

TOWN OF WATSON LAKE

BY-LAW 015-05

A bylaw to govern the use of parks and public open space within the Town of Watson Lake.

WHEREAS pursuant to the provisions of Section 265 of the Municipal Act, being Chapter 154 of the Revised Statutes of the Yukon 2002 and amendments thereto, provides that a Council may, by By-Law, govern the use of parks and public open space within the Town of Watson Lake.

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Town of Watson Lake in Open Meeting duly assembled, hereby ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

SHORT TITLE

1. This bylaw may be cited as the "**Parks and Public Open Space Bylaw**".

DEFINITIONS

2. In this bylaw:

"Abandoned" means any motor vehicle, recreational vehicle, off-highway vehicle, motor boat trailer that has been left unattended on park land or in a campground for a consecutive period of 72 hours, and where authorization to be in that area has expired, shall be deemed abandoned.

"CAO" means the manager of the Town of Watson Lake or his/her authorized delegate.

"Campsite" means an area which is designated as a site on which daytime or overnight camping is permitted.

"Camp" or "Camping" shall mean locating of, erecting of or use of a portable cabin, storage shed, tent, trailer or other similar structure for the provision of sleeping accommodation and includes sleeping overnight or any portion thereof in the open air.

"Park Area" means all municipal and environmental reserve parcels. Campgrounds owned, operated or leased by the Town and other recreational land areas owned or controlled by the Town, lying within the Town limits: whether improved in whole or in part, or in its natural state. Publicly maintained areas administered by the Town, playgrounds, floral areas, trees, and includes all buildings or other improvements situated on these land areas, all ponds and lakes, and cemetery, walking and bicycle paths.

"Peace Officer" means:

- i) a By-Law Enforcement Officer
- ii) an RCMP Officer
- iii) Any other person who from time to time is designated by the Town of Watson Lake to enforce this Bylaw.

"Permit" means a permit issued by the Town that allows an individual to camp in a permitted area.

"Public Facility" means every athletic, recreational or cultural building or facility located in the Town and owned or controlled by the Town.

"Public waste" means waste generated by a person or a person's pet while out in public and shall include, but not be limited to, candy bar wrappers, pop cans, bottles, empty chip bags, coffee cups, fast food containers.

"Public Open Space" means any outdoor area within the Town used to accommodate the recreation of residents of the Town or enhance the beauty or preserve the natural surroundings of the community including:

- (1) a park;
- (2) undeveloped park areas and future development areas as listed in the Official Community Plan;
- (3) public open space lands under the ownership or control of the Crown, the Commissioner of the Yukon or the Town of Watson Lake; and
- (4) greenbelts and buffer areas under the ownership or control of the Crown, the Commissioner of the Yukon, or the Town of Watson Lake

"Recreation Vehicle" means a vehicle used or intended for use as a shelter, all off-highway vehicles, motor boats and trailers and without restricting the generality of the foregoing, includes any motor home, holiday trailer, camper, tent trailer or any bus or truck converted for use as a recreation vehicle.

"Self-Contained Camping Unit" means a Camping Unit with an internal water and sewage system.

"Stall" means an area designated for camping by the Town.

"Tent" means portable shelter made of cloth, supported by one or more poles and stretched tight by cords or loops attached to pegs driven into the ground.

"Town" means the Town of Watson Lake, including its Municipal boundaries.

"Waste" includes all metal, rock, concrete, snow, water, ice, gravel, cinders, shavings, wood scrap, building materials, trade waste, household waste, grass clippings, wood chips, tree limbs, garden waste, abandoned vehicles, putrescible and non-putrescible solid wastes including broken dishes, tins, glass, rags, castoff clothing, waste paper, cardboard, food containers, and weeds or any other material or matter likely to interfere with the appearance and use of a public open space.

1. ADMINISTRATION

- 1.1 The Town CAO may from time to time and for such periods of time as he considers necessary for the protection of a Park or Public open space, close or limit an area or portion thereof for camping.
- 1.2 Camping permits are limited to the number of available stalls at each camp site.
- 1.3 Permits are available at the Town Office during regular business hours, and are issued on a first come, first serve basis.
- 1.4 Permits are valid for a maximum of 4 (four) nights at the Watson Lake Airport Campground site.
 - a) Applicants must wait 3 (three) days to reapply for a permit.
 - b) Permits must be placed on the self-contained unit or tent, and visible from the road.
- 1.5 Permits are valid for a maximum of 14 (fourteen) nights at the Lucky Lake Campground, and will only be granted to tenting units.
- 1.6 Persons using any public open space do so at their own risk and the Town does not warrant such areas to be safe for use at all times.

2. RESTRICTIONS

- 2.1. No person shall camp in any park or public open space within the Town of Watson Lake, unless they have a valid permit issued by the Town.
- 2.2 No person shall leave a campsite untidy or unsightly.
- 2.3 No person shall camp on any highway, or highway right-of-way.
- 2.4 No person shall shoot, fire or explode any firearms, firecrackers, fireworks, flares, air guns or explosives of any kind in or upon any Park Area.
- 2.5 No person shall alter a camping permit.
- 2.6 No person shall transfer a permit to another person.
- 2.7 No person shall abandon any Recreational vehicle in any park area.
- 2.8 In a Park or Public open space, no person shall: urinate or defecate except in a public washroom or portable facility provided for that purpose.
- 2.9 No person shall place or deposit waste in any part of a Park or public open space, except public waste in a receptacle provided for such purpose, and in which case the public waste shall not be offensive, injurious, or inconvenient to persons using such a Park Area.
- 2.10 No person shall deposit household, commercial, or industrial waste of any type in a receptacle in a public open space.
- 2.11 No person shall destroy, alter or damage a campsite.
- 2.12 Campfires must be in an approved fire pit.
- 2.13 Campfires are not permitted when conditions are extreme, or as determined by the Fire Chief.
- 2.13 Unless permitted by the CAO, no person in a public open space shall engage in any activity that obstructs or interferes with the use or enjoyment of the area by any other person, or which, in the opinion of a Peace Officer, may cause injury or is dangerous to life or property.

3. ENFORCEMENT

- 3.1 Any Peace Officer is hereby authorized to remove or cause to be removed any camping equipment, vehicles or apparatus which is used, utilized or found in contravention of this bylaw.

- 3.2 Any such camping equipment, vehicles, and apparatus may be removed to a place designated by the CAO where it will remain impounded for 30 (thirty) days until claimed by the owner or his authorized agent. If the camping equipment, vehicle or apparatus has not been redeemed by the owner or authorized owner within the allotted time, the CAO may order it disposed of.
- 3.3 A Peace Officer may order any person in any Park or public open space to cease or refrain from any action, omission, or conduct that in the opinion of the Officer is dangerous to life or property or detrimental to the use and enjoyment of the area by other persons.

4. PENALTIES

- 4.1 Any person who violates, or fails to comply with any of the provisions of this by-law is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction.
 - a) For a fine not exceeding 100.00
- 4.2 Where an offence is committed or continued on more than one day, it shall be deemed to be a separate offence for each day on which the offence is committed or continued.
- 4.3 A Summary Conviction Ticket shall be deemed to be sufficiently served:
 - a) if served personally to the accused; or
 - b) if mailed to the address of the registered owner of the Self-Contained Camping Unit, or to the person concerned; or
 - c) if attached to or left upon a vehicle in respect of which an offence is alleged to have been committed.
- 5) This By-Law shall come into full force and effect upon the final passing.

Read a First and Second time this 21st day of July, 2015.

Read a Third time and finally passed this day of ,2015.

R.Durocher - Mayor

T.Close - Municipal Clerk