

Consolidated for Convenience Only

This Bylaw has been consolidated for convenience only. Where applicable, capitalization, numerical order, and numbering have been altered for consistency. Copies of the original Bylaw and amendments may be viewed at the City of Grand Forks. The bylaw is also available on our website www.grandforks.ca.

Bylaw No.	Adopted	Amendment
2077	TBD	Original Sign Bylaw

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CITY OF GRAND FORKS SIGN BYLAW NO. 2077

A Bylaw to regulate the number, size, type, form, appearance and location of signs within the City of Grand Forks

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the City of Grand Forks, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

SECTION 1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1 SHORT TITLE

This Bylaw may be cited for all purposes as "Sign Bylaw No. 2077".

1.2 PURPOSE

The purpose of this Bylaw is to:

- a) To promote the City's aesthetic attractiveness through appropriate signage;
- b) To enable local businesses, institutions, and community organizations to clearly identify themselves and the products or services available;
- c) To regulate safe sign placement to ensure the safety of pedestrians, cyclists and motorists.

1.3 DEFINITIONS

Words and phrases used in this Bylaw shall have the meanings set forth in this section. Words and phrases not defined in this section, but defined in the Zoning Bylaw, as amended from time to time, have the meaning set forth in that Bylaw.

Abandoned Sign

Means a sign or sign support structure that directs attention to an activity, business, product, or service no longer conducted or available on the lot on which the sign is located or at the location stated on the sign;

Advertising

Means a display of the name, symbol or other representation of a person, product, idea or event;

Animated Sign	Means a sign, other than a changeable copy sign, that employs physical movement or change of lighting to depict action, whether by flashing, oscillating, pulsating or travelling illumination;
Area Identification Sign	Means a freestanding or monument sign that is installed on a public right of way, boulevard or highway that references, informs, or provides direction to or about a specific area or neighbourhood within the city.
Awning	Means a retractable or non-retractable shelter on a frame projecting over a window, door or porch designed to provide protection from rain or sun;
Awning Sign	Means a sign painted, bonded or affixed flat to the surface of an awning;
Banner Sign	Means a temporary sign constructed of flexible material that is hung on a structure or between supports;
Billboard Sign	Means a freestanding sign, structure, wall sign or a portable sign larger than 2 m ² (12.91 sq ft) which is a third-party sign;
Brand Representation	Means a trademark, or scheme, or emblem, physical structure, registered symbol or use of a word or words, which through consistent use has become identifiable with a specific business or product;
Building	Means a structure, located in the ground, which is designed, erected or intended for the support, enclosure, or protection of persons or property. When a structure is separated by party walls located upon lot lines, then each portion of such structure shall be deemed a separate building;
Building Inspector	Means Staff designated as a Building Inspector employed by the City;
Bylaw Enforcement Officer	Means Staff designated as a Bylaw Enforcement Officer for the purpose of enforcement of the City's bylaws;

Canopy	Means a non-retractable roofed structure without walls that projects from the side of a building or is self-supporting, and is composed entirely of rigid materials;
Canopy Sign	Means a sign painted or affixed flat to the vertical face of a canopy and which may contain commercial messages;
Changeable Copy Sign	Means a sign with characters, letters or illustrations that can be changed manually or electronically up to a maximum of 5 times a day (a greater frequency of changes equates to an Animated Sign);
Channel Letter Signs	Means a wall sign composed of three-dimensional illuminated letters or other emblems, logos, symbols, or images, containing a source of illumination and a translucent or transparent face;
City	Means the Corporation of the City of Grand Forks;
Commercial Message	Means any public communication that advertises or calls attention to a business or professional person, product, sale, sales event, service or any other business solicitation, including any brand representation;
Commercial Flag	Means a flag that contains a commercial message or represents business;
Community Sign	Means a temporary portable sign advertising a community non-profit society or group or promoting community health, safety or welfare campaigns of a similar group or society;
Contractor Sign	Means a temporary sign located on private property identifying an individual contractor or sub-contractor relating to the design, construction, renovation of the property;
Construction Hoarding Sign	Means a temporary sign promoting a construction project with brand representation placed on temporary fencing securing the perimeter of a construction site;

Directional Sign	Means a sign such as a parking lot entrance or exit sign giving directions, instructions, or facility information, which may contain the name, logo and establishment but no advertising copy.
Directory Sign	Means a sign consisting of only the names and locations of the occupants of a building or premises or food and beverage menu board items.
Election Sign	Means a temporary sign promoting a political candidate, party, or cause in relation to a federal, provincial, municipal or school trustee election or public referendum;
Fees & Charges Bylaw	Means the <i>City's Fees & Charges Bylaw No. 1958</i> as amended or replaced from time to time;
Flyer	Means a form of paper advertisement intended for wide distribution and typically posted or distributed in a public place;
Free-standing Sign	Means any sign wholly or partially supported from the ground by one or more permanently fixed structural members which is independent of any of the principal building or structures on the lot in question;
Garage Sale Sign	Means a sign advertising the sale of personal or household goods from a residential property;
Government Sign	Means a sign authorized to be erected or placed under the provisions of any statute or bylaw or resolution of the City to regulate the use of land, buildings and structures, and includes traffic signs and signals, pavement markings, street-name signs;
Height	Means the vertical distance between the highest point of a sign or its supporting structure and the nearest point of a floor, stair, pavement, or the ground beneath the sign or structure;
Home Occupation Sign	Means a sign identifying a home occupation;
Illuminated Sign	Means a sign with an internal light source, or designed to reflect light from an external source which has been intentionally directed at the sign;

Informational Sign	Means a sign which either regulates a use or uses of the site upon which it is located, or indicates direction or distance to some other site or place;
Inflatable Sign	Means a sign or figure, with or without a commercial message, whose dimensions are expanded or supported by gas or air;
Internally Illuminated Backlit Box Sign	Means a sign illuminated directly by a light fixture located within a sign structure, not including illuminated channel lettering;
Monument Sign	Means a low-profile free-standing sign which is supported by and integrated with a solid base that extends the width of the sign;
Mobile Vendor Sign	Means a non-illuminated portable sandwich board sign used by a mobile vending business for advertising.
Municipal Ticket Information Bylaw	Means the <i>City's Municipal Ticket Information Bylaw No. 2073</i> as amended or replaced from time to time.
Mural	Means an artistic rendering or drawing painted or otherwise applied to a surface which is intended as a public display but has no text, identification, information or advertising content;
Neon Sign	Means a sign using neon tubing as a light source;
New Business Sign	Means a temporary portable sign advertising an opening date of a place of business or a change in proprietorship;
Parking Control Sign	Means a sign that indicates parking regulations, information and or directions, and may include towing control information;
Political Sign	Means a sign containing messages relating to an opinion or political preference;

Portable Sign	Means a sign not permanently affixed to the ground or a building, which can be readily carried or transported;
Premises	Means the land and the space within a building or structure occupied by an establishment, and when an establishment is not the sole occupant of a building or structure, is deemed to extend to the centerlines of the walls, partitions, floors and ceilings which separate the space occupied by such establishment from that of any other occupant;
Projecting Sign	Means a sign other than a canopy or awning sign which projects perpendicularly from the façade to which it is attached;
Public Flag	Means a national, provincial municipal, foreign state or other collective entity flag without a commercial message;
Real Estate Sign	Means a sign indicating that a property is available for development, lease, sale or rent, or is sold;
Roof Sign	Means a sign erected on top of the roof or parapet of a building or structure, wholly or partly above a roof line of a building;
Sandwich Board Sign	Means a non-illuminated, portable sign designed to be moved manually;
Seasonal Market Sign	Means a portable sign located off-site promoting a seasonal (five months or under or two day or less per week) market ;
Sign	Means any device, fixture, flag, structure or surface outside a building, or a window sign, using any colour, form, graphic, illumination, symbol or writing for purposes of public communication, including but not limited to conveying a commercial message, identifying land, or indicating a hazard;
Sight Triangle	Means a triangle on a corner lot formed by the intersecting lot lines at a street corner and a line joining the points along the lot lines 7.5m (24.6 ft) from the point of intersection.

Site	Means one or more parcels owned by a common owner containing a building or group of buildings, separate from one another or joined by common walls, which are devoted to a common use;
Special Event Sign	Means a portable sign for a non-profit event, activity, or function that is advertised to the public, other than a seasonal market;
Staff	Means the Chief Administrative Officer or designate.
Suspended Sign	Means a sign that is suspended from a first storey roof, or from under the overhang of a first storey roof, or from the underside of an awning or canopy;
Temporary Sign	Means a sign displayed for a limited time period, as specified in applicable sections of this bylaw;
Third Party Sign	Means any sign which advertises goods, products, services, attractions, events or facilities at premises other than where the sign is located;
Wall Sign	Means a flat sign fixed parallel to, or painted on a façade, but excludes murals and banner signs;
Window Sign	Means a sign affixed to the inside or outside of a window, and visible from outside the building;
Zone	Means a zone according to the City of Grand Forks Zoning Bylaw, as amended from time to time.

1.4 GENERAL REGULATIONS

- 1.4.1 No person shall erect, place, construct, or alter any sign except as provided under this Bylaw.
- 1.4.2 No person shall erect, place, construct, or alter any sign requiring a permit without first obtaining the necessary permit, as provided under this Bylaw.
- 1.4.3 No person shall maintain or allow any sign that is prohibited or not allowed or that requires a permit and such permit has not been issued, to remain on, or be affixed to, the lands or premises of which that person is the owner or occupier, pursuant to this Bylaw.

1.4.4 Without restricting or limiting the generality of the foregoing, the following signs are **prohibited**:

- 1.4.4.1 Third party signs, except where expressly permitted under this Bylaw;
- 1.4.4.2 Abandoned signs that remain in place for more than 60 days;
- 1.4.4.3 Banner signs, except temporary new business banner signs or banner signs authorized by and installed by the City over streets and highways;
- 1.4.4.4 Billboard Signs;
- 1.4.4.5 Portable signs, except as permitted in Section 3 and Section 5;
- 1.4.4.6 Painted wall signs, including signs affixed to walls or structures or structures other than the walls of a principal building or structure on a property;
- 1.4.4.7 Signs on balloons or other inflatable signs, except when displayed in strict accordance with this Bylaw as special event signs;
- 1.4.4.8 Wind activated devices designed to attract the attention of the public;
- 1.4.4.9 Commercial flags except when displayed in strict accordance with this Bylaw as special event signs;
- 1.4.4.10 Roof signs, except in accordance with an approved Development Permit;
- 1.4.4.11 Neon signs; except in accordance with an approved Development Permit;
- 1.4.4.12 Internally illuminated backlit box signs, except in accordance with an approved Development Permit;
- 1.4.4.13 Channel letter signs, except in accordance with an approved Development Permit;
- 1.4.4.14 Any sign that obstructs any part of a doorway, window, or balcony, except window signs as permitted by this Bylaw;
- 1.4.4.15 Any sign that obstructs the vision of any driver turning into a street or around a street corner or obstructs the visibility of any traffic control signage;
- 1.4.4.16 Signs attached to trees or vegetation;
- 1.4.4.17 Signs attached to utility poles, except where expressly permitted

under this Bylaw;

- 1.4.4.18 Any sign located within the sight triangle of a street that blocks visibility between 1m to 2m above grade.
- 1.4.4.19 Signs placed or erected on city boulevards using wooden, metal or other types of stakes or fasteners that are inserted into the ground other than a single or double thin-gauge wire frame so as to avoid damage to any underground utilities
- 1.4.4.20 Signs attached to fences, except for the following:
 - a) Signs for home occupations that meet the requirements of Section 3.4;
 - b) No trespassing signs and directional signs;
 - c) Signs affixed to fences enclosing outdoor sports fields;
 - d) Real estate signs that meet the requirements of Section 3.2, provided the sign is on the property to which the sign pertains;
 - e) Construction signs that meet the requirements of Section 3.3;

1.5 EXEMPTIONS

This bylaw does not apply to:

- 1.5.1 Government signs erected or placed by the City for a municipal purpose.
- 1.5.2 Signs authorized by the City and situated upon city property or lands as part of a municipal service, authorized function or activity.
- 1.5.3 Temporary signs required by Provincial or Federal statute or regulation, ie. Traffic control signs, etc.
- 1.5.4 Murals.

SECTION 2 GENERAL SIGN CONDITIONS

2.1 LIMIT ON NUMBER OF SIGNS PER BUSINESS

- 2.1.1 Except where specifically provided for in this bylaw or limited by other provisions, no business shall have more than four (4) signs of a type that requires a permit as listed in Section 4 of this Bylaw.

2.1.2 Where a sign does not project over public property and can be seen only from within the boundaries of the business property, the sign shall not be included in the limitation on the number of signs in Section 2.1.1.

2.2 **SIGNS APPROVED THROUGH DEVELOPMENT PERMIT**

2.2.1 A sign permit may be waived by the City for a sign that is identified and included in a Development Permit or a Development Variance Permit, provided it complies with Section 2.3 for Sign Construction and Maintenance.

2.3 **SIGN CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE**

2.3.1 All signage shall comply with the requirements of the BC Building Code where applicable.

2.3.2 Where the Building Inspector deems it necessary, the design and construction of a sign shall be certified by a professional engineer.

2.3.3 Signs shall be securely attached to the ground or building surface upon which they are placed.

2.3.4 Where a sign is attached to a building, the portion of the building to which such sign is attached shall be structurally sound and shall be structurally adequate to support all additional loads.

2.3.5 Signs shall be anchored to prevent any lateral movement that could cause wear on supporting members or connections.

2.3.6 Signage requiring a permit may only be installed once a permit has been issued.

2.3.7 Sign owners are responsible for the proper maintenance of all their signs including maintenance of support structures, including but not limited to:

2.3.7.1 Ensuring the sign remains in good repair, is safe, is structurally sound; and

2.3.7.2 Ensuring the sign is free of all hazards caused or resulting from decay or failure of structural members, fixtures, lighting or appurtenances; and

2.3.7.3 Ensuring the sign area, background, copy, lighting and embellishments are continuously maintained in an operable, readable, neat, clean and attractive condition; and

2.3.7.4 Ensuring the site is maintained free of weeds and debris and in a clean and workmanlike condition.

2.3.8 Normal sign maintenance including cleaning, painting, changing copy within existing sized frames or replacement of existing types of light does not require

a sign permit.

2.3.9 Every electrical sign shall be approved and labelled as conforming to the Canadian Standards Association or shall conform to the Provincial Electrical Code of British Columbia.

2.4 SIGN PLACEMENT

2.4.1 Every sign, except where specifically exempted or permitted under this Bylaw, must be placed on the same property as the business to which it refers.

2.5 SIGN APPEARANCE

2.5.1 Despite signs potentially being allowed without a development permit, all signs proposed to be located within development permit areas must conform with the design guidelines for signage that would apply if a development permit *was required* in relation to the sign.

2.6 NON-CONFORMING SIGNS

2.6.1 Non-conforming non-portable permanent signs installed upon private property that were erected or displayed prior to day this bylaw came into force are allowed to be maintained insofar as cleaning, painting, changing copy within existing sized frames or replacement of existing types of light bulbs.

2.6.2 Maintenance of non-conforming signs described in Section 2.6.1 shall not include upgrading electrical components or lighting, installing additional copy area to a sign, changing the size of the sign, or replacing or repairing structural components.

2.6.3 Non-conforming signs or supporting structures described in Section 2.6.1 shall eventually deteriorate such that replacement will become necessary and at that time the property and replacement sign shall comply with requirements under this bylaw, as amended from time to time.

2.7 ADDRESS NUMBER SIGN

2.7.1 Address identification signs containing the numerals for the building or house number of a property shall be installed on every civic address with a principal building thereon within the City.

2.7.2 Address numbering signs shall not exceed 0.3m² (3.2 sq. ft) in area and the numbers and letters shall not exceed 20 cm (8") in height;

2.7.3 Address numbering should be of a significant contrasting color or shade to the background on the sign or structure to which they are applied.

2.7.4 Address numbering should be installed in a conspicuous place upon the applicable property so as to be readily visible from the fronting street of the property.

2.8 ILLUMINATION

2.8.1 Only signs under Section 4 or approved by Development Permit may be illuminated.

2.8.2 External lighting for wall signs must be directed downward and use goose neck or similar style lighting fixtures so as to prevent glare beyond the lot lines of the lot upon which the sign is located.

2.8.3 Any illuminated sign that generates radiation, electrical interference, or glare discernible beyond the lot lines of the lot upon which the sign is located, is prohibited in all zones.

2.8.4 No sign shall be permitted to have any rotating beacons or any form of flashing illumination which in the opinion of Staff resembles an emergency light or which could present a safety risk to traffic, or be disruptive to adjacent properties.

2.8.5 All illuminated signs must be designed to conceal any wiring or conduits.

SECTION 3 SIGNS NOT REQUIRING A PERMIT

3.1 PUBLIC FLAGS

3.1.1 Public flags, to a maximum of 3.0m² (32.29 sq.ft) in total area shall be permitted for any premises.

3.1.2 Public flags are permitted in all zones. A public flag shall not encroach over a street except with a minimum vertical clearance of 2.5m (8.2 ft.).

3.2 REAL ESTATE SIGNS

3.2.1 Real estate signs are permitted in all zones subject to the following regulations:

3.2.1.1 Signs advertising a commercial or multi-family property shall not exceed 3.0m² (32.29 sq. ft.) in sign area;

3.2.1.2 Signs advertising a single-family residential property shall not exceed 0.6m² (6.46 sq. ft.) in sign area;

- 3.2.1.3 Not more than two real estate signs may be placed or erected on any property;
 - 3.2.1.4 Real estate signs shall be removed within two weeks after the property to which they relate is sold, rented, leased or otherwise taken off the market.
 - 3.2.1.5 Real estate signs shall not be erected or placed on a boulevard with a developed sidewalk, except for real estate signs that use a single or double thin-gauge wire frame inserted into the ground.
- 3.2.2 An open house sign and a directional sign are permitted in all zones subject to the following:
- 3.2.2.1 One “open house” sign may be located on the property to which the sign relates;
 - 3.2.2.2 Two “open house” directional signs, placed in the ground on a boulevard in separate locations;
 - 3.2.2.3 Signs permitted under this section shall be a maximum 0.2m^2 (2.15 sq.ft.) in size;
 - 3.2.2.4 Signs permitted under this section must not be displayed except during the hours that the property to which they relate is open to the public.
 - 3.2.2.5 Signs permitted under this section shall not be erected or placed on a boulevard using anything other than a single or double thin-gauge wire frame inserted into the ground.
 - 3.2.2.6 Signs permitted under this section shall not be placed or erected upon any utility pole or traffic control sign post.

3.3 CONSTRUCTION SIGNS

- 3.3.1 Contractor signs are permitted without a permit subject to the following conditions:
- 3.3.1.1 Contractor signs of a maximum sign area of 1m^2 (10.76 sq.ft.).
 - 3.3.1.2 Contractor signs must be removed two weeks after occupancy has been granted or final inspection.
 - 3.3.1.3 Contractor signs must be removed if construction has not been active for one month.

3.3.1.4 A maximum of four (4) contractor signs may be erected on the site of a property under construction.

3.3.2 Construction hoarding signs are permitted in all zones, subject to the following conditions:

3.3.2.1 The maximum permitted area for brand representation is 3.0m² (32.29 sq. ft.).

3.3.2.2 The sign must be removed at issuance of occupancy permit.

3.4 HOME OCCUPATION SIGNS

3.4.1 One (1) home occupation sign is permitted on a premises that contains an accessory home occupation use as per the City Zoning Bylaw provided that a valid City Business Licence has been issued for the home occupation.

3.4.2 A home occupation sign must not exceed 0.3m² (3.2 sq. ft.) in sign area.

3.5 PARKING CONTROL SIGNS

3.5.1 Parking control signs are permitted in all zones in the City upon private property, subject to the following regulations:

3.5.1.1 Signs have a maximum permitted area of 0.4m² (4.30 sq. ft.);

3.5.1.2 Signs may contain third party advertising for towing control information only.

3.6 DEVELOPMENT NOTIFICATION SIGNS

3.6.1 Development signs may be a requirement for select development application processes as per the City's Development Approvals Procedures Bylaw No. 20**.

3.7 COMMUNITY SIGNS

3.7.1 Community signs are permitted in all zones, except residential.

3.7.2 Two (2) community signs are permitted per community group and are limited to:

3.7.2.1 One sign situated upon the lot the community group is located or upon public land immediately adjacent to the lot along the lot frontage, and advertising that community group; and

3.7.2.2 One sign that may be used as a community - informational sign that may be situated on a public right-of-way or boulevard and advertising directions to the community group location, and:

a) This sign may only be displayed during hours that the community group is open and present at the location directed to.

3.7.3 Community signs shall not exceed 0.6m^2 (6.46 sq.ft.) per face and the height shall not exceed 1.0m (3.2 ft.).

3.7.4 Community signs situated on any sidewalk or walkway shall only be placed in a manner that leaves a minimum 1.52m (5 feet) of clear sidewalk travel width at all times.

3.7.5 Community signs situated on any boulevard, sidewalk or walkway shall be distanced at least 1.52m (5 feet) from any other sandwich board or portable sign.

3.7.6 Community signs shall not be placed in a manner that obstructs or interferes with any vehicular traffic or parking of vehicles.

3.8 **GARAGE SALE SIGNS**

3.8.1 Garage Sale signs are allowed three (3) days before the event and may be displayed in residential zones.

3.8.2 Garage sale signs shall have the address of the garage sale indicated on such signs.

3.8.3 Garage sale signs may be attached to wooden utility poles using only staples and must have the staples removed upon the removal of the signs.

3.8.4 Garage sale signs shall not be attached to any utility poles using nails, screws, tape, plastic wrap, or any other type of fastener except staples.

3.8.5 Garage sale signs must be removed no later than 24 hours after the garage sale event and leave no trace of the sign or affixing materials.

3.8.6 Garage sale signs shall not exceed 0.6m^2 (6.46 sq.ft.) per face and the height shall not exceed 1.0m (3.2 ft.)

3.9 **WINDOW SIGNS**

3.9.1 Signs in or on store windows are permitted up to 1m^2 (10.76 sq. ft.) each.

3.9.2 Signs inside a store window are limited to providing the following information;

- 3.9.2.1 Store hours;
- 3.9.2.2 Whether the store is open or closed;
- 3.9.2.3 Products or services available within
- 3.9.2.4 The existence of a sale, where the sign is present for 30 days or less in any one six month period;
- 3.9.2.5 Window signs shall occupy no more than 50% of accumulative window area of the business frontage.

3.10 SANDWICH BOARD SIGNS

- 3.10.1 Sandwich board signs are permitted in all zones, except residential.
- 3.10.2 Sandwich board signs are not permitted as informational signs for any advertising of an accessory home occupation business.
- 3.10.3 Two (2) sandwich board signs are permitted per business, other than home occupation businesses, and are limited to:
 - 3.10.3.1 One sign situated upon the lot the business is located or upon public land immediately adjacent to the lot along the lot frontage, and advertising that business or service; and
 - 3.10.3.2 One sandwich board - informational sign that is either:
 - a) situated upon a public right-of-way or boulevard and advertising directions to that business or service; or
 - b) situated upon private property and advertising directions to that business or service.
- 3.10.4 No person shall permit, place or allow a sandwich board – informational sign upon private property without permission from the property owner.
- 3.10.5 A sandwich board sign shall not exceed 0.6m² (6.46 sq.ft.) per face and the height shall not exceed 1.0m (3.2 ft.).
- 3.10.6 Sandwich board signs situated on any sidewalk or walkway shall only be placed in a manner that leaves a minimum 1.52m (5 feet) of clear sidewalk travel width at all times.
- 3.10.7 Sandwich board signs situated on any boulevard, sidewalk or walkway shall be distanced at least 1.52m (5 feet) from any other sandwich board or portable sign.

3.10.8 Sandwich board signs shall not be placed in a manner that obstructs or interferes with any vehicular traffic or parking of vehicles.

3.11 **ELECTION SIGNS**

3.11.1 Election signs shall only be displayed in compliance with this bylaw and with the *Elections Act*.

3.11.2 Where conflicting requirements may occur with the Traffic Regulation Bylaw and this Bylaw regarding placement of Election Signs, this Bylaw shall take precedence and have priority for regulation of Election Signs.

3.11.3 Election signs shall be removed within seven (7) days following the election or referendum to which they pertain;

3.11.4 Election signs and political signs shall not be placed or erected:

3.11.4.1 in or on public property so as to interfere with pedestrian or traffic safety;

3.11.4.2 in any city park or city owned property;

3.11.4.3 on a boulevard using anything other than a single or double thin-gauge wire frame inserted into the ground so as to avoid damage to any underground utilities;

3.11.4.4 on any utility pole or traffic control sign post.

3.11.5 Political signs used during a demonstration or event upon public property shall be removed immediately following the demonstration or event.

3.12 **OTHER SIGNS**

3.12.1 Directory Signs in the form of wall-mounted actual size menu signs (provided within to customers) may be displayed on any premises containing a restaurant, whereas directory signs that exceed this size limit or placement shall conform to all remaining requirements of this bylaw.

3.12.2 A directory sign shall not exceed a sign area of 2m² and shall be erected on, and parallel to, the face of a building or structure.

3.12.3 One directory sign only is permitted in respect of each separate highway frontage of the premises to which it pertains.

SECTION 4 SIGNS REQUIRING A PERMIT

4.1 AWNINGS, CANOPIES AND SIGNS

- 4.1.1 Awning signs and canopy signs are permitted only in commercial and industrial zones.
- 4.1.2 The area covered by the lettering on any awning sign or canopy sign shall not exceed 50 percent (50%) of the total façade area of the awning to a maximum of 4m² (43.1 sq. ft.) in area.
- 4.1.3 Awning signs and/or canopy signs shall not project above or below the awning or canopy upon which the sign is defined.
- 4.1.4 The vertical clearance of any awning sign or canopy sign shall not be less than 2.25m (7.38 ft.) from the sidewalk.
- 4.1.5 Where any awning, canopy, awning sign or canopy sign hangs or projects over any public area, including a public sidewalk, lane, street, road allowance or highway, the owner of the sign shall maintain an insurance policy in the sum of no less than two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) indemnifying the City of Grand Forks against all loss, cost damage or expense incurred or sustained by or recovered against the City of Grand Forks by reason of the placement of the said awning, canopy, or sign. Proof of insurance may be required upon demand and/or through the Business Licence renewal process.

4.2 CHANGEABLE COPY SIGNS

- 4.2.1 Changeable copy signs are permitted only on commercial zoned land having frontage on Highway 3 or Market Street.
- 4.2.2 Changeable copy signs shall be incorporated into a permanent freestanding sign, monument sign, awning sign or canopy sign, except for portable changeable copy signs in accordance to Section 4.2.3.
- 4.2.3 Portable changeable copy signs are not permitted in any zone, except Community Use (CU) zones and shall be limited to one (1) sign only per site.
- 4.2.4 Changeable copy signs shall be limited in number to one on-site sign per site.
- 4.2.5 Changeable copy signs shall not have flashing lighting.
- 4.2.6 Changeable copy signs that are illuminated shall be equipped with an ambient light sensor which shall automatically adjust the brightness of the copy area based on ambient light conditions so as to comply with Section 4.2.6.
- 4.2.7 Brightness levels of changeable copy signs that are illuminated shall not exceed 0.3 foot-candles above ambient light conditions when measured from

display face at its maximum brightness.

4.2.8 Changeable copy signs shall not exceed a sign area of 3 square metres (32 sq. ft.).

4.2.9 Changeable copy signs shall not exceed 2 metres (6.56 ft.) in height.

4.2.10 Changeable copy signs shall not be permitted within the sight triangle of a street.

4.3 **FREE-STANDING SIGNS**

4.3.1 Free-standing signs are permitted in all zones except residential zones.

4.3.2 Free-standing signs shall be restricted to one (1) sign per 25,000m² (269,097.8 sq. ft.) of lot area.

4.3.3 Free-standing signs may be used to incorporate advertising for multiple businesses upon the same lot but shall not be used for third-party advertising, except when permitted as an area information sign.

4.3.4 Free-standing signs shall not exceed a height of 7.62 metres (25 ft.).

4.3.5 The maximum area of a freestanding sign shall be:

4.3.5.1 3.34m² (36 sq. ft.) in the Neighbourhood Commercial (NC) and Adaptive Use Commercial (AUC) zones;

4.3.5.2 9.29m² (100 sq. ft.) in the Highway Commercial (HC), Core Commercial (CC), Industrial, and Community Use (CU) zones;

4.3.5.3 In all other permitted zones freestanding signs shall not exceed 7m² (75.4 sq. ft.) in area.

4.3.6 Non-conforming freestanding signs located within the sight triangle of an intersection shall not contain any copy, advertising or visually obstructive material (excluding support poles) within the first 2m above grade.

4.3.7 Free-standing signs shall not be permitted within the sight triangle of a street in accordance with the City's Zoning Bylaw.

4.4 **PROJECTING AND SUSPENDED SIGNS**

4.4.1 Projecting signs and suspended signs are permitted only in commercial and industrial zones.

- 4.4.2 Projecting signs and suspended signs shall be two-sided and professionally designed.
- 4.4.3 Projecting signs and suspended signs must not be illuminated from within.
- 4.4.4 Suspended signs shall not extend beyond the front edge of the canopy or awning from which they are suspended.
- 4.4.5 Projecting signs shall not extend more than 1.2m (3.9 ft.) from the façade of the building to which they are attached.
- 4.4.6 Signs in this section are only permitted on first or second storey locations of a building.
- 4.4.7 Projecting signs and suspended signs shall maintain a height above the grade of any sidewalk of 2.25m (7.38 ft.).
- 4.4.8 Where a sign or any part thereof projects or is suspended over any public land, including a public sidewalk, lane, street, road allowance or highway, the owner of the sign shall maintain an insurance policy in the sum of no less than two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) indemnifying the City of Grand Forks against all loss, cost damage or expense incurred or sustained by or recovered against the City of Grand Forks by reason of the placement of the said sign. Proof of insurance may be required upon demand and/or through the Business Licence renewal process.

4.5 **MONUMENT SIGNS**

- 4.5.1 Monument signs are permitted in all zones except residential zones.
- 4.5.2 Monument signs shall be restricted to one (1) sign per 25,000m² (269,097.8 sq. ft.) of lot area.
- 4.5.3 Monument signs shall not exceed 3m² (32.3 sq. ft.) in area.
- 4.5.4 Monument signs shall not exceed 1.5m (4.9 ft.) in height.
- 4.5.5 Monument signs shall be located at least 1.5m (4.9 ft.) from any property line.
- 4.5.6 Monument signs shall not be permitted within the sight triangle of a street.

4.6 **WALL SIGNS**

- 4.6.1 Wall signs are permitted only in commercial and industrial zones.
- 4.6.2 The total area of all wall signs on a site shall not exceed 4m² (43.1 sq. ft.).

4.6.3 Wall signs shall not extend horizontally or vertically beyond the face of the building to which they are attached.

4.7 ANIMATED SIGN

4.7.1 Animated signs are permitted only upon Community Use (CU) and Highway Commercial (HC) zoned property fronting on Highway 3.

4.7.2 Animated signs are only permitted when incorporated into a freestanding sign or monument sign.

4.7.3 The sign copy area of an animated sign shall be a secondary component to the sign type to which it is incorporated and shall not exceed 75% of the overall sign copy area of the freestanding or monument sign.

4.7.4 Animated signs shall be limited in number to one on-site sign per site, except as menu boards for drive-thru restaurants which shall be limited to two (2).

4.7.5 Animated signs shall conform to applicable requirements for illuminated signs.

4.7.6 Animated signs shall be equipped with an ambient light sensor which shall automatically adjust the brightness of the copy area based on ambient light conditions so as to comply with Section 4.7.7.

4.7.7 Brightness levels of the Animated sign shall not exceed 0.3 foot-candles above ambient light conditions when measured from the digital or animated display face at its maximum brightness.

4.7.8 Animated signs shall not contain any third-party advertising.

4.7.9 Animated signs shall not exceed a sign area of 3 square metres (32 sq. ft.).

4.8 AREA INFORMATION SIGN

4.8.1 Area information signs are permitted in all zones, including residential zones.

4.8.2 Area information signs shall not be illuminated or contain an animated sign, in residential zones.

4.8.3 Area information signs shall not include advertising in residential zones.

4.8.4 Area information signs may include advertising in other zones but such advertising shall only refer to businesses or services within the area referenced and shall not exceed 50% of the overall sign copy area.

4.8.5 Where an Area information sign is placed on any public land, including a

public sidewalk, lane, street, road allowance or highway, the owner of the sign shall maintain an insurance policy in the sum of no less than two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) indemnifying the City of Grand Forks against all loss, cost, damage or expense incurred or sustained by or recovered against the City of Grand Forks by reason of the placement of the said sign. Proof of insurance may be required upon demand and/or through the Business Licence renewal process of any business for which the sign advertises.

4.9 SIGN PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

4.9.1 Application for a sign permit or amendments to a sign permit shall be made by the owner of the land or building to which the sign is to be anchored or by a person authorized in writing by the owner.

4.9.2 Sign Permit Fees shall be applied as outlined in the Fees & Charges Bylaw.

4.9.3 Staff are authorized to:

4.9.3.1 determine the form of an application for a sign permit.

4.9.3.2 Prescribe the form of the sign permit.

4.9.3.3 Issue, cancel, amend, or renew a sign permit.

4.9.3.4 Staff are authorized to refuse to issue, amend, or renew a sign permit where:

- a) Information, as submitted in a permit, would lead to the erection or alteration of a sign contrary to provisions of this bylaw;
- b) Information required to be submitted under this bylaw is incomplete or incorrect;
- c) Issuance is prohibited by, or does not comply with, provisions of a City bylaw or other Provincial or Federal statute or regulation;
- d) The applicant fails to carry out or cause to be carried out a technical review of the building or structure to which the sign is to be attached, and any information regarding its structure, to determine the capacity to support the proposed sign;
- e) The application fails to provide drawings and specifications prepared by a registered professional engineer as to the construction and installation of the proposed sign and identifying a professional engineer to supervise that work;
- f) The applicant fails to provide additional or alternative information as may be reasonable necessary;

- g) The proposed copy or graphics of the sign would be reasonably considered offensive to the general public;
- h) The applicant fails to pay the prescribed fees as applied to the permit application.

SECTION 5 TEMPORARY SIGNS

5.1 GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR TEMPORARY SIGNS

- 5.1.1 Temporary signs outlined in Section 5 do not require a permit.
- 5.1.2 Temporary signs, other than Garage Sale Signs, are prohibited in residential zones.
- 5.1.3 No person shall place or erect any temporary sign on public lands, road or in a park without prior written authorization from the City.
- 5.1.4 If the owner or entity affiliated with a temporary sign does not remove the sign from public or private property at the expiration of the allowable period for display, the City may remove the sign at the owners expense.

5.2 NEW BUSINESS SIGNS

- 5.2.1 New business signs are permitted in commercial and industrial zones.
- 5.2.2 A new business sign may be displayed for up to one month only.
- 5.2.3 New businesses signs must not exceed 2 m² (21.3 sq. ft.) in area.

5.3 SEASONAL MARKET SIGNS

- 5.3.1 Seasonal market signs are permitted in all commercial zones.
- 5.3.2 Seasonal market signs shall not exceed 0.6m² per face and the height shall not exceed 1.0m per sign.
- 5.3.3 A maximum of four (4) seasonal market signs may be placed off-site.
- 5.3.4 Other signs on-site at a seasonal market may be temporarily displayed but shall:
 - a) not exceed 0.6m² per sign face; and
 - b) be immediately removed within two (2) hours of market closure each

day; and

- c) be immediately removed, when directed by Staff, where placed upon public lands, structures, or fixtures without authorization.

5.3.5 Seasonal market signs may only be displayed twelve (12) hours in advance of market opening hours and must be removed within two (2) hours of market closure each day.

5.4 **MOBILE VENDOR SIGNS**

5.4.1 Mobile vendor signs are permitted in all zones except residential zones.

5.4.2 Mobile vendor signs are only permitted to be displayed by a mobile vendor business with a valid City Business License.

5.4.3 Mobile vendor signs shall not exceed 0.6m² per face and the height shall not exceed 1.0m per sign.

5.4.4 A maximum of three (3) mobile vendor signs may be displayed, subject to the following conditions:

- a) One sign on site with the mobile vendor or on the boulevard fronting the lot the mobile vendor is occupying; and
- b) One sign (two signs total) in either direction and situated on the same boulevard, street or highway that the mobile vendor is operating; and
- c) Signs shall not be set up earlier than twelve (12) hours prior to the opening of the mobile vendor.
- d) Signs shall be removed within two (2) hours of the mobile vendor closure each day; and
- e) Signs shall not be displayed on a boulevard frontage of any business offering a similar product as the mobile vendor.

5.5 **SPECIAL EVENT SIGNS**

5.5.1 Special event signs are authorized in all zones.

5.5.2 Special event signs must not exceed 2 m² (12.91 sq.ft.) overall sign copy area or 1 m² per face on a double sided sign

5.5.3 Special event signs may only be displayed for ten (10) days before the event advertised

- 5.5.4 Special Event signs must be removed within twenty-four (24) hours of the conclusion of the special event.
- 5.5.5 A maximum of four (4) special event signs may be placed in the City for an event.

SECTION 6 PENALTY AND ENACTMENT

6.1 PENALTY

- 6.1.1 Every person who violates a provision of this bylaw, or who suffers or permits an act or thing to be done in violation of any provision of this bylaw, or who neglects to do or refrains from doing anything required to be done by any provision of this bylaw, commits an offence.
- 6.1.2 Each day a violation continues or is allowed to continue constitutes a separate and distinct offence.
- 6.1.3 Every person who commits an offence under this bylaw is liable on summary conviction to a fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$10,000, pursuant to the Community Charter and the Offence Act.
- 6.1.4 In addition to any penalty issued for a violation of this bylaw, the City shall be entitled to compensation for the costs of prosecution or any other legal remedy, pursuant to the Community Charter.

6.2 ENFORCEMENT

- 6.2.1 Any person designated as a Bylaw Enforcement Officer pursuant to the Municipal Ticket Information Bylaw is hereby authorized and empowered to enforce the provisions of this Bylaw.
- 6.2.2 Staff may enter any premises or property at all reasonable hours in order to inspect any sign installation located therein to ascertain whether the provisions of this bylaw have been complied with.
- 6.2.3 No person shall interfere with or obstruct Staff or a Bylaw Enforcement Officer seeking entry into or onto any premises for the purpose described in Section 6.2.2.
- 6.2.4 This bylaw may be enforced by means of Municipal Ticket Information, prosecution, injunction, direct enforcement or any other legal remedy available to the City.
- 6.2.5 Sign placed or erected upon public or city lands in contravention of this bylaw

may be removed without notice and impounded.

6.2.6 If signs are seized under this bylaw, the signs will be stored for a minimum period of thirty (30) days, afterwhich they will be deemed unclaimed and the property of the city and shall be disposed of without further notice.

6.3 SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this Bylaw are intended to be severable. If any provision is for any reason held to be invalid by a decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this Bylaw.

6.4 ENACTMENT

READ a first time this the	th	day of	20
READ a second time as amended this the	th	day of	20
READ a third time this the	th	day of	20
ADOPTED this the	th	day of	20