

A faint, stylized illustration of a figure from the Tsleil-Waututh First Nation. The figure is depicted in a dynamic, crouching pose, holding a large target with a red bullseye. The figure's body is decorated with traditional patterns, including red and white circular motifs. The background is a solid light gray.

TSLEIL-WAUTUTH NATION

FIREWORKS LAW

**A Law to Regulate The Sale and Use of Fireworks on Tsleil-Waututh First Nation
Reserve Lands**

WHEREAS:

- A. The Tsleil-Waututh Nation ("TWN") has taken control of the management of its reserve lands and resources pursuant to the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management* ("Framework Agreement") and the *First Nations Land Management Act*, S.C. 1999, c. 24, and has enacted the *Tsleil-Waututh Nation Land Code* ("Land Code") which came into force and effect on June 6, 2007;
- B. Pursuant to Part 3 of the Land Code, TWN can make laws with respect to the development, management and use and possession of TWN Lands.
- C. TWN Chief and Council recognize the importance of and need to provide tools that promote the health, safety and quality of life for residents on Reserve, and endorse community responsibility and accountability.
- D. TWN Chief and Council have received numerous complaints about the possession, storage, promotion, sale, purchase and discharge of Fireworks on Reserve.
- E. TWN Chief and Council is of the opinion that it is in the best interest of TWN and its Members to establish a Fireworks Law to regulate the possession, storage, promotion, sale purchase and discharge of Fireworks on Reserve.

NOW THEREFORE the Council of TWN enacts as a Law the following:

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This Law may be cited as the *Tsleil-Waututh Nation Fireworks Law*.

2. DEFINITIONS

- 2.1. In this Law, unless context otherwise requires:
 - a. "Council" means the lawfully elected governing body of Tsleil-Waututh and includes the Chief;
 - b. "Council Resolution" means a resolution of Council passed at a duly convened meeting of Council;
 - c. "Enforcement Officer" means a person employed by the Nation, to enforce TWN's laws, Laws, and regulations, or a Peace Officer as defined herein, including a member of the District of North Vancouver Police Department, the West Vancouver Police Department or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police;
 - d. "Fire Chief" means the person duly appointed as head of the District of North Vancouver Fire Department or designate within the Fire Department designated person in the Nation who is responsible for fire prevention and protection in TWN lands;
 - e. "Fireworks" means devices that explode or burn to produce visual or sound effects and such other explosions as may be designated as such under the provisions of the *Explosives Act* (Canada) and its regulations, as the case may be, including:
 - i. Fireworks that have been classified as Type F-1 "Consumer Fireworks" in accordance with the Explosive Regulations under the *Explosives Act* (Canada);
 - ii. Fireworks that have been classified as Type F-2 "Display Fireworks" in accordance with the Explosive Regulation under the *Explosives Act* (Canada);
 - iii. Cannon crackers, fireballs, firecrackers, mines, roman candles, skyrockets, squibs, and torpedoes, showers, fountains, golden rain, law lights, pin wheels,

volcanoes, sparklers, rockets, serpents, shells, bombshells, tourbillions, maroons, large wheels, bouquets, aerial shells, mines, and any other explosive designated as a Firework.

- f. "Tsleil-Waututh" or "TWN" means the Burrard Indian Band, a "band" as defined in the *Indian Act* comprised of the Tsleil-Waututh People, being the collective body of people that are registered band Members of TWN under the *Indian Act*;
- g. "Law" means the Tsleil-Waututh Nation Fireworks Law.;
- h. "Member" means a person on the Tsleil-Waututh band membership list or who is entitled to be on the Tsleil-Waututh band membership list;
- i. "Peace Officer" means a police officer, police constable, bailiff, constable, or other person employed for the preservation and maintenance of the public peace or for the service or execution of civil process;
- j. "Permit" means a permit issued pursuant to and in accordance with s.8 of this Law in the form established by Council, from time to time;
- k. "Person" means an individual, corporation, body corporate, partnership, joint venture, association, trust, or unincorporated organization of any trustee, executor, administrator, or other legal representative;
- l. "Reserve" means all reserves of TWN, current and future, and includes Burrard Inlet Indian Reserve No. 3, Inlailawatash Indian Reserves No. 4 and 4A.

3. APPLICATION

- 3.1. This Law applies to all lands on Reserve, and to all Members and non-Members present thereon.

4. PURPOSE

- 4.1. The purpose of this Law is to promote safety and to protect the Reserve, Members, occupants, buildings and resources from potentially hazardous or disruptive uses of Fireworks.

5. PROHIBITIONS

- 5.1. No Person shall manufacture, package, re-package, sell or offer for sale any Fireworks on Reserve Lands, unless the Person has obtained a valid Permit authorized under this Law.
- 5.2. No Person shall discharge, fire or set off any Fireworks within Reserve, unless the Person has obtained a valid Permit authorized under this Law.
- 5.3. No Person shall use, set off or allow to be used or set off any Fireworks in such a place or in such a manner as might create danger or constitute a nuisance to any Person or property, or do or cause or allow any unsafe act or omission at the time and place for the setting off of any Fireworks.
- 5.4. No person shall use, set off or allow to be used or set off any Fireworks during any fire ban declared by TWN or provincial authorities, regardless of existing Permits.

6. POWERS OF COUNCIL

- 6.1. Without restricting any other power, duty, or function granted by this Law, Council may:

- a. take any steps or carry out any actions or measures required to enforce or remedy a contravention of this Law, including making applications to and seeking orders from provincial and superior courts;
- b. create forms for the purposes of this Law;
- c. issue permits exempting individuals from the provisions of this Law with such terms and conditions as are deemed appropriate;
- d. establish the criteria to be met to be issued a permit pursuant to this Law; and
- e. delegate any powers, duties, or functions under this section to a department or employee of TWN.

7. PERMITTED USE

- 7.1. Fireworks may only be discharged during dates and at locations explicitly designated by Council Resolution.
- 7.2. Any Person seeking to discharge Fireworks shall apply for a Permit in advance of discharging the Fireworks.

8. PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

- 8.1. Every applicant, prior to being granted a Permit shall sign a document which includes:
 - a. a release of TWN from all claims and liability in relation to any activities or events relating to the Permit;
 - b. a commitment from the applicant to follow all relevant laws and all Permit requirements;
 - c. a commitment to only use Fireworks that are permitted for use in Canada under the *Federal Explosives Regulation*;
 - d. a commitment to follow Safety Instructions for Consumers of Fireworks as set out by Natural Resources Canada;
 - e. a commitment to allow access at any time by the Fire Chief, a designated employee of TWN, and any Enforcement Officer, to the site where the Fireworks are stored and to the site where the Fireworks will be or are being displayed to allow for monitoring and inspection and in order to determine whether the provisions of this Law are being or have been complied with.
- 8.2. Permits shall:
 - a. only be issued individuals aged eighteen (18) or older and verified by government identification;
 - b. include basic information such as the Person's name, address, email and phone number;
 - c. value of the Fireworks purchased.
- 8.3. Council or an Enforcement Officer may impose conditions on the Permit, including time restrictions, designated discharge areas, and requirements for professional supervision.

9. PUBLIC DISPLAYS

- 9.1. Fireworks for public displays require written permission from Council and must comply with all federal and provincial safety regulations.

10. PERMITTED SALE OF FIREWORKS

10.1. Licensing Requirement:

- a. All sellers must obtain a Tsleil-Waututh Nation Vendor Permit issued by TWN.
- b. Vendor Permits require proof of liability insurance (\$1 million minimum), and compliance with storage standards outlined in the *Explosives Regulations*, 2013.
- c. All sellers must be inspected by the Fire Chief and TWN must receive evidence that the inspection was passed.

10.2. Sales Restrictions

- a. Sellers must maintain sales records for one year, including buyer names, permit/certification numbers, and quantities sold.

10.3. Vendor Permit Conditions

- a. All Fireworks must be stored in federally approved magazines separate from electric matches or other explosives.

11. ENFORCEMENT

11.1. Violations of this Law may result in the following escalating actions:

- a. A verbal warning for the first violation.
- b. A written warning for the second violation.
- c. A fine not exceeding \$500 for individuals and \$5,000 for organizations for the third violation.
- d. Permanent refusal of Permit issuance for the fourth violation.

11.2. Unauthorized sales pursuant to s.10 may result in fines up to \$1,000 for vendors and seizure of inventory.

11.3. Enforcement Officers, Peace Officers, or designated authorities may seize fireworks used or possessed in contravention of this Law.

12. GENERAL

12.1. Where any Federal Act or regulation or Provincial Act or regulation or any other TWN law may apply to any matter covered by this Law, compliance with the Law will not relieve the person from also complying with the provisions of the other applicable Act, regulation or law.

12.2. If any section of this Law is for any reason held invalid by a decision of a Court of competent jurisdiction, the invalid section or subsection will be severed from and not affect the remaining provisions of this Law.

12.3. The headings given to the sections and paragraphs in this Law are for reference only. They do not form part of this Law and will not be used in the interpretation of this Law.

13. COMING INTO FORCE

13.1. This Law shall come into force and effect on the date it is enacted by Council Resolution after complying with the requirements of the Tsleil-Waututh Land Code.

This Law is hereby enacted at a duly convened meeting of the Council of the Tsleil-Waututh Nation this 14th day of October, 2025 and will come into force as stated in section 13 of this Law.

Read a first time the 16th day of June, 2025.
Special Membership Meeting held the 22nd day of September, 2025.
Read a third time the 14th day of October, 2025.

Voting in favour of this Law are the following Members of the Council.



Chief Justin Sky George



Councillor Curtis Thomas



Councillor Deanna George



Councillor James Sandover



Councillor Kaila George-Wilson



Councillor Nicholas Kofi



Councillor Dennis Thomas "Whonoak"