



# **Cape Breton Regional Municipality**

Committee of the Whole Addendum

Tuesday, May 5, 2026

10:00 a.m.

VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

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**3. Council Agenda Requests**

**3.4 Distribution of Sales Flyers in CBRM:** Councillor Dave MacKeigan (See page 4)

**3.5 The Status of the Burning By-Law:** Councillor Dave MacKeigan (See page 11)

**Flyer Distribution By-Law**

**Motion**

Moved by Councillor MacMullin, seconded by Councillor Coombes, that staff be directed to draft a Flyer Distribution By-Law for Council consideration.

**Motion Carried**



**City Hall**  
**320 Esplanade**  
**Sydney, NS B1P 7B9**

### Councillor Agenda Request Form

**Included on Agenda**  
 (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's  
 Office by 4:30 pm seven days  
 before the meeting)

**Late Item**  
 (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's  
 Office by Noon the day before  
 the meeting)

**Request from the Floor:  
 (New Business)**

- **Announcement**
- **Referral**
- **Submit Petition**
- **Notice of Motion**

**Date of Council Meeting: May 5, 2026**

**Subject: Distribution of Sales Flyers in CBRM**

**Motion for Council to Consider:**

Staff to draft a flyer distribution By-Law, with consideration for door delivery, maintaining a Do Not Deliver list and penalties for violation of the By-Law, for council consideration

**Rationale:**

Currently, CBRM is in a major crisis with litter, and the growing concern of flyer distribution is contributing to the problem. Residents are increasingly frustrated seeing flyer materials scattered in yards, drains and green spaces throughout our community. The current practice of flyer distribution is irresponsible and undermines the intent of local advertising, often not reaching the intended residents. The practice of tossing from a vehicle directly contributes to litter in our community.

I introduce this motion, mindful; of those employed to distribute flyers and sensitive to the impact to residents, especially seniors, who rely on flyers to access weekly shopping sales, notably given today's rising cost of groceries. Also, that local businesses rely on flyers to market and promote their products and services.

**Outcome Sought:**

To create a Flyer Distribution By-Law that regulates and addresses a more responsible and accountable distribution practice.

*Councillor Dave Mackeigan District 9*  
*Date May 1, 2026*

*Received by Clerk's Department (date):*  
*Date May 1, 2026*

**HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY  
BY-LAW NUMBER F-400  
RESPECTING THE DISTRIBUTION OF FLYERS**

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Council of the Halifax Regional Municipality as follows:

**Short Title**

1. This By-law shall be known as By-law F-400 and may be cited as the *Flyer Distribution By-law*.

**Interpretation**

2. In this By-law,

(a) “distributor” means any person, which distributes, permits to be distributed or causes to be distributed any flyer which promotes activities outlined in Section 3 of this By-law;

(b) “flyer” means any non-subscription based printed or written matter, and includes a circular, leaflet, pamphlet, paper, booklet, postcard, coupon, or any other printed or otherwise reproduced matter;

(c) “municipality” means Halifax Regional Municipality;

(d) “newspaper” means any newspaper or magazine of general circulation for which the occupant has paid or requested delivery;

(e) “person” includes a business, company, organization or corporation and the heirs, executors, administrators or other legal representatives of a person;

(f) “residential property” means property or part thereof used or intended to be used for residential purposes, but does not include the portion of a hotel or motel used for the purpose of lodging for the public or an apartment hotel;

**Application of By-law**

3. This By-law applies to any flyer distributed within the municipality that:

(a) advertises or otherwise promotes any merchandise, product, commodity or thing;

(b) directs attention to any business or mercantile or commercial establishment or other activity, for the purpose of either directly or indirectly promoting the interests thereof; or

(c) directs attention to or advertises any meeting, theatrical performance, exhibition or event of any kind for which an admission is charged for the purpose of commercial gain or profit.

### **General**

4. (1) Any owner or occupier of a residential property may post a sign or notice stating they do not wish to receive flyers.

(2) Subject to subsection (1), an owner or occupier may:

(a) post a sign or notice provided by the municipality, or

(b) create a sign or notice to post, provided the sign or notice meets the following specifications:

(i) is a minimum 11 cm (4.5 in) wide by 12.5 cm (5 in) high,

(ii) consists of lettering that is black font on a white background, and

(iii) contains the phrase 'NO FLYERS' in a font size of at least 38 pt in a sans-serif (plain) font type such as Arial.

5. A sign or notice stating the owner or occupier does not want to receive flyers shall be posted at the entrance to the dwelling unit in a manner such that the sign or notice is visible at the applicable locations as outlined in Section 8(1).

6. No distributor shall deliver or cause to be delivered a flyer at or on a residential property if a sign or notice has been posted pursuant to section 5.

7. Section 6 of this By-law shall not apply to the following:

(a) any election advertising material which is permitted to be transmitted or delivered pursuant to any applicable federal, provincial or municipal legislation or regulation;

(b) newspapers delivered to paid subscribers;

(c) community association newsletters or newspapers that do not contain flyers;

(d) information circulars produced by a federal, provincial or municipal government or an agency of such government;

(e) information circulars produced by a member of Halifax Regional Council, a member of the Nova Scotia Legislative Assembly or a member of the federal Parliament; or

(f) an apartment building containing six or more dwelling units.

8. (1) No distributor shall distribute or cause to be distributed any flyers on residential property other than:

(a) in a mail box;

(b) in a mail slot;

(c) in a tube or other receptacle designated for this purpose; or

(d) on a doorstep.

(2) No distributor shall distribute or cause to be distributed any flyers to a residential property where the flyers have not been taken in for two consecutive weeks.

### **Offences and Penalties**

9. (1) A person who violates a provision of this By-law is guilty of an offence.

(2) A distributor that is an individual who contravenes any section of this By-law is liable, upon summary conviction, to a penalty of not less than twenty-five dollars and not more than one thousand dollars.

(3) A distributor other than an individual who contravenes any section of this By-law is liable, on summary conviction, to a penalty of not less than two hundred and fifty dollars and not more than ten thousand dollars.

10. This By-law shall come in force on July 31, 2019

Done and passed by Council this 4<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2019

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MAYOR

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MUNICIPAL CLERK

I, Kevin Arjoon, Municipal Clerk of the Halifax Regional Municipality, hereby certify that the above noted by-law was passed at a meeting of the Halifax Regional Council held on June 4, 2019

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Kevin Arjoon  
Municipal Clerk

Notice of Motion:	April 16, 2019
First Reading:	May 14, 2019
Notice of Public Hearing – Publication:	May 18, 2019
Second Reading:	June 4, 2019
Approval by Minister of Municipal Affairs:	N/A
Effective Date:	July 31, 2019

**Cape Breton Regional Municipality Burning Bylaw B400**

**Motion**

Moved by Councillor MacKeigan, seconded by Councillor MacMullin, to direct staff to conduct a comprehensive review of the current Burning Bylaw B400, and prepare a proposed new bylaw that aligns with and is consistent across all communities within the Cape Breton Regional Municipality. That the enforcement of the Burning Bylaw also be reviewed and addressed to ensure the safety of our firefighters and first responders.

**Motion Carried**



**City Hall**  
**320 Esplanade**  
**Sydney, NS B1P 7B9**

**Council Agenda Request Form**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Included on Agenda</b><br>(Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by 4:30 pm seven days before the meeting) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Late Item</b><br>(Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon the day before the meeting) | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Request from the Floor: (New Business)</b><br>- <b>Announcement</b><br>- <b>Referral</b><br>- <b>Submit Petition</b><br>- <b>Notice of Motion</b> |
|--|--|---|

**Date of Council Meeting: May 5, 2026**

**Subject: The Status of the Burning By-Law**

**Motion for Council to Consider:** That staff be directed to provide a status update on the Burning Bylaw B400 review, including progress on a new consistent bylaw, enforcement and firefighter safety measures, and present this update to Council as soon as possible due to the upcoming backyard fire season and resident requests.

**Reason:**

The existing Burning Bylaw B400 no longer adequately addresses the evolving needs, safety standards, and environmental considerations of all communities within the Cape Breton Regional Municipality. Variations in enforcement, interpretation, and local conditions across the region have led to inconsistencies and confusion among residents. A comprehensive review and update of the bylaw will ensure clarity, fairness, and alignment with current best practices in fire safety and environmental protection. Fire departments are often dispatched to backyard fire pit calls that are non-emergency in nature and where no enforcement action can be taken under the current bylaw. This results in inefficient use of critical emergency resources and exposes firefighters to unnecessary risk. An updated and clearly enforceable bylaw will not only promote consistency across communities but will also help ensure that fire department resources are focused on high-priority responses, improving overall public safety and operational efficiency.

**Outcome Sought:**

A fair and consistent Burning Bylaw throughout the Cape Breton Regional Municipality, ensuring that all residents enjoy the same protections, responsibilities, and benefits regardless of where they live.

*Dave MacKeigan*

*Date: May 4, 2026*

*Received by Clerk's Department (date):*

*May 4, 2026*

