



**CITY OF EDMONTON**

**BYLAW 19166**

**ELECTRONIC DANCE MUSIC EVENT BYLAW**

**(CONSOLIDATED ON JANUARY 17, 2022)**

**THE CITY OF EDMONTON**  
**BYLAW 19166**  
**ELECTRONIC DANCE MUSIC EVENT BYLAW**

Edmonton City Council enacts:

**PART I - GENERAL**

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|--------------------|---|---|
| <b>PURPOSE</b>     | 1 | The purpose of this bylaw is to regulate electronic dance music events in the City.   |
| <b>DEFINITIONS</b> | 2 | <p>(1) Unless otherwise specified, words used in this bylaw have the same meaning as defined in the <i>Municipal Government Act</i>, RSA 2000, c M-26.</p> <p>(2) In this bylaw:</p> <p>(a) <b>“bylaw enforcement officer”</b> means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(i) a bylaw enforcement officer appointed pursuant to the Enforcement Bylaw, Bylaw 16368;</li><li>(ii) a peace officer, as defined in the <i>Peace Officer Act</i>, RSA 2000, c P 3.5; or</li><li>(iii) a police officer, as defined in the <i>Police Act</i>, RSA 2000, c P-17;</li></ul> <p>(b) <b>“City”</b> means The City of Edmonton;</p> <p>(c) <b>“City Manager”</b> means the City’s chief administrative officer or delegate;</p> <p>(d) <b>“electronic dance music event”</b> means an event:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(i) for which tickets are sold, or offered for sale;</li><li>(ii) with an anticipated attendance of 1,500 persons or more;</li><li>(iii) that is scheduled, or actually operates, for a minimum of four consecutive hours in a single day or over multiple days; and</li></ul> |

(iv) that primarily features the continuous performance of electronic or synthesized music, whether performed live or played from a recording,

and includes an event referred to or advertised as a rave; and

(e) “**violation ticket**” has the same meaning as defined in the Enforcement Bylaw, Bylaw 16368.

**RULES FOR INTERPRETATION**

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The marginal notes and headings in this bylaw are for ease of reference only.

**PART II - EVENT PERMITS**

**PERMIT REQUIRED**

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No person shall operate, advertise, sell tickets for, or provide goods, services, or support for an electronic dance music event unless a valid permit has been issued for that event.

**PERMIT APPLICATION**

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A person applying for a permit must, at least 45 days prior to the date of the proposed electronic dance music event, provide all of the following, in a form satisfactory to the City Manager:

- (a) a completed application form;
- (b) the applicable fee, in the amount of \$1,000;
- (c) proof of a valid Event Production licence issued pursuant to the City’s Business Licence Bylaw, Bylaw 20002; (81-6, Bylaw 20002, January 17, 2022)
- (d) the proposed operational details of the event, including the days and hours of operation, anticipated attendance, venue, and performers;
- (e) a medical plan;
- (f) a safety and security plan;
- (g) a patron welfare plan;

- (h) a noise control plan; and
  - (i) any other information reasonably required by the City Manager to process the application.
- CONSULTATIONS**      6      The City Manager may, prior to issuing a permit for an electronic dance music event, consult with any regulatory authority, including any or all of the following:
- (a) Edmonton Police Service;
  - (b) Alberta Health Services;
  - (c) Alberta Gaming, Liquor & Cannabis Commission.
- EVENT DEPOSIT**      7      (1) A person who is issued a permit for an electronic dance music event must, at least 14 days prior to the start of the event, submit, in the form of a certified cheque or electronic funds transfer, a deposit in an amount determined by the City Manager to offset potential costs of services to be provided by the City or other regulatory agencies as a result of the event.
- (2) The amount of the deposit required by this section cannot exceed \$50,000.
- (3) If the event deposit required by this section is not received by the City Manager at least 14 days prior to the start of the electronic dance music event, the permit for that event is deemed to be immediately cancelled without prior notice to the permit holder.
- (4) Within 21 days after the end of an electronic dance music event for which an event deposit has been submitted, the City Manager must return any unused portions of the event deposit to the permit holder, without interest, along with a written accounting of any deductions made.
- NON-TRANSFERABLE**      8      A permit issued pursuant to this bylaw is valid only for the electronic dance music event for which it is issued, confers no property rights upon the holder, and may not be sold, assigned, leased, transferred, or otherwise disposed of except as permitted by the City Manager or in accordance with this bylaw.
- EVENT CONDITIONS**      9      A person that holds an electronic dance music event permit must:
- (a) comply with the

- (i) medical plan,
- (ii) safety and security plan,
- (iii) patron welfare plan, and
- (iv) noise control plan

accepted by the City Manager as part of the permit application;

- (b) provide attendees with unrestricted access to fresh water at no charge;
- (c) provide attendees with unrestricted access to an area within the venue where noise, light, temperature, crowding, and other stimuli are reduced;
- (d) refuse entry to, or remove from, the event any person that appears intoxicated or impaired by any substance;
- (e) refuse entry to, or remove from, the event any person whose behaviour becomes quarrelsome, riotous, or disorderly, or otherwise disrupts the event or interferes with the safe enjoyment of the event by other patrons;
- (f) report any illegal activities that occur, or are suspected to have occurred, during the event to the appropriate regulatory authority;
- (g) provide a dedicated space within the venue for an incident command post to be used by the City Manager, bylaw enforcement officers, and any other person authorized by the City Manager; and
- (h) comply with any other conditions imposed on the event permit.

**PERMIT ISSUANCE 10**

The City Manager may refuse to issue, suspend, cancel, or impose conditions on a permit for an electronic dance music event for any of the following reasons:

- (a) the applicant does not meet, or no longer meets, the application requirements set out in section 5;

- (b) the applicant, or any of its officers, employees, affiliates, or agents:
  - (i) furnishes false information or misrepresents any fact or circumstance to a bylaw enforcement officer or the City Manager;
  - (ii) has, in the opinion of the City Manager based on reasonable grounds, contravened this bylaw whether or not the contravention has been prosecuted;
  - (iii) fails to pay a fine or obey any order issued by a court for a contravention of this bylaw;
  - (iv) refuses to provide a bylaw enforcement officer access to the event venue at any time prior to or during the event;
  - (v) fails to pay any fee required by this bylaw; or
  - (vi) provides a cheque or other negotiable instrument for payment of a fee required by this bylaw that is returned to the City based on non-sufficient funds; or
- (c) in the opinion of the City Manager based on reasonable grounds it is in the public interest to do so.

### **PART III - ENFORCEMENT**

#### **CITY MANAGER ROLE**

- 11 In addition to any other power, duty, or function prescribed by this bylaw, the City Manager may:
  - (a) carry out any inspection necessary to determine compliance with this bylaw;
  - (b) certify a record of the City as a true copy of the original;
  - (c) modify or waive any requirement for issuance of a permit pursuant to this bylaw, including reducing or waiving the application fee or event deposit;

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|                           |    | (d) | exempt electronic dance music events from all or part of this bylaw;   |
|                           |    | (e) | refund any or all of an application fee where a permit is not issued; and  |
|                           |    | (f) | delegate any power, duty, or function under this bylaw.  |
| <b>OFFENCE</b>            | 12 |     | A person who contravenes this bylaw is guilty of an offence.   |
| <b>CONTINUING OFFENCE</b> | 13 |     | In the case of an offence that is of a continuing nature, a contravention constitutes a separate offence in respect of each day, or part of a day, on which it continues and a person guilty of such an offence is liable to a fine for each such day. |
| <b>FINES</b>              | 14 | (1) | A person found guilty of an offence under this bylaw is liable to a fine in an amount not less than that established in this section:  |
|                           |    | (a) | \$250 for any offence for which a fine is not otherwise established in this section;   |
|                           |    | (b) | \$2,000 for an offence under section 9;  |
|                           |    | (c) | \$10,000 for an offence under section 4.   |
|                           |    | (2) | Except for section 14(1)(c), if a person is guilty of a subsequent offence, the fine amounts established in this section are doubled.  |
| <b>VIOLATION TICKET</b>   | 15 |     | If a violation ticket is issued for an offence under this bylaw, the violation ticket may:   |
|                           |    | (a) | specify the fine amount established by this bylaw for the offence; or  |
|                           |    | (b) | require a person to appear in court without the alternative of making a voluntary payment.   |
|                           | 16 |     | A person who commits an offence may, if a violation ticket is issued specifying the fine amount established by this bylaw for the offence, make a voluntary payment equal to the specified fine amount.  |
| <b>PROOF OF PERMIT</b>    | 17 |     | The onus of proving that a person has a valid permit for an electronic dance music event is on the person alleging the permit on a balance of probabilities.   |

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| <b>PROOF OF EXEMPTION</b>  | 18 | The onus of proving that a person is exempt from a requirement of this bylaw is on the person alleging the exemption on a balance of probabilities.  |
| <b>PROOF OF ATTENDANCE</b> | 19 | In a prosecution for a contravention of this bylaw, proof of the capacity of a venue where an electronic dance music event is operated, or proposed to be operated, is sufficient to establish the anticipated attendance of the event.  |
| <b>ADVERTISING</b>         | 20 | In a prosecution for a contravention of this bylaw, proof of one transaction or that an electronic dance music event has been advertised is sufficient to establish that a person is operating an electronic dance music event.  |
| <b>CERTIFIED COPY</b>      | 21 | A copy of a record of the City, certified by the City Manager as a true copy of the original, will be admitted in evidence as prima facie proof of the facts stated in the record without proof of the appointment or signature of the person signing it.  |
| <b>VICARIOUS LIABILITY</b> | 22 | For the purposes of this bylaw, an act or omission by an employee or agent of a person is deemed to be an act or omission of the person if the act or omission occurred in the course of the employee's employment or agency relationship with the person.   |
| <b>CORPORATIONS</b>        | 23 | If a corporation commits an offence under this bylaw, every principal, director, manager, officer, employee, or agent of the corporation who authorized, assented to, acquiesced, or participated in the act or omission that constitutes the offence is guilty of the offence whether or not the corporation has been prosecuted for the offence. |
| <b>PARTNERSHIPS</b>        | 24 | If a partner in a partnership is guilty of an offence under this bylaw, each partner in that partnership who authorized, assented to, acquiesced, or participated in the act or omission that constitutes the offence is guilty of the offence.  |

#### **PART IV - CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS**

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| <b>BUSINESS LICENCE BYLAW</b> | 25 | Deleted<br><br>(S81(6), Bylaw 20002, January 17, 2022) |
| <b>COMING INTO</b>            | 26 | This bylaw comes into force on March 1, 2020.          |



**FORCE**

(NOTE: Consolidation made under Section 69 of the *Municipal Government Act*, R.S.A. 2000, c.M-26 and Bylaw 16620 Section 16, and printed under the City Manager's authority)  
Bylaw 19166, passed by Council March 1, 2020

Amendments:

Bylaw 20002, January 17, 2022