

Inter-Community Business Licence Program

At the August 19, 2013, meeting, Council approved, in principal, the Inter-Community Business Licence program, created to make obtaining a business licence easier and more cost effective for businesses that do work, conduct business or provide services in central Vancouver Island communities where business licences are required.

Currently, businesses are required to attend each separate community in which they conduct business and obtain a separate business licence. If adopted, an inter-community business licence program would require a mobile business to continue to purchase a business licence, as is the current practice, in their principal community (the community where they have a storefront or physical location) and at their option, also purchase an inter-community business licence from their principal community that would authorize them to operate in any of the participating communities as listed in the bylaw.

In the Regional District of Nanaimo, such a program would mean that a business that currently requires three licences; one each for the City of Parksville, Town of Qualicum Beach and the City of Nanaimo, would need only two - a regular business licence from their principal community and an inter-community business licence also purchased from their principal community that allows them to operate in the other two communities as well as all other participating central Vancouver Island communities.

The fee for an inter-community business licence will be \$150 and would be paid in full at the time of application and retained by the participating municipality that issues the licence. The fee for an Inter-Community Business licence will be separate and additional to any municipal business licence fee that may be required.

Representations regarding the proposed inter-community business licence bylaw may be made in writing, via email or as a delegation before Council at the open Council meeting to be held on Monday, October 7 at 6 pm in the Forum at Parksville Civic and Technology Center, 100 Jensen Avenue East.

Persons wishing to make representation in writing must have their submission received at the City of Parksville, administration department by 4 pm on Wednesday, October 2 and persons wishing to appear as a delegation before Council must submit their application by noon on Wednesday, October 2.

A copy of the proposed bylaw may be viewed on the City's website <http://www.parksville.ca/cms.asp?wpID=477> or in person at the City's administration department, Monday through Friday from 8 am to noon and from 1 pm to 4 pm. For further information please contact 250 954-3070.

For more information:

Debbie Comis, Director of Administrative Services

250 954-3068

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

A mobile business is defined as a business that performs a service in more than one community by moving from client to client rather than having a client come to a fixed place of business. Such a business may or may not have a storefront or physical location in a community. This includes but is not limited to trades, plumbers, electricians, cleaning services, pest control or other similar businesses. A mobile business does not include businesses selling goods or services from fixed or semi fixed locations where customers come to them. Examples of excluded businesses include fruit stands, roadside vehicle vendors, mobile stores, flea markets, concession stands and trade shows. Businesses that are not mobile businesses or are not eligible for an inter-community business licence must obtain a separate business licence from each community in which they do business.

An inter-community business licence is valid for the same term as the normal business licence issued by the community from which the inter-community business licence is purchased. A business holding an inter-community business licence must comply with all of the bylaws and regulation of each community in which they operate.