

**CONSOLIDATED AS AT March 24, 2026**  
**CONSOLIDATED FOR CONVENIENCE PURPOSES ONLY OF BYLAW NO. 2612, 2799, 2931,**  
**3297, 3293, 3852, 3831, 3933, 4007**



**DISTRICT OF CAMPBELL RIVER**  
**PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**  
**BYLAW NO. 2612**

**A BYLAW TO CONTINUE THE MUNICIPAL FIRE DEPARTMENT AND TO PROVIDE REGULATIONS FOR THE PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE MUNICIPAL ACT.**

**NOW THEREFORE** the Council of the District of Campbell River, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

**1.00 TITLE**

This Bylaw may be cited as “**Fire Services Bylaw No. 2612, 1997**”.

**2.00 DEFINITIONS**

In this Bylaw unless the context otherwise requires:

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| “Apparatus”              | means any vehicle provided with firefighting machinery, devices, equipment or materials and any vehicles used to transport firefighters or supplies.   |
| “Building”               | means a structure that is used or intended to be used for supporting or sheltering persons or animals or property, except those prescribed by regulation as exempt from the Building Code.   |
| “Building Code”          | means the Building Regulations of British Columbia made pursuant to the Municipal Act and all bylaws adopted by the District in furtherance thereof.   |
| “District”               | means the District Municipality of Campbell River.   |
| “District Administrator” | means the person appointed from time to time as the Chief Administrative Officer of the District or his duly appointed designate.  |
| “Dangerous Goods”        | means any product, substance or organism which is of a highly combustible, flammable or explosive nature, as set out in the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act (Canada) or Transport of Dangerous Goods Act (BC) and all regulations thereto, as amended from time to time, and any other material which, because of its toxic or other inherent characteristics, constitutes a fire hazard or a hazard to life, safety or health, and, without restricting the generality of the foregoing, are classified as follows:<br><br>Class 1: Explosives, including explosives within the meaning of the Explosives Act (Canada) or regulations, as amended from time to time.<br><br>Class 2: Gases being either compressed, deeply refrigerated, liquefied or dissolved under pressure.<br><br>Class 3: Flammable and combustible liquids.<br><br>Class 4: Flammable solids including substances liable to spontaneous combustion and substances that on contact with water emit flammable gases. |

- Class 5: Oxidizing substances, organic peroxides, chlorates, and nitrates.
- Class 6: Poisonous (toxic) and infectious substances.
- Class 7: Radioactive materials and prescribed substances within the meaning of the Atomic Energy Control Act (Canada).
- Class 8: Corrosive substances.
- Class 9: Miscellaneous dangerous goods or organisms prescribed as dangerous goods under the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act (Canada) or Transport of Dangerous Goods Act (BC), or regulations thereto, not included in any of the above classes.

“Fire Chief” means the person appointed as Fire Chief from time to time by Municipal Council or his duly appointed designate.

“Fire Code” means the British Columbia Fire Code and Regulations made pursuant to the Fire Services Act (BC).

*New Dec/01 BL 2931, Amd Apr-07 BL 3297*

“Fireworks” deleted

High Hazard Fireworks" deleted

“Low Hazard Fireworks” deleted

“Garbage” means refuse from a kitchen consisting of meat, vegetable matter, egg shells and other like matter, including plastics.

“Incident” means a fire or response to any other class of circumstance that may cause harm to persons or property, and includes rescue, medical aid, hazardous material incidents and other similar threat to life or call for assistance.

“Inspector” means a Member of the Campbell River Fire Department designated as an Inspector by the Fire Chief.

“Member” means any person or officer that is duly appointed by the Fire Chief as a member of the Fire Department and is an employee of the District.

“Occupancy” means the use or intended use of a Building or part thereof for the shelter or support of persons, animals or property.

“Officer in Command” means the Fire Department Officer in Charge present at an Incident.

“Owner or Occupier” includes a tenant, lessee, or agent of any Premises to which this Bylaw applies.

“Premises” means a house or Building together with its grounds and appurtenances.

*Amd Bylaw 3831 Apr/22*

“Single Family Residential Dwelling Unit” means a Building consisting of not more than one principal dwelling unit.

**3.00 MANAGEMENT**

The Fire Department and the position of Fire Chief as head of the Department are hereby established or continued, as the case may be.

**3.01** The Fire Chief shall:

- (a) report to the District Administrator;
- (b) oversee the provision of fire services in the District for the protection of lives and property from fire hazards;
- (c) administer the Fire Department;
- (d) direct and control the Members of the Fire Department by direct intervention or through appointed subordinate supervisory staff;
- (e) administer the collective agreement between the District and the Fire Fighters Union where provided for in that agreement;
- (f) establish and maintain a program of training in fire suppression for all Members of the Department;
- (g) appoint persons as Members of the Fire Department;
- (h) make rules and regulations for the proper and efficient administration and operation of the Fire Department, and for the discipline of its Members, and alter or repeal them from time to time, as necessary;
- (i) administer this Bylaw, and report violations of the Bylaw to Council; and,
- (j) be authorized to exercise the powers conferred upon a Fire Commissioner by Sections 21, 22 and 23 of the Fire Services Act (BC), as amended from time to time, with respect to matters contained in this Bylaw.

*Del & Amd Dec/01 BL 2931, Amd Apr-07 BL 3293, Amd. Jul-07 BL 3293*

**PERMITS**

**4.00** *deleted*

**4.01** *deleted*

**4.02 WORK REQUIRING A PERMIT**

The work identified in this section shall only be performed under the authority of a permit issued by the Fire Chief prior to commencement of the work:

- (a) the installation of oil-fired heating equipment, storage tanks for combustible or flammable liquids, or solid fuel burning appliances;
- (b) the storage or sale of combustible or flammable liquids in containers of more than five (5) gallons in capacity; and,
- (c) the installation of a chimney in existing construction.

**4.03 Permits required by Section 4.02 are issued subject to the following conditions:**

- (a) the Owner or Occupier of a Premise intending to perform work subject to Section 4.02 is responsible for ensuring that all permits, inspections and approvals are obtained in connection with such work prior to commencing work;
- (b) the Fire Department shall be notified when work subject to Section 4.02 is ready for inspection and the Fire Department shall conduct an inspection

- within a reasonable period of time after notification;
- (c) a permit required under Section 4.02 is valid only for the period of time designated thereon but may be extended by the Fire Chief where the Fire Chief is satisfied that the permit holder has valid reasons for failing to start or complete the work within the time originally designated;
  - (d) any change of work which affects any condition of a permit shall render the permit void and shall require the Owner or Occupier to apply for a new permit;
  - (e) the Fire Chief may revoke a permit for cause;
  - (f) a permit shall be posted or be readily accessible on the Premises where the work is undertaken;
  - (g) whenever an installation as set out in Section 4.02 is covered or concealed without a permit having been obtained, the Fire Chief may order that such work be exposed for inspection;
  - (h) when any work is being performed in violation of a permit, the Fire Chief may issue a written stop work order to the Owner or Occupier to stop work on that portion of the work which is in violation, and the order shall state the nature of the violation;
  - (i) no work shall be performed where a stop work order has been issued until the violation has been corrected and the Fire Chief has cancelled the stop work order;

*Amd Bylaw 4007, Mar26*

- (j) fees for permits and inspections required by Section 4.02 are set in the Fees and Charges Bylaw, No. 4007, 2026, as amended; and
- (k) a permit may be supplemented by attached plans or other documents, provided that such plans or documents are identified on the permit.

## **5.00 FIRE PROTECTION AND LIFE SAFETY**

### **5.01 BUILDINGS**

The British Columbia Fire Code (BC) and Regulations, as amended from time to time, are hereby adopted and in force within the District.

**5.02** No person shall construct a Building that does not conform to the Life Safety and Fire Safety regulations contained in the British Columbia Building Code and the British Columbia Fire Code; and in particular any Building over 18 meters high must be equipped with an emergency elevator for Fire Department use as per the High Building provisions of the B.C. Building Code.

### **5.03 GENERAL PROHIBITIONS**

No person shall:

- (a) drive, push or pull a vehicle of any kind over a fire hose or fire equipment;
- (b) tamper with, remove, destroy, render inoperative or interfere with any fire protection equipment or part thereof which is provided for the protection of property or persons, whether public or private;
- (c) ring a fire alarm except when there is a fire, or for testing purposes carried out by persons authorized by the Fire Chief;
- (d) use, or allow to be used a standpipe or hydrant, or affix a hose to the standpipe or hydrant without permission from the Fire Chief or Public

Works Superintendent of the District;

- (e) unless authorized to do so, park or leave a vehicle within 7.6 meters of a standpipe or hydrant, in the prohibited area at a Fire Hall, or in a fire lane;
- (f) sit, stand, place or leave any article, thing or matter in such a manner as to interfere with the means of egress or access within or outside any Building or Premises;
- (g) interfere with the prevention or suppression of a fire;
- (h) prevent the entry of a member of the Fire Department into, or upon any Premises, for which a fire alarm has been received, or where that Fire Chief has reasonable grounds to believe that there is a fire; and,
- (i) carry on, within a Building or Premises, activities which create a hazard and which were not provided for in the original design of the Building or Premises, unless provisions are made to alleviate the hazard and permission is obtained from the Fire Chief to carry out such activities in a manner that complies with the British Columbia Fire Code.

Amd Bylaw 3831 Apr/22 Sec. 5.04 replaced

**5.04** An Owner or Occupier of a Premise other than a Single Family Residential Dwelling unit shall, when required and in accordance with the *British Columbia Fire Code* and the *British Columbia Building Code*:

- (a) provide, maintain and inspect means of egress and building occupant loads;
- (b) provide, maintain and inspect exit door hardware;
- (c) provide, maintain and inspect exit lighting, exit signs and an emergency electrical power supply and lighting;
- (d) provide, maintain and inspect, or have inspected by persons authorized in writing by the Fire Chief, a fire alarm system, smoke alarms, smoke control system, voice communication system, water-based fire protection system, automatic sprinklers, standpipes, fire pumps, fire extinguishers and fire extinguisher system, and commercial cooking equipment exhaust and fire suppression system;
- (e) Maintain records of maintenance and inspections at the Premises relating to a fire alarm system, smoke alarms, smoke control system, voice communication system, water-based fire protection system, automatic sprinklers, standpipes, fire pumps, fire extinguishers and fire extinguisher system and commercial cooking equipment exhaust and fire suppression system and produce those records for examination when required by the Fire Chief; and
- (f) prepare and maintain, in cooperation with the Fire Chief, a fire safety plan, to be reviewed annually, including emergency procedures to be used in case of fire and shall produce that fire safety plan for examination when required by the Fire Chief.

**5.05 EVACUATION**

When the Fire Chief or Officer in Command is of the opinion that there is imminent and serious danger to life or property, or that panic is imminent, arising from a fire, fire

hazard, toxic chemical spill or risk of explosion, he may:

- (a) immediately take the steps he thinks advisable to remove the hazard or risk including ordering the demolition of a Building, or part thereof, in order to prevent damage to persons or property, or the spreading of the fire;
- (b) cause people to be removed from an area, or to evacuate a Building and Premises, and in the event of a person's refusal to comply, order the person removed by a police officer or a Member; and
- (c) call upon the police to provide security to an evacuated area.

#### **5.06 WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS AND HYDRANTS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY**

An Owner or Occupier shall ensure that:

- (a) all new water supply systems on the Premises meet the flow and pressure requirements for fire fighting purposes per Underwriters Laboratory Canada Standards;
- (b) prior to proceeding with construction of a new water system or extension to an existing system, plans and locations of the proposed fire hydrants are approved by the Fire Chief;
- (c) all docks and boat sheds that exceed 150 feet in length used for mooring boats install a dry piping system for firefighting purposes that is approved in writing by the Fire Chief;
- (d) prior to proceeding with construction of Buildings, other than concrete basements and foundations, that:
  - (i) roads are finished to a minimum of good compacted gravel to provide adequate access for Apparatus; and
  - (ii) water mains are installed and water supplies for fire fighting purposes tested to the satisfaction of the Fire Chief, and that the Fire Department is notified of all newly installed fire hydrants;
- (e) installation of fire hydrants or water systems on private property are designed and supervised by a professional engineer; and
- (f) during construction, servicing or repairs within a subdivision, all fire hydrant conditions affecting fire safety including fire hydrants being temporarily out of service, low water volumes and pressures, are made known to the Fire Department.

#### **5.07 An Owner or Occupier shall with respect to hydrants on their Premises:**

- (a) cause all hydrants to be inspected and maintained in accordance with Schedule "C" to this Bylaw by persons authorized in writing by the Fire Chief;
- (b) retain records of inspections and maintenance required by this Section in the form as set out in Schedule "D" to this Bylaw for at least three (3) years with copies forwarded to the Fire Department when work completed;
- (c) notify the Fire Department of all repairs to fire hydrants;
- (d) wrap all fire hydrants which are out of service for repair, or not yet in service, with burlap or black polyethylene plastic sheeting;
- (e) keep hydrants clear of ice, snow, shrubs, trees, structures and other

- obstructions and clearly identify their locations;
- (f) paint fire hydrants fire-department yellow;
  - (g) ensure that hydrants are used only by the Fire Department and operated only by qualified persons authorized by the Fire Chief or the Public Works Superintendent of the District for the purposes of inspection, testing, servicing or other authorized purposes; and
  - (h) ensure that no person places or leaves any vehicle, article, thing or matter in such a manner as to interfere with free access or approach to any fire hydrant or other Fire Department connections.

#### **5.08 MUTUAL AID**

Subject to there being in effect an agreement between the District and any other municipality, regional district, or governmental agency, and subject in each instance to the approval of the Fire Chief, equipment and personnel of the Fire Department may be used outside of the geographical boundaries of the Municipality.

#### **5.09 COMMERCIAL GATES**

An owner or occupier of a commercial industrial operation who wishes to restrict entrance to the lands upon which the operations are carried out (ie gravel pit) by means of a gate or otherwise must either:

- (a) install a Fire Department lock box with access key inside as approved by the Fire Chief, or install a padlock with lock compatible to the Fire Department master key, or,
- (b) install a locking system approved by the Fire Chief.

### **FIRE PREVENTION**

#### **6.00 INSPECTION**

The Fire Chief or Inspector may enter, at any reasonable time, on any Building or Premises to ascertain whether the requirements of this Bylaw and any orders issued pursuant to it are being observed and to carry out testing required by this Bylaw, and to inspect, in accordance with common practices, a Building, or Premise in the District for conditions which may cause a fire or increase the danger of a fire, or increase the danger to persons from fire.

**6.01** The Fire Chief or Inspector, in the course of inspecting, may require any person he believes to have relevant information to divulge or deliver such information to him.

Amd Bylaw 3831 Apr/22

#### **6.02 PREVENTION OF FIRE HAZARDS**

An Owner or Occupier of any Building or Premise shall:

- (a) remove anything from a Building or Premise which in the opinion of the Fire Chief constitutes a fire hazard or increases the danger of fire;
- (b) for any vacant, or fire-damaged Building at all times keep the Building free from debris and flammable material, and shall keep all openings in the Building securely fastened and closed so as to prevent the entry of unauthorized persons;
- (c) in the case of any Building:
  - (i) maintain the Building in a state of repair so that a fire starting in the Building could not spread rapidly to endanger life or other

property;

- (ii) not use or occupy the Building or Premises in such a manner that fire could endanger life or property;
- (iii) not keep combustible or explosive material or allow other flammable conditions to exist in the Building or on the Premises so as to endanger life or property; and
- (iv) not allow a fire hazard to exist in the Building or on the Premises.

**6.03** Where the Fire Chief or Inspector determines that a violation of Section 6.02 (c) exists, the Fire Chief or Inspector shall issue a written Notice of Violation setting out the action to be taken to comply with the Bylaw, and fix a reasonable time for compliance with the Notice. The Fire Chief or Inspector may also post a notice on the Building or Premises warning that occupancy of the Building or Premises may be hazardous.

*Del & Amd Dec/01 BL 2931, Amd Apr-07 BL 3297*

**7.00 FIREWORKS AND FIRECRACKERS-** deleted

*Amd Bylaw 3852 Mar/22*

**8.00 PENALTIES**

**8.01** Every person who:

- (a) violates or who causes or allows any of the provisions of this bylaw to be violated;
- (b) fails to comply with any of the provisions of this bylaw;
- (c) neglects or refrains from doing anything required under this bylaw; or
- (d) who suffers or permits any act or thing to be done in contravention of any of the provisions of this bylaw;

is deemed to have committed an infraction of, or an offence against, this bylaw and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not less than \$5,000 and a maximum of \$50,000, or to imprisonment for not more than six months, or to both.

For continuing offences, each day that such violation is caused, or allowed to continue, constitutes a separate offence.

**8.02** In addition to the Section 8.01, every Owner of a Building or Premise shall be liable for the cost of suppressing fires or attending Hazardous Materials Incidents resulting from non-compliance with the provisions of this Bylaw or the Fire Services Act with such costs to be recoverable in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Act.

**9.00 ADOPTION AND SEVERABILITY**

**9.01** The District of Campbell River Fire Services Bylaw No. 2080, 1992 is repealed.

**9.02** If any section subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Bylaw is for any reason, held to be invalid by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Bylaw. This Bylaw shall come into force and effect on and after the date of adoption.

**9.03** The Schedules to this Bylaw from part of and are enforceable in the same manner as this Bylaw.

Read a first time on the 24th day of June , 1997  
Read a second time on the 24th day of June , 1997  
Read a third time on the 14th day of October , 1997  
Adopted on the 12th day of November , 1997.

*Original bylaw signed by:*

**J.M. LORNIE**  
**MAYOR**

**W.T. HALSTEAD**  
**CLERK**

*Amd Bylaw 4007, Mar/26 – Schedule “A” deleted*

**SCHEDULE "B": PERMIT APPLICATION FORM**

I, (We) \_\_\_\_\_ of

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Apply for a permit to perform the following work described as:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Installation of solid fuel burning appliance
- \_\_\_\_\_ Installation of oil burning equipment
- \_\_\_\_\_ Installation of storage tanks for combustible or flammable liquids
- \_\_\_\_\_ Storage or Sale of combustible or Flammable Liquids in containers of more than 5 gallons
- \_\_\_\_\_ Installation of a chimney in an existing structure

Location where the work is to be done or material used/stored

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Person doing work: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Bus: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Work: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Copy of Plans (Circle One)    ATTACHED            TO FOLLOW

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Application:            Approved ( )            Rejected ( )

Issue Date:            \_\_\_\_\_            Officer: \_\_\_\_\_

Effective From:            \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

**SCHEDULE "C": FIRE HYDRANT INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES**

Owners of fire hydrants that do not have an inspection and maintenance schedule, or if the schedule is less frequent than the following schedule, shall follow the procedures listed below.

**SERVICE INSPECTION - TO BE DONE SEMI-ANNUALLY**

1. Ensure that hydrant caps are in place and that caps with worn, rusted or obstructed threads which might hamper easy removal, are repaired or replaced.
2. Check the hydrant's operation and test for barrel and drain leakage. Open hydrant fully with caps in place.
  - (a) If there is leakage at the ports, cap gaskets, hydrant spindle, barrel gaskets or barrel casting, all leaking components are to be repaired.
  - (b) If water is coming up through the ground around the hydrant body, then leakage is probably taking place at the drain mechanism. Sometimes this leakage can be stopped by opening and closing the hydrant to try and flush out the foreign material. If this does not stop the leakage, then inspect the drain mechanism, repair or replace any damaged parts.
3. Test main valve and drain valve. Close off hydrant and immediately remove hydrant cap and check for proper drainage.
  - (a) If the hydrant continues to flow water then the main valve assembly will have to be removed for inspection and repair.
  - (b) If the hydrant is draining properly, then a vacuum should be created. This vacuum can be felt by placing the hand over the open port. Drain valves which are plugged or damaged will have to be repaired.
  - (c) Where it is not practical to repair faulty drain valves, approved measures shall be taken to prevent the freezing of accumulated water.
4. Flush hydrant with the main valve fully opened until the water runs clear.

**PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE INSPECTION - TO BE DONE EVERY SECOND YEAR**

1. Flush hydrant with the main valve fully opened until the water runs clear.
2. Following the manufacturer's recommendation, remove all internal parts for inspection.
3. Inspect main seating surfaces for cuts, abrasions, out of shape and softness. Replace those parts damaged.
4. Inspect all other internal components and replace if damaged.
5. Thoroughly lubricate all revolving and sliding parts. Use a type of lubricant which does not dissolve in water.
6. After reassembling the hydrant inspect the working condition as detailed in the Annual Service Inspection.
7. Check the paint and condition of the hydrant, and repair if the condition of the paint is dirty, chipping, flaking, rusting or bare metal is showing.

**SCHEDULE "D": HYDRANT INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE RECORD:**

Hydrant No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Hydrant: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Hydrant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Last Painted: \_\_\_\_\_

**EVERY TWELVE MONTHS: SERVICE INSPECTION.**

Date of last servicing in accordance with Schedule "C": \_\_\_\_\_

Is hydrant valve operating properly? YES NO  
(If NO, state problem and action taken):

Is hydrant clear of obstructions? YES NO

Any other defects and action taken:

Inspected by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**EVERY TWENTY-FOUR MONTHS: PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE INSPECTION.**

Date of last servicing in accordance with Schedule "C": \_\_\_\_\_

Condition of internal parts: OKAY DAMAGED  
(If Damaged, list parts damaged and action taken)

Were all revolving and sliding parts lubricated? YES NO

Condition of ports and caps: OKAY LEAKING

Condition of paint: OKAY DAMAGED

Is hydrant draining properly? YES NO  
(If NO, state problem and action taken)

Is hydrant clear of obstructions? YES NO  
(If NO, state problem and action taken)

Any other defects and action taken:

Serviced/Inspected by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_