

CITY OF MERRITT

BYLAW 2271 THOMPSON – NICOLA INTER-COMMUNITY BUSINESS LICENCE BYLAW

WHEREAS Thompson-Nicola municipalities wish to enter into an agreement with one-another to permit certain kinds of Businesses to operate across municipal jurisdictions within the Thompson-Nicola regions while minimizing the need to obtain a separate Inter-Community Business Licence in each jurisdiction;

AND WHEREAS each of the undersigned local governments has adopted this Bylaw;

NOW THEREFORE the Municipal Council for the City of Merritt, in open meeting assembled, **ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. Establishment

There is hereby established an intermunicipal business licence scheme, pursuant to Section 14 of the Community Charter and according to the terms and conditions of this Bylaw.

2. Citation

This Bylaw shall be cited as the “**Thompson-Nicola Inter-Community Business Licence Bylaw 2271, 2019**”.

3. Definitions

In this Bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:

“**Business**” has the meaning as defined by the Community Charter SCHEDULE – Definitions and Rules of Interpretation.

“**Community Charter**” means the *Community Charter*, SBC 2003, c. 26.

“**Excluded Businesses**” means Business types which are excluded from application for an Inter-Community Business Licence and includes those Business types referred to in Schedule “A”.

“**Inter-Community Business**” means a Business that performs a service or activity within more than one Participating Government but not from or in Premises in one or more participating municipalities, and who provides the service or activity by moving from client to client.

“Inter-Community Business Licence” means a business licence which authorizes a mobile business to be carried on within the boundaries of any or all of the Participating Municipalities in accordance with this Bylaw.

“Participating Government” means the following communities that have adopted this Inter-Community Business Licence Bylaw, and any communities that adopt this bylaw at a later date:

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“Person” has the meaning ascribed to it by the Interpretation Act.

“Premises” means a fixed or permanent location where the applicant ordinarily carries on Business.

“Principal Government” means the Participating Government where a Business is located or has a Premises, or where the licensee does not maintain a Premises in any of the Participating Municipalities, the jurisdiction that issues the Inter-Community Business Licence.

“Standard Business Licence” means a licence or permit, other than an Inter-Community Business Licence, issued by a Participating Government that authorizes a Business to be carried on within the jurisdictional boundaries of that Participating Government.

Ability to carry on business within Participating Municipalities

4. Subject to sections 6 and 8, a Person who has obtained an Inter-Community Business Licence may carry on business within a Participating Government for the term authorized by the Inter-Community Business Licence without obtaining an Inter-Community Business Licence in the other Participating Municipalities.

Issuance of an Inter-Community Business Licence

5. A Participating Government may issue an Inter-Community Business Licence to an applicant for a Business Licence, provided the Business type is an Inter-Community Business and is not an Excluded Business, and the applicant has a valid Standard Business Licence issued by that Participating Government, and the applicant meets the requirements of this Bylaw.
6. A Person holding an Inter-Community Business Licence must comply with all other regulations and bylaws of the Participating Government in which the Person carries on Business.

7. A Business may only apply for an Inter-Community Business Licence from a Participating Government in which they maintain a Premises.

Municipal Licence required for Premises

8. Neither this Bylaw nor the issuance of an Inter-Community Business Licence eliminates a requirement of a holder of an Inter-Community Business Licence to obtain a Standard Business Licence for each Premises that is maintained within the jurisdiction of the Participating Government.

Where no Premise exists

9. Notwithstanding Sections 5, 6, and 7, the Participating Municipalities agree that where an applicant for an Inter-Community Business Licence does not maintain Premises in any of the Participating Municipalities, then the applicant may apply at any one of them. The Participating Government's Standard Business Licence must be purchased prior to the application for an Inter-Community Business Licence.

Licence Fee

10. The fee for an Inter-Community Business Licence is \$75 and shall be retained by the Participating Government that issues the licence.
11. The fee for an Inter-Community Business Licence is separate and additional to any Standard Business Licence that may be required.
12. The Inter-Community Business Licence fee prescribed by this bylaw shall be pro-rated in accordance with the pro-rating scheme in Business Licence Bylaw No. 2268, 2019.

Communication between Participating Municipalities

13. Every Inter-Community Business Licence shall be issued in a standard form to be agreed upon from time to time by the Participating Municipalities and including, as a minimum, the following information:
 - (a) Disclosing the nature and character of the profession, business, trade, occupation, calling, undertaking or thing to be carried on, maintained, owned or operated by the applicant;
 - (b) Declaring the mailing address and contact information for such profession, business, trade, occupation, calling, undertaking or thing;
 - (c) Declaring the number of persons engaged or occupied in such profession, business, trade, occupation, calling, undertaking or thing;
 - (d) Disclosing the number of distinctive lines of goods sold or offered for sale;
 - (e) Including any other information concerning the profession, business, trade, occupation, calling, undertaking or thing which the Participating Government may require.

14. Each Participating Government shall provide to all other Participating Governments standardized information regarding the Inter-Community Business Licences issued, by way of at least weekly updates on a shared database (www.mobilebusinessregistry.ca) available to all Participating Governments.

Suspension of an Inter-Community Business Licence

15. A Participating Government may exercise the authority of the Principal Municipality and suspend an Inter-Community Business Licence in relation to conduct by the holder within the Participating Government which would give rise to the power to suspend a business licence under the Community Charter or the business licence or regulation bylaw of the Participating Government. The suspension shall be in effect throughout all of the Participating Municipalities and it shall be unlawful for the holder to carry on the Business authorized by the Inter-Community Business Licence in any Participating Government for the period of the suspension.

Cancellation of an Inter-Community Business Licence

16. If the Council of a Participating Government is of the opinion that reasonable cause exists to cancel an Inter-Community Business Licence issued by another of the Participating Municipalities, then it may, by resolution reciting the details of such reasonable cause, request the Principal Municipality to consider whether or not the licence should be cancelled pursuant to Sections 15 or Section 60(2) of the Community Charter and amendments thereto.
17. Any resolution made under Section 16 of this Bylaw shall be communicated in writing to the Principal Municipality that issued the licence, together with such documentary evidence of the reasonable cause as may be available, and such Principal Municipality shall as soon thereafter as reasonably possible consider whether the Inter-Community Business Licence should be cancelled.
18. In making any decision as to whether to cancel an Inter-Community Business Licence under Section 15 or Section 60(2) of the *Community Charter* and amendments thereto, the Principal Municipality shall approach the matter as if the conduct complained of had occurred within its own boundaries.

Reconsideration and Appeals

19. The Principal Municipality will retain the authority to hear related reconsiderations or appeals of suspensions and cancellations of Inter-Community Business Licences.
20. Nothing in this Bylaw affects the authority of a Participating Government to suspend or cancel any business licence issued by that municipality or to enact regulations in respect of any class of Business under Section 15 of the *Community Charter* or amendments.

Withdrawal from the Inter-Community Business Licence Scheme

- 21.** A Participating Government may, by notice in writing to each of the other Participating Municipalities, withdraw from the Inter-Community Business Licence scheme established by this Bylaw, and notice must:
- (a) Set out the date on which the withdrawing municipality will no longer recognize the validity within its boundaries of business licences issued pursuant to this Bylaw, which date must be at least six months from the date of the notice; and
 - (b) Include a certified copy of the Bylaw authorizing the withdrawal.
- 22.** An Inter-Community Business Licence issued prior to the effective date of the withdrawal shall, until it expires, remain valid within the boundaries of the withdrawing Municipality.

Invalidity and Severability

- 23.** The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Bylaw shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provisions of this Bylaw and any such invalid or unenforceable provision shall be deemed to be severable.

Primacy

- 24.** In the event of an inconsistency between this Bylaw and any other bylaw relating to business licensing of a Participating Government, the provisions of this Bylaw shall take precedence.

Effective Date

- 25.** This Bylaw shall come into force and take effect on the 1st day of January, 2020.

READ A FIRST TIME THIS 13th Day of August, 2019

READ A SECOND TIME THIS 13th Day of August, 2019

READ A THIRD TIME THIS 13th Day of August, 2019

ADOPTED THIS

LINDA BROWN,
MAYOR

SEAN SMITH,
CORPORATE OFFICER

Schedule “A”

The following Business types are Excluded Businesses for the purposes of application for an Inter-Community Business Licence under the Inter-Community Business licensing scheme set out in this Bylaw:

- Social escort services (a business type where, for a fee or other form of payment, escorts accompany another Person, but does not include a Person providing assistance to another Person because of that other Person’s age or disability)
- Vehicles for hire (for example, taxis, limousines or buses)
- Body-rub services (which includes the manipulating, touching or stimulating by any means, of a Person's body or part thereof, but does not include medical, therapeutic or cosmetic massage treatment given by a Person duly licensed or registered under any statute of the Province of British Columbia governing such activities or a therapeutic touch technique.)
- Mobile food vendors, fruit stands, flea markets, trade shows or other similar Businesses.
- Cannabis related businesses (a business which involves the sale of cannabis)