

CITY OF PITT MEADOWS
PARKS AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES REGULATIONS
Bylaw No. 2954, 2023

A Bylaw to establish regulations governing the use of parks and community facilities on property owned or held by the City of Pitt Meadows for recreation or community uses.

WHEREAS Section 8 of the Community Charter provides that Council may, by bylaw, regulate, prohibit and impose requirements in relation to municipal services and public places;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the City of Pitt Meadows enacts as follows:

1. Citation/Title

- 1.1 This Bylaw may be cited as the "Parks and Community Facilities Regulations Bylaw".

2. Severability & References

- 2.1 A decision by a court that any part of this bylaw is illegal, void, or unenforceable severs that part from this bylaw and is not to affect the balance of this bylaw.
- 2.2 A reference to any statute, regulation, bylaw or other enactment refers to that enactment as it may be amended or replaced from time to time.

3. Repeal

- 3.1 City of Pitt Meadows Parks and Community Facilities Regulations Bylaw No. 2651, 2014, and its amendments, are repealed.

4. Definitions

- 4.1 In this bylaw:
- a) "Bylaw Enforcement Officer" means any individual employed by the City of Pitt Meadows who is tasked with enforcing the City's bylaws. This definition encompasses members of the RCMP who are authorized to carry out such duties.
- b) "City" means the City of Pitt Meadows.

- c) "Community Facilities" means a building, recreation facility or other land improvement, including, but not limited to, community centres, art gallery, swimming pools, arenas, sports fields, ball diamonds, and other facilities located in a Park or on any other land which the City owns or controls by means of a lease, license or other legal instrument, that is intended for athletic, social, recreational or cultural use by members of the community and the general public.
- d) "Contaminant" means any substance, whether gaseous, liquid or solid, whether dissolved or suspended, that;
 - I. injures or is capable of injuring the health or safety of a person;
 - II. injures or is capable of injuring property or any life form;
 - III. causes or is capable of causing material physical discomfort to a person; or
 - IV. damages or is capable of damaging the environment.
- e) "Council" means the Council of the City of Pitt Meadows.
- f) "Designated Shared Pathway" means a two-way off-street pathway designated by posted notice for shared use by cyclists, pedestrians and other active users.
- g) "Dog Owner" owner means a person who has care, custody or control of the dog, except that, where the person is an individual under the age of 18 years, his or her custodial parent or legal guardian is deemed to be the person responsible.
- h) "Director" means a representative of the City that has been assigned responsibility for the management and operation of City Parks and Community Facilities, or their designate as appointed from time to time.
- i) "Loiter" means to stand or wait around in or about or near the vicinity of a Community Facility without apparent purpose or reason.
- j) "Motor Assisted Cycle" has the meaning set out in the *Motor Vehicle Act* and regulations under that Act.
- k) "Natural Park Feature" means a tree, shrub, herb, flower, grass, turf or plant of any kind and all soil, sand, silt, gravel, rock, mineral, wood, fallen timber or other natural material within a Park or Trail.
- l) "On-Site Refuse" refers to all refuse, garbage, food remains, and other waste generated by individuals who are using a Park or Community facility while they are present within the Park or Community Facility. This includes items such as plastic chairs and tables and any other objects that are left by visitors.

- m) "Organized Activity" means any activity which is pre-planned, involves a group larger than a single family unit and which limits general public access to a portion of the Park or Community Facility or any activity that involves instruction or training.
- n) "Organized Sport" means any game or sport which is played by three or more persons who play and/or practice together regularly as a team in a league or association.
- o) "Park" means any publicly accessible outdoor area that is designated for recreational, social, or athletic purposes. This includes, but is not limited to, public parks, playgrounds, driveways, boulevards, beaches, playfields, linear parks, dikes, and hiking, biking, and riding trails and other land owned, leased, licensed, or otherwise controlled by the City.
- p) "Peace officer" means a person employed by the City, acting as a Local Assistant to the Fire Commissioner as defined under the Fire Services Act, and all persons as defined in this bylaw as a Bylaw Enforcement Officer.
- q) "Posted Notice" means a sign or written notice that has been posted or affixed to a wall, post, or notice board within a Park or Community Facility. It can also include notices that have been disseminated through other means such as brochures, maps, social media platforms, newspaper, or other media outlets that are relevant to the Park or Community Facility.
- r) "Special Event" means any organized event or activity that takes place within a Park or Community Facility, and which is intended to attract participants or spectators. This can include, but is not limited to, Organized Sports, festivals, sports events, competitions, tournaments, neighbourhood celebrations, dog shows, or any other animal-related events, but does not include private or invitation-only events. The definition also encompasses other events that may not be explicitly listed but are considered as Special Events as per the discretion of the local authority.
- s) "Special Event Permit" means a license issued for the use of Parks or Community Facilities or portion thereof in which the general public is encouraged to participate.
- t) "Trail" means a designated footpath or pathway that provides pedestrian access within a City Park or on City land. It may include natural trails, paved or unpaved paths, and any other designated routes that are intended for use by pedestrians.

5. Delegation of Authority

5.1 The Director is hereby authorized to:

- a) grant or refuse any request for a Special Event Permit for the conduct of any Organized Sport, Special Event, organized activity, or any other activity which under the provisions of this bylaw requires a Special Event Permit;
- b) establish rules for behaviour and conduct in Parks and Community Facilities, provided that such rules are not inconsistent with this bylaw or other regulations; and
- c) enforce the consequences of violating rules established for behaviour and conduct in Parks and Community Facilities.

6. General Regulations

6.1 A person will adhere to the rules set forth within this bylaw except where otherwise directed by

- a) a Peace Officer;
- b) a Bylaw Enforcement Officer;
- c) a person authorized by a Peace Officer to direct traffic; or
- d) the Director.

7. Hours of Public Use of Parks and Community Facilities

7.1 No person will enter upon or remain within a Park or Community Facility for any purpose whatsoever during the hours when the Park is closed as indicated by a sign or Posted Notice or where no hours are posted, between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. except:

- a) a person or organization who has a concession or lease granted by the City for a specified purpose;
- b) a person or organization holding a facility contract that allows hosted guests outside these hours;
- c) a private house guest of a resident-caretaker employed or contracted by the City;
- d) as authorized by City personnel; or
- e) emergency services such as fire, ambulance and RCMP.

8. Special Event Permits

8.1 No person, organization, or group will:

- a) use a Park or any portion of a Park for a purpose other than a general public use; or
- b) conduct or hold an Organized Sport, Organized Activity, Special Event, or any other activity within a Park or Community Facility unless that person has obtained a valid Special Event Permit authorizing them to do so, or has a booking contract for the Park or Community Facility for a private event.

8.2 The Director:

- a) is responsible for issuing Special Event Permits;
- b) may place restrictions and limits on an Organized Sport, Organized activity, Special Event or ancillary activity authorized by a Special Event Permit, as deemed necessary or desirable by the Director;
- c) may require a person, organization, or group to whom a Special Event Permit is issued to acquire and maintain insurance in an amount and form satisfactory to the Director;
- d) is not obligated to issue a Special Event Permit; and
- e) may amend, suspend, revoke or refuse to issue a Special Event Permit to any person, group, or organization who has contravened the provisions of any previous Special Event Permit issued to that person, group, or organization, or contravened the provisions of this bylaw or any other enactment.

8.3 Special Event Permits will be in a form prescribed by the Director.

9. Preservation of Natural Features

9.1 No person will cut down or prune any vegetation in a Park or Trail without the express and prior authorization of the Director, and then only in strict accordance with such authorization in order to protect the health of the Park's natural environment.

9.2 No person will remove, destroy, damage, deface, break, or tamper with any Natural Park Feature, or any building, structure, fence, bench, sign, road, Trail or any facility, equipment, material or thing within a Park or Community Facility without the express and prior authorization of the Director, and then only in strict accordance with such authorization.

- 9.3 No person will foul or pollute, or otherwise introduce any contaminant on the land, or into any natural stream, creek, ditch, or pond, or any man-made water feature, fountain, or pond within a Park or Community Facility.

10. Animals

- 10.1 No person will ride or walk a horse on any part of a Park or Community Facility except on Trails and other areas specifically designated for horse riding as indicated by signs, Posted Notice, or under a Special Event Permit.
- 10.2 No dog owner will allow their dog on a playing field, sport surface, playground or other designated park area where dogs are not allowed, as indicated by Posted Notice, in order to prevent any damage to the facilities and protect the safety of Park visitors.
- 10.3 Subject to section 10.4, a dog owner will keep their dog on a leash secured to their person in all Parks to ensure the safety of Park visitors and to protect the Park's Natural Features.
- 10.4 Despite section 10.3, dog owners may allow their dogs to be off-leash in designated off-leash or leash-optional areas of Parks, as indicated by Posted Notice, to allow for responsible dog owners to exercise and socialize their pets in a designated area without disturbing other Park visitors.

11. Fireworks, Pyrotechnics and Fires

- 11.1 No person will discharge any fireworks in a Park or Community Facility without a valid permit issued in strict accordance with requirements established by the City of Pitt Meadows Fireworks and Pyrotechnics Bylaw No. 2673, 2015 in order to prevent any fire hazards and ensure the safety of park visitors.
- 11.2 No person will burn wood in a Park or Community Facility.
- 11.3 A person is allowed a cooking fire under the following conditions:
- a) The fire must be contained within a barbecue;
 - b) The fire must have a surface area not greater than one (1) meter` in diameter;
 - c) The fire must have natural gas, propane, electricity or charcoal as its fuel source; and

- d) There can be no fire restrictions in place at the time of the fire that would ban such activity.

12. Litter

- 12.1 No person will deposit litter anywhere within a Park or Community Facility except in waste receptacles provided for such purposes by the City in order to maintain the cleanliness of the Park and prevent any harm to the environment.
- 12.2 No person will carry, transport or deposit litter of any kind whatsoever into, or upon, a Park or Community Facility, or deposit the same into waste receptacles provided by the City for on-site refuse, except for on-site refuse that is generated within the Park. This includes household garbage, construction materials, hazardous waste, and any other material that is not generated within the Park.

13. Motor Assisted Cycle

- 13.1 No person will use or operate a Motor Assisted Cycle unless that person and the Motor Assisted Cycle are in compliance with the *Motor Vehicle Act* and regulations of that Act.
- 13.2 No person will use or operate a Motor Assisted Cycle in a Park except on a Designated Shared Pathway.
- 13.3 A person operating a cycle or Motor Assisted Cycle on a Designated Shared Pathway must:
 - a) always yield to pedestrians and slow down or stop when approaching pedestrians.
 - b) be equipped with a bell or horn to warn pedestrians of their approach;
 - c) operate at a safe speed, taking into consideration the conditions and other users; and
 - d) operate in a safe and responsible manner and users must obey all traffic laws and regulations, including those related to the use of a cycle.

14. Commercial and Other Services or Activities

- 14.1 No person, group, or organization will sell, exchange, barter, expose, or display for sale, any food, refreshments, goods, materials, or services whatsoever, nor will they conduct any business or commercial activity in a Park or Community Facility, without a Special Event Permit.
- 14.2 The Director must not issue a permit for a business or commercial activity in a Park or Community Facility unless they have determined that the business or commercial activity is in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations, and is consistent with the City's current policies and standards for commercial activities in public spaces.
- 14.3 No person, group, or organization will post, affix, deliver, paint, publish or distribute any notice, advertisement, sign, placard, or handout of any kind whatsoever in a Park or Community Facility except on information boards or digital displays provided expressly for that purpose unless that person has the prior express written authorization of the Director.
- 14.4 No person, group, or organization will operate or station any motor vehicle displaying advertising or equipped with a public address system in a Park or Community Facility for the purpose of advertising, promoting, demonstrating, or attracting attention unless such activities are specifically authorized by a valid Special Event Permit and are in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations.

15. Behaviour and Conduct

- 15.1 Every person, group and organization within a Park or Community Facility will comply with all Federal and Provincial statutes, City bylaws, regulations, enactments and policies, including all signs and Posted Notices.
- 15.2 No person, group, or organization will:
 - a) behave in a disorderly, dangerous or offensive manner in a Park or Community Facility;
 - b) possess or consume alcohol, cannabis or any substance found in the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (SC 1996, c. 19) in a Park or Community Facility unless such activity is specifically authorized by a valid Special Event Permit;
 - c) engage in activities involving high-speed projectiles, including golf, paintball, airsoft, or drone flying, in a Park or Community Facility unless such activity is specifically authorized by a valid Special Event

Permit;

- d) camp in a Park or Community Facility unless such activity is specifically authorized by a valid Special Event Permit, and then only in the designated area;
- e) build any structure in a Park or Community Facility unless such activity is specifically authorized by a valid Special Event Permit, and the activity complies with all City bylaws, permits, requirements, and regulations;
- f) obstruct or interfere with the free use or enjoyment of the Park or Community Facility by any other person;
- g) enter or bathe in any body of water in a Park or Community Facility without swim attire and in designated areas;
- h) use any device in a Park or Community Facility that, in the opinion of the Director, constitutes a hazard to any person using the Park or Community Facility;
- i) interfere with or obstruct any employee or caretaker of the City in the performance of their duties;
- j) use or operate any device in such a manner as to disturb the enjoyment of the Park or Community Facility by other persons;
- k) loiter in or around a Park or Community Facility without lawful excuse, the proof of which lies upon them;
- l) ignite any substance for smoking or burning within 10 meters of a Park, Community Facility, playing field, sports field/court, or children's playground, unless authorized by a valid Special Event Permit, and then only in the designated area.

16. Loss of Access Rights

16.1 If the Director, a Peace Officer, or a Bylaw Enforcement Officer determine that an individual, group, or organization is violating any provision of this bylaw within a Park or Community Facility, the following actions may be taken:

- a) request for identification, including name and address, of the individual, group or organization in question;
- b) requirement to vacate the Park or Community Facility;
- c) upon receiving a banning notice forfeit their right to access a Park or Community Facility for the period of time stipulated in the notice; and

- d) be required to comply with conditions related to that person's, group's or organizations future use of Park.

16.2 A person who is directed to leave a Park or Community Facility by the Director, a Peace Officer, or a Bylaw Enforcement Officer must:

- a) immediately vacate the Park or Community Facility; and
- b) not enter the Park or Community Facility again except with prior approval by the Director, a Peace Officer or a Bylaw Enforcement Officer.

17. Offences and Penalties

17.1 Any person, group, or organization who violates any provision of this bylaw or fails to do anything required to be done by this bylaw, commits an offence under this bylaw and is subject to the imposition of any and all penalties or remedies available to the City pursuant to this bylaw or other applicable bylaws or legislation, and will be subject to the following penalties:

- a) A fine of no less than \$100.00 and no more than the maximum penalty allowed by the Offence Act; and
- b) In the case of a continuing offence, each day the offence continues constitutes a separate offence.

READ a FIRST, SECOND and THIRD time on July 18, 2023.

ADOPTED on July 25, 2023.

Nicole MacDonald
Mayor

Kate Barchard
Corporate Officer