

A BYLAW OF THE CITY OF VICTORIA

to require and regulate smoke alarms.

Under the powers given to it, including those in paragraphs 734(1)(l) and (m) and section 310 of the Municipal Act, the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the City of Victoria enacts as follows:

1. This bylaw may be cited as the "SMOKE ALARM BYLAW."

2. In this bylaw,

"building" means any structure used or intended for supporting or sheltering any use or occupancy;

"business and personal services occupancy" means the occupancy or use of a building or part thereof for the transaction of business or the rendering or receiving of professional or personal services;

"CAN/ULC-S531-M87" means the National Standard of Canada designation for the Standard for Smoke Alarms, as it exists on the day this bylaw is adopted, issued under the auspices of the Underwriters' Laboratories of Canada;

"CAN/ULC-S553-M86" means the National Standard of Canada designation for the Standard for the Installation of Smoke Alarms, as it exists on the day this bylaw is adopted, issued under the auspices of the Underwriters' Laboratories of Canada;

"dwelling unit" means a suite operated as a housekeeping unit, used or intended to be used as a residence and usually containing cooking, eating, living, sleeping and sanitary facilities;

“Fire Chief”	includes the Chief of the Fire Department of the City and any other inspector or member of the Fire Department;
“institutional occupancy”	means the occupancy of a building or part thereof by persons who are involuntarily detained, or detained for penal or correctional purposes, or whose liberty is restricted, or require special care or treatment because of age, mental or physical limitations;
“occupancy”	means the use or intended use of a building or part thereof for the shelter or support of persons, animals or property;
“smoke alarm”	means a combined smoke detector and audible alarm device which (a) is designed to sound an alarm within the room or suite in which it is located upon the detection of smoke within the room or suite, (b) conforms to the CAN/ULC-S531-M87 Standard for Smoke Alarms, and (c) where the smoke alarm is individually battery powered, has an alarm pause button, which when used will reduce the alarm’s sensitivity to smoke.

“suite” means a single room or series of rooms of complementary use, operated under a single tenancy, and includes dwelling units, individual guest rooms in motels, hotels, boarding houses, rooming houses, dormitories and individual stores and individual or complementary rooms for business or personal services occupancies.

3. (1) The owner of a building shall install and maintain at least one smoke alarm in every dwelling unit and, except for an institutional occupancy of a building required under the British Columbia Building Code to have a fire alarm system, in every sleeping room that is not within a dwelling unit.
- (2) The owner shall install smoke alarms in conformance with the CAN/ULC-S553-M86 Standard for the Installation of Smoke Alarms.
4. Smoke alarms may be individually battery powered, except as provided under the British Columbia Building Code.
5. (1) The owner of the dwelling unit or room in which a smoke alarm is installed shall have the smoke alarm tested least once every twelve months for the purpose of determining whether or not it performs the functions for which it is designed.
- (2) Where the owner installs an individually battery powered smoke alarm, the owner shall install new batteries in the alarm at least once every twelve months.

6. The Fire Chief may enter, at all reasonable times, on any property which is subject to this bylaw to ascertain whether or not this bylaw is being observed.

7. (1) A person who contravenes a provision of this bylaw is guilty of an offence and is subject to the penalties imposed by the Offence Act.

(2) A person commits a separate offence each day that an offence under subsection (1) continues.

8. Sections 2 to 7 come into effect on January 1, 1993.

Passed and received third reading by the Municipal Council the 13th day of February, 1992.

Reconsidered and adopted by the Municipal Council the 27th day of February, 1992.

"MARK JOHNSTON" "DAVID TURNER"

CITY CLERK

MAYOR