

**CITY OF QUESNEL  
BYLAW NO. 1875**

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**A Bylaw to regulate the placement and number of political campaign signs.**

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**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 526(1) and 526(2) of the *Local Government Act*, Council may, by bylaw, regulate the number, size, type, form, appearance and location of any signs , and the bylaw may contain different provisions for different zones, for different uses within a zone, and for different classes of highways;

**AND WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 526(3) of the *Local Government Act*, the power to regulate includes the power to prohibit, except that a sign is located on a parcel and relates to or identifies a use on that parcel must not be prohibited;

**AND WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 330 (1) of the *Local Government Act*, Council may, by bylaw, may regulate the erection, placing, alteration, maintenance, demolition, and removal of a signs, sign boards, advertisements, advertising devices and structures;

**NOW THEREFORE**, Council, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

1. This Bylaw be cited as the “City of Quesnel Political Campaign Sign Bylaw No. 1875, 2019”;
2. Schedule A attached forms part of this Bylaw and is adopted as the Political Campaign Sign Bylaw for the City of Quesnel; and
3. Schedules B, C, D, E, F, and G attached form part of this Bylaw and are adopted as the locations permitted to install Political Campaign sign locations as per the regulations set out in Schedule A.

READ A FIRST TIME this                      day of                      , 2019.

READ A SECOND TIME this                      day of                      , 2019.

READ A THIRD TIME this                      day of                      , 2019.

FINALLY ADOPTED by Council this      day of                      , 2019.

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MAYOR,  
Bob Simpson

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CORPORATE ADMINISTRATOR,  
Byron Johnson

**City of Quesnel**

**POLITICAL CAMPAIGN SIGN BYLAW NO. 1875, 2019**

**SCHEDULE A**

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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>SECTION ONE – PREAMBLE.....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Interpretation.....	1
1.2 Metric Units .....	1
<b>SECTION TWO – DEFINITIONS.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>SECTION THREE – ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT.....</b>	<b>3</b>
3.1 Enforcement.....	3
4.1 Violations .....	3
4.2 Penalty .....	3
<b>SECTION FIVE – LIMITS ON POLITICAL SIGNS .....</b>	<b>4</b>
5.1 Placement on Public Property.....	4
5.2 Placement on Private Property .....	4
5.3 Hazardous Placement .....	5
5.4 Height.....	5
5.5 Timeframe.....	5

## **SECTION ONE – PREAMBLE**

### **1.1 Interpretation**

- .1 Any enactment referred to herein is a reference to an enactment of British Columbia and regulations thereto, as amended, revised, consolidated or replaced from time to time, and any bylaw referred to an enactment of the Council of the City of Quesnel, as amended, revised, or replaced from time to time.
- .2 The headings given to the sections and paragraphs in this bylaw are for convenience of reference only. They do not form part of this bylaw and will not be used in the interpretation of this bylaw.
- .3 If any section, paragraph or phrase of this bylaw is for any reason held to be invalid by a decision of a Court of competent jurisdiction, such decision will not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this bylaw.

### **1.2 Metric Units**

- .1 Metric units are used for all measurements in this Bylaw.

## SECTION TWO – DEFINITIONS

All words or phrases shall have their normal or common meaning except when they have been changed, modified or expanded by the definitions set forth in this Section:

**BYLAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER** means an officer or employee of the City who is responsible for inspections as to compliance with and enforcement of City bylaws;

**CANDIDATE** means a person who is a candidate for election pursuant to the Local Government Act, the School Act (BC), the Election Act (BC), or the Canada Elections Act; or a person represented as a candidate on a political sign;

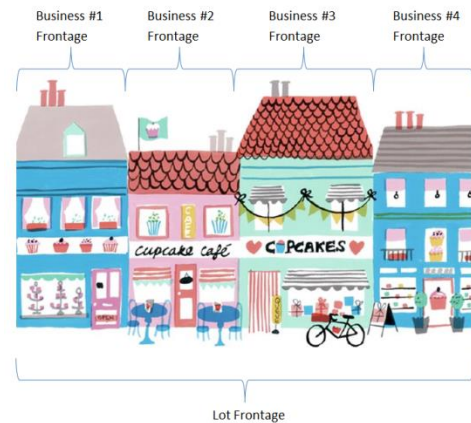
**CANDIDATE REPRESENTATIVE** means a person who is appointed by a candidate as a candidate representative for the purposes of the Local Government Act, the Election Act (BC), or the Canada Elections Act;

**CITY** means the City of Quesnel;

**COUNCIL** means the Municipal Council of the City of Quesnel;

**FRONTAGE, LOT** means the length of the property line of a lot parallel to and along each legally accessible public street, excluding a laneway or alleyway that it borders;

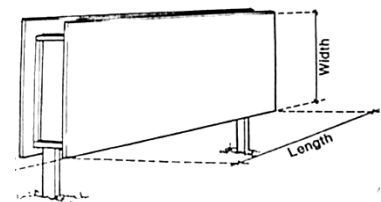
**FRONTAGE, BUSINESS** means the length of the building parallel to the property line, limited to the suite which is leased or owned by the business;



**GENERAL VOTING DAY** means “polling day” under the Canada Elections Act, or “general voting day” under the Local Government Act, School Act (BC), or Election Act (BC), whichever is applicable;

**POLITICAL SIGN** means a sign that advertises a political candidate, political party, political cause or an issue that is to be voted on or in an local, provincial, or federal election process, or a public referendum;

**SIGN AREA** means the facing of a sign, including copy, insignia, background, structural supports, and border and trim. The measurement shall be determined by the smallest rectangle inclusive of all letters and images. The structural supports shall be excluded if they do not constitute a major part of the sign or if the structure is not used to identify or attract attention to the business or product;



**TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE** means a sign, line, meter, marking, space, barrier, or device that is painted, placed or erected to guide, regulate, warn, direct, restrict, control, or prohibit traffic.

## **SECTION THREE – ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT**

### **3.1 Enforcement**

- .1 All administration and enforcement of this Bylaw shall be delegated to the Chief Administrative Officer or delegate and Bylaw Enforcement Officers.
- .2 A Bylaw Enforcement Officer may remove, and the Chief Administrative Officer or designate may order the removal of, any Political Sign that is placed, or permitted to be placed, in contravention of any provision of this Bylaw.
- .3 Political Signs removed pursuant to Section 3.1.2 will be stored at a City facility and may be claimed by a Candidate or Candidate Representative, or a person authorized by a Candidate or Candidate Representative.
- .4 Political Signs removed pursuant to Section 3.1.2 and not claimed within seven (7) days shall become the property of the City and may be destroyed or otherwise disposed of by the City without notice to any person.

## **SECTION FOUR – OFFENCE AND PENALTIES**

### **4.1 Violations**

- .1 The Director of Development Services or designate, upon finding that any provision of this Bylaw or any condition or a permit issued under this Bylaw is being violated, is authorized to institute legal proceedings to prohibit violations of this Bylaw.

### **4.2 Penalty**

- .1 Every person who violates a provision of this bylaw commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) and the costs of prosecution.
- .2 Each day a violation of the provisions of this Bylaw exists or is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate offence.

## SECTION FIVE – LIMITS ON POLITICAL SIGNS

### 5.1 Placement on Public Property

- .1 A person shall place no more than six (6) Political Signs on public property per candidate/office(s) they are running for within the City of Quesnel on the permitted sites as described below:
  - a) Each candidate may place one sign only in each of the following six areas as specified in the attached schedules:
    - i. Schedule B: Johnston Loop
    - ii. Schedule C: Moffat Bridge East
    - iii. Schedule D: Moffat Bridge West
    - iv. Schedule E: Airport Highway Frontage
    - v. Schedule F: North Star Road Interchange
    - vi. Schedule G: South Hills Neighbourhood Entry
  - b) Each sign placed on public property shall have the name and phone number of the Candidate or Candidate Representative located on the sign in a legible manner.
- .2 No sign placed on public property will exceed 1.49 m<sup>2</sup> (16 sq. ft.) in area.
- .3 Signs are permitted to be double-sided (and will count as one sign), given that they are contained to one frame structure.
- .4 No signs shall be placed:
  - a) On a center meridian, sidewalk, or in a park;
  - b) On any roadway structure, or traffic control device;
  - c) On any tree, planter, waste receptacle, newspaper box, or mail box located on City-owned land; and
  - d) Within a 100 m of a polling station.
- .5 Signs shall be placed further from the road than standard road signs.

### 5.2 Placement on Private Property

- .1 **Residential Properties:**
  - a) Maximum Sign Area: The maximum sign area may be no greater than 0.4 m<sup>2</sup> (4 sq. ft.).

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**.2 Commercial Properties:**

- a) Maximum Total Sign Area: The maximum total sign area may be no greater than 0.6 m<sup>2</sup> (6.45 sq. ft.) per one (1) linear meter of building frontage, or a maximum of 3.0 m<sup>2</sup> (32 sq. ft.), whichever is less.

**.3 Residential and Commercial Properties:**

- a) Within a 100m of a polling station on the day of the election.

**5.3 Hazardous Placement**

- .1 A person must not place, or permit to be placed, on public or private property, a Political Sign:
  - a) That obstructs, simulates or detracts from any Traffic Control Device;
  - b) That is unsightly or dilapidated;
  - c) In a manner that may constitute a hazard to pedestrians, cyclists, or vehicles; or
  - d) That obstructs the line of vision at an intersection.

**5.4 Height**

- .1 A person shall not place, or permit to be placed a Political Sign:
  - a) That exceeds 2.0 m in height, as measured from the grade of the site on which the Political Sign is placed to the top of the Political Sign, or its supporting structure, whichever is greater.

**5.5 Timeframe**

- .1 A person shall not place, or permit to be placed, a Political Sign on public or private property, except:
  - a) In relation to federal and provincial elections and by-elections, not more than thirty (30) days before general voting day;
  - b) In relation to federal or provincial referenda or plebiscites, not more than thirty (30) days before general voting day;
  - c) In relation to local government and school elections and by-elections, not more than thirty (30) days before general voting day;
  - d) In relation to local government referenda or plebiscites, not more than thirty (30) days before general voting day;
- .2 All Political Signs shall be removed no more than one (1) day after general voting day of the election to which they pertain.

(Explanatory Note: Refer to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure for the most recent policies for sign removal timeframes along highway corridors)