

FIRE SERVICES OPERATION BYLAW, 2021, NO. 9713

CONSOLIDATED FOR CONVENIENCE AND REFERENCE PURPOSES ONLY

This consolidated version is not a legal document. For official purposes please refer to the original bylaw and amending bylaw documents.

Includes Bylaw Amendments:

Includes Fire Services Housekeeping Bylaw, 2024, No. 10106

District of Saanich

Fire Services Operational Bylaw, 2021, No. 9713

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THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF SAANICH

BYLAW NO. 9713

A BYLAW TO DEAL WITH THE CONTINUATION AND OPERATION OF THE FIRE
DEPARTMENT AND
TO PROVIDE FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

The Municipal Council of The Corporation of the District of Saanich, in open meeting duly assembled, enacts as follows:

Title

1. This bylaw may be cited as the “**FIRE SERVICES OPERATIONAL BYLAW, 2021, NO. 9713.**”

Interpretation and Application

2. In this bylaw, the following capitalized terms shall have the following respective meanings, unless otherwise defined by the *Fire Safety Act*:
 - (a) “**Apparatus**” means any vehicle, equipment (including communications equipment), machinery, devices or materials used by the Department in connection with fire suppression or responding to or managing an Incident, and any vehicle used to transport Members or supplies;
 - (b) “**Authorized Services**” means those services which the Department is authorized to provide, as set out in section 9 of this bylaw;
 - (c) “**Building**” means means any Public Building or Private Dwelling, as defined herein;
 - (d) “**Chief Administrative Officer**” means the person appointed by Council as the chief administrative officer of the Corporation;
 - (e) “**Council**” means the municipal council of the Corporation;
 - (f) “**Corporation**” means The Corporation of the District of Saanich;
 - (g) “**Dangerous Goods**” has the meaning ascribed thereto in the *Transport of Dangerous Goods Act* and regulations made thereunder;
 - (h) “**Department**” means the Saanich Fire Department;
 - (i) “**Director of Engineering**” means the Corporation’s Director of Engineering and his or her designates;

- (j) “**EMCR**” means Emergency Management and Climate Readiness, which is responsible for matters relating to or arising under the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act*, or any successor thereto;;
- (k) “**Fire Chief**” means the person appointed by Council as head of the Fire Department, and includes, where applicable, a Member authorized by the Fire Chief to act on his or her behalf;
- (l) “**Fire Code**” means the British Columbia Fire Code, as adopted from time to time pursuant to the *Fire Safety Act*;
- (m) “**Fire Commissioner**” means the fire commissioner appointed pursuant to the *Fire Safety Act*;
- (n) “**Fire Inspector**” means those personnel designated as fire safety inspectors within the meaning of and in accordance with the *Fire Safety Act*, as provided in section 23 of this bylaw;
- (o) “**Fire Investigation**” means a fire investigation conducted in accordance with and as required under the *Fire Services Act* or this bylaw;
- (p) “**Fire Investigator**” means those personnel designated as fire investigators within the meaning of and in accordance with the *Fire Safety Act*, as provided in section 42 of this bylaw;
- (q) “**Fire Prevention Bylaw**” means the *Fire Prevention and Life Safety Bylaw, 2021, No. 9712* of the Corporation;
- (r) “**Fire Safety Assessment**” means a fire safety assessment as defined in the *Fire Safety Act*, and as provided in section 37 of this bylaw;
- (s) “**Fire Safety Inspection**” means a fire safety inspection conducted by a Fire Inspector in accordance with and as required under the *Fire Safety Act* and this bylaw;
- (t) “**Fire Safety Inspection Order**” means an order issued by a Fire Inspector as contemplated by section 51 of this bylaw;
- (u) “**Fire Safety Plan**” means a fire safety plan as required by the Fire Code, and includes a fire safety plan in relation to any construction project or undertaking;
- (v) “**Fire Service Area**” means the area contained within the geographical limits of the Corporation;
- (w) “**Incident**” means an event or situation to which the Department has responded or would normally respond, whether alone, or in conjunction with other emergency services, and includes any post-event clean-up, over-haul and Fire Investigation;

- (x) **"Incident Commander"** means the Member in charge of an Incident under the incident command system, as set out in the Department's Operational Guidelines;
- (y) **"Member"** means a person employed by the Corporation in the classification of Firefighter, Alarm Dispatcher, Lieutenant, Captain, Platoon Captain, Assistant Fire Chief, Assistant Deputy Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief or Fire Chief, or such other positions as may be designated by the Corporation from time to time;
- (z) **"Ministry of Forests"** means the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development of the Province of British Columbia, or any successor to that ministry;
- (aa) **"Minister"** means the minister under the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act*;
- (bb) **"Officer"** means the Deputy Fire Chief and a Member who is appointed as an officer within the Department in accordance with section 20 of this bylaw;
- (cc) **"Operational Guidelines"** means operational guidelines for the Department developed by the Fire Chief in accordance with this bylaw;
- (dd) **"Premises"** means any of the following:
 - (i) A Building;
 - (ii) The parcel of land on which a Building is located;
 - (iii) A motor vehicle with the meaning of the Motor Vehicle Act, railway, vehicle, aircraft, vessel, or other means of transportation;
- (ee) **"Private Dwelling"** means any of the following:
 - (i) A structure that is occupied as a private residence;
 - (ii) If only part of a structure is occupied as a private residence, that part of the structure;
 - (iii) Any other structure located on the parcel of land on which a private residence is located, except for a structure to which the public is ordinarily invited or permitted access, or that is used for commercial, industrial or institutional purposes;
- (ff) **"Provincial Training Standards"** means the mandatory minimum training standards set under the *Fire Safety Act* by the Fire Commissioner and approved by the Minister of Justice, as same may be amended, revised or replaced from time to time;
- (gg) **"Public Building"** means any of the following:
 - (i) A Building other than a Building that is a Private Dwelling;

- (ii) A structure to which the public is ordinarily invited or permitted access, or that is used for commercial, industrial or institutional purposes;
 - (iii) A facility including a storage yard or tank farm;; and
 - (hh) **“Regional District”** means the Capital Regional District.
3. All references in this bylaw to statutes and regulations are to statutes and regulations of the Province of British Columbia, unless otherwise expressly noted. References in this bylaw to statutes, regulations, bylaws or policies, and to positions, titles or ministries, includes the same as they may be amended, supplemented or replaced from time to time. References to an enactment includes any regulations made thereunder.
4. This bylaw does not contemplate or extend in its purpose, to any of the following:
- (a) the protection of any person from economic loss;
 - (b) a guarantee or warranty by the Corporation or any of its agents, as to the service level expectations of the Department under this bylaw, or any other applicable bylaws, codes, enactments, agreements or standards; or
 - (c) providing to any person a warranty with respect to the Authorized Services of the Department or with respect to the certainty of timely response levels. The list of Authorized Services does not, of itself, mean that the Department provides such services at any given time or will, in relation to any particular Incident, be able to deliver such services.
5. Each Member, and each non-uniformed employee of the Department, is a “local public officer” of the Corporation as defined in section 738 of the *Local Government Act*.
6. In relation to the exercise of operational authorities or powers by the Department, any reference in this bylaw to the Fire Chief or Incident Commander includes any Member designated or directed by the Fire Chief or Incident Commander to exercise such operational authorities or powers, as the case may be.
7. The fees and charges that may be levied by the Corporation in relation to various services provided or activities undertaken by the Department under this bylaw are set out in Appendix A, which appendix is incorporated into and forms a part of this bylaw.

Fire Department Continued

8. The Department, as established, is continued as a fire department under section 8 of the *Community Charter*. The Department shall operate under the name “Saanich Fire Department”.

Fire Department Authorized Services

9. The Department is authorized to provide the following services (the “Authorized Services”):
- (a) firefighting and fire suppression, including interface fires and wildfires;
 - (b) emergency health services, as defined in the *Emergency Health Services Act*, but subject to any agreement that may be required with British Columbia Emergency Health Services;
 - (c) ancillary health services, as defined in the *Emergency Health Services Act*;
 - (d) firefighter and fire officer training;
 - (e) fire prevention and pre-fire planning activities, including long driveway inspection and approval, furnace and oil tank inspection, new Building inspections, building plan reviews, fireworks display authorizations and site visits, and such other activities as may be prescribed in this or any other bylaw of the Corporation;
 - (f) Fire Safety Inspections, through its Fire Inspectors, as contemplated by the *Fire Safety Act* and this bylaw;
 - (g) Fire Code enforcement, including Fire Safety Plan reviews;
 - (h) Fire Investigations, through its Fire Investigators, and fire cause determinations, including arson investigations, as required by the *Fire Safety Act*, or as otherwise considered appropriate or necessary by the Fire Investigator;
 - (i) vehicle extrication and road rescue services;
 - (j) fire and life safety public education programs;
 - (k) mutual or automatic aid with other fire services, subject to written agreements with the relevant local government or other authority having jurisdiction;
 - (l) services as contemplated by a fire services or other agreement with another local government or other person;
 - (m) assistance to the Ministry of Forests in relation to wildfires, in accordance with the *Wildfire Act* and any operational guidelines issued by the Ministry of Forest’s Wildfire Service;
 - (n) emergency preparedness training and the operation of an emergency program as contemplated by the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act*;”;
 - (o) emergency preparedness training;

- (p) specialized rescue services, including low bank, high angle and water rescue, subject to training and availability of appropriate Apparatus and personnel;
 - (q) hazardous materials Incident response;
 - (r) the enforcement of this bylaw and other bylaws of the Corporation related to fire prevention or fire or life safety;
 - (s) other life safety responses required in connection with an Incident (including in relation to any natural or human-caused disaster);
 - (t) responses for public service; and
 - (u) such other services as may be authorized by Council.
10. The Fire Chief, in consultation with the Chief Administrative Officer, shall determine which of the Authorized Services the Department shall provide, and the level to which such services shall be provided, at any given time, subject to any necessary budget approvals and specific direction of Council; provided, however, that the Department shall always provide fire suppression, fire prevention, Fire Code enforcement, enforcement of this bylaw, and of the Fire Prevention Bylaw and other bylaws of the Corporation as may be specified therein, Fire Investigation services and Fire Safety Inspection services, and services ancillary thereto, as contemplated by sections 9 and 11 of this bylaw.
11. The Department shall operate as a “full service” department as defined in the Provincial Training Standards, both within the Fire Service Area and when responding extra-jurisdictionally as contemplated by section 14 of this bylaw. The Department shall operate in accordance with the requirements of the Provincial Training Standards, including with respect to the training of its Members and keeping of records related to such training.
12. Notwithstanding the list of Authorized Services or any service level authorized in accordance with the Provincial Training Standards, in relation to any particular Incident response, the Department shall undertake only those emergency response activities for which its responding Members are properly trained and equipped. The Fire Chief and/or Incident Commander may, in his or her sole discretion, restrict or terminate emergency response activities in any circumstances where the Incident is considered to exceed the training or capabilities of the responding Members, or Apparatus available to them.

Department’s Fire Service Area and Responses Out of its Ordinary Jurisdiction

13. The Department is hereby authorized to provide the Authorized Services within the Fire Service Area.

14. The Department may respond to an Incident and provide the Authorized Services outside of the Fire Service Area in the following circumstances:

- (a) in accordance with the terms of a mutual or automatic aid agreement with another local government, the Regional District, or other person;
- (b) if authorized to respond by EMCR or in accordance with an agreement with, or the standard operating procedures established by, the Ministry of Forests or any other provincial or federal emergency or regulatory agency;
- (c) to provide an Incident response in circumstances where, in the view of the Fire Chief or Incident Commander, such Incident imminently threatens any part of the Fire Service Area;
- (d) in accordance with the terms of a fire service agreement with another local government, a First Nations band or other person;
- (e) if ordered so to do by the Minister, by a local authority exercising the Minister's powers, or by the Lieutenant Governor in Council or the Fire Commissioner, under and in accordance with the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* and the regulations made thereunder; and
- (f) if authorized by the Chief Administrative Officer or designate.

15. The Fire Chief or his or her designate may, in his or her sole discretion, refuse to respond to calls to Incidents described in subsections 14(a) and (b); provided that any refusal of a mutual aid request or automatic aid response shall be in accordance with the terms of the relevant mutual aid agreement or automatic aid agreement, as the case may be.

16. Where another fire department (a "Responding Department") provides emergency response services within the Fire Service Area under a mutual aid or automatic aid agreement, the Responding Department, in relation to any particular Incident:

- (a) is authorized to exercise the powers and authorities specified in the relevant mutual aid agreement or automatic aid agreement, as the case may be; or
- (b) where the relevant mutual aid agreement or automatic aid agreement does not expressly address the issue of powers and authority, shall be entitled to exercise the same powers and authority as the Department under this bylaw.

Fire Chief

17. The Fire Chief shall be appointed by Council. Subject to direction of Council, the Fire Chief shall have complete responsibility for and control over the operation and regulation of the Department and delivery of the Authorized Services, including dealing with any matter within the scope of the *Fire Safety Act* and related regulations. The Fire Chief shall report to Council through the Chief Administrative Officer.

18. Without limiting section 17, the Fire Chief shall be responsible for:

- (a) the care, custody and control of all assets, Apparatus, Buildings, and other equipment in the care and control of the Department;
- (b) developing and maintaining a set of Operational Guidelines which meets the operational requirements of the Department and fulfils all statutory and regulatory requirements, including those mandated by the *Workers Compensation Act* and regulations made thereunder. The Operational Guidelines will include, among other things, an appropriate Incident command and accountability system;
- (c) developing all necessary training programs, establishing any necessary proficiency requirements for Members, and implementing an occupational health and safety program for the Department which, in each case, meets all statutory and regulatory requirements, including those required by the Provincial Training Standards and the *Workers Compensation Act* and regulations made thereunder;
- (d) ensuring that the Department maintains all required records, including those relating to training, Apparatus maintenance and repair, and occupational health and safety matters;
- (e) developing the annual budget and five-year financial plan for the Department in accordance with, and subject to the guidelines established by Council and subject to approval by Council;
- (f) designating Members or classes of Members as Fire Inspectors under section 23 of this bylaw, or as Fire Investigators under section 42 of this bylaw, and Council's powers to effect such designations under the *Fire Safety Act* are hereby delegated to the Fire Chief;
- (g) collecting and disseminating information regarding fires in the Fire Service Area;
- (h) investigating and holding enquiries into such fires as he or she may deem advisable;
- (i) investigating conditions under which fires are likely to occur and studying methods of fire prevention;
- (j) developing a risk-based compliance monitoring system for Public Buildings, in accordance with section 20 of the *Fire Safety Act* and associated regulations; and
- (k) rendering advice and making recommendations to Council or to other staff within the Corporation, as he or she may deem advisable, in relation to matters relevant to this bylaw or any other bylaw enforced by the Department.

19. Without limiting section 18, the Fire Chief, or any person acting under the authority of the Fire Chief, may exercise the following powers:

- (a) 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 from a fire. In relation to the entry of Buildings or Premises under this section 19, such entry will be made in accordance with and subject to the provision of section 16 of the *Community Charter*;
- (b) take measures to prevent and suppress fires, including the demolition of Buildings and other structures to prevent the spreading of fire; and
- (c) require an owner or occupier of real property to undertake any actions directed by the Fire Chief or other authorized person for the purpose of removing or reducing a thing or condition that person considers is a fire hazard or increases the danger of fire. Any order issued under subsection 19(c) will be made in accordance with section 50 of this bylaw.

Officers and Members

20. Each Deputy Fire Chief of the Department shall be appointed by Council as contemplated by the *Officers and Administrative Structure Bylaw, 2017, No. 9424*.

21. The Fire Chief may appoint Members of the Department to be Officers, excepting the Deputy Fire Chief and subject to any necessary budgetary approvals of Council.

22. The Members of the Department shall carry out the duties and responsibilities assigned to the Department under this bylaw, and other applicable bylaws of the Corporation, subject to the direction of the Fire Chief.

23. Fire Safety Inspections Each of the following Members or class of Members is hereby designated as a Fire Safety Inspector:

- (a) the Fire Chief;
- (b) the Deputy Fire Chiefs;
- (c) Members holding the rank of Assistant Deputy Fire Chief or acting in that position;
- (d) the Assistant Chief Fire Prevention;
- (e) the Captain Inspector, the Lieutenant Inspector and other Members assigned to the Department's Fire Prevention Division;
- (f) Members holding the rank of Captain or acting in that position;
- (g) Members holding the rank of Fire Training Officer; and
- (h) such other Members or classes of Members as may be designated in writing by the Fire Chief;

in each case, provided that, from and after August 1, 2025, the relevant Member meets at least the minimum standards for the training of Fire Inspectors as set by the Fire Commissioner.

24. A Fire Inspector may conduct a Fire Safety Inspection for the purposes of determining compliance with the *Fire Safety Act* and regulations:

- (a) On receiving a complaint;
- (b) If believed advisable, without receiving a complaint;
- (c) On request of an owner or occupier of the Premises; or
- (d) As part of the compliance monitoring program established under section 31 of this bylaw.

25. A Fire Inspector may make entry onto and into a Building or Premises at any reasonable time for the purposes of conducting a Fire Safety Inspection, provided, however, that entry into a Private Dwelling may only be made:

- (a) with the consent of the occupier; or
- (b) under the authority of a warrant obtained as provided in section 32 of the *Fire Safety Act*.

Operational Powers and Authority

26. The Fire Chief or Incident Commander, together with Members and Apparatus, may enter at any time, Buildings, premises, structures or property in connection with an Incident.

27. The Fire Chief or Incident Commander, together with Members and Apparatus, may at any time enter, remain on, or pass through or over Buildings, premises, structures or property to gain access to, or to protect any person or property in connection with, an Incident.

28. The Fire Chief or Incident Commander, or any Member designated or directed by either of them, is authorized to take measures to prevent and suppress fires, including the demolition of Buildings and other structures to prevent the spreading of fire or otherwise as is considered necessary to mitigate an Incident.

29. In connection with an Incident, the Fire Chief or Incident Commander may, in his or her discretion, establish boundaries or limits of an area and keep persons from entering such area, unless authorized to enter by the Fire Chief or Incident Commander. The Fire Chief or Incident Commander is authorized to order an evacuation of any Building, premises, structure, or property, including any area proximate to or threatened by an Incident, as considered necessary for the preservation or protection of life and safety of the public in relation to such Incident.

30. Where the Fire Chief or Incident Commander is satisfied, on reasonable and probable grounds, that a discharge, emission or escape of Dangerous Goods has occurred and that immediate action is necessary in order to mitigate the risks arising therefrom, the Fire Chief or Incident Commander may take any such measures as may be considered necessary to deal with the incident, or arrange for such measures to be taken by any person he or she considers qualified to do so.
31. Risk-Based Compliance Monitoring The Corporation, through its Fire Chief, shall establish, and the Department shall operate, risk-based compliance monitoring of Public Buildings in the Fire Service Area in compliance with the requirements of the *Fire Safety Act*
32. The compliance monitoring program will comprise both Fire Safety Inspections and Fire Safety Assessments, and will be established based on the risk analysis conducted in accordance with the *Fire Safety (Risk Analysis for Compliance Monitoring) Regulation 249/2024*, as may be amended or replaced from time to time..
33. The Fire Chief will be responsible for determining the frequency of Fire Safety Inspections for each Public Building based on the risk assessments that are undertaken, and which Public Buildings are to be subject to Fire Safety Assessments..
34. All Fire Safety Inspections conducted in accordance with the *Fire Safety Act* will be undertaken by a Member who has been designated as a Fire Inspector under section 23 of this bylaw..
35. Where the Department is:
- (a) required to undertake a re-inspection of any Public Building as a result of a deficiency arising from an initial or any subsequent Fire Safety Inspection; or
 - (b) requested to perform a Fire Safety Inspection of any Premises by the owner or occupier of such Premises, or undertakes a Fire Safety Inspection on complaint or if deemed advisable by a Fire Inspector
- a charge may be levied for such inspection or any necessary re-inspection, in accordance with Appendix A.
36. Every owner and occupier of every Public Building, Premises or structure which is subject to inspection under this bylaw shall provide all information and shall render all assistance required by the Fire Inspector in relation to such inspection or re-inspection and no person shall purposely withhold or falsify any information required by the Fire Inspector in connection therewith.

Fire Safety Assessments

37. As part of the compliance monitoring program established under section 31 of this bylaw, the Fire Chief may require the owner of a Public Building to submit a Fire Safety Assessment in relation to that Public Building. Failure to prepare and submit a Fire Safety Assessment may result in the Department carrying out a Fire Safety Inspection at the cost of the owner, with a fee charged as set out in Appendix A.

Fire Safety Plans

38. Where an owner of any Building or property is required by the Fire Code to develop and maintain a Fire Safety Plan, a copy of such Fire Safety Plan, and any updates thereto, shall be submitted to the Department for review in accordance with the Fire Code. The Fire Department may prescribe the form in which any Fire Safety Plan is to be submitted, including that the Fire Safety Plan must be submitted in a specified electronic format.
39. The Fire Safety Plan shall be reviewed not less than annually by the owner of the Building or property and updated if required. The Fire Safety Plan shall be updated and a new Fire Safety Plan submitted to the Department for review at any time that there has been any change to a Building, property or premises, or any change to the use thereof, that makes the existing Fire Safety Plan inaccurate or obsolete.
40. Notwithstanding any review of a Fire Safety Plan or the undertaking of any Fire Safety Inspection by the Department, the owner of the Building, Premises, or property in respect of which such Fire Safety Plan is submitted or Fire Safety Inspection is conducted, remains solely responsible therefor and the Corporation shall not be liable for any defect in any Fire Safety Plan, or any Fire Safety Inspection, or for any loss, damage, costs or injuries arising in connection therewith.
41. The Department will conduct such pre-fire planning, including the development of pre-incident plans, as may be required by the Provincial Training Standards, or as the Fire Chief may otherwise deem necessary or advisable. In connection with such pre-fire planning, the Department may require any person submitting a Fire Safety Plan for review, to submit such additional information or data as may be required by the Department, all in a format determined by the Department.

Fire Investigations

42. Each of the following Members or class of Members is hereby designated as a Fire Investigator:

- (a) the Assistant Chief Fire Prevention;
- (b) the Captain Inspector, the Lieutenant Inspector and other Department Members assigned to the Department's Fire Prevention Division; and
- (c) such other Members or classes of Members as may be designated in writing by the Fire Chief;

In each case, provided that, from and after August 1, 2025, the relevant Member meets at least the minimum standards for the training of Fire Investigators as set by the Fire Commissioner.

43. All Fire Investigations required by the *Fire Services Act*, or that are otherwise deemed necessary or advisable by the Fire Chief, will be conducted by a Fire Investigator..

44. Every owner or occupier of any Building, Premises, structure or property which is the subject of a fire shall provide all information and shall render all assistance required by the Fire Investigator in relation to any Fire Investigation conducted pursuant to the *Fire Safety Act* or this bylaw, and no person shall purposely withhold or falsify any information required by a Fire Investigator in connection therewith.

45. A Fire Investigator may, for the purposes of conducting a Fire Investigation, at any time and without a warrant, enter and inspect land or Premises where a fire has occurred and, if necessary, land or Premises adjoining or near where the fire has occurred.

Fees

46. The Department may charge for the cost of conducting a Fire Investigation, reviewing a Fire Safety Plan, carrying out a Fire Safety Inspection, or for any other use of Department services and resources, in each case in accordance with Appendix A. The Department may recover from the owner of the Premises where an Incident has occurred, and/or from the person responsible for the Incident, the costs incurred of any third-party assistance received in relation to responding to or mitigating an Incident. Where an Incident involves a spill or release of hazardous materials, the Department may recover from the person responsible for such hazardous materials, the cost of the response plus the cost of repairing or replacing of Apparatus or other equipment of the Department damaged or contaminated during the response

Occupational Health and Safety

47. Other than in relation to Fire Safety Inspections, where the Fire Chief finds that any provision of this bylaw has been contravened or has not been complied with or has been complied with improperly or only in part, or that conditions exist in or upon a Building, other structure or property which, in the Fire Chief's opinion, constitutes a fire hazard or otherwise constitute a hazard to life and/or property, he or she may make such Order as is necessary to ensure full and proper compliance with this bylaw or to eliminate the fire or other hazard. In particular, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Fire Chief may:

(a) give such directions to the owner, occupier or lessee of the Building, other structure or property as the Fire Chief deems necessary to correct the contravention or to ensure compliance with this bylaw or to remove the hazards; or

(b) make such Orders as the Fire Chief deems necessary with respect to any of the matters referred to in this bylaw.

48. A Fire Inspector may make a Fire Safety Inspection Order where the Fire Inspector is satisfied that the Premises inspected have contravened the *Fire Safety Act* or its regulations. A Fire Safety Inspection Order must be in the form approved by the Fire Commissioner, and otherwise meet the requirements of section 11 of this *Fire Safety Act*.

Bylaw Enforcement and Orders

49. The Fire Chief or designate, and such other persons as Council may designate, is hereby authorized to enforce the requirements of this bylaw, the *Fire Code*, and any of the Corporation's other bylaws relating to fire prevention, fire or life safety, open burning, hazardous materials, dangerous goods or fireworks.

50. Enforcement of this bylaw may be effected by means of a ticket issued in accordance with the Corporation's *Ticket Bylaw, 2010, No. 9029*, as amended or re-enacted from time to time.

51. Where the Fire Chief finds that any provision of this bylaw has been contravened or has not been complied with or has been complied with improperly or only in part, or that conditions exist in or upon a Building, other structure or property which, in the Fire Chief's opinion, constitutes a fire hazard or otherwise constitute a hazard to life and/or property, he or she may make such Order as is necessary to ensure full and proper compliance with this bylaw or to eliminate the fire or other hazard. In particular, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Fire Chief may:

- (a) give such directions to the owner, occupier or lessee of the Building, other structure or property as the Fire Chief deems necessary to correct the contravention or to ensure compliance with this bylaw or to remove the hazards; or
- (b) make such Orders as the Fire Chief deems necessary with respect to any of the matters referred to in this bylaw.

52. Any Order, other than a Fire Safety Inspection Order, made under this bylaw:

- (a) shall be in writing;
- (b) shall be directed to any one or more of the owner, occupier or lessee of the Building, other structure or property in respect of which the Order is made;
- (c) shall be served by:
 - (i) delivering it or causing it to be delivered to the person to whom it is directed;
 - (ii) sending the Order by registered mail to the last known property owner; or
 - (iii) posting a copy of it in a conspicuous place on the Building, other structure or property if the person to whom the Order is directed cannot be found, is not known or refuses to accept service of the Order.
- (d) Where more than one person is shown on the assessment roll of the Corporation as the owner of real property, service of an Order on any one of such persons shall be deemed to be good and sufficient notice for the purposes of this bylaw.

53. No person may remove, deface or destroy an order posted in accordance with paragraph 52(c)(iii)), except to remove the Order in connection with complying with it.

54. Where any owner, occupier or lessee fails to comply with an Order under this bylaw, the Corporation's Director of Engineering, or other person designated by the Corporation's Chief Administrative Officer, may, at the expense of the owner of the Building, other structure or property, cause the condition to be remedied as required by the Order. Without limiting the right of the Corporation to take such other

enforcement actions as it deems appropriate or necessary, any costs incurred by the Corporation under this section 50 may be recovered in the manner provided by section 258 of the *Community Charter*.

Prohibitions, Requirements and Penalties

55. No person shall:

- (a) impede, hinder or obstruct any Member at an Incident or when carrying out his or her duties under this bylaw, and every person in the proximity of an Incident shall comply with orders or directions of a Member responding to the Incident;
- (b) obstruct, hinder or impede a Fire Inspector in connection with performing a Fire Safety Inspection, including, without limitation, from making any entry into any Premises in accordance with the *Fire Safety Act*;
- (c) obstruct, hinder, impede or fail to provide information to a Fire Investigator in connection with the conduct of a Fire Investigation;
- (d) obstruct or otherwise interfere with access roads or other approaches to an Incident, or with fire hydrants, reservoirs or bodies of water required for fire suppression purposes;
- (e) damage, destroy, obstruct, impede or hinder the operation of any Apparatus, or, unless authorized by the Fire Chief, Incident Commander or other Officer, travel across a fire hose or other Department equipment;
- (f) refuse to permit any Member to enter into or upon premises in relation to which an alarm or other request for assistance has been received, or in or upon which a Member has reasonable grounds to believe that an Incident has occurred or may occur;
- (g) interfere with any Member or refuse to permit any Member to enter into or upon premises to determine the cause of activation of an Alarm System; and
- (h) except as authorized by the Fire Chief, an Officer or an Incident Commander:
- (i) enter any Building, structure, vehicle or area involved in or threatened by an Incident or any exclusion zone designated by the Fire Chief or Incident Commander under section 29; or
 - (i) refuse to move from such a Building, structure, vehicle or area when directed to do so by a peace officer or Member; or

- (ii) enter or fail to leave any area subject to a tactical evacuation order issued in accordance with section 29.
- 56. Any person who violates any provision of section 55 hereof may, in addition to any other penalty, be removed from the scene of an Incident by a peace officer or the Fire Chief, an Officer or Incident Commander (or their designate).
- 57. Any person who damages Apparatus in contravention of subsection 55(e) hereof, in addition to any other penalty, shall be liable for the cost of repairing or replacing the Apparatus.
- 58. No person shall falsely represent himself or herself as a Member of the Department, or wear or display any Department uniform, badge, cap, button, insignia or other paraphernalia for the purpose of such false representation.
- 59. It is the duty of the occupier or, if none, of the owner of the property, Building, motor vehicle, vessel or railway rolling stock, to report immediately to the Fire Chief when an explosion, discharge, emission, escape or spill of Dangerous Goods occurs and to similarly report to the Fire Chief where the potential for an explosion or a discharge, emission, escape or spill of Dangerous Goods exists by reason of abnormal or unusual circumstances.
- 60. Any person who violates any provision of this bylaw shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable upon summary conviction therefor to a penalty not exceeding \$50,000 for every such violation, which penalty and cost shall be recoverable and enforceable upon summary conviction in the manner provided by the *Offence Act*.

Force and Effect; Repeal of Bylaw No. 8807 and Amendments

- 61. This bylaw will come into force and effect on the date of its adoption.
- 62. Upon the coming into force of this bylaw, *Fire Prevention Bylaw, 2006, No. 8807*, and all amendments thereto are hereby repealed; provided, however, that any offence committed under such bylaw prior to its repeal may be charged, and any penalty or punishment levied under such bylaw may be imposed, as though such bylaw had not been repealed.

Includes Fire Services Housekeeping Bylaw, 2024, No. 10106.

APPENDIX A: FEES AND CHARGES

In relation to the Department's operations, activities and services provided under or authorized by this bylaw, the Corporation may charge the following fees:

Section 35- Re-inspection of a Public Building

1. Where the Department is required to conduct a re-inspection of a Public Building as a result of one or more deficiencies arising in the initial Fire Inspection as contemplated by section 35, the following fees will be charged:
 - (a) for the first re-inspection, to confirm the correction of the deficiency or deficiencies arising from the first Fire Inspection, no charge;
 - (b) for the second and every subsequent re-inspection, the amount of \$50.

Section 46 Charges

2. In relation to Fire Investigations conducted by the Department, the following amounts will be charged pursuant to section 46:
 - (a) Up to two hours: no charge;
 - (b) Where the investigation takes longer than two hours: \$100 per hour for each fire investigator for the period after two hours.
3. In relation to the review of a Fire Safety Plan, the following amounts will be charged:
 - (a) Where the review takes up to two hours: \$100;
 - (b) Where the review takes more than two hours, but less six hours: \$225; and
 - (c) Where the review takes more than six hours: \$225 plus \$100 per hour for every hour over six hours (minimum of one hour).
4. In relation to hazardous materials responses, the Department may charge the person responsible for the hazardous materials the hourly rate set out in section 5 of this Appendix A.
5. Where the Department provides, or agrees to provide, other services, including a non-scheduled Fire Inspection, a building plan review, event site inspection, or other service, unless otherwise expressly provided in this bylaw, or in a mutual or automatic aid agreement or other agreement:
 - (a) where services alone are provided, without Apparatus, the Department will charge the hourly rate for the Members providing the services, determined based on the Department's costs, plus a 10% administration charge; or

- (b) where Apparatus are required to provide the services, the Department will charge the all-found rate for the Apparatus and crews involved, as set from time to time by the Office of the Fire Commissioner, the BC Wildfire Service and the Fire Chiefs' Association of British Columbia, in the "Inter-Agency Operational Procedures and Rates" document (the "Provincial Rates Document"), in relation to responses by structural firefighting departments to provincial emergencies. If the Provincial Rates Document is discontinued, or has not been updated in the preceding 36 months, or does not cover the type of Apparatus provided, the Fire Chief, acting reasonably, will establish a rate based on the costs of operation the Apparatus involved, plus the cost of the Members calculated in accordance with subsection 5(a) of this Appendix A.