

Stratford Town Crier

Town Crier, June 30, 2023

Public Information, Notices and Meeting Schedule

AD-HOC GRAND TRUNK RENEWAL COMMITTEE - CHAIR POSITION

Stratford City Council established the Ad-Hoc Grand Trunk Renewal Committee in 2023 to provide support and a forum for input and exchange of ideas on the renewal of the Grand Trunk building.

The Ad-Hoc Grand Trunk Renewal Committee will be made up of volunteer, unpaid positions which represent key sectors for a two-year term.

We are currently seeking an individual to serve as the Chair of the Committee. The position of Chair is vital to the work of the Ad-Hoc Grand Trunk Renewal Committee and in meeting its mandate.

This responsibility requires an individual who has broad community knowledge and experience and in-depth knowledge of the Grand Trunk site and Master Plan. This individual should also have experience working with upper levels of government, community members and with fundraising activities. Experience chairing committees or board meetings is an asset.

Applicants must be 18 years of age or older, be able to attend Committee meetings quarterly, and available to serve a term from September 2023 to September 2025.

For more information about the Ad-Hoc Grand Trunk Renewal Committee, including details on how to apply, please visit the City's website at <https://www.stratford.ca/en/inside-city-hall/ad-hoc-grand-trunk-renewal-committee.aspx>

Interested applicants should submit a resume and cover letter to the attention of Lindsay Van Gestel, Administrative Assistant to the Mayor and Council. Applications are due by July 12, 2023.

FIREWORK SAFETY – CANADA DAY – FINAL REMINDER

City of Stratford Fireworks By-law 73-2006 provides that fireworks can only be set off on Victoria Day and Canada Day between 8:00 pm and 12:00 midnight. In the event of weather conditions such as rain, fog, smog or wind on Canada Day, fireworks may be set off the day before or the day after Canada Day.

Fireworks may not be set off:

- On any city street or highway.
- In any park or other public place.
- In any building or vehicle.
- In areas containing dead undergrowth or trees.

Firecrackers

Firecrackers, which are different than fireworks, cannot be set off anywhere in Stratford.

Flying Lanterns

Flying lanterns (the small paper hot air balloons propelled by an open flame) are not permitted for sale or use in Stratford.

When setting off Fireworks:

- Use fireworks outdoors only;
- Choose a clear, open area;
- Check wind direction and speed;
- Always have an adult present;
- Have water handy;
- Read and follow label directions; and
- Keep spectators away from launch area

If you have any questions or wish to report a violation of the By-law, please call the Fire Department at 519-271-3212. Please enjoy the holiday safely.

CANADA DAY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

City of Stratford Administration Offices will be closed on Monday, July 3, 2023.

Landfill Site Hours

The Landfill Site will be closed on Monday July 3, 2023.

Curbside Recycling and Garbage Collection Schedule

There will be no change in the Recycling, Green Bin, Leaf & Yard Waste and Garbage collection programs on Monday, July 3, 2023. Please ensure materials are to the curb prior to 8:00 a.m. on collection dates. For further information, please call 519-271-0250 extension 5279.

RETAIL CLOSINGS ON CANADA DAY – FINAL REMINDER

Shoppers and merchants are reminded that under the *Retail Business Holidays Act*, Canada Day, Saturday, July 1, 2023, is among the holidays when most stores must be closed.

The *Retail Business Holidays Act* provides limited exceptions for retail outlets that may be open, including stores that sell handicrafts and book or magazine stores that are less than 2,400 square feet with a maximum of three employees, pharmacies under 7,500 square feet, flower shops and gas stations. Stores may also remain open in locations established as tourist areas by specific municipal by-laws.

Stratford's designated tourism season is May 1 to November 12 each year and includes the Canada Day Holiday. City of Stratford By-law 149-92 permits certain retail establishments in Stratford that meet the tourism criteria established by the Province and that provides goods and services primarily to tourists in Stratford, may open for business on Canada Day under the following provisions:

- The retail business establishment does not open prior to 10:00 a.m. and does not remain open after 4:00 p.m.;
- The number of persons engaged in the serving of the public does not at any time, exceed four (4); and
- The total area used for serving, selling, or displaying goods or services to the public inside the establishment is less than 278.71 m² (3000 square feet).

Certain larger retail business establishments listed in Schedule "A" to By-law 149-92 as amended, may also open on Canada Day between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Minimum fines for opening businesses on prohibited days of retail operation are \$500 for the first offence, \$2,000 for a second offence and \$5,000 for a third or subsequent offence. Retail outlets may be fined up to \$50,000 or the total amount of gross sales for the holiday, whichever is greater.

Enforcement of the *Retail Business Holidays Act* in Stratford is the responsibility of Stratford Police Services. To find out which retail operations are exempted by the Act, call the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services toll-free at 1-800-889-9768. For more information visit www.sse.gov.on.ca.

ATTENTION STRATFORD PROPERTY OWNERS PROPERTY TAX – 2023 FINAL LEVY DUE DATE AUGUST 29, 2023

For your convenience, property tax payments by cheque may be deposited in the mailbox at City Hall, Rear Entrance. Payment at your bank or on-line/telephone banking is also available. Please make cheques payable to "City of Stratford" and mail to P.O. Box 818, Stratford ON N5A 6W1. Pre-authorized payment is available monthly or quarterly, call to inquire. Contact: Tax Department, 519-271-0250, extension 5212.

www.stratford.ca