VILLAGE OF ALERT BAY UNSIGHTLY PREMISES BYLAW REVIEW 2020

Introduction

The purpose of an Unsightly Premises Bylaw is to ensure that properties are maintained in a safe, clean, and hazard-free environment. The previous bylaw dates back to 1971 and no longer reflects the current needs of the community. The purpose of this information sheet is to inform Alert Bay residents of the new proposed regulations and how these regulations may affect their current property.

General Regulations

The following table outlines the proposed regulations in the bylaw by topic, followed by an example of what would constitute a violation. The table is designed to be an introductory overview of the regulations; therefore, residents are encouraged to read the proposed Unsightly Premises Bylaw for more information on any given topic.

Topic	Proposed Regulation	Example
Refuse & Litter Control	• No refuse to accumulate on or around the property • No throwing bottles, broken glass, or other refuse in an open place	
Unsightly Premises	• No property should accumulate filth, discarded materials, or refuse • A commercial establishment that stores derelict vehicles as a part of their business may be exempt	
Graffiti	• No graffiti may be permitted on a building or structure	
Derelict Vehicles, Boats & Other Items	• Derelict vehicles and boats cannot be stored or accumulate on a property unless it is enclosed in a garage or carport	

Topic	Proposed Regulation	Example
Plants, Weeds, and Lawn Overgrowth	• Weeds cannot accumulate on or around a property • Lawn cannot grow beyond the prevailing standard in the neighbourhood or 25.4cm in height • Trees branches, hedges, and bushes cannot grow to be a hazard to people or public property	
Boulevards & Sidewalks	• No damage should be done to the boulevard or any plants, fences, or lighting placed along the boulevard. • Boulevards should be kept free of noxious weeds, lawn overgrowth, and overhanging trees or shrubs • Sidewalks should be kept clean and clear of snow, ice, or dirt	
Fences & Retaining Walls	• Fences abutting a highway cannot fall into disrepair • If an owner has livestock, a fence must be installed to prevent them from straying onto the highway • Retaining walls must be in good repair and free from hazards	
Structural Integrity	• Buildings must provide sufficient structural integrity to sustain safely through normal use • Foundation walls must be maintained in good repair and inhibit moisture and water from entering the building	

Topic	Proposed Regulation	Example
Drainage	• All surface water must be drained and not result in water entering the building or basement • Water cannot pond unless the ponding occurs naturally or is a component of an approved storm water management plan • An excavation area left after a building has been demolished cannot remain filled with water • Eavestroughs, downspouts, and roof drains should be kept in good repair and free from leaks	
Demolition Sites	• All debris and material must be removed after demolition has taken place • Any basement or other excavation should be restored to lot grade	

Feedback

You can submit your comments and concerns by:

- Mailing or dropping off a letter to the Village Office before **January 11, 2021**
- Emailing a letter to bylaws@alertbay.ca before **January 11, 2021**

Your feedback is greatly appreciated!