
From: L. R.S.
Sent: November 6, 2024 1:28 PM
To: Council Secretary
Subject: Fireworks and AVICC

Dear Council:

Current Challenges

Despite restrictions, fireworks are frequently used outside permitted hours, often for days before and after Halloween.

Online sales from retailers outside municipal boundaries undermine local regulations

Existing permit systems and time limitations have not effectively curbed misuse.

Key Concerns

Public Safety: Improper use poses fire and injury risks.

Environmental Impact: Fireworks release pollutants and can harm wildlife³.

Noise Pollution: Unexpected fireworks cause distress to pets, wildlife, and individuals with PTSD³.

Expert opinions: Scientists, medical professionals, and firefighters have expressed support for stricter fireworks regulations due to safety and environmental concerns.

Proposed actions

Through AVICC and UBCM union of BC municipal.

Promote the benefits of a complete ban

Allow professionals to display them on New Year and our Victoria Holiday. But even better would be to enjoy the beautiful light display.

Benefits of a Ban

Improved public safety and reduced fire risk

Decreased environmental impact and pollution

Enhanced quality of life for residents with PTSD and pets

Simplified enforcement for local authorities

Many thanks for all you do.

Lavinia Rojas

Victoria, BC

V8T 5B5

I am writing to request that the municipality submit a resolution to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) regarding a province-wide ban on fireworks. This resolution aims to address growing concerns about the impact of fireworks on public safety, wildlife, and the environment.

Proposed Resolution

Province-Wide Ban on Consumer Fireworks

Whereas the use of consumer fireworks poses significant risks to public safety, property, and the environment;

And whereas fireworks cause distress to people suffering with PTSD, pets, wildlife, and individuals with sensitivities to loud noises;

And whereas many municipalities have already implemented local bans on fireworks, creating a patchwork of regulations across the province;

Therefore be it resolved that the AVICC and UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to implement a comprehensive, province-wide ban on the sale and use of consumer fireworks, with exceptions for certified professionals conducting authorized displays.

Rationale

This resolution aligns with our community's commitment to safety and environmental protection. A province-wide ban would:

1. Enhance public safety by reducing fireworks-related injuries and property damage
2. Protect wildlife and domestic animals from stress and potential harm
3. Improve air quality and reduce fire risks, especially during dry seasons
4. Create consistency across municipalities, simplifying enforcement efforts

I respectfully request that Council consider this resolution for submission to AVICC before their February 6, 2025 deadline. If approved, this resolution could be forwarded to the upcoming AVICC Convention for consideration by member municipalities.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Lavinia Rojas
Victoria, BC
V8T 5B5