



## **Motion C24(306)** **Outdoor Event Regulations**

Public Hearing  
May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025

Planning & Development



**EAST HANTS**



## Background

In September of 2024, East Hants Municipal Council passed the following motion:

***C24(306) Moved that staff conduct a review of the outdoor event regulations around hours of operation, noise and facilities, etc., and that this review include a jurisdictional scan of regulations in other areas.***



## Background

**Special Event, Large-Scale** means an event held outside an enclosed permanent structure where there is an assembly of **1000 persons or more at any given point in time during the event**. It is a temporary, short-term use of land for the purpose of fundraising, promotional activities, celebrations, or for entertainment or amusement. This use does not include parades and firework displays.

**Special Event, Small-Scale** means an event held outside an enclosed permanent structure where there is an assembly of **less than 1000 persons at any given point in time during the event**. It is a temporary, short-term use of land for the purpose of fundraising, promotional activities, celebrations, or for entertainment or amusement. This use does not include parades and firework displays.



## Background

Section 3.34 of the Land Use Bylaw details the requirements for a Large Scale Special Event

This section outlines the required documents and permits for the special event. These include the requirement to submit a security plan to both the Municipality and the RCMP, the hours of operation for the event, a site plan indicating the setbacks of any proposed tent(s) or any other temporary structures, the size of the subject property, location of parking, and the neighbouring property uses, insurance coverage, and inspection by the Municipal Fire Inspector once the event is set up.

A development permit is required for Large Scale Special Events once the Development Officer has received all necessary documentation for the event

# Proposal

Staff are recommending the number of persons for a Large Scale Special Event be reduced to 500 persons at any given time

**Special Event, Large-Scale** means an event held outside an enclosed permanent structure where there is an assembly of ~~1000~~ 500 persons or more at any given point in time during the event. It is a temporary, short-term use of land for the purpose of fundraising, promotional activities, celebrations, or for entertainment or amusement. This use does not include Municipal or Provincial events, sports tournaments, Remembrance Day ceremonies, religious ceremonies or services, parades, and firework displays.

A large-scale special event also includes any event where there is an assembly of 200 persons or more at any given point in time during the event that is intended to be semi-private, but is accessible to the general public via a ticket, admission fee, or similar where music, noise or sound of any kind or source, including but not limited to amplified, recorded or computer-generated music and sounds, live music, sound or band music is performed or played.

**Special Event, Small-Scale** means an event held outside an enclosed permanent structure where there is an assembly of less than ~~1000~~ 500 persons at any given point in time during the event. It is a temporary, short-term use of land for the purpose of fundraising, promotional activities, celebrations, or for entertainment or amusement. This use does not include Municipal or Provincial events, parades and firework displays.

# Proposal

## 3.34. Large Scale Special Event

- a) Large-scale special events shall be permitted in all zones except in the LR, CR, R1, R2, R3, MH, ~~HF~~, WS, and WG Zones.
- d) The proposed hours of operation shall be provided to the Development Officer. **No Large Scale Special Event shall operate between the hours of 12am and 7am.**



## Community Standards Bylaw

- The East Hants Community Standards Bylaw contains the regulations on noise within the Municipality.
- The Bylaw states that no person shall cause or allow to be made any noise that unreasonably disturbs or tends to disturb the peace and tranquility of a neighbourhood, including any shouting, movement, music, or activity.
- No owner or occupier of a premises shall cause or allow to be made any noise which originates from the premises and unreasonably disturbs the peace and tranquility of a neighbourhood, including any shouting, movement, music or activity.
- Residents are typically required to keep a log of noise in their neighbourhood and provide that information to the Municipality. The RCMP may enforce this bylaw as well if needed.

# Jurisdictional Scan

## West Hants Regional Municipality: Special Event Bylaw

*“Special Event” means any event where a large number of people (five hundred or more) are brought together to watch or participate in...*

The Town of Truro, under their Special Events Policy for Events on Town owned Land states the following:

“A Special Event Application is required when any **one** of the following applies:

- a) any event intended to be semi-private, but is accessible to the general public via a ticket, admission fee, or similar.

Halifax Regional Municipality requires approval for events occurring on Municipal lands, where food and drinks are to be sold, and if Municipal services (roads, police, security, infrastructure, etc.) are to be used. Events on private property would not require approval however, must respect and comply with their Noise Bylaw. Exemptions to the Noise Bylaw can be applied for through the Municipality.



## Citizen Engagement

- A Public Information Meeting is not required as there are no amendments proposed to the Municipal Planning Strategy.
- A notice of Public Hearing was advertised in the Chronicle Herald, municipal website and social media

