

Jurisdictional Scan

Below are municipalities which have been identified as having publicly available policies relating to the use of public squares or similar places and reviewed as part of the jurisdictional scan for this report. Key aspects of the municipalities' policies are summarized.

Saskatchewan Provincial Capital Commission – Bylaws

- Certain activities are regulated at the Provincial Capital including playing organized sports, starting fires, leaving personal property, setting up shelter and assuming exclusive use of all or a portion of the space.
- In order to conduct the regulated activity, a permit is required.
- Applications for permits must be on the required form and include the required information and fee.
- Applications may be rejected if the application is not complete, the proposed conduct is unsafe, the conduct will impact the natural condition of the space, the conduct will interfere with the public's use of the space, the conduct is contrary to laws, or it is not in the public interest to issue the permit.
- Consideration of whether it is against the public interest involves the balancing of competing demands for the space, including those arising from interests protected by the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* to ensure the orderly use of the space for the benefit of the public.

Prince Albert – Use of City Hall and Memorial Square Policy

- Within City Hall public rallies, recruitment, active solicitation, commercial, political and religious activities, and alcohol consumption are prohibited.
- Facilities are not available for individuals or groups promoting hatred, violence, or discrimination. Cannot contravene the *Criminal Code* or human rights legislation or interfere with City business.
- Requests to use City Hall public space for commercial, political, or religious activities require City Council approval.
- Security presence required for activities outside regular business hours.
- Display of materials requires approval.
- Memorial Square can only be booked by not-for-profit groups or groups which the City has established a partnering relationship.
- Applications must be submitted a minimum of 14 days in advance and exceptions may be made in extenuating circumstances.
- Costs and damages incurred by the City must be paid by the organization.

Victoria – Public Use of City Hall Policy

- Only deals with bookings within City Hall.
- Events must be non-commercial, and the requesting organization cannot be one who discriminates contrary to the BC Human Rights Code.
- Political parties or public rallies are not permitted.
- Religious preaching or recruitment is not permitted.
- Staff may provide information on alternative locations when an event is not permitted at City Hall.
- Bookings must be made a minimum of 10 days in advance.
- Bookings are intended to be cost neutral to the City.
- Insurance and clean-up are required.

Toronto – Nathan Phillips Square (adjacent to City Hall) Event Manual

- Applicants must be registered non-profit or charitable organizations.
- The event must service or benefit the people of Toronto and be open to the public and free of charge.
- The event cannot endorse views that are likely to promote discrimination, contempt, or hatred.
- The event cannot interfere with City business.
- The event cannot conflict with applicable laws, bylaws, or policies.
- All regulatory approvals must be obtained by the organizer.
- Insurance is required.

Toronto – Yonge-Dundas Square Use Guidelines

- Events cannot stereotype, promote hatred, advocate for a specific religious or political point of view in a proselytizing way and must be consistent with the principle of respect for the dignity and worth of all people.
- The policy notes that people have a right to gather in the square but amplified sound and setting up equipment is not permitted unless it is for a booked event.

Waterloo – Public Square Use Policy

- In accordance with the Charter, groups and individuals are welcome in the square so long as they do not interfere with a permitted booking.
- Applications can be denied if they do not respect the dignity or worth of all persons.