

MUNICIPALITY OF LOUISE
2025-04 Fire Prevention
Being a by-law to provide for prevention and regulation of fires, firefighting and emergency service for the municipality

WHEREAS subsection 232(1) of the Act provides that a council may pass by-laws for municipal purposes respecting the following matters:

- (a) The safety, health, protection and well-being of people, and the safety and protection of property;
- (i) Preventing and fighting fires; . . .
- (o) The enforcement of by-laws; . . .

AND WHEREAS section 264 of the Act provides that every municipality must provide fire protection services within its boundaries to reduce the danger of fire, which may include education programs, inspections of property, the installation of alarms, instructions on fighting fires, the provision of firefighting equipment and a fire protection force;

AND WHEREAS section 268 of the Act provides that a fire protection force may, with the approval of the council, provide other services, including the prevention and release of illness and injury and the preservation of life and property;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Municipality of Louise, duly assembled, enacts as follows:

PART I: INTERPRETATION AND DEFINITIONS

Interpretation

1. It is the purpose of this by-law to establish the standards for fire prevention; firefighting and life safety in buildings; the prevention, containment and fighting of fires originating outside buildings which may present a hazard to all or any part of the Municipality; the operation of Emergency Services and the transportation and storage of flammable and combustible substances.

Definitions

2. (a) Unless otherwise provided, or unless the context otherwise requires, words and expressions in this by-law have the same meaning as the same words and expressions in the *Act* and in the Code.
- (b) In this By-law, words importing the singular number only shall include the plural and vice versa, and words importing gender shall include all genders.
- (c) In this by-law:
 - (1) 'ACT' means The Municipal Act S.M. 1996, c.58, C.C.S.M. c.M225 as amended from time to time.
 - (2) 'AUTHORITY HAVING JURISDICTION' means the Fire Chief, acting Fire Chief, deputy Fire Chief, or the responsible municipal, Provincial, or Federal official with legal authority for controlling the subject referred to including, without restricting the generality thereof, municipal Fire Prevention Officers and Fire Inspectors.
 - (3) 'CODE' means the Manitoba Fire Code being Regulation No. 163/98 of *The Fire Preventions Act*, RSM c.F80, C.S.S.M. c.F80, as amended from time to time, or any subsequent Manitoba Fire Code which may be enacted.

- (4) 'CONTROLLED BURN' means a fire scheduled at the convenience of, initiated by and carried out under the supervision of Fire Department Personnel subject to a fee of \$600 charged to offset firefighter remuneration and supply costs. In the event the Fire Department deems an individual controlled burn incident valuable as a training opportunity, the fee will be reduced.
- (5) 'COUNCIL' means the council of the Municipality.
- (6) 'EMERGENCY SERVICES' includes, but is not limited to, all fire protection services and all services provided at the site of an emergency for the purpose of preserving life and property and protecting persons and property from injury or destruction by fire, preventing and extinguishing fires, investigating the cause and origin of fires, providing rescue services, providing emergency medical responses, providing transportation for victims (ambulance service), purchasing and operating apparatus and equipment for firefighting and the preservation of life and property, and preventing and mitigating other potential risks to life and property as defined by Council.
- (7) 'FIRE CHIEF' means the Fire Chief for the Municipality and anyone acting or authorized to act on his behalf.
- (8) 'FIRE DEPARTMENT' means the Fire Department for the Municipality, and includes any part-time, composite (any combination of full-time, part-time or volunteer) or a volunteer fire department.
- (9) 'FIRE FIGHTER' means any member, including volunteers, of the Fire Department while their services are actually engaged by the Municipality for the purpose of providing Emergency Services or otherwise enforcing the provisions of this by-law.
- (10) 'FIRE INSPECTOR' means the person or agency employed by or acting for the Municipality and partially or wholly responsible for fire safety within the Municipality.
- (11) 'MUNICIPALITY' means the Municipality of Louise or the area contained within the boundaries thereof.

PART II: ADMINISTRATION

Adoption of Fire Code

3. The Municipality hereby adopts the Code as part of this by-law, and the whole thereof, save and except such portions as are hereinafter deleted, modified or amended, and is hereby incorporated as if fully set out at length herein. Any reference to this by-law shall be construed as a reference to the whole by-law, including the Code. Recovery of Costs
4. Subject to any agreements to the contrary, where any type of Emergency Services have been taken within the Municipality, including responding to a false alarm, the Municipality may, in respect of any related costs incurred in taking such action, charge such costs to the person who caused the fire or incident, or the owner or occupant of the land or property in respect to which the action was taken. Further, the Municipality may proceed to collect any costs as against the person by any means available to it in law for the collection of outstanding taxes, including, without limitation, adding the costs to the realty taxes on any property owned by the person within the Municipality.

PART III: CREATION OF FIRE DEPARTMENT

Creation and membership

5. There is hereby created a Fire Department for the Municipality, to be comprised of two Fire Chiefs and such other Fire Department personnel as from time to time may be deemed necessary by the Fire Chiefs, and as more particularly set out in Schedule 'A' hereto; provided however, the Fire Departments shall not be comprised of less than six (6) personnel at any one time. No change in the complement of the Fire Departments shall be made without the recommendation of the Fire Committee and subsequent approval of the Council, who may authorize an increase or decrease or vary the above stated complement upon recommendation of the Fire Chiefs.

Responsibility of Fire Chiefs

6. It shall be the responsibility of the Fire Chiefs to administer and enforce the provisions of this by-law subject always to such direction as may from time to time be given by the Council.
7. Fire Chiefs are responsible to ensure the Fire Department staff/volunteers are adequately trained. Such training is to be recorded by the Fire Chief and is set at a minimum of 4 hours practice per year plus attendance at call outs.

PART IV: EMERGENCY SERVICES

Emergency Services

8. The mandate of the Fire Departments is to provide the specific Emergency Services as described in Schedule 'B' to this by-law.

Agreement for emergency services

9. The Municipality may elect to enter into an agreement with another Municipality to provide or have provided Emergency Services. Such agreement requires prior authority of the Council.

Response outside Municipality

10. The Fire Department will not respond to any call outside the municipal boundaries except with respect to a fire or emergency:
 - (a) that in the opinion of the Fire Chief threatens property in the Municipality or property situated outside the Municipality that is owned or occupied by the Municipality; or
 - (b) in a Municipality with which an agreement has been entered into to provide fire protection services or Emergency Services; or
 - (c) in a Municipality which forms part of a mutual aid agreement for which the Municipality is a member; or
 - (d) on property with respect to which an agreement has been entered into with any person or corporation to provide fire protection therefor; or
 - (e) for which the Reeve has first authorized such attendance; or
 - (f) under such circumstances as it appears human life is in jeopardy which could include ground search and rescue
 - (g) upon request for assistance from the Office of the Fire Commissioner or some other properly designated office of the Province of Manitoba.

All items listed in items 9 (a) to (g) above, at the discretion of the Fire Chief, includes granting permission to use all Louise Fire Department vehicles and equipment.

PART V: GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Interference an offence

11. It shall be an offence for any person, other than the Authority Having Jurisdiction or a Fire Fighter in the course of duty, to turn on or interfere with any fire hydrant, in any manner whatsoever.

Tampering an offence

12. It shall be an offence for any person to tamper with, damage, or discharge any fire prevention, fire suppression, or rescue apparatus, or move any such apparatus from its allocated location, without the permission of the Fire Chief.

Requiring additional assistance

13. The Fire Chief, or in his absence, the senior officer of the Fire Department present at any fire or providing any other Emergency Service, shall have the right and authority to require any able-bodied adult person to assist in extinguishing fires, to assist in the control of spread of fire and to assist in any other required Emergency Service and any such person, while acting under the direction of the Fire Chief, shall be deemed a volunteer of the Municipality.

Commandeering equipment

14. The Fire Chief, or in his absence, the senior officer of the Fire Department present at any fire or providing any other Emergency Service, shall have the right and authority to commandeer and authorize payment for the possession or use of any equipment for the immediate purpose of fighting a fire or providing any other Emergency Service.

PART VI: FIRE PREVENTION STANDARDS

Access for inspection

15. The Authority Having Jurisdiction may, at all reasonable times, enter any premises for the purpose of making an inspection, and any person in charge of the premises shall allow the Authority Having Jurisdiction free access thereto.

Prevention of fire spread

16. The Fire Chief, or in his absence, the senior officer of the Fire Department present at any fire shall have the right and authority to enter, pull down or demolish any house or building or structure, directly or indirectly affected, where deemed reasonably necessary for the purpose of extinguishing a fire or to control or prevent the spread of fires or in conjunction with dangerous goods or rescue.

Access to premises during an emergency

17. Only the Fire Chief, or in his absence the Deputy Fire Chief, have authority to enter a premises using forceable entry in the circumstances of life in danger.

Storage of containers

All boxes, crates, petroleum barrels and other containers, empty or otherwise, packing materials, or other materials used or kept in any building or on any lot, shall be:

- (a) so stacked or piled as to keep them clear of windows and doors to provide for clear ingress and egress to and from any part of the premises or building;
- (b) kept away from any source of ignition;
- (c) removed forthwith if determined to constitute a fire hazard by the Authority Having Jurisdiction to such location as authorized by the Authority Having Jurisdiction.

Portable fire extinguishers

17. Portable fire extinguishers shall be:

- (a) provided and located in accordance with the requirements of the Code;
- (b) maintained and/or hydro-statically tested in accordance with the requirements of the Code.

Chimney pipes

18. All chimneys and pipes for fireplaces or wood stoves shall be installed in conformance with the Code and must be cleaned regularly to prevent a buildup of creosote. Where the Fire Chief deems it necessary he may give notice to any owner requiring the cleaning of any chimney or pipe and where such order is not complied with within ten (10) days the Fire Chief may cause the work to be done and the cost therefor shall be the responsibility of the owner.

Property maintenance

19. All buildings and properties shall be adequately maintained in order to guard against fire or the risk of fire.

Fire alarm systems

20. (a) Every fire alarm system shall be maintained at all times in operating condition and tested by a qualified person in accordance with the requirements of the Code;
- (b) Where the Fire Department attends in response to a fire alarm call which is an apparent false alarm, the Fire Chief, or in his absence the senior officer of the Fire Department present at the scene, will attempt to contact the property owner or other designated person to attend and secure the premises. Where unable to contact the property owner or designated person, then a security guard may be called in to perform fire duty at the expense of the owner. The total cost of restoration of any fire alarm equipment, and related costs of hiring a security guard or any fire-watch service, shall be the responsibility of the owner or his insurer. If the owner cannot be located to pay this bill then all costs may be added to the real property taxes for the premises and collected in the same manner as normal taxes.

Flammable and/or combustible liquid storage and storage of hazardous materials

21. Prior written permission from the Fire Chief shall be required for the storage of flammable and/or combustible liquids or hazardous materials in excess of the amounts permitted in the Code.

PART VII: PENALTY PROVISION

Penalty

22. (a) An order made under this by-law shall be in writing and signed by the Authority Having Jurisdiction. An order may be directed to the owner, occupier or lessee of the subject building or property in respect of which it is made or to any or all of them.
- (b) Any order made under this by-law shall be served:
- (1) personally upon the person to whom it is directed; or
 - (2) by registered or regular mail; or
 - (3) by posting a copy of the order in a conspicuous place on the building or property if the person to whom it is directed cannot be found, is not known, or refuses to accept service of said order.

In the case of service by regular mail the order shall be deemed to have been received on the fifth business day subsequent to the date it is mailed.

- (c) Any person who contravenes or disobeys, or refuses or neglects to obey:
 - (1) any provision of this by-law, or any provision of any other by-law that by this by-law is made applicable to proceedings taken or things done under this by-law; or
 - (2) any provision of any by-law, Regulation or Order enacted or made by Council; or
 - (3) any Order made by this by-law for which no other penalty is specifically provided is guilty of an offence and is liable, on summary conviction, to a fine of not less than \$100.00 or more than \$1,000.00 for each day's neglect or failure to comply therewith and in default of payment of the fine, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding thirty (30) days.
 - (4) the penalty fine for non permit or non compliance of permit conditions is set at a fine of \$500 plus a call out rate of \$1,000 per hour which includes municipal fire equipment and personnel. Should private equipment be required at a fire incident this will be an additional expense to the offender.
- (d) Any person who hinders or obstructs the Authority Having Jurisdiction in the exercise of his duty is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine of not less than \$100.00 or more than \$1,000.00, and in default of payment of the fine, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding fourteen (14) days.

PART VIII: REPEAL AND ENACTMENT

Repeal

23. (a) This by law repeals Municipality of Louise By law 2024-17.

Enactment

24. This by-law shall come into full force and take effect upon the passage thereof.


Validity of By-law

25. Should any provision of this by-law or the Code hereby adopted be declared to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, it is the intent of Council that it would have passed all other provisions of the by-law and the Code independent of the elimination of any such portion as may be declared invalid.

DONE AND PASSED as a by-law of Municipality of Louise at the LUD of Crystal City in the Province of Manitoba this 12 day of March 2025.

MUNICIPALITY OF LOUISE



ave


Chief Administrative Officer

Read a first time this 27 day of January 2025
Read a second time this 12 day of March 2025
Read a third time this 12 day of March 2025

Schedule 'A' – Fire Department Personnel

- Fire Chief x 2
- Deputy Fire Chief
- Fire Fighter(s)
- Fire Inspector

Schedule 'B' – Emergency Services Provided by Fire Department

The Fire Department will provide the following Emergency Services:

- (a) Fire prevention and fire extinguishing, which includes structural firefighting for rescue, fire control and property conservation;
- (b) Investigation of the causes of fire and origin determination;
- (c) Preservation of life and property and protection of persons and property from injury or destruction by fire;
- (d) Rescue and emergency medical services until relieved by and ambulance or other medical service and medical personnel;
- (e) Salvage operations;
- (f) The ability to enter into agreements with other municipalities or persons for the joint use, control, and management of fire extinguishing apparatus and equipment;
- (g) Purchase and operation of apparatus and equipment for extinguishing fires or preserving life and property;
- (h) Water rescue to the extent that training and equipment provides;
- (i) Rope rescue to the extent that training and equipment provides;
- (j) Low angle rescue to the extent that training and equipment provides;
- (k) Hazardous material responses to the extent that training and equipment provides;
- (l) Vehicle extrication to the extent that training and equipment provides;
- (m) Farm accident rescue to the extent that training and equipment provides;
- (n) Ground search and rescue to the extent that training and equipment provides;
- (o) Urban search and rescue to the extent that training and equipment provides;
- (p) Aircraft rescue and firefighting to the extent that training and equipment provides;
- (q) Trench rescue to the extent that training and equipment provides;
- (r) Biological and chemical responses to the extent that training and equipment provides;
- (s) Fire prevention inspections;
- (t) Pre-fire planning;
- (u) Public safety education;
- (v) Precautionary standby;
- (w) Extinguishing and prevention of grass fires to the extent that training and equipment provides;
- (x) Extinguishing and prevention of urban interface fires to the extent that training and equipment provides;
- (y) Flood response to the extent that training and equipment provides;
- (z) Response to any request that the Fire Department deems an emergency, including but not limited to, CO alarms, animals in peril and gas odors to the extent that training and equipment provides
- (aa) Response to a "Controlled Burn" request that the Fire Department deems appropriate at the rate \$600.00 per incident (fee to be reduced where the Fire Dept. deems a training opportunity exists)

Municipality of Louise
Volunteer Fire Department
Fire Chief: Dale Heppner and Brant Melvin

Permit No: BP

Burn Permit – SUBMIT TO MUNICIPAL OFFICE

AUTHORITY IS HEREBY GRANTED TO _____
(applicant)

For the following locations:

in Municipality of Louise, to set fire and burn

- Grass
- Stubble/Crop
- Bush
- Structure (see #7)
- Other

Municipal ditch located on road # between road # and road # **(DATES IN OCTOBER ONLY)**

 on the above property between the day of _____ and the day of _____, 20
(Permits can only be within a 2-week timespan)

subject to the conditions and provisions of The Wildfires Act and Municipal By-Laws.

1. To keep fire under control at all times _____ (initial)
2. To fireguard the area as required under the terms of the Wildfires Act _____ (initial)
3. Fire is surrounded by a minimum six-meter-wide strip of land free of all flammable material _____ (initial)
4. To burn during daylight hours only and in accordance with the Province of Manitoba Crop Residue Burning Authorization specified between April 1st and November 15th of each year by contacting 1-800-465-1233 _____ (initial)
5. No fire to be set with winds over 30 km/hr _____ (initial)
6. No burning will be permitted, or any ongoing burning will be immediately halted, if smoke is drifting toward a Provincial Highway and is causing, or will cause, a reduction in visibility that may impair safe travel _____ (initial)
7. "Structure" I have applied for a SCPD demolition permit _____ (initial)

Declaration of Permittee: I understand the conditions under which this permit is issued and agree to abide thereby.

Signature of Applicant

Phone Number

Issued at Municipality of Louise

Signature _____

Date Issued _____, 20

Fire Chief/Deputy Fire Chief

Volunteer Fire Department

Fire Chief: Dale Heppner (Pilot Mound), Brant Melvin (Crystal City & Clearwater),

Fire Pit Permit – SUBMIT TO MUNICIPAL OFFICE

AUTHORITY IS HEREBY GRANTED TO _____ (applicant)

For the following location:

in Municipality of Louise, to operate a fire pit on the above property for the full year _____ subject to the conditions and provisions of The Wildfires Act and Municipal By-Laws:

1. A minimum of 3 meters (10 feet) clearance, measured from the nearest fire pit edge, is maintained from buildings, property lines, or other combustible material
2. The fire pit height does not exceed 0.5 meters (20 inches) when measured from the surrounding grade to the top of the pit opening
3. The fire pit opening does not exceed 1 meter (40 inches) in width or in diameter when measured between the widest points or outside edges
4. The fire pit installation has enclosed sides made from bricks, concrete blocks, heavy gauge metal or other noncombustible materials acceptable to the Fire Chief or designate
5. Keep fire under control at all times _____ (initial)
6. Fire will not be left unattended _____ (initial)
7. No fire to be set with winds over 30 km/hr _____ (initial)

Declaration of Permittee: I understand the conditions under which this permit is issued and agree to abide thereby.

Signature of Applicant

Phone Number

Issued at Municipality of Louise	Signature _____
Date Issued _____, 20____	Fire Chief/Deputy Fire Chief

Notice

Municipality of Louise

Notice is hereby given that under the sections
232 (1), 264, 268 The Municipal Act,
open fires are not permitted
in the Municipality of Louise until further notice.
Exception – camp fires.

**Persons wishing to burn crop residue or grass for farming practices
may apply and request approval for a Permit to Burn.**

Removal of old buildings requires a Permit to Burn,
notification to the Fire Department
(via the Municipal Office in Crystal City) and
Demolition Permit (South Central Planning District).

Permits are available from the Municipal Office during regular office
hours or printable from the www.louisemb.com website.
Please complete and submit the permit for approval to
the Municipal Office (Crystal City),
email – fina@louisemb.com, fax – 204 873 2459

Notification of permit status will be sent to the applicant

Municipality of Louise
Alicia Buydens, CAO
Dale Heppner and Brant Melvin,
Louise Fire Department