

Business Licensing By-law Review

CSD 11-2021

Wednesday August 11, 2021

Niagara Region Business Licensing: What do we Licence and Regulate?

- 2018-75 – A by-law to licence and regulate vehicles for hire and businesses
- 2018-76 – A by-law to licence and regulate adult entertainment parlours
- St. Catharines – delegated authority to licence and regulate adult entertainment and body rub parlours
- Niagara Falls – delegated authority to licence and regulate adult entertainment and body rub parlours
- Thorold – delegated authority to licence and regulate adult entertainment parlours

What By-law is Being Repealed and Replaced?

- By-law 2018-75 that provides for licensing and regulation of vehicles for hire and businesses is being repealed and replaced with 5 industry specific by-laws.
- This was identified as a business improvement to modernize the regulatory by-laws.
- Adult Entertainment will not be reviewed this year but will be addressed in the future.

Amendments to the 2021 Schedule of Fees and Charges

- The only Licence Fee increase will be the Transportation Network Company Driver Licences. The fee for an initial licence increases from \$40 to \$60. This now puts the fee in line with other driver licences.
- The addition of a 1 month, 6 month or 12 month licence was added for Vehicles for Hire to address seasonal tourism operations.
- The remainder of the changes to the 2021 Schedule of Fees and Charges include changes and additions to licence names/types and class/subclass.

Towing Rate and Taxi Rate Tariff and Vehicle for Hire Fees

- The Towing Rate and Taxi Rate Tariffs are now included in each respective by-law.
- These are contained in Appendix 8 of the report.
- These are the maximum chargeable rates for service to customers.
- Fees in line with other municipalities and addresses increases in insurance, fuel, maintenance and equipment purchase.
- Minimum \$10.00 passenger fee rate is now in-place for Sightseeing, Shuttles and Specialty services and \$5.00 for Caleche services.

Licence Quotas, Standard Character Criteria, Vehicle Standards

- The Licensing Officer will have the ability to set licence quotas or freeze licences quotas.
- Ensure proper service levels, prevent market saturation and support and promote sustainable business and innovation.
- Work with the various industries, agencies and residents.
- Provide consumer protection, protect vulnerable persons and promote safe driving.
- Promote safe vehicles and safe businesses.

Questions?

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