

**TOWN OF CLARESHOLM
PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
BYLAW # 1324**

A Bylaw of the Town of Claresholm to regulate the construction, repair and installation of awnings and signs within the Town of Claresholm.

NOW THEREFORE the Town of Claresholm duly assembled enacts as follows:

1. Title - This Bylaw shall be known as the Town of Claresholm's awning and sign Bylaw.
2. **Definitions**
 - a) All definitions contained in the Alberta Uniform Building Standards Act and those parts of the National Building Code of Canada shall apply to this Bylaw.
 - b) **Approved Combustible Materials** - Means wood or material not more combustible than wood and approved combustible plastics or the materials approved by the Town's Building Inspector.
 - c) **Approved Combustible Plastics** - Means only those materials which when tested in accordance with the standard methods for testing for flammability of plastics over 0.127 cm thickness burns no faster than 6.35 cm per minute in sheets of 0.1524 cm thickness.
 - d) **Awning** - Means a fixed, folding or collapsible covering supported by a frame extending outward from a building to provide shelter from sun or rain.
 - e) **Combination Sign** - Means any sign which combines the characteristics of two or more types of signs including roof projecting and ground projecting signs.
 - f) **Council** - Means Council of the Town of Claresholm.
 - g) **C.S.A.** - means the Canadian Standards Association.
 - h) **Display Surface** - Means the entire area within a single continuous perimeter enclosing the extreme limits of a sign and in no case passing through or between any adjacent elements of same. however, such perimeter shall not include any structural elements lying outside the limits of such sign and not forming an integral part of the display.
 - i) **Electrical Sign** - Means any sign which has characters, letters, figures, designs, faces, backgrounds or outlines, illuminated by incandescent or fluorescent lamps or luminous tubes as part of the sign proper. These light sources being either external or internal.
 - j) **Footing** - Means that part of a foundation, which is provided to distribute loads to the bearing material or to the piles.
 - k) **Ground Signs** - Means a sign which is supported by one or more poles, uprights or braces, in or upon the ground, which are not part of a building other than poles or pylon signs.
 - l) **Lot Line** - Means the divisional line between any two or more lots or between any lot and a lane, and shall include any line bounding the lot other than a street line.

- m) **Marquee or Canopy** - Means a solid projection extending horizontally from the face of a building between the first and second story thereof, over a niche or entrance.
 - n) **Overhanging** - Means that which projects over any part of any street, lane or other Town property.
 - o) **Parapet** - means a low retaining wall at the edge of a roof, porch or terrace.
 - p) **Projection** - Means the distance by which a sign extends over public property or beyond the property line.
 - q) **Projecting Sign** - Means a sign other than a wall sign suspended from or supported by a building or steel column and projecting out therefrom.
 - r) **Pylon or Pole Sign** - Means a sign supported by or suspended from a free standing column or columns of structural steel, pipe or poles.
 - s) **Roof Sign** - Means a sign erected upon or above a roof or parapet of a building.
 - t) **Sign** - Means every sign, ground sign, wall sign, roof sign, illuminated sign, projecting sign, temporary sign, pylon or pole sign and clock, and shall include any announcement, declaration, demonstration, display, illustration or insignia, used to advertise or promote the interests of any person when the same is placed out of doors in view of the general public.
 - u) **Skeleton Parapet Sign** - Means individual letters mounted on a parapet wall.
 - v) **Street Line** - Means the divisional line between a lot and a street.
 - w) **Structure** - Means supports, uprights, bracing and framework for the sign or outdoor display.
 - x) **Structural Trim** - Means the molding battens, cappings, nailing strips, latticing, platforms and letters, figures, characters or representations in cut out or irregular form, which are attached to a sign structure.
 - y) **Wall Sign** - Means a sign attached to or erected against the wall of a building with the exposed face of the sign in a plane approximately parallel to the plane of the said wall.
 - z) **Yard** - means an open space located on the same lot as the building which it serves unoccupied from the ground to the sky or from an intermediate floor to the sky and which extends along the entire length of the lot line or street line.
3. **Enforcement** - The Building Inspector or his designate or any other person appointed by Council shall be authorized to enforce all provisions of this Bylaw.
 4. No person shall erect or repair any awning, sign, marquee or canopy which projects over Town property without first securing a permit to do so except in the case of emergency situations where life or property is endangered or where the Building Inspector determines there is no change to the existing design.
 5. All awnings, signs, marquees and canopies projecting over or hanging over public property which are presently in existence shall be placed so as not to obstruct the free and uninterrupted use of the sidewalks and streets. In the event that the existing sign does not meet the standards as set out in Sections 10 and 11 the Council or its representative may order the sign to be removed and assess the cost of removal to the owner and any person obstructing or impeding the authority of the Town shall be subject to the penalties of this bylaw.

6. All signs, awnings, marquees, and canopies shall be designed and constructed to withstand wind pressure of not less than that required for buildings or other structures and shall be designed in accordance with good engineering practices and plans of the same must meet the approval of the Building Inspector.
7. All signs, awnings, marquees, and canopies shall be well maintained in both structure and appearance.
8. If the Council by resolution requires a sign, awning, marquee or canopy any part of which extends over a street to be removed, the owner of the building to which the sign, awning, marquee or canopy is attached shall cause the same to be removed within thirty (30) days of the delivery of the notice to that effect or the mailing of such notice to the last address of the owner as it appears on the assessment roll.
9. No person shall erect a sign, awning, marquee or canopy any part of which is erected, constructed or maintained so as to obstruct any fire escape, window, door or other opening so as to prevent free passage from one part of a roof or any other part thereof. A sign, awning, marquee or canopy shall not be attached in any form, shape or manner to a fire escape nor shall it be placed so as to interfere with an opening which is required for legal ventilation.
10. **Signs, Canopies and Marquees- Permitted:**
 - a) Those signs , canopies and marquees meeting the following criteria shall be permitted and the Building Inspector shall be authorized to approve:
 - 1) Signs, canopies and marquees that do not extend more than 0.3 m from the building and are erected parallel with the building. This 0.3 m projection may be over Town property provided it does not obstruct the free and uninterrupted use of the sidewalks and street.
 - 2) Signs, canopies and marquees that are placed so that the lowest point is no less than 2.8 m above the surface of the street, sidewalk or other place beneath and not less than 4.8 m above the grade line of an alley and not more than 0.9 m above the parapet wall of roof level.
 - i) Where signs are flush and do not project more than 38 mm from the face of the building then no height restriction is required.
 - 3) Signs, canopies and marquees that are erected within the setbacks required in the Town of Claresholm's Zoning Bylaw.
 - 4) Flashing signs which are located no closer than 23 m to any dwelling in a residential district if the lights are visible from such house.
 - 5) Flashing signs, revolving beacons, stationary lights, or coloured signs placed at a location which do not obscure or cause confusion with traffic lights or traffic signs or do not endanger the progress of traffic through streets or lanes of the Town.
 - 6) Roof signs not exceeding 2 m in height.
 - b) Non-structural trim may be of metal or wood or of approved combustible plastics or any combination thereof. Facing, letters, and decorations on all types of signs other than electrical signs may be made of wood.

- c) Wall signs may be made of approved combustible material or approved combustible plastics or any combination thereof.
- d) Pylons or Pole signs including all uprights, braces, supports thereof shall be constructed of non-combustible material provided however, that facings, letters, figures, decorations and structural trim thereof may be made of approved combustible materials.
- e) Wall signs shall be securely fastened to a masonry wall by means of anchors, bolts, expansion screws or similar connectors. A wall sign which is attached to a wall of wood may be anchored with blocks used in conjunction with screws and nails. A wall sign shall not be supported by an unbraced parapet wall.
- f) Illuminated wall signs shall be constructed of non-combustible material provided however, that facings, letters, figures, decorations, and structural trim thereof may be made of approved combustible plastics. Internally illuminated signs shall be located within the traditional sign band area of the building and shall not project over the storefront piers. The background of internally illuminated signs shall be darker than the logo on letters identifying the business. Maximum vertical height shall be 20".
- g) All signs shall be securely fastened to the structure to which they are attached.

11. **Awnings, Overhanging Signs**

Permission to erect an awning or overhanging sign may be granted by the Building Inspector provided the Building Inspector is satisfied the overhanging sign or awning meets all structural requirements and provided that adequate notice is provided to adjacent owners. If in the opinion of the Building Inspector opposition to the erection of the overhanging sign or awning is received then the Building Inspector shall immediately deny the request for the permit and appeal thereof can be made to the Development Appeal Board.

a) Awnings - Shall meet the following criteria:

- 1) Placed so that the lowest point is not less than 2.33 m above the surface of the street, sidewalk or place beneath.
- 2) Placed no further than 0.45 m to the edge of the sidewalk or curb.
- 3) All applications for awnings shall include engineering details as to load capacities and support criteria for the anchoring of the awning to the building complete with certification by a qualified engineer.
- 4) An agreement in the form attached and noted as Schedule "A" shall be signed by the owner of a building on which an awning is to be attached and shall form part of the permit.

b) Overhanging signs- Shall meet the following criteria:

- 1) Extends not more than 1.5 m from the building. This 1.5 m projection may be over Town property provided it does not obstruct the free and uninterrupted use of the sidewalks and streets.
- 2) The display surface is no larger than .56 square m
- 3) Sign if illuminated shall be lit from an external source.
- 4) Signs may be made of metal or wood or of approved combustible plastics or any combination thereof.

5) An agreement in the form attached and noted as Schedule "A" shall be signed by the owner of a building on which a overhanging sign is to be attached and shall form part of the permit.

12. Fees and Penalties

a) The fee payable for sign permit shall be a minimum of \$30 plus \$5 for each \$1000 of total valuation or fraction thereof.

b) Every person committing a breach of this bylaw shall on summary conviction be liable to a minimum fine of \$500 and to a maximum fine of not more than \$2500 exclusive of costs and upon default of payment may be committed to a Provincial goal for a term of exceeding 30 days.

13. This bylaw shall take effect on the final day of passage.

14. Bylaw # 1311 and any amendments are hereby repealed.

READ a first time in Council this day of , 1992 A.D.

READ a second time in Council this day of , 1992 A.D.

READ a third time in Council and finally passed this day of , 1992 A.D.

Larry Flexhaug, Secretary-Treasurer

E. R. Patterson, Mayor