

CITY OF PITT MEADOWS
FIREWORKS AND PYROTECHNICS
BYLAW NO. 3063, 2026

A Bylaw to regulate Fireworks and Pyrotechnics

WHEREAS, pursuant to the *Community Charter*, Council may, by bylaw, regulate, prohibit and impose requirements in relation to Firecrackers, Fireworks, and Explosives;

AND WHEREAS, pursuant to the *Community Charter*, Council may, by bylaw, regulate, prohibit, and impose requirements in relation to the protection and enhancement of the well-being of its community in relation to noise, vibration, odour, dust, illumination, or any other matter that is liable to disturb the quiet, peace, rest, enjoyment, comfort, or convenience of individuals or the public;

AND WHEREAS, Council deems it expedient and desirable to provide such regulations;

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

1. CITATION

- 1.1. This Bylaw may be cited as the "Fireworks and Pyrotechnics Bylaw No. 3063, 2026".

2. INTERPRETATION & REFERENCES

- 2.1. In this Bylaw the following words, terms, and phrases, wherever they occur in this bylaw, have the following meanings assigned to them:

- (a) **Applicant** means a person who applies for a Special Permit under this Bylaw;
- (b) **Bylaw Officer** means persons designated as bylaw enforcement Officers under the City of Pitt Meadows Bylaw Notice Enforcement Bylaw No. 2439, 2009;
- (c) **Council** means the Municipal Council of the City of Pitt Meadows;
- (d) **City** means the City of Pitt Meadows;
- (e) **Consumer Fireworks** commonly referred to as family grade Fireworks, means any firework classified as Type F.1 Explosives under the *Explosives*

Regulations, including outdoor, low-hazard recreational Fireworks such as showers, fountains, golden rain, roman candles, and volcanoes;

- (f) **Discharge** means to fire, ignite, explode, light, or set off or cause to be fired, ignited, exploded, lit, or set off;
- (g) **Display Fireworks** commonly referred to as professional grade Fireworks, means any firework classified as Type F.2 Explosives under the *Explosives Regulations*, including outdoor, high-hazard recreational Fireworks such as display shells, bombshells, large wheels, barrages, bombardos, waterfalls, and mines;
- (h) **Display Fireworks Assistant** means an individual who holds a Fireworks operator certificate (display assistant), issued by Natural Resources Canada, to detonate Display Fireworks under the direct supervision of a Display Fireworks Supervisor;
- (i) **Display Fireworks Event** means an Event or festival for which the City has issued a Special Permit to allow the Discharge of Display Fireworks;
- (j) **Display Fireworks Manual** means the currently in force Natural Resources Canada Display Fireworks Manual including any replacement manual that may be published from time to time;
- (k) **Display Fireworks Supervisor** means an individual who holds a Fireworks operator certificate (display supervisor), issued by Natural Resources Canada, to plan and carry out a Display Fireworks Event and to directly supervise qualified Display Fireworks Assistants in the execution of same;
- (l) **Event** means a Pyrotechnic Event or Display Fireworks Event;
- (m) **Explosive** has the same meaning as in the *Explosives Act*;
- (n) **Explosives Act** means the *Explosives Act*, RSC, 1985, c. E-17;
- (o) **Explosives Regulations** means the *Explosives Regulations*, 2013, SOR/2013-211;
- (p) **Fire Chief** means the person who is appointed to be head of the Pitt Meadows Fire Rescue Service and every person designated by Council under the *Community Charter* by name of office or otherwise to act in the place of the Fire Chief;
- (q) **Fire Rescue Service** means the organization known as the Pitt Meadows Fire and Rescue Service;

- (r) **Firecracker** means a small firework with entwined fuses used solely as noise makers, not for pyrotechnic effects or have little or no pyrotechnic effect and without limitation includes bottle rockets, screechers, screecharoos, humaroos, supersonic bang, butterfly thunder, and air bombs and includes items similarly named or are in the same noise producing category;
- (s) **Fireworks** means any manufactured goods intended to be used for pyrotechnic visual or sound effects that are classified as Fireworks by the *Explosives Regulations*;
- (t) **Highway** includes a street, road, lane, bridge, viaduct and any other way open to public use, other than a private right of way on private property;
- (u) **Occupant** means an Owner, tenant, lessee, agent, licensee, and any other person who has the right of access to, and control of any land, building, or premises to which this Bylaw applies;
- (v) **Officer** means any person, including the Fire Chief and those designated by the Fire Chief, appointed by the City to exercise the powers vested under this Bylaw or the Fire Safety Act;
- (w) **Owner** means an Owner as defined in the *Community Charter*;
- (x) **Peace Officer** means fire services personnel as defined under the Fire Safety Act, any person employed by the City as a Bylaw Officer, or a Police Officer, Police constable or member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Officer;
- (y) **Permit Holder** means a person to whom a Special Permit has been issued;
- (z) **Prohibited Fireworks** means any Firework or similar product not authorized for use under the *Explosives Regulations*, including aftermarket modified Fireworks, Firecrackers, exploding matches, sparkling matches, ammunition for miniature pistols, cherry bombs, stink bombs, smoke bombs, bottle skyrockets, fake Firecrackers, and other trick devices;
- (aa) **Public Place** means any real property owned or subject to a right of occupation by the City for the pleasure, recreation, or community uses of the public including public parks, playgrounds, public squares, pathways, trails, dikes, and other Public Places and all improvements and shall include all other public areas adjacent to lakes, rivers, streams, or land covered by water and City owned or controlled parking lots;

- (bb) **Pyrotechnics** means fuel, flame, propellant, or Explosive materials and devices which are used in a variety of situations, often by the entertainment industry for indoor and outdoor performances and for effects, classified as Type F.3 Explosives under the *Explosives Regulations* and includes special effect Pyrotechnics and special purpose Pyrotechnics, as defined in the *Explosives Regulations*;
- (cc) **Pyrotechnic Event** means an Event or production where a Special Permit has been issued to allow the Discharge of Pyrotechnics;
- (dd) **Pyrotechnician** means an individual who holds a Fireworks operator certificate which shows they have the qualifications and experience to plan and carry out a Pyrotechnic Event;
- (ee) **Sky Lantern**, also known as Chinese lantern, kongming lantern, or wish lantern, means a small airborne, fire-holding device made of paper or other lightweight material, not under direct control of the user, and with a small fire within it;
- (ff) **Special Effect Pyrotechnics Manual** means the currently in force Natural Resources Canada Special Effect Pyrotechnics Manual and any other replacement manual that may be published from time to time;
- (gg) **Special Permit** means a document issued by the City which constitutes written permission authorizing activities in accordance with this Bylaw including the terms, conditions, plans, and specifications set out in such Special Permit.

2.2. In this Bylaw:

- (a) words importing the singular number include the plural and vice versa, and words importing the neuter gender include the masculine and the feminine genders and vice versa;
- (b) any reference to “including” means “including, but not limited to”;
- (c) unless expressly stated otherwise, a reference to a “Section” is a reference to a section in this Bylaw, a reference to a “Part” is a reference to a part in this Bylaw, and any reference to a “Schedule” is a reference to a schedule to this Bylaw;
- (d) unless expressly stated otherwise, a reference to an enactment is a reference to an enactment of British Columbia and its regulations, as

amended, revised, consolidated, or replaced from time to time, and a reference to a bylaw or policy is a reference to a bylaw or policy of the City, as amended, revised, consolidated, or replaced from time to time; and

- (e) a reference to the current title of a position includes the position as it may be renamed from time to time, or if the position is modified or eliminated, any references in this Bylaw to the modified or eliminated position are intended to be a reference to any other position with those functions and responsibilities that most closely resemble the position described in this Bylaw.

3. GENERAL

- 3.1. A person must not sell, distribute, throw, propel, eject, Discharge, possess, or store Consumer Fireworks or Prohibited Fireworks in the City.
- 3.2. Despite section 3.1, a person may possess Consumer Fireworks solely for the purpose of transporting them through the City, provided that:
 - (a) the Consumer Fireworks were lawfully acquired outside the City, or on land held by Canada;
 - (b) the Consumer Fireworks are securely stored during transportation; and
 - (c) the Consumer Fireworks are not sold, distributed, Discharged, or stored within the City.
- 3.3. A person must not light, ignite, start, or cause to be lit, ignited, or started, a fire of any kind whatsoever in the open air, including airborne fire holding devices not under the control of the user such as Sky Lanterns.
- 3.4. Except as authorized in this Bylaw, a person must not set up or prepare Fireworks or Sky Lanterns for Discharge on a Highway or in a Public Place.
- 3.5. On a Highway or within a Public Place, a Peace Officer may seize Fireworks or Sky Lanterns being held or used in violation of this Bylaw and may dispose of them without compensation.
- 3.6. A person who Discharges or stores Fireworks contrary to the provisions of this Bylaw must, when directed to do so, surrender all Fireworks in their immediate possession to a Peace Officer, who may dispose of them without compensation.

4. DISPLAY FIREWORKS EVENT

- 4.1. A person must not Discharge, fire, or use Display Fireworks within the City unless the person is:
- (a) at least eighteen (18) years of age;
 - (b) a Display Fireworks Supervisor; and
 - (c) in possession of a Special Permit in respect of such Discharge.
- 4.2. A person using Display Fireworks must do so in complete compliance with the requirements in the Display Fireworks Manual except if this Bylaw has explicitly superseded any requirement.
- 4.3. A Display Fireworks Supervisor may apply for a Special Permit for a Display Fireworks Event by submitting an application in the form available on the City's website to the Fire Rescue Service at least seven (7) days before the scheduled date of the Display Fireworks Event which is accompanied by:
- (a) an application fee of \$250;
 - (b) a fire safety plan that includes:
 - (i) a site plan, drawn to scale, which includes:
 - (1) separation distances to the public and vulnerable features;
 - (2) position of ramps and mortars;
 - (3) fallout zone;
 - (4) direction of firing;
 - (5) significant ground features, roads, public rights of way, buildings, or structures;
 - (6) overhead obstructions, parking areas, and spectator viewing areas;
 - (7) location of emergency vehicles, if applicable; and
 - (8) a North arrow;
 - (ii) an Event description which includes:
 - (1) the date, time, schedule of the Events, and the possible rain date;
 - (2) a description of the proposed Fireworks, including type, size and quantity;

- (3) whether the firing procedures will be manual or electric;
 - (4) emergency response procedures; and
 - (5) traffic control plans and attendance estimates, if known;
 - (c) an authorization form available on the City's website signed by the property Owner or Owner's agent if the Display Fireworks Event related to the Special Permit is occurring on property not owned by the Applicant;
 - (d) proof of Display Fireworks Supervisor certification issued to the Applicant by the Explosives Regulatory Division of Natural Resources Canada or a successor body; and
 - (e) a certificate of insurance evidencing that the Applicant has comprehensive general liability insurance for the Fireworks Display Event that:
 - (i) has a coverage limit of not less than \$5 million per occurrence;
 - (ii) names the City as an additional named insured;
 - (iii) contains a waiver of subrogation; and
 - (iv) has a deductible of not more than \$5,000.
- 4.4. A Permit Holder for a Display Fireworks Event must ensure that at all times during the deployment of Fireworks there is constantly on duty either:
- (a) two (2) Display Fireworks Supervisors; or
 - (b) one (1) Display Fireworks Supervisor and one (1) Display Fireworks Assistant.
- 4.5. A Permit Holder for a Special Permit authorizing a Display Fireworks Event must keep at least two (2) fire extinguishers approved by the Fire Chief at least six (6) metres apart within the area in which the Permit Holder is discharging the Fireworks.

5. PYROTECHNIC EVENTS

- 5.1. A person must not Discharge or use Special Effect Pyrotechnics within the City unless the person is:
- (a) at least eighteen (18) years of age;
 - (b) a Pyrotechnician with a Fireworks operating certificate for the specific Special Effect Pyrotechnics; and

- (c) in possession of a Special Permit in respect of such Discharge.
- 5.2. A person using Special Effect Pyrotechnics must do so in complete compliance with the requirements set forth by the Special Effect Pyrotechnics Manual except if this Bylaw has explicitly superseded any requirement.
- 5.3. A Pyrotechnician may apply for a Special Permit for a Pyrotechnic Event by submitting an application form available on the City's website to the Fire Rescue Service at least seven (7) days before the scheduled date of the Pyrotechnic Event which is accompanied by:
- (a) an application fee of \$250;
 - (b) the name of the Pyrotechnician in charge of the Pyrotechnic Event and the number and the expiry date of their Fireworks operator certificate;
 - (c) the civic address for the location of the Pyrotechnic Event;
 - (d) a fire safety plan that includes:
 - (i) a site plan, drawn to scale, which includes:
 - (1) the placement of the Pyrotechnics;
 - (2) the proximity of the audience;
 - (3) the location of every exit;
 - (4) every pyrotechnic storage area; and
 - (5) every smoke detector that may be triggered by the Pyrotechnics used in the Pyrotechnic Event;
 - (ii) details about each pyrotechnic including:
 - (1) the type and trade name of each pyrotechnic that will be used and the name of the company as it appears on the list of authorized Explosives under the *Explosives Regulations*;
 - (2) a description of each Special Effect Pyrotechnic;
 - (3) anticipated height, duration, and fallout effect of each of the Special Effect Pyrotechnics;
 - (4) description of the anticipated effects of each special purpose pyrotechnic; and
 - (5) the method and sequence of firing the Special Effect Pyrotechnics;

- (e) an authorization form, available on the City's website, signed by the property Owner or Owner's agent if the Pyrotechnic Event related to the Special Permit is occurring on property not owned by the Applicant;
 - (f) a valid Special Permit if Consumer Fireworks or Display Fireworks are used in the Pyrotechnic Event;
 - (g) a certificate of insurance evidencing that the Applicant has comprehensive general liability insurance for the Pyrotechnic Event that:
 - (i) has a coverage limit of not less than \$5 million per occurrence;
 - (ii) names the City as an additional named insured;
 - (iii) contains a waiver of subrogation; and
 - (iv) has a deductible of not more than \$5,000; and
 - (h) the Pyrotechnician's assessment of the reasonable likelihood of harm to persons and property caused by the Discharge or use of the Pyrotechnics.
- 5.4. A Permit Holder for a Pyrotechnic Event must ensure that at all times during the deployment of Pyrotechnics there is constantly on duty at least one (1) Pyrotechnician.
- 5.5. A Permit Holder for a Special Permit authorizing a Pyrotechnic Event must keep at least two (2) fire extinguishers approved by the Fire Chief at least six (6) metres apart within the area in which the Discharge is being done.

6. SPECIAL PERMITS

- 6.1. An Officer may issue a Special Permit authorizing the Permit Holder to Discharge Display Fireworks or Pyrotechnics if:
- (a) the Applicant has submitted a complete application;
 - (b) the Fire Rescue Service has received the application fee;
 - (c) the proposed Event complies with all applicable provincial and federal enactments; and
 - (d) the proposed Event complies with all applicable requirements in the Special Effect Pyrotechnics Manual and Display Fireworks Manual.
- 6.2. If an Officer issues a Special Permit, the Officer may attach conditions to the Special Permit that are reasonably consistent with this Bylaw, provincial and

federal enactments, the Special Effect Pyrotechnics Manual, and the Display Fireworks Manual, including conditions regarding:

- (a) the location and method of safe storage of the Display Fireworks or Pyrotechnics;
- (b) the time, location, and manner of Discharge of the Display Fireworks or Pyrotechnics; and
- (c) fire safety precautions to be employed for the Event, including standby apparatus and personnel.

6.3. The Permit Holder must:

- (a) comply with all the terms and conditions specified in the Special Permit;
- (b) comply with the manufacturer's approved instructions;
- (c) comply with the requirements of this Bylaw, all other City bylaws, all applicable requirements in the Special Effect Pyrotechnics Manual and the Display Fireworks Manual, and all applicable provincial and federal enactments;
- (d) ensure that all Display Fireworks authorized by the Special Permit are directly supervised at all times by a Display Fireworks Supervisor; and
- (e) ensure that all Pyrotechnics authorized by the Special Permit are directly supervised at all times by a Pyrotechnician.

6.4. An Officer may revoke or suspend a Special Permit if:

- (a) the Permit Holder has violated the terms and conditions of the Special Permit, this Bylaw, or any applicable provincial or federal enactments;
- (b) the Permit Holder has acted in such a manner as to endanger property or public safety through a contravention of this Bylaw, failing to comply with applicable provincial or federal enactments, or failing to comply with the Special Effect Pyrotechnics Manual or the Display Fireworks Manual; or
- (c) environmental or weather conditions are such that the use of Fireworks or Pyrotechnics would endanger property or public safety.

6.5. An Applicant for a Special Permit must deposit security in the amount of \$1,000 with the City in the form of:

- (a) a cash deposit;

- (b) irrevocable letter of credit in a form acceptable to the City; or
 - (c) other form of security acceptable to the City to be used for the purposes of paying costs or expenses incurred or suffered by the City as a result of the Applicant's failure to comply with the requirements of this Bylaw and all other applicable enactments.
- 6.6. After an Event, the City must return to the Applicant any amount of security not required for the purpose in Section 6.5.
- 6.7. Standby apparatus and personnel, where required, will be charged in accordance with the Apparatus Costs per GVRD Agreement.

7. APPLICATION OF PROVISIONS

- 7.1. The provisions of the *Explosives Act* and its associated regulations, the Display Fireworks Manual, and the Special Effect Pyrotechnics Manual apply within the City.

8. FIRE CHIEF POWERS

- 8.1. An Officer may enter on property and inspect premises for conditions that may cause a fire, increase the danger of a fire, or increase the danger to persons or property.
- 8.2. An Owner or Occupier of real property must remove or reduce any thing or condition from a building or yard which in the opinion of an Officer is a fire hazard or increases the danger to persons or property from a fire.
- 8.3. After an inspection, an Officer may order in writing that within a reasonable time set out in the order, the Owner or Occupant remove, destroy, repair, or alter the use of the occupancy of the premises, or remove or take precautions against any fire hazard or any thing that increases the danger of fire, as set out in the order.
- 8.4. The Fire Rescue Service or their designate may refuse, stop, or alter any Event if the documentation, personnel training, equipment, or procedures required for compliance with this Bylaw, the Special Permit, and all other applicable enactments are not in place.

9. COMPLAINTS

- 9.1. A complaint arising as a result of the administration of the provisions of this Bylaw by an Officer shall be referred in the following manner and shall be the final authority on all cases:
- (a) to the Fire Chief, for all complaints in which the Fire Chief was not the original administering Officer involved; or
 - (b) to the City's Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), for all complaints in which the Fire Chief was the original administering Officer involved.

10. ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES

- 10.1. A person must not obstruct an Officer, the Fire Chief, a Bylaw Officer, or an RCMP Officer engaged in the enforcement of this Bylaw.
- 10.2. A person who
- (a) violates or fails to comply with any provision of this Bylaw or an order authorized by this Bylaw;
 - (b) causes, permits, suffers, or allows any action or thing to be done in violation of this Bylaw;
 - (c) obstructs, hinders, or interferes with administration of this Bylaw; or
 - (d) refuses, omits, fails, or neglects to fulfill, observe, carry out, or perform any duty or obligation imposed in this Bylaw,
- contravenes this Bylaw, and where the contravention is a continuing one, each day that the contravention continues amounts to a separation contravention.
- 10.3. A person who contravenes this Bylaw commits an offence and upon conviction by way of a proceeding under the Offence Act is liable to a penalty not less than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and not exceeding fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) for each offence and the costs of prosecution, or to imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or to both.
- 10.4. This Bylaw may be enforced by a bylaw notice issued under the City of Pitt Meadows Bylaw Notice Enforcement Bylaw No. 2439, 2009.

11. SEVERABILITY

- 11.1. If any section, subsection or clause of the Bylaw is declared or held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, then that invalid portion shall be severed and the remainder of this Bylaw shall be deemed to have been enacted and adopted without the invalid and severed section, subsection, or clause.

12. REPEAL

- 12.1. Pitt Meadows "Fireworks and Pyrotechnics Bylaw No. 2673, 2015" and its amendments are hereby repealed.

READ a FIRST, SECOND and THIRD time on September 1, 2026.

ADOPTED on September 22, 2026.

Nicole MacDonald
Mayor

Kate Barchard
Corporate Officer