

FILE: 01-0340-50/21

REPORT DATE: November 15, 2021 **MEETING DATE:** November 23, 2021
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Carleen McDowell, Manager of Recreation and Culture
SUBJECT: **Filming Policy Review and Bylaw Amendment**

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REVIEW/APPROVAL:



RECOMMENDATION(S):

THAT Council:

- A. Approve the amended Council Policy C028 'Filming Policy' as presented at the November 23, 2021 Council Meeting; AND
- B. Grant first, second and third readings to the Filming Fee Amendment Bylaw No. 2880, 2021; OR
- C. Other.

PURPOSE

To present Council with proposed amendments to Council Policy C028 (Filming Policy) and Filming Fee Amendment Bylaw No. 2880, 2021.

Information Report Decision Report Direction Report

DISCUSSION

Background:

Council Policy C028 has been in place since 2016. In preparation for bringing forward this policy to Council, staff reviewed past history, researched neighbouring communities and worked with

CreativeBC who are a government-funded, non-profit organization that supports the creative industries in the province. CreativeBC is home to the Provincial Film Commission team who work closely with industry and community stakeholders as well as all levels of government to keep filming sustainable in the province.

Analysis:

Research found that Council Policy C028 – Sept 2016 needed updating to be more consistent with surrounding municipalities. This allows the policy to be aligned with standard business practices in filming. Additionally, when comparing fees, the City of Pitt Meadows’ structure was found to be considerably behind other jurisdictions. As a result, staff are recommending the Policy and Bylaw be updated together.

The past policy included hot spot designations for filming in Osprey Village and South Bonson, because at the time filming had become disruptive to the neighbourhood. The hot spot designations were meant to have a “no filming” hiatus for 4 months but much time has passed since then.

In March 2021, Council directed staff to proceed with engagement and to survey residents and business owners in Osprey Village and South Bonson to see if there is support for filming in the area.

A letter dated September 14, 2021, was sent to 477 business and resident addresses which encouraged individuals and businesses to provide feedback through Have your Say Pitt Meadows. The survey received a response rate of 26%, which is typical for a targeted area survey. Of the responses 82.4% were in favour of filming to varying degrees, and 17.6% opposed any filming.

Based on the research and analysis, staff are recommending updates to the policy as summarized below and that all requests for filming in Osprey Village and South Bonson be considered on a case by case basis.

Council Policy C028 – Filming Policy

This policy was amended to:

- update the format to the new Council Policy template;
- simplify and improve the layout of content to make it more reader-friendly;
- update terminology to align with current city operations and administrative procedures;
- included a section about prohibited drone usage in the Pitt Addington Marsh as per the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development;
- move this policy from Department 13 - Planning and Development to 15 – Recreation & Cultural Services;
- remove moratorium and hot spot designations;
- remove schedules of internal working documents for ease of reading.

There are no other substantive changes to the content or intent of the Policy.

Filming Fee Bylaw No. 2700, 2016

The bylaw was amended to:

- update fees to be in alignment with neighbouring communities;
- identify a non-refundable administration fee in an attempt to recover staff time;
- identify a change fee for applications revised within 48 hours of film start date;
- set a student film application fee;
- include security deposit and pre/post inspection fees for all film permits to cover damages and onsite staff support;
- modify parking space fee from a flat rate to a fee per stall price which allows for rental of different parking locations based on the needs of production and availability;
- include a fine for filming without a permit.

With these amendments staff recommend that Council receive and adopt Council Policy C028 and grant first, second and third reading to the Filming Fee Amendment Bylaw No. 2880, 2021 as presented at the November 23rd Council Meeting.

Relevant Policy, Bylaw or Legislation:

Relevant Policies to these amendments are Fees and Charges Policy C070, Facility Allocation – Regular Use C082 and those mentioned within this staff report.

Also relevant is the Bylaw for Fee Setting – Parks & Leisure Services No. 2010, Highway and Traffic Bylaw No. 2836, 2020, Noise Control Bylaw No. 2138, 2003, Fireworks and Pyrotechnics Bylaw No. 2673, 2015, Business Licensing and Regulation Bylaw No. 2643, 2014 and the Filming Fee Bylaw No. 2700, 2016 which is to be updated by this report.

COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

- Principled Governance Balanced Economic Prosperity Corporate Excellence
 Community Spirit & Wellbeing Transportation & Infrastructure Initiatives
 Not Applicable

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- None Budget Previously Approved Referral to Business Planning
 Other

There is potential for increased revenue.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Inform Consult Involve Collaborate Empower

Comment(s):

A public survey was completed as part of this review.

KATZIE FIRST NATION CONSIDERATIONS

Referral Yes No

SIGN-OFFS

Written by:

Carleen McDowell,
Manager of Recreation and Culture

Reviewed by:

Diane Chamberlain,
Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture

ATTACHMENT(S):

- A. Council Policy C028 – Sept 2016
- B. Proposed New Council Policy C028 – November 2021
- C. Filming Fee Bylaw No. 2700, 2016
- D. Proposed New Filming Fee Amendment Bylaw 2880, 2021