

# RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF VANSCOY NO. 345

## BYLAW NO. 12-2023

### THE NOISE BYLAW

The Council of the Rural Municipality of Vanscoy No. 345, in the Province of Saskatchewan, enacts as follows:

#### Short Title

1. This Bylaw may be cited as The Noise Bylaw

#### Purpose

2. This Bylaw is enacted to protect, preserve and promote the safety, health, welfare, peace and quiet of the citizens of The Rural Municipality of Vanscoy No. 345 through the reduction, control, and prevention of loud and excessive noise, or any noise which unreasonably disturbs, injures, or endangers the comfort, repose, health, peace or safety of reasonable persons of ordinary sensitivity.

#### Definitions

3. In this Bylaw:
  - (a) "Agricultural Operation" means a system of tillage and animal husbandry through which one may gain livelihood by the raising of crops or the rearing of livestock as established by the Zoning Bylaw;
  - (b) "Enforcement Officer" means the Municipal Administrator (or designate) and any other person who may be appointed in writing by the Municipal Administrator (or designate) and/or Bylaw of Council to enforce the Bylaws of the Municipality, including without limiting the foregoing, any member of the Vanscoy Police Service.
  - (c) "Engine Brake" means a device commonly used in a Truck, Power Unit or Semi-Trailer unit to slow or brake the vehicle by means of closing the exhaust valves on the engine of the vehicle, or any similar device;
  - (d) "Industrial District" means:
    - (i) Pursuant to the Zoning Bylaw of the Municipality:
      - (A) A Rural Industrial District (M);
  - (e) "Motor Vehicle" means a motor vehicle within the meaning of *The Traffic Safety Act*;
  - (f) "Municipal Administrator" means the Administrator (or designate) of the Rural Municipality of Vanscoy No. 345;
  - (g) "Municipality" means The Rural Municipality of Vanscoy No. 345;
  - (h) "Outdoor Public Event" means an outdoor concert, sporting event, festival, attraction or similar event, whether held on private or public property, to which the public-at-large is invited or admitted, with or without charge;

- (i) "Power Unit" means a power unit within the meaning of *The Traffic Safety Act*;
- (j) "Residential District" means:
  - (i) Pursuant to the Zoning Bylaw of the Municipality:
    - (A) An Agricultural Residential District (AR);
    - (B) A Country Residential 1 District (CR-1);
    - (C) A Country Residential 2 District (CR-2);
    - (D) A Hamlet District (H)
- (k) "Semi-Trailer" means a semi-trailer within the meaning of *The Traffic Safety Act*;
- (l) "Truck" means a truck within the meaning of *The Traffic Safety Act*;
- (m) "Zoning Bylaw" means whichever of the:
  - (i) Zoning Bylaw No. 03/18 of the Municipality;
 as shall be applicable to the location at which a sound shall originate within the Municipality, and shall include all amendments and replacements thereof.

**Scope**

- 4. This Bylaw applies to the control of all sound originating within the jurisdictional limits of the Municipality.

**General Prohibition**

- 5.
  - (1) No person shall make, continue, or cause to be made or continued, or suffer or permit to be made or continued:
    - (a) Any unreasonably loud or excessive noise; or
    - (b) Any noise which is likely to unreasonably disturb, injure or endanger the comfort, repose, health, peace or safety of reasonable persons in the vicinity.
  - (2) Factors for determining whether a sound is unreasonably loud or excessive include, but are not limited to, the following:
    - (a) the proximity of the sound to sleeping facilities, whether residential or commercial;
    - (b) the land use, nature and zoning of the area from which the sound emanates and the area where it is received or perceived;
    - (c) the time of day or night the sound occurs;
    - (d) the duration of the sound;
    - (e) the volume of the sound;
    - (f) the nature of the sound;
    - (g) whether the sound is recurrent, intermittent or constant; and
    - (h) the nature of the event or activity from which the sound emanates.
  - (3) In the absence of other evidence, or by way of corroboration of other evidence, a justice or court may infer from the evidence of an Enforcement Officer relating to a noise, including, but not being limited to evidence concerning the factors referenced in subsection (2) hereof that a noise is:
    - (a) Unreasonably loud or excessive; and/or

- (b) Likely to unreasonably disturb, injure or endanger the comfort, repose, health, peace or safety of reasonable persons in the vicinity
6. Whether or not an activity referred to in Section 11 of this Bylaw “necessarily” involves the creation of noise, and whether or not the Person controlling the said activity has taken “all the reasonable steps” to minimize such noise are questions of fact to be determined by a Court hearing a prosecution pursuant to this Bylaw.

### **Specific Prohibitions**

7. The following acts are deemed to be violations of this Bylaw per se and are prohibited. This enumeration does not constitute an exclusive list:
- (a) **Idling Trucks:** No person shall cause or permit the idling of any Truck or Power Unit or the operation of any motor, “reefer” or similar device on a Semi-Trailer for more than twenty (20) minutes within the boundaries of a Residential District.
  - (b) **Engine Brakes:** No person shall cause or permit the use of an Engine Brake on any Motor Vehicle driven within the Municipality, except in case of emergency.
  - (c) **Air Horns:** No person shall cause or permit the use of an air horn on any Motor Vehicle within the Municipality, except in cases of emergency.
  - (d) **Outdoor Public Events:** No person shall cause or permit the use or operation of a loudspeaker, amplifier, public address system radio, “boombox”, “ghetto blaster”, stereo, musical instrument or similar device that produces, reproduces or amplifies sound at an Outdoor Public Event, other than during the following hours:
    - (i) on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.;
    - (ii) on a Friday or Saturday, between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.; and
    - (iii) on a Sunday or statutory holiday, between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

### **Exemptions**

8. Sounds caused by the following are exempt from the prohibitions set out in this Bylaw, but are subject to the provisions of Sections 11 and 12 hereof:
- (a) The performance of work by any person directly associated with an Agricultural Operation for the purpose of carrying on all activities normally associated with a farming operation including the operation of farming implements;
  - (b) Work carried on by the Municipality or its agents, contractors, servants or employees, acting within the scope of their agency, contract, or employment, as the case may be;
  - (c) Except as provided in Section 9 of this bylaw, the performance of work by any person in an Industrial District if:
    - (i) The noise is generated pursuant to work performed in the normal and usual manner to that end; and
    - (ii) The work is authorized pursuant to the Zoning Bylaw, and does not otherwise contravene any federal, provincial or municipal law or regulation.

- (d) Persons using domestic equipment including, without restricting the generality of the foregoing, lawnmowers, snow blowers, garden tillers and other landscaping equipment, and persons owning or controlling property upon which such equipment is used if:
    - (i) The noise is of a temporary or intermittent nature;
    - (ii) The equipment is properly maintained and operated in a normal manner for that type of equipment; and
    - (iii) The noise occurs between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.
  - (e) Persons using air conditioning and cooling units in either domestic or commercial use if the units are properly maintained and are operated in a normal manner.
9. Sounds caused by the permitted uses set forth in Schedule "A" are exempt from the prohibitions set forth in this Bylaw, provided that they occur during the permitted times set forth in that Schedule. Such sounds are subject to the provisions of Sections 11 and 12 hereof.

**Special Event Permits**

- 10.
- (1) Any person may apply to the Municipal Administrator (or designate) for an exemption to any provision of this Bylaw with respect to any noise to allow such person to emit, cause or permit such noise for the period of time set out in such application.
  - (2) Every person applying for an exemption shall, at least 15 business days prior to the date for which the exemption is sought (or in the case of an application for several days, the first such date), provide to the Municipal Administrator (or designate) a complete and accurate application in the form provided by the Municipality, setting out the particulars respecting the exemption requested.
  - (3) Upon receipt of an application, the Municipal Administrator (or designate) shall:
    - (a) evaluate the application having due regard to the following criteria:
      - (i) The criteria set out in subsection 5(2);
      - (ii) The nature of the activity or event, including but not being limited to:
        - (A) Whether the activity or event is related to a significant event for the applicant or the applicant's family such as a wedding, or significant anniversary (such as a 25th, 50th or 60th wedding anniversary);
        - (B) Whether the activity or event is for the benefit of the public or in the public interest;
        - (C) The date or dates of the activity or event;
        - (D) The times of the activity or event;
        - (E) The nature of the noise likely to be associated with the activity or event; and
        - (F) The mitigation measures proposed by the applicant.
      - (iii) The efforts made by the applicant to inform residents and businesses likely to be affected by the noise of the application, and to obtain and accommodate their questions and concerns;

- (iv) The arrangements made by the applicant to monitor noise during the event and to take steps to mitigate noise and its effects during the event and activity;
  - (v) The number of previous exemptions granted to the applicant; and
  - (vi) Whether any previous exemptions granted to the applicant, or granted in relation to the proposed location, activity or event have given rise to complication or negative outcomes.
- (b) Where the Municipal Administrator (or designate) is of the opinion that granting of an exemption is not appropriate, deny the exemption.
  - (c) Where the Municipal Administrator (or designate) is of the opinion that granting of an exemption is appropriate, grant the exemption, or grant an alternative exemption.
  - (d) Where the Municipal Administrator (or designate) is of the opinion that the matter is one which is more appropriately dealt with by Council, refer the matter to the next Council meeting for a determination. Council shall thereafter, with due regard to the criteria set forth in subsection (a) above, deny the exemption, grant the exemption or grant an alternative exemption.
- (4) The Municipal Administrator (or designate) (or Council where the determination has been referred to it by the Municipal Administrator) may impose terms and conditions upon any exemption.
  - (5) The grant or denial of a permit, and the imposition of terms and conditions by the Municipal Administrator (or designate) or by Council is wholly discretionary and is not subject to review or appeal.
  - (6) Where an exemption is granted, the Municipal Administrator (or designate) shall issue a Special Event Permit setting forth the details and the terms and conditions of the exemption, in the form provided by the Municipality.
  - (7) Where an exemption is granted by the Municipal Administrator (or designate) or by resolution of Council, the exemption shall render any and all provisions of this Bylaw referenced therein inapplicable and shall, except where the permit is rendered null and void by breach, exempt the person or persons from prosecution under this Bylaw.
  - (8) The breach of any of the terms or conditions of the exemption shall render the exemption null and void.

### **Duty to Mitigate**

- 11. Where a use of land or activity otherwise lawfully permitted at a location within the Municipality necessarily involves the creation of noise, as defined by this Bylaw, the Person owning, operating, or controlling the activity; or the Person owning or controlling the property upon or within which the activity is allowed to take place shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that the noise created by the said activity is minimized as much as practicable, in all circumstances.

12. An Enforcement Officer may direct any Person who has caused or made a noise, or any Person who owns property from which noise has originated, to abate or eliminate the noise. Such a direction may be either verbal or written.

**Liability of Property Owner / Person in Lawful Possession of Property**

- 13.
- (1) If a property is involved in the commission of an offence pursuant to this bylaw, the owner of the property is liable for the offence unless they can demonstrate that the property was lawfully rented or leased to another party for a term greater than 90 days
  - (2) If it is demonstrated that a property has been lawfully rented or leased to another party for a term greater than 90 days, the person to whom it has been rented or leased shall be deemed as the person in lawful possession of the property, and is liable to an offence under this bylaw which has been committed in relation to the said property.
  - (3) Where a property is owned by a corporation, or rented or leased by a corporation for a period greater than 90 days, the corporation shall be liable for any offences committed in relation to the said property

**Offences and Penalties**

- 14.
- (1) Every person who contravenes any provision of this Bylaw is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to:
    - (a) A minimum of Two Hundred and Fifty (\$250.00) for a first offence; and
    - (b) A minimum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), for a second or subsequent offence.
  - (2) Upon receipt of a notice of violation, full payment must be received by the Municipality within Fourteen (14) days from the date of the notice.

**Severability**

15. A determination of invalidity or unconstitutionality by a court of competent jurisdiction of any provision of this Bylaw shall not affect the validity of the remaining parts of this Bylaw.

**Schedules Form Part of Bylaw**

16. Schedule "A" attached hereto form part of this Bylaw.

**Repeal Previous Bylaw**

17. Bylaw 04-2021 is hereby repealed.

**Coming Into Force**

18. This Bylaw shall come into force the day of final passing.

[SEAL]

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Reeve

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Administrator

**Schedule A**  
**BYLAW 12-2023**  
**THE NOISE BYLAW**

**Hours During Which Noise Associated with Permitted Uses is Permitted**

<b>Land Use/Activity</b>	<b>Weekdays</b>	<b>Weekends/Statutory Holidays</b>
<b>Mineral Resource Extraction and Storage</b> – includes all activities associated, including processing and hauling.	7 a.m. till 10 p.m. Monday - Saturday	10 a.m. – 8 p.m. Sundays/Stat Holidays
<b>Commercial Recreation</b> – including but not limited to drag strips, motor speedways and paintball operations and associated activities.	8 a.m. till 10 p.m. Monday - Saturday	8 a.m. till 6 p.m. Sundays/Stat Holidays
<b>Clean Fill Operations</b> – includes all activities associated.	7 a.m. – 10 p.m. Monday - Saturday	10 a.m. -8 p.m. Sundays/Stat Holidays