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District of West Vancouver

Firearm Regulation Bylaw Bylaw No. 4686, 2011

Effective Date:

Firearm Regulation Bylaw No. 4686, 2011

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District of West Vancouver

Firearm Regulation Bylaw No. 4686, 2011

A bylaw to regulate and prohibit the discharge of firearms and the use of bows

WHEREAS under the *Community Charter* the Council may by bylaw regulate and prohibit the discharge of firearms and the use of bows, and may make different regulations for different areas; and

WHEREAS under regulations pursuant to the *Wildlife Act* it is unlawful to discharge a rifle anywhere within the District; and

WHEREAS the Council wishes to further regulate and prohibit the discharge of firearms, bows and spring guns in the District;

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the District of West Vancouver enacts as follows:

Part 1 Citation

1.1 This bylaw may be cited as Firearms Regulation Bylaw No. 4686, 2011.

Part 2 Severability

2.1 If a portion of this bylaw is held invalid by a Court of competent jurisdiction, then the invalid portion must be severed and the remainder of this bylaw is deemed to have been adopted without the severed section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, clause or phrase.

Part 3 Definitions

3.1 In this bylaw:

"crossbow" means a bow fixed across a stick with a groove for the arrow or bolt and a mechanism for holding and releasing a string;

"District" means the District of West Vancouver;

“firearm” means a rifle, shotgun, handgun, and any other device that ejects a projectile by means of explosion, compressed gas; and shall include and airgun, air rifle and air pistol;

“longbow” includes a longbow, recurve bow and compound bow;

“spring gun” means a firearm of any kind contrived to discharge upon the trigger mechanism being activated by a person or animal coming in contact with a wire or other device which is in turn connected to the gun.

Part 4 General Regulations

4.1 No person shall:

- (a) set or discharge a spring gun anywhere within the District; or
- (b) discharge a firearm, crossbow or longbow within the District.

Part 5 Exemptions

5.1 The provisions of section 4.1(b) of this bylaw shall not apply to:

- (a) a peace officer, conservation officer under the *Wildlife Act*, enforcement officer of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans or an employee of the Canadian Wildlife Service discharging a firearm in the lawful performance of their duty;
- (b) a firearm used for the discharge of blank ammunition in connection with an athletic or sporting event; or
- (c) pneumatic tools designed specifically for construction.

Part 6 Offence and Penalty

6.1 Every person who violates a provision of this bylaw, or who consents, allows or permits an act or thing to be done in violation of a provision of this bylaw, or who neglects to or refrains from doing anything required to be done by a provision of this bylaw, is guilty of an offence and is liable to the penalties imposed under this bylaw, and is guilty of a separate offence each day that a violation continues to exist.

- 6.2 Every person who contravenes a provision of this bylaw commits an offence, and each day that the violation is caused or allowed to continue constitutes a separate offence.
- 6.3 Every person who commits an offence is liable on summary conviction to a fine of not less than \$500.00 and not more than \$10,000, or imprisonment, or to both a fine and imprisonment.

READ A FIRST TIME on July 4, 2011

READ A SECOND TIME on July 4, 2011

READ A THIRD TIME on July 4, 2011

ADOPTED by the Council on

Mayor

Municipal Clerk

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