



City of Port Moody

Report/Recommendation to Council

Date: November 2, 2021
Submitted by: Community Development Department – Building, Bylaw, and Licensing Division
Subject: Home-Based Businesses

Purpose

To provide Council with recommendations related to zoning bylaw regulations for Home-Based businesses.

Recommended Resolution(s)

THAT City of Port Moody Zoning Bylaw, 2018, No. 2937, Amendment Bylaw No. 64, 2021, No. 3335 (Home-Based Businesses and Housekeeping) be read a first, second, and third time as recommended in the report dated November 2, 2021, from the Community Development Department – Building, Bylaw, and Licensing Division regarding Home-Based Businesses.

Background

At the November 10, 2020, Regular Council meeting, Council passed the following resolution:

RC 20/415

THAT staff be directed to prepare amendments to relevant bylaws to allow artisans to sell their wares from home under Accessory Home Occupation Use Type I as recommended in the report dated October 21, 2020, from the Office of Councillor Steve Milani regarding Home-Based Businesses;

AND THAT staff be directed to prepare amendments to relevant bylaws to allow a legal suite and an Accessory Home Occupation Use Type I (A) or Type II (B) to coexist on properties zoned for single-family homes where sufficient space exists.

In addition to the above resolutions, the proposed amendment Bylaw addresses allowing licensed home-based businesses to operate in multi-family residential developments. The increased scope was presented to Council in spring 2021 and is included in Council Strategic plan project 4.1.4.

The purpose for the increased scope is to address the growing number of inquiries to allow home-based businesses in multi-family developments for low-impact businesses such as tutoring and therapists (e.g., massage therapy). As multi-family developments are the

predominant housing form being built in Port Moody, consideration of this additional provision will allow more people to live and work in Port Moody.

Discussion

Currently, Port Moody's zoning bylaw does not permit a Home Occupation-Type B in a multi-family residential building or in the same house that contains a secondary suite. The Zoning Bylaw does allow for Home Occupation Type A in a multi-family residential building, which is a business that does not allow for any customer or client visits. Following are the definitions of Home Occupations:

- Home Occupation Type – A is commonly referred to as a home office, or a business that is typically just the use of a computer and/or phone and does not generate any customer or client visits, such as a plumbing contractor or landscaper.
- Home Occupation -Type B is referred to as a home-based business or, a business that allows for client and customer visits such as a hairdresser or piano teacher.

Staff have researched Home-Based business regulations in neighbouring municipalities. The cities of Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, and Burnaby all allow some type of home-based business in multi-family residential developments. Most municipalities surveyed prohibit home-based business that can cause nuisances such as noise or smell, alterations to the exterior of the building, exterior storage, and the display or sales of goods. The exception in the group surveyed is the City of Coquitlam, which allows the display and sales of goods if the goods are produced on-site.

Based on the findings, staff have drafted an amendment to the Zoning Bylaw that includes a third type of home occupation, Type C – Low-Impact Home-Based Business (**Attachment 1**). This new category of home occupation is meant to be used in multi-family residential buildings as well as single detached residential buildings that contain a secondary suite. The regulations for this new category are meant to capture businesses that would not impact a neighbourhood by generating a lot of customer visits or put a strain on resident parking. This category would not require any additional on-site parking. In the instance where the business licence request is located in a building with a strata, strata approval will be required prior to the issuance of the business licence. Examples of Low Impact Home-Based Businesses include tutoring, therapist, and lawyer. The amendment bylaw also includes an allowance for business owners to sell goods they produced in their home, from their home.

During the review of the zoning bylaw, staff identified a few other housekeeping amendments and have included these in the attached amendment bylaw. These house keeping provisions include removal of the construction of a Firewall in the RS9 zone and the inclusion of Secondary Suites in CD-30 and CD-34 zones.

Other Option(s)

THAT the report dated November 2, 2021, from the Community Development Department – Building, Bylaw, and Licensing Division regarding Home-Based Businesses be received for information.

Financial Implications

Although this Bylaw amendment could eventually increase business licence revenue for the City, staff anticipate that the change will be less than \$1,000 per year over the next few years.

Communications and Civic Engagement Initiatives

The amended bylaw would be updated on the City's website and staff would respond accordingly to inquiries received.

Council Strategic Plan Objectives

This report aligns with Council's Strategic Initiative of providing Economic Prosperity.

Attachment(s)

1. Draft City of Port Moody Zoning Bylaw, 2018, No. 2937, Amendment Bylaw No. 64, 2021, No. 3335 (Home-Based Businesses and Housekeeping).

Report Author

Robyn MacLeod, RBO
Manager of Building, Bylaw, and Licensing

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Home-Based Businesses.docx
Attachments:	- Attachment 1 - Draft City of Port Moody Zoning Bylaw, 2018, No. 2937, Amendment Bylaw No. 64, 2021, No. 3335.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Nov 29, 2021

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Kate Zanon, General Manager of Community Development - Nov 23, 2021 - 9:18 AM

Dorothy Shermer, Corporate Officer - Nov 23, 2021 - 11:28 AM

Rosemary Lodge, Manager of Communications and Engagement - Nov 25, 2021 - 12:06 PM

Paul Rockwood, General Manager of Finance and Technology - Nov 25, 2021 - 1:38 PM

Tim Savoie, City Manager - Nov 29, 2021 - 7:36 AM