



**CITY OF EDMONTON**

**BYLAW 14614**

**PUBLIC PLACES BYLAW**

**(CONSOLIDATED ON OCTOBER 17, 2018)**

**THE CITY OF EDMONTON  
BYLAW 14614**

**PUBLIC PLACES BYLAW**

**Whereas**, pursuant to section 7(a) of the *Municipal Government Act*, a council may pass bylaws for municipal purposes respecting the safety, health and welfare of people and the protection of people and property; and

**Whereas**, pursuant to section 7(b) of the *Municipal Government Act*, a council may pass bylaws for municipal purposes respecting people, activities and things in, on or near a public place or place that is open to the public; and

**Whereas**, pursuant to section 7(i) of the *Municipal Government Act*, a council may pass bylaws for municipal purposes respecting the enforcement of bylaws made under the *Municipal Government Act* or any other enactment including any or all of the following:

- (i) the creation of offences;
- (ii) for each offence, imposing a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both;
- (iii) providing for imprisonment for not more than one year for non-payment of a fine or penalty;
- (iv) providing that a person who contravenes a bylaw may pay an amount established by bylaw and if the amount is paid, the person will not be prosecuted for the contravention;
- (v) providing for inspections to determine if bylaws are being complied with; and
- (vi) remedying the contraventions of bylaws;

**PART I - PURPOSE, DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION**

<b>PURPOSE</b>	1	The purpose of this bylaw is to regulate the conduct and activities of people in public places to promote the safe, enjoyable, and reasonable use of such property for the benefit of all citizens of the City
<b>DEFINITIONS</b>	2	In this bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) <b>“City”</b> means the City of Edmonton;</li> <li>(b) <b>“City Manager”</b> means the chief administrative officer of the City or delegate;</li> <li>(c) <b>“handbill”</b> means printed material primarily advertising goods or services;</li> </ul>

- (d) **“hotel”** includes a motel, inn or any other similar establishment providing temporary lodging;
- (e) **“municipal tag”** means a municipal tag as defined in the Enforcement Bylaw, Bylaw 16368;
- (f) **“occupy”** or **“occupies”** means residing on or to be in actual or apparent possession or control of property;
- (g) **“own”** or **“owns”** means:
  - (i) in the case of land, to be registered under the *Land Titles Act* as the owner of the fee simple estate in a parcel of land; or;
  - (ii) in the case of personal property, to be in lawful possession or have the right to exercise control over it, or to be the registered owner of it;
- (h) **“person”** means any individual, firm, partnership, association, corporation, trustee, executor, administrator or other legal representative;
- (i) **“property”** means;
  - (i) in the case of land, a parcel of land including any buildings; or
  - (ii) in other cases, personal property;
- (j) **“public place”** means any property, whether publicly or privately owned, to which members of the public have access as of right or by express or implied invitation, whether on payment of any fee or not; and
- (k) **“violation ticket”** means a violation ticket as defined in the *Provincial Offences Procedure Act*, RSA 2000, c P-34, as amended.

**RULES FOR  
INTEPRETATION**

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The marginal notes and headings in this bylaw are for reference purposes only.

## **PART II - PUBLIC BEHAVIOURS**

- |                                 |     |  |
|---------------------------------|-----|--|
| <b>LITTERING</b>                | 4   | A person shall not leave any garbage, litter or other refuse in a public place except in a receptacle designed and intended for such use.  |
| <b>AGGRESSIVE PANHANDLING</b>   | 4.1 | <p>(1) A person shall not panhandle in an aggressive manner in any public place.</p> <p>(2) For the purpose of this section “panhandle” or “panhandling” means a request or solicitation made verbally or otherwise for the gratuitous provision of money or goods from another person.</p> <p>(3) For the purpose of this section, and without limiting the generality of the phrase, a person shall be considered to be panhandling in an “aggressive manner” if they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) obstruct or impede the passage of another person;</li> <li>(b) make continued requests or solicitations after receiving a negative response from another person</li> <li>(c) insult, threaten, coerce or intimidate another person;</li> <li>(d) make physical contact with another person; or</li> <li>(e) are intoxicated by alcohol or under the influence of illegal drugs;</li> </ul> <p>while panhandling.</p> |
| <b>URINATION AND DEFECATION</b> | 5   | A person shall not urinate or defecate in a public place except in a facility designed and intended for such use.  |
| <b>DANGEROUS ACTIONS</b>        | 6   | A person shall not throw or propel an object, or act in any other way, in a public place that is reasonably likely to cause injury to another person or damage to property   |
| <b>FIGHTING</b>                 | 7   | A person shall not participate in a fight or other similar physical confrontation in a public place.   |
| <b>BULLYING</b>                 | 8   | <p>(1) In this section “harassed” includes but is not limited to tormented, troubled, worried, plagued or badgered.</p> <p>(2) A person shall not, in a public place, repeatedly communicate, cause or permit communication, either directly or indirectly, with any person under 18 years of age in a way that causes the person, reasonably in all the circumstances, to feel harassed.</p>  |
| <b>WEAPONS</b>                  | 9   | <p>(1) A person shall not possess any loaded weapon, capable of launching or firing a projectile, in a public place.</p> <p>(2) A person shall not cause or permit a weapon to launch or fire a</p>  |

projectile in a public place.

## HANDBILLS

- 10 (1) A person shall not distribute, cause or permit the distribution of a handbill in a hotel.
- (2) This section does not apply unless:
- (a) the person has been given notice by the proprietor or someone acting on behalf of the proprietor of the hotel not to distribute handbills, or
  - (b) signs prohibiting the distribution of handbills are visibly displayed at each of the entrances normally used by members of the public to enter the hotel.
- (3) In a prosecution for a contravention of this section, the court may, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, infer that a person distributed, caused or permitted the distribution of a handbill from the fact that the goods or services of the person are advertised in the handbill.

## PART III - SMOKING

## DEFINITIONS

- 11 In this Part:
- (a) **“building”** means an enclosed or substantially enclosed building or structure and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, includes any bus shelter or light rail transit station;
  - (b) **“bicycle park”** means an area designated and intended specifically for the use of bicycles;
  - (c) **“cannabis”** is as defined in the *Cannabis Act* (Canada), and associated regulations, as amended;
  - (d) **“electronic cigarette”** means a handheld device containing a liquid that is vapourized and inhaled, and includes but is not limited to electronic cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vapourizer cigarettes, personal vapourizers, and electronic nicotine delivery systems;
  - (e) **“electronic cigarettes retailer”** means a fully enclosed premises where the sole function of the premises is the sale of electronic cigarettes and electronic cigarette products, and for which a valid City business licence has been issued pursuant to Bylaw 13138, Business Licence Bylaw;

- (f) **“no smoking area”** means any public place, or portion of a public place, designated by temporary or permanent signage or other marking as an area where smoking is prohibited for either tobacco products or cannabis, or both;
- (g) **“parkland”** means any public place, whether developed or not, that is intended to be used by members of the public for recreation or general enjoyment and contains:
  - (i) a playground;
  - (ii) a sports field;
  - (iii) a skate park or bicycle park;
  - (iv) an outdoor theatre;
  - (v) an outdoor pool or water spray park;
  - (vi) a seasonal skating rink; or
  - (vii) an off leash area,but does not include a golf course, cemetery, or ski hill;
- (h) **“off leash area”** means an off leash area as defined in Bylaw 13145, Animal Licensing and Control Bylaw;
- (i) **“patio”** means an area outside of a building intended for the consumption of food or beverages by patrons of business providing such food and beverages;
- (j) **“playground”** means a structure or collection of structures designed and intended for recreational use by children and, where mounted in a distinct material such as sand, gravel, or wood chips, includes the material in which those structures are mounted;
- (k) **“public vehicle”** means a bus, taxi or other vehicle that is used to transport members of the public for a fee;
- (l) **“seasonal skating rink”** means an outdoor ice surface on which members of the public are permitted to skate, whether upon payment of a fee or not, and includes public lakes, ponds, and outdoor rinks with boards or other ice support infrastructure;
- (m) **“skate park”** means an area designed and intended specifically for the use of skateboards, in-line skates, or

similar devices;

- (n) **“smoke”** or **“smoking”** means:
- (i) to inhale or exhale the smoke produced by a lit, ignited or heated tobacco product or holding or otherwise have control over a lit, ignited or heated tobacco product,
  - (ii) to inhale or exhale the smoke produced by lit, ignited or heated cannabis or holding or otherwise having control of lit, ignited or heated cannabis, or any device or thing that contains lit, ignited or heated cannabis, or
  - (iii) to inhale or exhale the vapour, emissions or aerosol produced by, or using, holding or otherwise having control of, an electronic cigarette or similar device containing cannabis or a tobacco product;
- (o) **“smoking area”** means any public place, or portion of a public place, designated by temporary or permanent signage or other marking as an area where smoking is permitted for either cannabis or tobacco products, or both;
- (p) **“sports field”** means an outdoor area designed and intended for use in a specific sporting event and includes soccer fields, baseball diamonds, tennis courts, and similar areas but does not include golf courses;
- (q) **“tobacco product”** means a product manufactured from tobacco and intended to be smoked, including but not limited to a cigarette or cigar;
- (r) **“water spray park”** means a structure or collection of structures designed and intended for recreational use and that spray or release water, and includes a splash pad; and
- (s) **“window”** means a window that can be opened to admit air.

**TOBACCO  
SMOKING  
PROHIBITION**

- 12 (1) Except as permitted by this Part, no person shall smoke a tobacco product:
- (a) inside a building;
  - (b) on a patio;
  - (c) inside a public vehicle;

- (d) on or within any school property, child care facility property, City-owned golf course, cemetery, ski hill, bus terminal or light rail transit platform;
- (e) within 10 metres from a bus stop, or a doorway, window or air intake of a building or patio;
- (f) on or within parkland;
- (g) within Sir Winston Churchill Square, Fort Edmonton Park, the John Janzen Nature Centre, the Edmonton Valley Zoo, the Muttart Conservatory or William Hawrelak Park; or
- (h) within an area designated as a no smoking area for tobacco products.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection 12(1), a person may smoke in an area designated as a smoking area for tobacco products.

**CANNABIS  
SMOKING  
RESSTRICIONS**

12.1 (1) Except as permitted in this Part, no person shall smoke cannabis:

- (a) inside a building;
- (b) on a patio;
- (c) inside a public vehicle;
- (d) on or within any hospital property, school property, child care facility property, City-owned golf course, cemetery, ski hill, bus terminal or light rail transit platform;
- (e) within 10 metres from a bus stop or the doorway, window or air intake of a building or patio;
- (f) on or within parkland;
- (g) within Sir Winston Churchill Square, Fort Edmonton Park, the John Janzen Nature Centre, the Edmonton Valley Zoo, the Muttart Conservatory or William Hawrelak Park; or
- (h) within an area designated as a no smoking area for cannabis.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection 12.1 (1), a person may smoke in an area designated as a smokin area for cannabis.

**OWNER  
OBLIGATIONS**

13 A person who owns or occupies a place where smoking is prohibited by this Part shall not permit any individual to smoke in that place.



<b>PRIVATE RESIDENCES</b>	14	Nothing in this Part prohibits a person from smoking in an area of a building designed, intended and used exclusively as a private residence.
<b>WORKPLACE EXCEPTION</b>	15	Repealed.
<b>ABORIGINAL PEOPLE</b>	15	Nothing in this Part affects the rights of aboriginal people respecting traditional aboriginal spiritual or cultural practices of ceremonies.
<b>LEGISLATIVE EXCEPTION</b>	16	<p>(1) Subject to the provisions of this section, a person who owns or occupies a place where smoking is otherwise prohibited by this Part may permit smoking in that place when smoking is permitted pursuant to provincial or federal legislation or powers exercised pursuant to such legislation.</p> <p>(2) If smoking is permitted pursuant to this section, the person who owns or occupies shall ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) smoke does not enter any place where smoking is prohibited;</li> <li>(b) signage is clearly and prominently at each entrance to a place where smoking is permitted indicating that smoking is permitted inside; and</li> <li>(c) no person under 18 years of age is allowed to enter or remain in a place where smoking is permitted.</li> </ul>
<b>E-CIGARETTES EXCEPTION</b>	16.1	Nothing in this Part prohibits a person from using an electronic cigarette for the sole purpose of testing the device, or sampling products used with the device, prior to purchase within an electronic cigarettes retailer.
<b>PROOF OF EXCEPTION</b>	17	The burden of proving that an exception applies in a particular case is on the person alleging such exception on a balance of probabilities.
<b>PROSECUTIONS</b>	18	<p>In a prosecution for a contravention of this Part:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) It is not necessary that a witness testify to the precise description, kind, brand or name of the tobacco product, cannabis, or electronic cigarette possessed, smoked or consumed;</li> </ul>

- (a) the court may, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, infer that the product smoked was cannabis, a tobacco product or electronic cigarette from the fact that a witness describes it by a name that is commonly used to describe cannabis, a tobacco product or electronic cigarette; and
- (b) evidence
  - (i) that a substance had an odour of cannabis or a tobacco product, or
  - (ii) that a substance appeared to be labelled or packaged as cannabis or a tobacco product

is, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, sufficient to establish that the substance was cannabis or a tobacco product.

**DESIGNATED AREAS**

- 18.1 (1) The City Manager may designate any public place, or portion of a public place, as a no smoking area or as a smoking area.
- (2) The City Manager shall place temporary or permanent signs or other markings identifying a no smoking area or a smoking area.
  - (3) The City Manager may impose any requirements on a smoking area including, but not limited to, requirements that the area be enclosed or that no minors be permitted within the area.
  - (4) No person shall remove, move, alter, deface, conceal or destroy any signs or other markings identifying a no smoking area or a smoking area that are placed pursuant to subsection 18.1(2).

**PART IV - ENFORCEMENT**

**OFFENCE**

19 A person who contravenes this bylaw is guilty of an offence.

**CONTINUING OFFENCE**

20 In the case of an offence that is of a continuing nature, a contravention constitutes a separate offence in respect of each day, or part of a day, on which it continues and a person guilty of such an offence is liable to a fine in an amount not less than that established by this bylaw for each such day.

**VICARIOUS LIABILITY**

21 For the purposes of this bylaw, an act or omission by an employee or agent of a Person is deemed also to be an act or omission of the person if the act or omission occurred in the course of the employee’s employment with the person, or in the course of the agent’s exercising the powers or performing the duties on behalf of the person under their agency relationship.

**CORPORATIONS**

22 (1) When a corporation commits an offence under this bylaw, every

**AND  
PARTNERSHIPS**

principal, director, manager, employee or agent of the corporation who authorized the act or omission that constitutes the offence or assented to or acquiesced or participated in the act or omission that constitutes the offence is guilty of the offence whether or not the corporation has been prosecuted for the offence.

- (2) If a partner in a partnership is guilty of an offence under this bylaw, each partner in that partnership who authorized the act or omission that constitutes the offence or assented to or acquiesced or participated in the act or omission that constitutes the offence is guilty of the offence.

**FINES AND  
PENALTIES**

- 23 (1) A person who is guilty of an offence is liable to a fine in an amount not less than that established in this section, and not exceeding \$10,000.00, and to imprisonment for not more than six months for non-payment of a fine.
- (2) Without restricting the generality of subsection (1) the following fine amounts are established for use on municipal tags and violation tickets if a voluntary payment option is offered:
- (a) \$250.00 for any offence for which a fine is not otherwise established in this section; or
  - (b) Repealed
  - (c) \$500.00 for any offence under section 5, 7, 9, and 13; and
  - (d) double these fine amounts for any subsequent offence.
- (3) A subsequent offence means an offence committed by a person within one year after that person has already been convicted of the same offence or has voluntarily paid a fine for the same offence

**MUNICIPAL TAG**

- 24 If a municipal tag is issued in respect of an offence the municipal tag must specify the fine amount established by this bylaw for the offence.

**PAYMENT IN LIEU  
OF PROSECUTION**

- 25 A person who commits an offence may, if a municipal tag is issued in respect of the offence, pay the fine amount established by this bylaw for the offence and if the amount is paid on or before the required date, the person will not be prosecuted for the offence.

**VIOLATION  
TICKET**

- 26 If a violation ticket is issued in respect of an offence, the violation ticket may:
- (a) specify the fine amount established by this bylaw for the offence; or
  - (b) require a person to appear in court without the alternative

of making a voluntary payment.

**VOLUNTARY  
PAYMENT**

- 27 A person who commits an offence may:
- (a) if a violation ticket is issued in respect of the offence; and
  - (b) if the violation ticket specifies the fine amount established by this bylaw for the offence;
- make a voluntary payment equal to the specified fine.

**ORDER TO  
COMPLY**

- 28 (1) If the City Manager believes, on reasonable grounds, that a person is contravening any provision of this bylaw, the City Manager may, by written order, require any person responsible for the contravention to remedy it.
- (2) The order may:
- (a) direct a person to stop doing something, or to change the way in which the person is doing it;
  - (b) direct a person to take any action or measures necessary to remedy the contravention of the bylaw and, if necessary, to prevent a re-occurrence of the contravention;
  - (c) state a time within which the person must comply with the directions;
  - (d) state that if the person does not comply with the directions within a specified time, the City will take the action or measure.
- (3) A person named in and served with an order issued pursuant to this section shall comply with any action or measure required to be taken within the time specified.
- (4) An order issued pursuant to this section may be served:
- (a) in the case of an individual:
    - (i) by delivering it personally to the individual;
    - (ii) by leaving it for the individual at their apparent place of residence with someone who appears to be at least 18 years of age; or
    - (iii) by mail addressed to the individual at their apparent place of residence or at any address for the individual on the tax roll of the City or at the Land

Titles registry;

or;

- (b) in the case of a corporation:
  - (i) by delivering personally to any director or officer of the corporation;
  - (ii) by delivering it personally to any person apparently in charge of an office of the corporation at an address held out by the corporation to be its address; or
  - (iii) by mail addressed to the registered office of the corporation.

**PART V - GENERAL**

**POWERS OF THE CITY MANAGER**

- 29 Without restricting any other power, duty or function granted by this bylaw the City Manager may:
  - (a) carry out any inspections to determine compliance with this bylaw;
  - (b) take any steps or carry out any actions required to enforce this bylaw;
  - (c) take any steps or carry out any actions required to remedy a contravention of this bylaw;
  - (d) establish areas where activities otherwise regulated, restricted or prohibited by this bylaw are permitted;
  - (d.1) establish areas where activities otherwise permitted by this bylaw are prohibited;
  - (e) establish forms for the purposes of this bylaw; and
  - (f) delegate any powers, duties or functions under this bylaw to an employee of the City.

**OBSTRUCTION**

30 A person shall not obstruct or hinder any person in the exercise or performance of the person’s powers pursuant to this bylaw.

**CERTIFIED COPY OF RECORDS**

31 A copy of a record of the City, certified by the City Manager as a true copy of the original, shall be admitted in evidence as prima facie proof of the facts stated in the record without proof of the

appointment or signature of the person signing it

**NUMBER AND GENDER REFERENCES**

32 All references in this bylaw will be read with such changes in number and gender as may be appropriate according to whether the reference is to a male or female person, or a corporation or partnership.

**PART VI - TRANSITIONAL**

**REPEALS**

33 The following bylaws are repealed:  
(a) Bylaw 7608, the Public Places Bylaw;  
(b) Bylaw 11869, the Handbill Bylaw; and  
(c) Bylaw 13333, the Smoking Bylaw.

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

34 This bylaw takes effect beginning on April 1, 2008.

(NOTE: Consolidation made under Section 69 of the *Municipal Government Act*, R.S.A. 2000, c.M-26 and Bylaw 16620 Section 16, and printed under the City Manager’s authority)

Bylaw 14614, passed by Council May 22, 2007

Amendment Bylaw 18397, October 17, 2018