Office Consolidation Version for Reference Only of the Region’s Code of Use By-law No. 13-050 as amended by By-law Nos. 18-056, 20-034, and 20-051. If there are any discrepancies between this consolidation and Bylaws 13-050, 18-056, 20-034 and 20-051, the By-laws shall prevail.

By-Law Number 13-050
of
The Regional Municipality of Waterloo
A By-law Respecting the Conduct of Persons Entering Upon Buildings, Grounds and Public Transportation Vehicles Owned or Occupied by The Regional Municipality of Waterloo

The Council of the Regional Municipality of Waterloo enacts as follows:

Whereas The Regional Municipality of Waterloo owns or occupies certain buildings, grounds and public transportation vehicles for the purpose of carrying out its municipal services;

And Whereas persons, from time to time, enter onto these buildings, grounds and public transportation vehicles and cause physical damage to the premises, disruption to Regional operations or the use and enjoyment of these premises by other persons;

And Whereas it is the desire of The Regional Municipality of Waterloo to create a code of use in regard to these premises;

And Whereas The Regional Municipality of Waterloo has the capacity, rights, powers and privileges of a natural person and the ability to govern its affairs as it considers appropriate pursuant to sections 8 and 9 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended;

And Whereas The Regional Municipality of Waterloo has the authority to enact by-laws respecting its public assets and the protection of persons and property pursuant to subsection 11(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended;

Now therefore the council of the regional municipality of waterloo enacts as follows:

Part I - Definitions

1. In this By-law:

   (1) "Designated Personnel" means those persons listed in Schedule "A" of this By-law;

   (2) "Designated Premises" means: (a) any public transportation vehicle that is owned or operated by the Region; (b) any bus stop, bus shelter and light rail transit station that is used for the purposes of the Region’s bus or light rail transit system; and (c) any building, grounds or other premises that are owned or occupied by the Region other than a highway or the private residential unit of an
individual; [18-056]

(3) “Director” means the Director of Facilities Management and Fleet Services or any successor position, or his or her designate;

(4) “highway” means a common and public highway and includes any bridge, trestle, viaduct or other structure forming part of the highway and, except as otherwise provided, includes a portion of a highway. For the purposes of this By-law, a bus stop, bus shelter and light rail transit station that is used for the purposes of the Region’s bus or light rail transit system shall not be deemed part of a highway; [18-056]


(6) “Prohibited Activity” means any activity that is listed in Schedule “B” of this By-law;

(7) “public transportation vehicle” means a bus or other motor vehicle that is designed to operate on a highway, as well as a train that runs upon rails, wherein passengers are transported for a fee or other consideration;

(8) “Region” means The Regional Municipality of Waterloo;

(9) “sign” means any device, object or thing that creates a design or conveys a message, or that is designed to convey a message and that is placed for the purposes of advertising, announcing, directing or promoting any idea, event, activity, product, service or facility, identifying a business or enterprise, or conveying any other type of message; and

(10) “Trespass to Property Act” means the Trespass to Property Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. T.21, as amended, or any successor legislation.

Part II – Prohibition

2. No person shall do a Prohibited Activity on Designated Premises.

3. (1) No person shall place, or cause or permit to be placed, a sign, or any part of a sign, on Designated Premises.

(2) Subsection (1) of this section shall not apply to a sign that is placed at a location that is designated for signs by the Director and the sign meets the following criteria:

(a) the sign is less than 1,600 square centimeters in area;

(b) the sign does not promote an unlawful activity or discrimination on the basis of race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, family status or disability;

(c) the sign does not contain profanity or obscenity; and

(d) the sign is not obsolete in relation to a past event or a business or enterprise that is no longer conducted, or an activity, product, service or facility that is not in season or is no longer provided.
4. Every person who contravenes section 2 or 3 of this By-law is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable to a fine not exceeding $5,000, exclusive of costs.

Part III - Trespass

5. Without limiting Part II of this By-law, Designated Personnel may exercise any of the following enforcement options at Designated Premises when a person is doing or has done a Prohibited Activity:

   (1) Issue a verbal direction to refrain from a Prohibited Activity;

   (2) Issue a verbal direction to leave the Designated Premises citing as the reason the failure to refrain from a Prohibited Activity;

   (3) Serve a written notice upon a person prohibiting a Prohibited Activity citing as the reason the failure of the person to refrain from a Prohibited Activity;

   (4) Serve a written notice upon a person prohibiting entry upon a Designated Premises citing as the reason the failure of the person to refrain from a Prohibited Activity;

   (5) Post a sign so that the sign is clearly visible in daylight under normal conditions from the approach to each ordinary point of access to the Designated Premises prohibiting a Prohibited Activity;

   (6) Post a sign so that the sign is clearly visible in daylight under normal conditions from the approach to each ordinary point of access to the Designated Premises by a person citing as the reason the failure to refrain from a Prohibited Activity; and

   (7) Exercise any other rights or powers pursuant to the Trespass to Property Act that are reasonable in the circumstances.

6. Any verbal direction, written notice or sign pursuant to section 5 of this By-law shall be reasonable in relation to the conduct prohibited, the breadth of the location and the duration of the time imposed.

7. (1) Any person who is subject to a verbal direction, written notice or sign pursuant to section 5 of this By-law may apply to the Director in writing with a request that the verbal direction, written notice or sign be rescinded or modified.

   (2) Any written request pursuant to subsection (1) of this section shall set out the grounds for the request and shall be submitted to the Director within 30 calendar days of:

      (a) the person’s receipt of the verbal direction or written notice or the person’s observance of the sign; or

      (b) any changed circumstance that relates to the impact of the verbal direction, written notice or sign upon the person.

   (3) Upon the receipt of the written request pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, the Director shall investigate and determine whether the verbal direction, written notice or sign should be rescinded or modified and the Director shall advise the person of his or her decision in writing.
(4) The verbal direction, written notice or sign that is the subject of a request pursuant to this section shall remain in full effect pending the Director’s decision in writing.

8. Designated Personnel may contact the Waterloo Regional Police Service, or any other police service having lawful jurisdiction, at any time to request assistance or to initiate any other action as the police service may deem necessary in the circumstances.

Part IV - General

9. This By-law may be enforced by a Designated Personnel or a police officer.

10. (1) The Director shall have all necessary authority to administer this By-law.

(2) Without limiting subsection (1) of this section, the Director shall have the authority to:

(a) prescribe any administrative forms for the purposes of this By-law;

(b) designate permitted locations for signs at Designated Premises; and

(c) remove, or cause the removal, of any sign that does not meet the requirements of this By-law.

10.1 For greater certainty, this By-law shall not apply to a person who is acting in his or her capacity as an employee or agent of the Region. [20-034]

11. This By-law may be cited as the “Code of Use By-law”.

12. Any procedural by-law of the Region governing the conduct of any person during a session of Council of the Region, or of a committee of Council of the Region, shall govern and this By-law shall apply with necessary modification.

13. If any section or sections of this By-law or parts thereof are found by any Court to be illegal or beyond the power of Council of the Region to enact, such section or sections or parts thereof shall be deemed to be severable and all other sections or parts of this By-law shall be deemed to be separate and independent therefrom and shall continue in full force and effect unless and until similarly found illegal.

14. (1) By-law 05-055 of The Regional Municipality of Waterloo, A By-law Respecting the Conduct of Persons Using the Public Transit System (“Grand River Transit”) Operated by the Regional Municipality of Waterloo, shall be repealed effective on the coming into force and effect of this By-law.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, any direction or notice issued to a person pursuant to By-law 05-055 of The Regional Municipality of Waterloo, A By-law Respecting the Conduct of Persons Using the Public Transit System (“Grand River Transit”) Operated by the Regional Municipality of Waterloo, that is in effect at the time that the By-law is repealed shall be deemed to be a direction or notice pursuant to this By-law and shall continue in full force and effect.
15. This By-law shall come into force and take effect on the date of final passage hereof.

By-law read a first, second and third time and finally passed in the Council Chamber in the Regional Municipality of Waterloo this 11th day of December, A.D., 2013.

“Kris Fletcher”  
Regional Clerk

“Karen Redman”  
Regional Chair
Schedule “A”

Designated Personnel

1. The following are Designated Personnel:

   (1) the Director having responsibility for the Designated Premises;

   (2) an employee of the Region having responsibility for the Designated Premises, or any part thereof, at the particular time;

   (3) Manager, Business Services, for the Region, or any successor position thereto;

   (4) Supervisor, Security Services, for the Region, or any successor position thereto;

   (5) Supervisor, Transit Security for the Region, or any successor position thereto;

   (6) a municipal law enforcement officer as appointed by the Region;

   (7) a security guard under contract to the Region; and

   (8) other persons from time to time as may be designated by Council of the Region.
Schedule "B"

Prohibited Activities

1. In this Schedule:
   
   (1) "authorization" means written permission from the Director for the Region having responsibility for the Designated Premises, or his or her designate;
   
   (1.1) "face covering" shall mean a medical mask or non-medical mask or other face covering, including a bandana, scarf or other fabric that covers the nose, mouth and chin to create a barrier to limit the transmission of respiratory droplets; [20-034]
   
   (2) "loitering" means to linger without due cause or purpose;
   
   (3) "medical cannabis" means cannabis that is obtained for medical purposes in accordance with applicable federal law;
   
   (4) "nuisance" includes any conduct or behavior which interferes with the ordinary enjoyment of persons using Designated Premises; and
   
   (5) "smoking" includes vaping and the use of electronic cigarettes. [18-056]

1. The following activities are Prohibited Activities:

   (1) An activity that obstructs, prevents or hinders the rights of others to use and enjoy Designated Premises or which obstructs, prevents or hinders the operations of the Region or any of its employees, agents or contractors;

   (2) Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, an activity that obstructs, prevents or hinders the rights of others to use and enjoy the Designated Premises or which obstructs, prevents or hinders the operations of the Region or any of its employees, agents or contractors includes, but is not limited to:

      (a) smoking tobacco or medical cannabis or holding lit tobacco or medical cannabis in any building, at any bus stop, bus shelter or light rail transit station, or any area designated as "No Smoking" or "Smoke Free", on a Designated Premises; [18-056]

      (a.1) smoking cannabis or holding lit cannabis, either of which is not medical cannabis, save and except for areas at a community housing complex or Sunnyside Home that are designated and marked as cannabis smoking areas [18-056]

      (b) committing any nuisance, disturbing the peace or acting contrary to public order;

      (c) spitting, urinating or otherwise causing unsanitary conditions;

      (d) littering;

      (e) loitering;
(f) rollerblading or skateboarding without authorization;
(g) using profanity, obscene language or racial slurs;
(h) vandalizing the Designated Premises or any personal property on the Designated Premises;
(i) using, removing or possessing any personal property of the Region or any other person without authorization;
(j) selling or attempting to sell, distribute or solicit any good or service without authorization;
(k) operating any radio, tape recorder, DVD, CD or MP3 player, musical instrument or similar device, without authorization, unless the sound is conveyed by earphone at a decibel level that does not disturb any other person;
(l) operating for commercial purposes any camera, video recording device, movie camera or any similar device without authorization;
(m) carrying any goods, without authorization, which are offensive, dangerous, toxic, corrosive, flammable or explosive in nature that are likely to alarm, inconvenience, cause discomfort or injure any person, or cause damage to property, whether or not such good are contained in an approved container;
(n) bringing any large animal onto the Designated Premises, without authorization, other than during an emergency or for use as a service or guide animal;
(o) entering, without authorization, onto Premises without a shirt or footwear;
(p) bringing a small animal or bird, without authorization, that is not in a cage or carrying device designed for secure and safe transport unless the small animal or bird is required for use as a service or guide animal;
(q) acts which are perceived as threatening, intimidating or sexual harassment;
(r) entering, without authorization, any area that is designated or used as a work area for an employee;
(s) interfering with an operator of a public transportation vehicle or obstructing his or her vision;
(t) erecting, without authorization, any structure, tent or temporary shelter;
(u) consuming alcohol without authorization;
(v) riding or standing on any exterior portion of a public transportation vehicle or leaning out of or projecting any body part through any window of a public transportation vehicle;
(w) projecting a body beyond the edge of any platform for a public transportation vehicle, except to enter or leave the vehicle;

(x) riding a bicycle on any platform for a public transportation vehicle; and

(y) any activity contrary to the Criminal Code of Canada, R.S. 1985, c. C-46, as amended, other federal statutes, provincial statutes or municipal by-laws; 

(2.3) Being in an enclosed common area of a multi-residential building or complex, which includes but is not limited to a lobby, hallway, stairwell, elevator, laundry room and community room, that is operated by Housing Services of the Region without wearing a face covering unless the person is under the age of five years old, the person has a medical condition or disability that prevents the wearing of a face covering or would inhibit the person’s ability to breathe, the person is assisting or accommodating another person with a hearing disability, or a face covering is not permitted pursuant to any provincial or federal legislation, directive or order. No person shall be required to provide proof of any of the exemptions set out herein.

(3) Acts which are contrary to any specific rules or terms of use for the Designated Premises provided that the specific rules or terms of use have been posted in a conspicuous location at the Designated Premises;

(4) Entering Designated Premises without paying the required fee or fare or having proof of payment for the required fee or fare for admission to the Designated Premises;

(5) Failing to comply with the terms and conditions of any pass, transfer or other instrument that is required for the entrance or use of Designated Premises; and

(6) Entering a public transportation vehicle at other than a designated passenger entrance.

2.1 Being within a public transportation vehicle, bus shelter or platform at a transit station without wearing a face covering unless the person is under the age of five years old, the person has a medical condition or disability that prevents the wearing of a face covering or would inhibit the person’s ability to breathe, or the person is assisting or accommodating another person with a hearing disability. No person shall be required to provide proof of any of the exemptions set out herein. [20-034]

2.2 Being in an area open to the general public within a Region building without wearing a face covering unless the person is under the age of five years old, the person has a medical condition or disability that prevents the wearing of a face covering or would inhibit the person’s ability to breathe, the person is assisting or accommodating another person with a hearing disability, or a face covering is not permitted pursuant to any provincial or federal legislation, directive or order. No person shall be required to provide proof of any of the exemptions set out herein. [20-034]
2.3 Being in an enclosed common area of a multi-residential building or complex, which includes but is not limited to a lobby, hallway, stairwell, elevator, laundry room and community room, that is operated by Housing Services of the Region without wearing a face covering unless the person is under the age of five years old, the person has a medical condition or disability that prevents the wearing of a face covering or would inhibit the person’s ability to breathe, the person is assisting or accommodating another person with a hearing disability, or a face covering is not permitted pursuant to any provincial or federal legislation, directive or order. No person shall be required to provide proof of any of the exemptions set out herein. [20-051]