

**CITY OF THOMPSON  
BY-LAW NUMBER 2051-2025**

**BEING A BY-LAW OF THE CITY OF THOMPSON TO REGULATE THE SALE  
& USE OF FIREWORKS WITHIN THE CITY OF THOMPSON**

**WHEREAS** Subsection 232(1)(J) of the municipal act, S.M. 1996, c. 58, provides interalia, authority for the municipality to pass by-laws for regulating the sale and use of firecrackers and other fireworks;

**NOW THEREFORE** The council of the City of Thompson in regular session duly assembled, enacts as follows:

**Definitions:**

Unless otherwise provided, or unless the context otherwise requires, words and expressions in this by-law have the same meaning as the same words and expressions in the Act and in the Code.

In this by-law, words importing the singular number only shall include the plural and vice versa, and words importing gender shall include all genders.

In this by-law:

**“ACT”** means the municipal act of Manitoba S.M. 1996 c. 58 and any amendments thereto.

**“Authority Having Jurisdiction”** means the fire chief, acting fire chief and (or) deputy fire chief or the responsible municipal, provincial or federal officials with legal authority for controlling the subject referred to including, without restricting the generality thereof municipal fire prevention officers and fire inspectors.

**“City”** means the City of Thompson or the area contained within the boundaries thereof.

**“Code”** means the Manitoba Fire Code being regulation No.212/92 of the Fire Prevention Act, C.C.S.M. c. F80 and any amendments thereto.

**“Council”** means the council of the municipality.

**“Fire Chief”** means the director of fire and emergency services for the municipality, and any person acting and authorized or delegated to act on his behalf.

**“Deputy Fire Chief”** means the deputy fire chief of the municipality, who is authorized or delegated to act as fire chief in the absence of the fire chief (Director of Fire & Emergency Services).

**“Municipality”** means the City of Thompson and the area contained within its boundaries.

**“Person”** means an individual, club, organization, firm or corporation.

**“Fireworks Exhibition”** means an exhibition of wire works intended for the entertainment of the general public or in open view of the general public.

**“Fireworks Supervisor”** means a person who is certified as a fireworks supervisor by the Explosives Regulatory Division of Natural Resources Canada.

**“High Hazard Fireworks”** means fireworks classed as subdivision 2 and subdivision 3 of division 2 fireworks in the federal regulations, such as model rocket engines, rockets, serpents, shells, bombshells, tourbillions, maroons, large wheels, bouquets, barrages, bombardos, waterfalls, fountains, batteries, illumination set pieces, and pigeons, but does not include firecrackers.

**“Low Hazard Recreational Fireworks”** means fireworks classed as subdivision 1 of division 2 fireworks in the federal regulations comprised of low hazard fireworks generally used for recreation, such as fireworks showers, fountains, golden rain, lawn lights, pinwheels, roman candles, volcanoes and sparklers, but does not include Christmas crackers or caps for toy guns.

**“Pyrotechnician”** means a person who is certified as a pyrotechnician by the Explosives Regulatory Division of Natural Resources Canada.

**“Pyrotechnic Special Effects”** means those fireworks that are used in the entertainment industry whether designed specifically for indoor or outdoor use, such as black powder bombs, bullet effects, flash powder, smoke compositions, gerbs, lances and wheels.

**“Pyrotechnics Exhibition”** means an exhibition of pyrotechnic special effects intended for the entertainment of the public, in open view to the general public, or in a place to which the general public may be admitted, and includes places to which admittance to the general public is restricted by age or by invitation.

**“Special Effects Pyrotechnician”** means a person who is certified as a special effects pyrotechnician by the Explosives Regulatory Division of Natural Resources Canada.

**“Theatrical User”** means a person who is certified as a theatrical user by the Explosives Regulatory Division of Natural Resources Canada.



**1) Sale of low hazard fireworks**

- a) No person shall sell low hazard recreational fireworks within the City, except on New Year's Day, Canada Day and Victoria Day or the 10 days immediately preceding New Years Day, Canada Day and Victoria Day
- b) No person shall sell low hazard recreational fireworks within the City to any person under the age of 18 years
- c) No person shall sell low hazard recreational fireworks within the City without having first obtained an annual fireworks permit issued by the fire chief
- d) Applications for an annual low hazard recreational fireworks permit shall be made in writing to the fire chief and shall be accompanied by payment of the applicable fee as established by Schedule (whatever) to this bylaw

**2) Display of Low Hazard Fireworks**

Low Hazard recreational fireworks shall not be displayed for sale within the City unless:

- a) The fireworks are displayed within a display case, package or other suitable receptacle that is not accessible to the public
- b) The display case, package or other suitable receptacle in which the fireworks are displayed is not in close proximity to any flammable material and not in a location where the fireworks will be exposed to the rays of the sun or any other type of heat
- c) The fireworks are displayed in lots NOT exceeding 25 kilograms each gross weight
- d) The fireworks are dispensed from the display case, package or other suitable receptacle by ONLY the vendor or vendors employees

**3) Sale and Display of High Hazard Fireworks**

- a) High Hazard fireworks shall NOT be displayed for sale or sold in the City.

**4) Application**

- a) Sections 1) and 2) do not apply to sales of fireworks to a Fireworks Supervisor, a Special Effects Pyrotechnician, Pyrotechnician, or a theatrical user for use in a fireworks exhibition or a pyrotechnics exhibition authorized pursuant to this By-law.

**5) Setting Off Fireworks and Pyrotechnics**

No person shall set off any of the following within the City:

- a) fireworks, other than pyrotechnics, unless they are set off as part of a fireworks exhibition
- b) pyrotechnics, unless they are set off as part of a pyrotechnics exhibition

## 6) Fireworks Exhibition

A fireworks exhibition shall be held only:

- a) In public places approved by the fire chief and the chief of police
- b) At a safe distance from all combustible materials and all highways, rail lines, overhead wires buildings and other structures; and
- c) Under supervision of a Fireworks Supervisor
- d) No person shall hold a fireworks exhibition unless the Fireworks Supervisor responsible for the fireworks exhibition has obtained a permit from the fire chief and chief of police
- e) A fireworks exhibition permit shall, be submitted by a fireworks supervisor NOT less than 14 days before the intended date of the fireworks exhibition
- f) A fireworks permit shall, be accompanied by payment of the applicable fee established by schedule (whatever) to this By-law
- g) A fireworks permit shall, be made in the form approved by the fire chief and contain the following information:
  - i) The name, address and signature of the person or persons sponsoring the proposed fireworks exhibition
  - ii) The name, certification number and signature of the Fireworks Supervisor
  - iii) The name of the person that will conduct the proposed fireworks exhibition
  - iv) The date and time of the proposed fireworks exhibition
  - v) A detailed description of the proposed fireworks exhibition
  - vi) The exact location of the proposed fireworks exhibition including a diagram of the grounds on which it will be held, showing the point from where the fireworks will be discharged, the location of all highways, rail lines, overhead wires, obstructions, buildings and (or) other structures, and the lines behind which the audience will be restrained
  - vii) Written consent from the owner of the property on which the proposed fireworks exhibition will be held
  - viii) The size, number and type of all fireworks proposed to be discharged, including the number of set pieces, shells and other items
  - ix) A description of the shells including their diameter and whether they are single, multiple break or salute shells
  - x) The manner and place of storage of all fireworks prior to, during and after the fireworks exhibition
  - xi) The name and address of the vendor or vendors that supplied all the fireworks proposed to be used in the exhibition



- xii) Proof of general liability insurance with coverage of at least \$5,000,000 per occurrence in a form acceptable to the fire chief and city CFO chief financial officer.
- xiii) Any other information requested by either the fire chief or the police chief.
- xiv) The fire chief or the chief of police may refuse to issue a permit for a fireworks exhibition if, in their opinion:
  - (a) The application for the permit is incomplete or the information provided is unsatisfactory
  - (b) The proposed fireworks exhibition or it's proposed location will be inadequately equipped with fire safety or suppression equipment
  - (c) The fireworks exhibition or it's proposed location presents a danger to public health or safety
- xv) A fireworks exhibition permit may be granted subject to terms and conditions as imposed by the fire chief and (or) chief of police. Amendments to the terms and conditions shall be in writing and approved by the fire chief and police chief
- xvi) No person shall deviate from the terms and conditions of a fireworks exhibition permit
- xvii) A fireworks exhibition shall be conducted in a manner consistent with procedures listed in the most recent edition of the Display Fireworks Manual distributed by the Explosives Regulatory Division of Natural Resources Canada
- xviii) The fire chief or police chief may temporarily or permanently suspend or terminate any fireworks exhibition if, in either of their opinion, it:
  - (a) Is or is threatening to become a danger to any property or to public health and safety
  - (b) Is inadequately equipped with fire safety or suppression equipment; or
  - (c) Does not meet the terms of the permit

- xix) If an inspection or demonstration is necessary to determine whether a fireworks exhibition can be performed safely before it's intended audience the fire chief or the police chief may require any or all of the following:
  - (a) An inspection of the location of the proposed exhibition
  - (b) An inspection of the equipment proposed to be used in the exhibition
  - (c) A demonstration of the exhibition
- xx) All unused fireworks from, and all debris created by, a fireworks exhibition shall be safely removed and disposed of by the responsible Fireworks Supervisor immediately after the exhibition

## **7) Pyrotechnics Exhibition**

- a) a pyrotechnics exhibition shall be held only:
  - i) in locations approved by the fire chief and the police chief; and
  - ii) under supervision of a Special Effects Pyrotechnician, pyrotechnician, or a theatrical user
- b) No person shall stage a pyrotechnics exhibition unless the Special Effects Pyrotechnician, Pyrotechnician or Theatrical user responsible for the pyrotechnics exhibition has obtained a pyrotechnics exhibition permit the fire chief and police chief.
- c) An application for a pyrotechnics exhibition permit shall:
  - i) be submitted by a Special Effects Pyrotechnician, Pyrotechnician or theatrical user not later than 14 days before the intended date of the pyrotechnics event
  - ii) be accompanied by payment of the applicable fee as established by The City of Thompson Fee and Fine Schedule; and
  - iii) shall be made in a form approved by the fire chief and shall contain the following information:
    - 1. The name, address and signature of the person or persons sponsoring the proposed pyrotechnics exhibition;
    - 2. The name, certification number and signature of the Special Effects Pyrotechnician, Pyrotechnician or theatrical user;
    - 3. The name of the person that will conduct the proposed pyrotechnics exhibition;
    - 4. The date location and time of the proposed pyrotechnics exhibition;
    - 5. A detailed description of the proposed pyrotechnics exhibition;

6. A pyrotechnics exhibition plan showing:
    - a. A sketch of the location;
    - b. The exact distance of all pyrotechnic materials and devices from the audience, performers, staging, sets, properties and curtains;
    - c. A legend of symbols for each pyrotechnic material and device with the numbers of each and, for binary powders, the load values;
    - d. The ceiling height of the building;
    - e. The amounts of pyrotechnic materials and the devices that will be used;
    - f. Descriptions of the cueing of each pyrotechnic effect; and
    - g. The clearly marked exits from the building.
  7. Written consent from the owner of the property on which the proposed pyrotechnics exhibition will be held;
  8. The proposed location and manner of storage of all pyrotechnic materials prior to, during, and after the pyrotechnics exhibition;
  9. The name and address of the vendor or vendors proposed to supply the pyrotechnic materials used in the exhibition;
  10. Proof of general liability insurance with coverage of at least \$5,000,000 per occurrence in a form acceptable to the fire chief and CFO chief Financial Officer
  11. Any other information requested by the fire chief or police chief
- d) The fire chief or police chief may refuse to issue a permit for a pyrotechnics exhibition if, in either of their opinion:
- i) The application for the permit is incomplete, or unsatisfactory;
  - ii) The proposed pyrotechnics exhibition or it's location will be inadequately equipped with fire safety or suppression equipment; or
  - iii) The pyrotechnics exhibition or it's proposed location presents a danger to public health and safety
- e) A pyrotechnics exhibition permit may be granted subject to terms and conditions as imposed by the fire chief and police chief. Amendments to the terms and conditions shall be in writing and approved by the fire chief and police chief.
- f) No person shall deviate from the terms and conditions of a pyrotechnics exhibition permit.



- g) The fire chief or police chief may temporarily or permanently suspend or terminate any pyrotechnics exhibition if, in either of their opinion, it:
  - 1. Is or is threatening to become a danger to any property or to public health or safety;
  - 2. Is inadequately equipped with fire safety or suppression equipment; or;
  - 3. Does not meet the terms of the permit
- h) If an inspection or demonstration is necessary to determine whether a pyrotechnics exhibition can be performed safely before it's intended audience, the fire chief or police chief may require any or all of the following:
  - 1. An inspection of the proposed location of the pyrotechnics exhibition
  - 2. An inspection of the equipment proposed to be used in the pyrotechnics exhibition;
  - 3. A demonstration of the pyrotechnics exhibition
- i) One permit may be made to authorize repeat performances of a pyrotechnics exhibition occurring on dates specified in the permit.
- j) A pyrotechnics exhibition shall only be held under the supervision of the Special Effects Pyrotechnician, Pyrotechnician or theatrical user on the dates, the times and at the locations set out in the permit.
- k) A pyrotechnics exhibition may be held or continued only if:
  - 1. All safety procedures listed in the most recent Pyrotechnic Special Effects Manual distributed by the Explosives Regulatory Division of Natural Resources Canada are followed;
  - 2. All proper precautions are being observed to keep spectators at a safe distance; and
  - 3. Suitable fire extinguishers or other proper means of extinguishing fires are available
- l) All unused pyrotechnic special effects from, and all debris created by, a pyrotechnics exhibition shall be safely removed and disposed of by the Special Effects Pyrotechnician, Pyrotechnician or theatrical user immediately after the pyrotechnics exhibition.



**8) Firecrackers Prohibited**

- a) No person shall sell firecrackers within the City;
- b) No person shall set off or otherwise use firecrackers within the City.

**9) Flying Lanterns and (or) Sky Lanterns Prohibited**

- a) No person shall launch a flying lantern or sky lantern within the City or suffer or permit a flying lantern or sky lantern to be launched from property they own or control.

**10) Delegated Authority**

The City Manager and (or) CFO have the authority to consent to a fireworks exhibition or a pyrotechnics exhibition to be held on property owned or controlled by the City.

**11) Explosives Act**

- a) This bylaw is subject to the Explosives Act and the federal regulations;
- b) Where there is a conflict between this bylaw and the Explosives Act or the federal regulations, the Explosives Act or the federal regulations will take precedence to the extent of the conflict.

**12) Right of Appeal**

An applicant denied a permit pursuant to section 6 hereof by the Fire Chief may appeal the refusal to Council so long as such appeal is made in writing and directed to the municipal office within (7) days of a refusal made by the Fire Chief.

**13) THAT By-law 1684-2004 and all amending by-laws are hereby repealed.**

Read a first time this 18<sup>th</sup> day of August , 2025 A.D.

Read a second time this 8<sup>th</sup> day of September , 2025 A.D.

Read a third time this 8<sup>th</sup> day of September , 2025 A.D.

Done and passed by the Council of the City of Thompson in regular session assembled this 8<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2025 A.D.

The City of Thompson

Per: 

Mayor

Per: 

City Manager