table just months after flammable cladding audits have finished.

"Thousands of property owners in \_\_\_\_\_ have a right to be frustrated that the building defects rot has not been cut out yet."

"Owners in \_\_\_\_\_ are already facing the financial burden of building rectifications to reduce flammable cladding risks so this is an unwelcome addition."

Mr Barnard says unsafe glass has been on their radar since incidents emerged last year of substandard glass panels 'exploding' on the side of buildings, showering glass on the footpath storeys below.

"We are encouraged that the discovery of the unsafe glass is a result of the new powers of the QBCC which came into effect last year.

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“Apartment construction has streaked ahead of that for homes in recent years and we want Queensland communities to have assurances that no stone is being left unturned to ensure the future safety of buildings.”

Mr Barnard says from flammable cladding, to unsafe glass and other materials, it's clear that there is still a need to investigate products used in the construction of strata titles to ensure there will be no loss of life or livelihood in future.

“The QBCC has our support in safeguarding strata schemes by identifying substandard contractors and stopping them from delivering inferior buildings that put residents at risk.”

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### **About Strata Community Association**

Strata Community Association Limited (SCA) is the peak industry body for Body Corporate and Community Title Management in Australia & New Zealand. Membership includes body corporate managers, support staff, committee members and suppliers of products and services to the industry. SCA proudly fulfils the dual roles of a professional institute and consumer advocate. SCA has in excess of 3,300 members who help oversee, advise or manage a combined property portfolio with an estimated replacement value of over \$995 trillion. Website: [www.qld.strata.community](http://www.qld.strata.community)