

June 1, 2010



City Council Committee Report

To: Mayor & Council
Fr: Tara Rickaby, Planning Administrator
Re: Sign By-law

Recommendation:

THAT the City of Kenora adopts a by-law to regulate signs and advertising devices in the City of Kenora with a view to ensuring the safety of the public in respect to the erection and maintenance of such signs; and

THAT By-law No. 50-2004 be repealed; and

THAT special events signage be permitted to be erected, for one event at a time, at the following locations until the Property and Planning Committee can review the issue of special events signage: Hill abutting Lakeview Drive and CPR mainline, west of roundabout, retaining wall at south end of Bernier Drive, road allowance at corner of Railway Street and Tenth Avenue South; and

THAT all other applications for special events signage be required to be processed per the Sign By-law.

Background:

The City of Kenora has reviewed the current sign by-law and those by-laws of other municipalities in order to provide the public with a by-law that is more "user-friendly" and which addresses the characteristics of the Harbourtown Centre Area of the City.

The City has provided the public with two formal opportunities to review a draft sign by-law; October 28, 2009 and February 18, 2010. The by-law provided for review in October of 2009 was also reviewed by the Municipal Solicitor, whose comment that the by-law was not "user-friendly" began the overhaul of the by-law. The product is one which has had input from the public and the staff who will implement it.

As a result of the public meeting in February of 2010, there was concern expressed with respect to how special events signage will be managed. Currently there are three areas which are being used, which could continue to be used without impact on neighbouring properties: Hill abutting Lakeview Drive and CPR mainline, west of roundabout, retaining wall at south end of Bernier Drive, road allowance at corner of Railway Street and Tenth Avenue South.

The by-law does not permit signs to be erected on fences unless the event is being held on the property upon which the fence is located.

Mobile signs will not be permitted on vacant land.

Signs will not be permitted on utility poles in the Harbourtown Centre, trees, or official sign regulating traffic under the *Highway Traffic Act*, in addition to other parameters.

Licensing staff will now work on the process for permitting as well as finalize the application forms.

Budget: Review by Municipal Solicitor \$2000 from operating budget

Communication Plan/Notice By-law Requirements: Notice by agenda of Property and Planning Committee and Council, Finance Department, Municipal Solicitor