



CITY OF VERNON

BUILDING BYLAW ***#5900***

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

BYLAW 5900

AMENDMENTS

BYLAW NO.	DATE	AMENDMENT
5966	September 11, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AMEND Part 15: ENERGY CONSERVATION AND GHG EMISSION REDUCTION to include provisions for solar ready construction
5993	April 22, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AMEND Part 15: ENERGY CONSERVATION AND GHG EMISSION REDUCTION to include provisions for zero carbon step code requirements

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THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

BYLAW NUMBER 5900

A Bylaw for Administration of the Building Code Regulation of Construction

GIVEN that the City of Vernon Council

- A. may by bylaw regulate, prohibit and impose requirements in respect to buildings and structures under sections 8(3)(g) and (l) of the *Community Charter* for the following under section 53(2):
 - (a) the provision of access to a building or other structure, or to part of a building or other structure, for a person with disabilities;
 - (b) the conservation of energy or water;
 - (c) the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions;
 - (d) the health, safety or protection of persons or property;
- B. is enacting this bylaw to regulate construction and administer the British Columbia *Building Code* in Vernon in accordance with the *Community Charter* and the *Building Act*;
- C. has employed trained building officials for the purposes of this bylaw;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the City of Vernon enacts as follows:

PART 1: TITLE

Citation

- 1.1 This bylaw may be cited as “**City of Vernon Building Bylaw No. 5900, 2021**”.

PART 2: PURPOSE OF BYLAW

- 2.1 Despite any other provision in this bylaw, this bylaw must be interpreted in accordance with this Part.
- 2.2 Every permit issued under this bylaw is issued expressly subject to the provisions of this Part.

- 2.3 This bylaw is enacted to regulate, prohibit and impose requirements in regard to *construction* in the City in the public interest.
- 2.4 The purpose of this bylaw does not extend to:
- (a) the protection of *owners, designers or constructors* from economic loss;
 - (b) the assumption by the City or any *building official* of any responsibility for ensuring the compliance by any *owner*, his or her representatives or any employees, *constructors* or *designers* retained by the *owner*, with the *building code*, the requirements of this bylaw, or other applicable enactments, codes or standards;
 - (c) providing any person a warranty of design or workmanship with respect to any *building* or *structure* for which a *building permit* or *occupancy permit* is issued under this bylaw;
 - (d) providing any person a warranty or assurance that *construction* undertaken under *building permits* issued by the City is free from latent, or any, defects; or
 - (e) the protection of adjacent real property from incidental damage or nuisance.

PART 3: SCOPE AND EXEMPTIONS

Application

- 3.1 This bylaw applies to the geographical area of the City and to land, the surface of water, air space, *buildings* or *structures* in the City.
- 3.2 This bylaw applies to the design, construction or *occupancy* of new *buildings* or *structures*, and the *alteration*, reconstruction, demolition, removal, relocation or *occupancy* or change of use or *occupancy* of *existing buildings* and *structures*.
- 3.3 This bylaw does not apply to
- (a) except as set out in Part 11 [*Retaining Walls*] of this bylaw, a fence;
 - (b) an accessory *building* with a floor area of less than 10 square metres;
 - (c) a trellis, an arbour, a *retaining wall* supporting soil that is less than 1.2 metres in height, or other similar landscape *structures* on a parcel zoned for single-family *residential occupancy* uses under the City's zoning bylaw; and

- (d) a *building* or *structure* commonly known as “Canadian Standards Association Z240 MH series or Z241 series”, except as regulated by the Building Code.
- (e) the non-structural repair and maintenance of lawfully conforming structures on a parcel zoned for single family residential occupancy uses under the City’s zoning bylaw.

Climatic and Seismic Data

3.4 The climatic and seismic values for the design of buildings under the Code shall be in conformance with the values in the BC Building Code for Vernon, British Columbia, except:

- (a) The depth of ground cover for frost protection referred to in the Code shall be a minimum of 900 mm.

Limited Application to Existing Buildings

- 3.5 Except as provided in the *building code* or to the extent an *existing building* is under *construction* or does not have an *occupancy permit*, when an *existing building* has been *constructed* before the enactment of this bylaw, the enactment of this bylaw is not to be interpreted as requiring that the *building* must be *reconstructed* and *altered*, unless it is expressly so provided by this or another bylaw, regulation or statute.
- 3.6 This bylaw applies if the whole or any part of an *existing building* is moved either within or into the City, including relocation relative to parcel lines created by subdivision or consolidation. Part 12 applies to *building* moves.
- 3.7 If an *alteration* is made to an *existing building* the *alteration* must comply with this bylaw and the *building code* and the entire building must be made to comply with this bylaw and the *building code*, but only to the extent necessary to address any new infractions introduced in the remainder of the building as a result of the *alteration*.
- 3.8 If an *alteration* creates an *addition* to an *existing building*, the *alteration* or *addition* must comply with this bylaw and the *building code* and the entire building must be made to comply with this bylaw and the *building code*, but only to the extent necessary to address any new infractions introduced in the remainder of the building as a result of the *alteration* or *addition*.

PART 4: PROHIBITIONS

- 4.1 A person must not commence or continue any *construction, alteration, excavation*, reconstruction, demolition, removal, relocation or change the use or *occupancy* of any *building* or *structure*, including other work related to construction
- (a) except in conformity with the requirements of the *building code* and this bylaw; and
 - (b) unless a *building official* has issued a valid and subsisting *permit* for the work under this bylaw.
- 4.2 A person must not *occupy* or *permit* the *occupancy* of any *building* or *structure* or part of any *building* or *structure*
- (a) unless a subsisting occupancy permit has been issued by a *building official* for the *building* or *structure* or the part of the *building* or *structure*; or
 - (b) contrary to the terms of any *permit* issued or any notice given by a *building official*.
- 4.3 A person must not knowingly submit false or misleading information to a *building official* in relation to any *permit* application or construction undertaken pursuant to this bylaw.
- 4.4 Except in accordance with this bylaw, including acceptance of revised plans or supporting documents, a person must not erase, alter or modify plans and supporting documents after the same have been reviewed by the *building official*, or plans and supporting documents which have been filed for reference with the *building official* after a *permit* has been issued.
- 4.5 A person must not, unless authorized in writing by a *building official*, reverse, alter, deface, cover, remove or in any way tamper with any notice, *permit* or certificate posted or affixed to a *building* or *structure* pursuant to this bylaw.
- 4.6 A person must not do any work that is substantially at variance with the *accepted* design or plans of a *building, structure* or other works for which a *permit* has been issued, unless that variance has been authorized in writing by a *building official*.
- 4.7 A person must not interfere with or obstruct the entry of a *building official* or other authorized official of the City on property in the administration of this bylaw.

- 4.8 A person must not *construct* on a *parcel* unless the civic address is conspicuously posted on the front of the premises or on a sign post so it may be easily read from the public highway from which it takes its address.
- 4.9 A person must not contravene an administrative requirement of a *building official* made under section 6.6 or any other provision of this bylaw.
- 4.10 A person must not change the use, *occupancy* or both of a *building* or *structure* or a part of a *building* or *structure* without first applying for and obtaining a *building permit* under this bylaw.

PART 5: PERMIT CONDITIONS

- 5.1 A *permit* is required if work regulated under this bylaw is to be undertaken.
- 5.2 Neither the issuance of a *permit* under this bylaw, nor the acceptance or review of plans, drawings, specifications or supporting documents, nor any inspections made by or on behalf of the City will in any way
- (a) relieve the *owner* (and if the *owner* is acting through an *agent*, the *agent* of the *owner*) from full and sole responsibility to perform the work in respect of which the *permit* was issued in strict compliance with this bylaw, the *building code*, and all other applicable codes, standards and enactments;
 - (b) constitute a representation, warranty, assurance or statement that the *building code*, this bylaw or any other applicable enactments respecting safety, protection, land use and zoning have been complied with; or
 - (c) constitute a representation or warranty that the *building or structure* meets any standard of materials or workmanship.
- 5.3 No person shall rely on any *permit* as establishing compliance with this bylaw or assume or conclude that this bylaw has been administered or enforced according to its terms.
- 5.4 Without limiting section 5.2(a), it is the full and sole responsibility of the *owner* (and if the *owner* is acting through a representative, the representative of the *owner*) to carry out the work in respect of which the *permit* was issued in compliance with the *building code*, this bylaw and all other applicable codes, standards and enactments.

PART 6: POWERS OF A BUILDING OFFICIAL

Administration

- 6.1 Words defining the authority of a *building official* are to be construed as internal administrative powers and not as creating a duty.
- 6.2 A *building official* may
- (a) administer this bylaw, but owes no public duty to enforce or administer this bylaw;
 - (b) keep records of applications received, *permits*, notices and orders issued, inspections and tests made, and may retain copies of all papers and documents connected with the administration of this bylaw;
 - (c) establish or require an *owner* to establish whether a method or type of construction or material used in the construction of a *building* or *structure* complies with the requirements and provisions of this bylaw and the *building code*; and
 - (d) direct that tests of materials, equipment, devices, construction methods, structural assemblies or *foundations* be carried out, or that sufficient evidence or proof be submitted by the *owner*, at the *owner's* sole expense, where such evidence or proof is necessary to determine whether the material, equipment, device, construction or *foundation* condition complies with this bylaw and the *building code*.

Refusal and Revocation of Permits

- 6.3 A *building official* may refuse to issue a *permit* if the proposed work will contravene the requirements of the *building code* or the provisions of this or any other bylaw of the City, and must state the reason in writing.
- 6.4 A *building official* may revoke a *permit* if, in their opinion, the results of tests on materials, devices, construction methods, structural assemblies or *foundation* conditions contravene the *building code* or the provisions of this bylaw, or both, or if all *permits* required under this bylaw have not been obtained.

Right of Entry

- 6.5 Subject to section 16 of the *Community Charter*, a *building official* may enter on property at any time to ascertain whether the requirements of this bylaw are being met, or if the *building official* has any reason to believe that an unsafe condition exists.

Powers

- 6.6 Subject to applicable enactments, a *building official* may by notice in writing require
- (a) a person who contravenes any provision of this bylaw to comply with that provision within the time ordered;
 - (b) an *owner* to stop work on a *building* or *structure*, or any part of a *building* or *structure*, if the work is proceeding in contravention of this bylaw, the *building code*, or any other enactment of the City or other applicable enactments, or if there is deemed to be an *unsafe condition*, and may enter on property to affix or post a stop work order in the prescribed form;
 - (c) an *owner* to remove or prevent any unauthorized encroachment on a public parcel, a statutory right of way or easement, or a setback or yard required under an enactment;
 - (d) an *owner* to remove any *building* or *structure*, or any part of a *building* or *structure*, *constructed* in contravention of a provision of this bylaw;
 - (e) an *owner* to have work inspected by a *building official* prior to covering;
 - (f) an *owner* to uncover any work that has been covered without inspection contrary to this bylaw or an order issued by a *building official*;
 - (g) a person to cease any *occupancy* in contravention of a provision of this bylaw;
 - (h) a person to cease any *occupancy* if any *unsafe condition* exists because of work being undertaken but not complete and where the *building official* has not issued a final inspection notice for the work;
 - (i) an *owner* to correct any unsafe condition; and
 - (j) an *owner* to correct any work that contravenes this bylaw, the *building code*, or any other enactment.
- 6.7 Every reference to “*owner*” in section 6.6 includes a reference to the *owner’s* agent or *constructor*.
- 6.8 Every person served with a notice under this Part must comply with that notice
- (i) within the time ordered, or
 - (ii) if no time is ordered, immediately.

PART 7: OWNER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Permit Requirements

- 7.1 Subject to Part 10 of this bylaw, every *owner* must apply for and obtain a *permit*, prior to
- (a) *constructing*, repairing or *altering* a *building* or *structure*, including a *pool* or *retaining wall*;
 - (b) installation and alteration of plumbing systems;
 - (c) moving a *building* or *structure* into or within the City;
 - (d) demolishing a *building* or *structure*;
 - (e) *constructing* a masonry fireplace or installing a wood-burning appliance or chimney, whether attached to, part of or detached from a *building*; and
 - (e) changing the use or *occupancy* of a *building*,
- unless the works are the subject of another valid and subsisting *building permit*.
- 7.2 Every *owner* must ensure that plans submitted with a *permit* application bear the name, phone number, address and email address of the *designer* of the *building* or *structure*.

Owner's Obligations

- 7.3 Every *owner* must
- (a) comply with the *building code*, the requirements of this bylaw and the conditions of a *permit*, and must not omit any work required by the *building code*, this bylaw or the conditions of a *permit*;
 - (b) ensure that all *permits*, all plans and specifications and supporting documents on which a *permit* was based, all municipal inspection certificates, and all professional *field reviews* are available at the site of the work for inspection during working hours by the *building official*, and that all *permits* are posted conspicuously on the site during the entire execution of the work; and
 - (c) prior to the issuance of a *building permit*, execute and submit to the City an *owner's* undertaking in the prescribed form, where required by the *building official*.

- 7.4 Every *owner* and every owner's *agent*, must carry out *construction* or have the *construction* carried out in accordance with the requirements of the *building code*, this bylaw and other bylaws of the City and none of the issuance of a *permit* under this bylaw, the review of plans and supporting documents, or inspections made by a *building official* or a *registered professional* shall relieve the *owner*, or his or her *agent*, from full and sole responsibility to perform the work in strict accordance with this bylaw, the *building code* and all other applicable codes, standards and enactments.
- 7.5 Every *owner* must allow a *building official* to enter any *building* or premises at any reasonable time to administer and enforce this bylaw. Every *owner* to whom a *permit* is issued must, during construction,
- (a) post the civic address on the property so that it may be easily read from the public highway from which the property takes its address; and
 - (b) post the *permit* on the property so that it may be easily read from the public highway from which the property takes its address.

Damage to Municipal Works

- 7.6 Every *owner* to whom a *permit* is issued is responsible for the cost to repair any damage to municipal works or land that occurs during and arises directly or indirectly from the work authorized by the *permit*.
- 7.7 In addition to payment of a security deposit under sections 10.8 to 10.12, every *owner* must pay to the City, within 30 days of receiving an invoice for same from the City, the cost to repair any damage to public property or works located on public property arising directly or indirectly from work for which a *permit* was issued.

Demolition

- 7.8 Prior to obtaining a *permit* to demolish a *building* or *structure*, the *owner* must
- (a) provide to the City a vacancy date;
 - (b) include a copy of a title search for the relevant property made within 30 days of the date of the *permit* application;
 - (c) ensure that all municipal services and other services are capped and terminated at the property line;
 - (d) provide a hazardous materials survey report and remediation clearance letter for buildings constructed prior to 1990.

- 7.9 Every *owner* must ensure that, on completion of all demolition procedures, all debris and fill are cleared and the *site* is levelled or graded, or made safe if levelling and grading are not possible.

Notice

- 7.10 Every *owner* must give written or online notice to a *building official* of any change in or termination of engagement of a *registered professional*, including a *coordinating registered professional*, during construction, within 24 hours of when the change or termination occurs.
- 7.11 If an *owner* or a *registered professional* terminates the engagement of the *registered professional*, including a *coordinating registered professional*, the *owner* must terminate all work under a *building permit* until the *owner* has engaged a new *registered professional*, including a *coordinating registered professional*, and has delivered to a *building official* new letters of assurance.
- 7.12 Without limiting sections 10.29 to 10.44, every *owner* must give at least 24 hours' online or written notice to a *building official*
- (a) of intent to do work that is required or ordered to be corrected during *construction*;
 - (b) of intent to cover work that is required under this bylaw to be, or has been ordered to be, inspected prior to covering; and
 - (c) when work has been completed so that a final inspection can be made.
- 7.13 Every *owner* must give notice in writing to a *building official* immediately upon any change in ownership or change in the address of the *owner* which occurs prior to the issuance of an *occupancy permit*.
- 7.14 Every *owner* must give such other notice to a *building official* as may be required by the *building official* or by a provision of this bylaw.

PART 8: OBLIGATIONS OF OWNER'S CONSTRUCTOR

- 8.1 Every *constructor* must ensure that all *construction* is done in compliance with all requirements of the *building code*, this bylaw and all other applicable, codes, standards and enactments.
- 8.2 Every *constructor* must ensure that no *excavation* or other work is undertaken on public property, and that no public is disturbed, no *building* or *structure* erected, and no materials stored thereon, in whole or in part, without first

having obtained approval in writing from the appropriate authority over such public property.

- 8.3 For the purposes of the administration and enforcement of this bylaw, every *constructor* is responsible jointly and severally with the *owner* for all work undertaken.

PART 9: REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Professional Design and Field Review

- 9.1 The provision by the *owner* to the City of letters of assurance in accordance with the requirements of the *building code* shall occur prior to
- (a) the pre-occupancy site review coordinated by the *coordinating registered professional* or other *registered professional* for a *complex building*, or
 - (b) a final inspection for a *simple building* in circumstances where letters of assurance have been required in accordance with the requirements of the *building code*, in which case the *owner* must provide the City with letters of assurance in the form of Schedules C-A or C-B, as appropriate, referred to in subsection 2.2.7, Division C, of the *building code*.
- 9.2 If a *registered professional* provides letters of assurance in accordance with the *building code*, they must also provide proof of professional liability insurance to the *building official* in the form and amount set by the prescribed form.

Requirement for a Registered Professional

- 9.3 The *owner* must retain a *registered professional* to provide a *professional design* and plan certification and letters of assurance in the form of Schedules A, B, C-A and C-B referred to in subsection 2.2.7, Division C, of the *building code*, in respect of a *permit* application
- (a) prior to the pre-occupancy site review coordinated by the *coordinating registered professional* or other *registered professional* for a *complex building*, or
 - (b) prior to a final inspection for a *simple building* in circumstances where letters of assurance have been required in accordance with the requirements of the *building code*, in which case the *owner* must provide the City with letters of assurance in the form of Schedules C-A or C-B, as appropriate, referred to in subsection 2.2.7, Division C, of the *building code*;

- (c) *foundation* and *excavation* components of new *simple buildings* and *additions* greater than 55 square metres to *simple buildings* in accordance with the *building code*, except where an unsafe condition may exist;
- (d) a *building* that is designed with common egress systems for the occupants and requires the use of *firewalls* in accordance with the *building code*;
- (e) prior to *alterations* to a *building*, or to a structural component of a *building* described in paragraph (b);
- (f) for a *building* in respect of which the *building official* determines that site conditions, size or complexity so warrant in the interests of safety of persons or protection of property under the *building code*;
- (g) if the *building* envelope components of the *building* fall under Division B Part 3 of the *building code*, the *building* contains more than two dwellings, or if the *building* envelopes do not comply with the prescriptive requirements of Division B Part 9 of the *building code*; and
- (h) for a parcel of land on which a *building* or *structure* is proposed if the *building official* believes the parcel is or is likely to be subject to flooding, mud flows, debris flows, debris torrents, erosion, land slip, rock falls, subsidence or avalanche, and the requirement for a *professional design* is in addition to a requirement under Division 8 of Part 3 of the *Community Charter*
 - (i) for a report certified by a professional engineer with experience in geotechnical engineering that the parcel may be used safely for the use intended, and
 - (ii) that the plans submitted with the application comply with the relevant provisions of the *building code* and applicable bylaws of the City.

9.4 The *building official* may require any *registered professional* carrying out the *professional design* and *field review* required under section 9.3 to provide evidence that they have experience and expertise in respect of the *professional design* and *field review* of the context and scope required.

Professional Plan Certification

9.5 The letters of assurance in the form of Schedules A and B as referred to in subsection 2.2.7, Division C, of the *building code* referred to in sections 9.1 and 9.3 are relied upon by the City and *its building officials* as certification that the

design and plans to which the letters of assurance refer comply with the *building code*, this bylaw and other applicable enactment.

- 9.6 Letters of assurance must be in the form of Schedules A and B referred to in subsection 2.2.7, Division C, of the *building code*.
- 9.7 For a building permit issued for the construction of a *complex building*, the building official shall provide the *owner* with a notice that the *building permit* is issued in reliance on the certification of the *registered professional* that the *professional design* and plans submitted in support of the application for the *building permit* comply with the *building code* and other applicable enactments. Any failure on the part of the building official to provide the *owner* with the notice will not diminish or invalidate the reliance by the City or its *building officials* on the *registered professionals*.
- 9.8 If a *building permit* is issued for a construction of a *complex building*, the *permit* fee is reduced as prescribed in the current City of Vernon Fees and Charges Bylaw.

PART 10: BUILDING APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Requirements Before Applying for a Building Permit

- 10.1 Prior to issuance of a *building permit*, the *owner* must satisfy the following requirements or conditions:
- (a) the *owner* must apply for and obtain a development permit if the *building* or *structure* is in an area designated by the City's Official Community Plan as a development *permit* area;
 - (b) the *owner* must ensure that the proposed *building* or *structure* complies with all bylaws of the City, except to the extent a variance of a bylaw is authorized by a development *permit*, development variance permit or order of the Board of Variance;
 - (c) an approving officer must have approved the subdivision plan that, once registered, would create the parcel on which the proposed *building* or *structure* will be *constructed*, and the subdivision plan must have been registered in the Land Title Office;
 - (d) the *owner* must provide evidence to the *building official* showing that the person applying for the *building permit* is either the *owner* of the parcel that is the subject of the proposed *building permit*, or is the *agent* of the

owner, in which case, the *agent* must provide the name and contact information of the *owner*;

- (e) if the parcel that is the subject of the *building permit* application is not intended to be connected to the City's sewage disposal system, the *owner* must apply for and obtain approval from the City and other applicable public authorities for an alternate *private sewage disposal system*;
- (f) if the parcel that is the subject of the *building permit* application is not intended to be connected to the City's waterworks system, the *owner* must apply for and obtain approval from the City and other applicable public authorities for an alternate water supply system;
- (g) if the parcel that is the subject of the *building permit* application is not intended to be connected to The City's storm water drainage system, the *owner* must apply for and obtain approval from the City and other applicable public authorities for the alternate storm water drainage and detention system; and
- (h) if all on site and off site works and services required by a City bylaw or other enactment have not been completed in accordance with the enactments, the *owner* must enter into a completion agreement with the City and deliver to the City letters of credit or cash security for completion of the works and service.

Building Permit Applications for Complex Buildings

10.2 An application for a *building permit* with respect to a *complex building* must

- (a) be made in the prescribed form and signed by the *owner*, or a signing officer if the *owner* is a corporation;
- (b) be accompanied by the *owner's* acknowledgement of responsibility and undertaking made in the prescribed form and signed by the *owner*, or a signing officer if the *owner* is a corporation;
- (c) include a copy of a title search for the relevant property made within 30 days of the date of the *permit* application;
- (d) include a *building code* compliance summary including the applicable edition of the *building code*, such as without limitation whether the building is designed under Part 3 or Part 9 of the building code, *major occupancy* classification(s) of the *building*, *building area* and *building height*, number

of streets the *building* faces, and *accessible* entrances, work areas, washrooms, firewalls and facilities;

- (e) include a copy of a survey plan prepared by a British Columbia land surveyor;
- (f) include a construction fire safety plan, material staging and trucking route plan;
- (g) include a site plan prepared by a *registered professional* showing
 - (i) the bearing and dimensions of the parcel taken from the registered subdivision plan;
 - (ii) the legal description and civic address of the parcel;
 - (iii) the location and dimensions of *existing* and proposed statutory rights of way, easements and setback requirements, adjacent street and lane names;
 - (iv) the location and dimensions of *existing* and proposed *buildings* or *structures* on the parcel;
 - (v) setbacks to the natural boundary of any lake, swamp, pond or watercourse;
 - (vi) north arrow;
 - (vii) if applicable, location of an approved *existing* or proposed private or other alternative sewage disposal system, water supply system or storm water drainage system;
 - (viii) zoning compliance summary;
 - (ix) the location, dimensions and gradient of parking and parking access;
 - (x) proposed and *existing* setbacks to property lines;
 - (xi) natural and finished grade at *building* corners and significant breaks in the building plan and proposed grade around the *building* faces in order to ascertain *foundation* height;
 - (xii) first storey floor elevation;

- (xiii) location, setbacks and elevations of all *retaining walls*, steps, stairs and decks;
- (xiv) line of upper floors;
- (xv) location and elevation of curbs, sidewalks, manholes, and service poles;
- (xvi) location of *existing* and proposed service connections;
- (xvii) location and species of all trees greater than 10 centimetres in diameter;
- (xviii) location of top of bank and water courses;
- (xix) access routes for firefighting;
- (xx) *accessible* paths of travel from the street to the *building*; and
- (xxi) geodetic elevation of the underside of a wood floor system or the top of a finished concrete slab of a *building* or *structure* where the City's land use regulations or provincial flood mapping regulations establish siting requirements related to minimum floor elevation,

except that the *building official* may waive, in whole or in part, the requirements for a site plan, if the *permit* is sought for the repair or *alteration* of an *existing building* or *structure*;

- (h) include floor plans showing the dimensions and uses and *occupancy* classification of all areas, including: the dimensions and height of crawl and roof spaces; the location, size and swing of doors; the location, size and opening of windows; floor, wall, and ceiling finishes; fire separations; plumbing fixtures; structural elements; and stair dimensions;
- (i) include a cross-section through the *building* or *structure* in sufficient detail and locations to illustrate *foundations*, drainage, ceiling heights and constructions systems;
- (j) include elevations of all sides of the *building* or *structure* showing finish details, roof slopes, windows, doors, natural and finished *grade*, spatial separations and ridge height to comply with the *building code* and to illustrate that the *building* or *structure* conforms with the City zoning bylaw and development permit;

- (k) include cross-sectional details drawn at an appropriate scale and at sufficient locations to illustrate that the *building* conforms to the *building code*;
- (l) include all other requirements of sections 2.2.1, 2.2.3, 2.2.4, 2.2.5, 2.2.6 and 2.2.9, Division C of the *building code*;
- (m) include copies of approvals required under any enactment relating to health or safety, including, without limitation, sewage disposal *permits*, highway access *permits* and ministry of health approvals;
- (n) include a letter of assurance in the form of Schedule A referred to in subsection 2.2.7 Division C, of the *building code*, signed by the *owner*, or a signing officer if the *owner* is a corporation, and the *coordinating registered professional*;
- (o) include letters of assurance in the form of Schedule B referred to in subsection 2.2.7 Division C, of the *building code*, each signed by such *registered professionals* as the *building official* or *building code* may require to prepare the design for and conduct *field reviews* of the construction of the *building*;
- (p) include two sets of drawings at a suitable scale of the design prepared by each *registered professional* containing the information set out in (g) to (k) of this section; and
- (q) include illustration of any slopes on the subject parcel that exceed 30%.

10.3 In addition to the requirements of section 10.2 of this bylaw, a *building official* may require the following to be submitted with a *permit* application for the construction of a *complex building* if the complexity of the proposed *building* or *structure* or siting circumstances warrant

- (a) site servicing drawings, including sufficient detail of off-site services to indicate locations at the property line, prepared and sealed by a *registered professional*, in accordance with the City's subdivision and development servicing bylaw;
- (b) a section through the site showing grades, *buildings*, *structures*, parking areas and driveways; and
- (c) any other information required by the *building official* or the *building code* to establish substantial compliance with this bylaw, the *building code* and other bylaws and enactments relating to the *building* or *structure*.

Building Permit Applications for Simple Buildings

- 10.4 An application for a *building permit* with respect to a *simple building* must
- (a) be made in the prescribed form and signed by the *owner*, or a signing officer if the *owner* is a corporation;
 - (b) be accompanied by the *owner's* acknowledgment of responsibility and undertaking made in the prescribed form and signed by the *owner*, or a signing officer if the *owner* is a corporation;
 - (c) include a copy of a title search for the relevant property made within 30 days of the date of the *permit* application;
 - (d) include a copy of a survey plan prepared by a British Columbia land surveyor except that the *building official* may waive the requirement for a survey plan, in whole or in part, where conditions warrant;
 - (e) include a site plan showing
 - (i) the bearing and dimensions of the parcel taken from the registered subdivision plan;
 - (ii) the legal description and civic address of the parcel;
 - (iii) the location and dimensions of *existing* and proposed statutory rights of way, easements and setback requirements, adjacent street and lane names;
 - (iv) the location and dimensions of *existing* and proposed *buildings* or *structures* on the parcel;
 - (v) setbacks to the natural boundary of any lake, swamp, pond or watercourse;
 - (vi) north arrow;
 - (vii) if applicable, location of an approved *existing* or proposed alternative private or other sewage disposal system, water supply system or storm water drainage system;
 - (viii) the location, dimensions and gradient of parking and parking access;
 - (ix) proposed and *existing* setbacks to property lines;

- (x) natural and finished grade at *building* corners and datum determination points;
- (xi) *first storey* floor elevation;
- (xii) location, setbacks and elevations of all *retaining walls*, steps, stairs and decks;
- (xiii) line of upper floors;
- (xiv) location and elevation of curbs, sidewalks, manholes and service poles;
- (xv) location of *existing* and proposed service connections;
- (xvi) location and species of all trees greater than 10 centimetres in diameter;
- (xvii) location of top bank and water courses;
- (xviii) access routes for firefighting;
- (xix) *accessible* paths of travel from the street to the *building*;
- (xx) zoning compliance summary; and
- (xxi) the geodetic elevation of the underside of a wood floor system or the top of a finished concrete slab of a *building* or *structure* where the City's land use regulations or provincial flood mapping regulations establish siting requirements related to minimum floor elevation,

except that for a *simple building* the *building official* may waive, in whole or in part, the requirements for a site plan, if the *permit* is sought for the repair or *alteration* of an *existing building*;

- (f) include floor plans showing the dimensions and uses of all areas, including: the dimensions and height of crawl and roof spaces; the location, size and swing of doors; the location, size and opening of windows; floor, wall, and ceiling finishes; plumbing fixtures; structural elements; and stair dimensions;
- (g) include a cross-section through the *building* illustrating *foundations*, drainage, ceiling heights and construction systems;

- (h) include elevations of all sides of the *building* showing finish details, roof slopes, windows, doors, the *grade*, the maximum *building height* line, ridge height, spatial separations and natural and finished *grade* to comply with the *building code* and to illustrate that the *building* or *structure* conforms with the City zoning and development permit;
- (i) include cross-sectional details drawn at an appropriate scale and at sufficient locations to illustrate that the *building* or *structure* substantially conforms to the *building code*;
- (j) include copies of approvals required under any enactment relating to health or safety, including, without limitation, sewage disposal *permits*, highway access *permits* and Ministry of Health approvals;
- (k) except for garages, carports and garden structures located on land, include a *foundation* and *excavation* design prepared by a *registered professional* in accordance with the *building code*;
- (l) include geotechnical letters of assurance, in addition to a required geotechnical report, if the *building official* determines that the site conditions so warrant;
- (m) include two sets of drawings at a suitable scale of design including the information set out in (f) to (i) of this section; and
- (n) include a *building code* compliance summary including the applicable edition of the *building code*, such as, without limitation, whether the *building* is designed under Part 3 or Part 9 and compliance with article 2.2.2.1(2), Division C of the *building code*.

10.5 In addition to the requirements of section 10.4 of this Part, if a *project* involves

- (a) two or more *buildings*, the gross floor areas of which in the aggregate total more than 1000 square metres;
- (b) two or more *buildings* that will contain four or more dwelling units; or
- (c) otherwise if the complexity of the proposed *building* or *structure* or siting circumstances warrant,

a *building official* may require the following be submitted with a *permit* application for the construction of each *simple building* in the *project*:

- (d) a section through the site showing grades, *buildings*, *structures*, parking areas and driveways;

- (e) a roof plan and roof height calculations;
- (f) structural, electrical, plumbing, mechanical or fire suppression drawings prepared and sealed by a *registered professional*;
- (g) letters of assurance in the prescribed form referred to in Division C of the *building code*, signed by a *registered professional*; and
- (h) any other information required by the *building official* or the *building code* to establish substantial compliance with this bylaw, the *building code* and other bylaws and enactments relating to the *building* or *structure*.

Site and Location Information

10.6 Without limiting sections 10.2(g) or 10.4(e) of this Part, the *building official* may in writing require an *owner* to submit an up-to-date plan or survey prepared by a registered British Columbia land surveyor which contains sufficient information respecting the site and location of any *building* to

- (a) establish, before *construction* begins, that all the provisions of this bylaw in relation to this information will be complied with;
- (b) verify, on completion of the *construction*, that all provisions of this and other applicable bylaw have been complied with;
- (c) in relation to an *existing building*, substantiate its location, size, including appurtenances whether above, at or below ground level, relative to the site or its relationship to neighbouring grades; and
- (d) in relation to *construction* of a new *building*, or *addition* to an *existing building*, prior to and after the placement of concrete for *foundations* and footings, show the *elevation* at proposed top of concrete on all *building* elevations and at all significant changes of elevation to substantiate its size, location and elevation,

and every person served with a written requirement under this section must comply with the requirement.

Building Permit Fee

10.7 Before receiving a *building permit* for a *building* or *structure*, the *owner* must first pay to the City

- (a) the *building permit* fee prescribed in the current City of Vernon Fees and Charges Bylaw; and

- (b) any fees, charges, levies or taxes imposed by the City and payable under an enactment at the time of issuance of the *building permit*.

Security Deposit with Building Permit Application

- 10.8 An applicant for a *building permit* must pay to the City, at the time of the application, a security deposit as prescribed in the current City of Vernon Fees and Charges Bylaw.
- 10.9 The security deposit sum set out in section 10.8 of this Part
 - (a) covers the cost borne by the City to maintain, restore or replace any public works or public lands which are destroyed, damaged or otherwise impaired in the carrying out of the work referred to in any *building permit* held by the applicant;
 - (b) covers the cost borne by the City to make the site safe if the *permit* holder abandons or fails to complete the work as designated on the *permit*;
 - (c) serves as the security deposit for provisional *occupancy* when such a *final inspection notice* makes provision for a security deposit; or
 - (d) serves as a security deposit to effect compliance with any condition under which the *permit* was issued.
- 10.10 The security deposit or applicable portion must be returned to the applicant
 - (a) when the *building official* is satisfied that no further damage to public works or public lands will occur;
 - (b) when the inspections required by this bylaw are complete and acceptable to the *building official*; and
 - (c) when the conditions or provisions of a provisional certificate of *occupancy* are completed to the satisfaction of the *building official*
- 10.11 Any credit greater than the amount of the security deposit used by the City for the purposes described in sections 10.8 to 10.10 of this Part will be returned to the *permit* holder unless otherwise so directed by the *permit* holder. Any amount in excess of the security deposit required by the City to complete corrective work to public lands, public works, or the site is recoverable by the City from the *permit* holder, the *constructor* or the *owner* of the property.
- 10.12 If the proposed work includes *excavation* or construction on lands within 3 metres of works or services owned by the City, the *owner* must deliver to the

building official a signed agreement in a form prescribed by the City under which the *owner* acknowledges and agrees that any damage to municipal works or services arising from the construction associated with the *building permit* will be repaired by the *owner* at its expense and to the satisfaction of the Director of Operation Services, and the *owner* must deposit with the City security in accordance with sections 10.8 to 10.11 of this Part.

Permit Fee Refunds

- 10.13 No fee or part of a fee paid to the City may be refunded if construction of the *building* has started.
- 10.14 A *building permit* or other *permit* fee may be partially refunded as set out in the current City of Vernon Fees and Charges Bylaw only if
- (a) the *owner* has submitted a written request for a refund;
 - (b) the *building official* has certified a start has not been made on the construction of the *building* or *structure*; and
 - (c) the *permit* has not expired.
- 10.15 A *building permit* or other *permit* fee is not refundable after the *permit* has been extended under section 10.46 of this Part.

Design Modification

- 10.16 If an issued *building permit* or other *permit* is active and the *owner* proposes modification to the *building* design whereby the value of the work does not increase or the value of the work decreases, the *owner* must pay to the City a *building permit* fee based on the plan review rate set out in the current City of Vernon Fees and Charges Bylaw.

Construction Before Permit Issued

- 10.17 The *building permit* or other *permit* fee is doubled for every *permit* application if construction commenced before the *building official* issued a *permit*, to a maximum of \$10,000.00.
- 10.18 If construction has advanced without inspection to a stage where compliance with this bylaw or other applicable enactments, standards, or bylaws cannot be readily determined, the *building official* may require tests and investigations by an independent agency at the owner's expense to establish compliance or provide recommended remedial measures to be taken, prior to the issuance of a *permit*.

Expiration of Application for a Permit

- 10.19 A *building permit* or a plumbing *permit* application expires 180 days from the date a complete application is received under this Part if the *building permit* or plumbing *permit* is not issued by the application expiration date, unless the *permit* is not issued only due to delays caused by the City.

Issuance of a Building Permit

- 10.20 If
- (a) a completed application in compliance with sections 10.2 and 10.3 or sections 10.4 and 10.5 of this Part, including all required supporting documentation, has been submitted;
 - (b) the *owner* has paid all applicable fees set out in sections 10.7 to 10.17 of this Part and the current City of Vernon Fees and Charges Bylaw;
 - (c) the *owner* or his or her representative has paid all charges and met all requirements imposed by any other statute or bylaw;
 - (d) the *owner* has retained a professional engineer or geoscientist if required under this bylaw;
 - (e) the *owner* has retained an architect if required under this bylaw; and
 - (f) no covenant, agreement, resolution or regulation of the City requires or authorizes the *permit* to be withheld,

the *building official* must issue the *permit*, in the prescribed form, for which the application is made, and the date of issuance is deemed to be the date the City gives written notice to the *owner* that the *permit* is ready to be picked up by the *owner*.

- 10.21 Despite section 10.20, the *building official* may refuse to issue a *permit* when the *owner* has been notified of a violation of this bylaw about the construction of another *building* or *structure* by the *owner*.

Compliance with the *Homeowner Protection Act*

- 10.22 If the application is in respect of a *building* that includes, or will include, a *residential occupancy* governed by the *Homeowner Protection Act*, the *building permit* must not be issued unless the *owner* provides evidence under section 30(1) of the *Homeowner Protection Act*, that the proposed *building*
- (a) is covered by home warranty insurance; and

(b) the *constructor* is a licensed “residential builder” as defined in that Act.

10.23 Section 10.22 of this Part does not apply if the *owner* is not required to be licensed and to obtain home warranty insurance in accordance with sections 20(1) or 30(1) of the *Homeowner Protection Act*.

10.24 Every *permit* is issued subject to the *owner* and *constructor* maintaining compliance with the *Homeowner Protection Act* and negotiations under it during the term of the *permit*.

Partial Construction

10.25 If a site has been *excavated* under a *building permit* for *excavation* issued under this bylaw and a *building permit* is not subsequently issued or a subsisting *building permit* has expired under section 10.46, but without the construction of the *building* or *structure* for which the *building permit* was issued having commenced, the *owner* must fill in the *excavation* to restore the original gradients of the site within 60 days of being served notice by the City to do so.

10.26 If a *building permit* has expired and partial construction has progressed, with no extension requested of the *building official* under section 10.47, permanent type fencing with privacy screen complying with the City’s Zoning Bylaw, must be erected around the *building* site for protection to the public.

Conditions of a Building Permit

10.27 A *building permit* or an application for a *building permit* that is in process may not be transferred or assigned until the *owner* has notified the *building official* in writing, the *building official* has authorized the transfer or assignment in writing. The transfer or assignment of a *building permit* is not an extension of a *building permit*.

10.28 The review of plans and supporting documents and issuance of a *building permit* do not prevent the *building official* from subsequently requiring the correction of errors in the plans and supporting documents, or from prohibiting *building* construction or *occupancy* being carried on when in violation of this or another bylaw.

Inspections

10.29 If a *registered professional* provides letters of assurance in accordance with this Part, the City will rely solely on *field reviews* undertaken by the *registered professional* and the letters of assurance submitted pursuant to this bylaw and the *building code* as assurance that the construction substantially conforms to

the design, plans and specifications and that the construction complies with the *building code*, this bylaw and other applicable enactments respecting safety.

- 10.30 Despite section 10.29 of this Part, a *building official* may attend the site from time to time during the course of construction to ascertain that the *field reviews* are taking place and to monitor the *field reviews* undertaken by the *registered professionals*.
- 10.31 A *building official* may attend periodically at the site of the construction of *simple buildings* or *structures* to ascertain whether the work is being carried out in substantial conformance with the *building code*, this bylaw and any other applicable enactments concerning safety.
- 10.32 For all work in respect of *simple buildings* the *owner* must give at least 48 hours' notice to the City when requesting an inspection and must obtain an inspection and receive a *building official's* written acceptance of the following aspects of the work prior to concealing them
- (a) after demolition, the grading of and removal of debris from the site;
 - (b) *foundation* and footing forms, before concrete is poured, provided that after concrete is poured, a British Columbia Land Surveyor certificate is received prior to any other inspections other than inspection 10.32(c) being performed;
 - (c) installation of foundation drainage and damp-proofing, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, and water services, prior to backfilling;
 - (d) prior to inspection under section 10.32(e), plumbing located below the finished slab level;
 - (e) the preparation of ground, including ground cover when required, perimeter insulation on inside of concrete *foundation* walls and reinforcing steel;
 - (f) after inspection under section 10.32(e) hydronic heating pipes and below slab insulation;
 - (g) installation of rough-in plumbing before it is covered;
 - (h) rough in of factory built chimneys and fireplaces and solid fuel burning appliances;
 - (i) framing, sheathing, fire stopping (including drywall in fire separations), bracing, chimney and ductwork, rough wiring, rough plumbing, rough

heating, gas venting, exterior doors and windows, but prior to the installation of insulation, interior finishes, sheathing paper or exterior finishes which would conceal such work;

- (j) insulation, air and vapour barrier, prior to installation of interior finish;
 - (k) occupancy and final, after the *health and safety aspects of the work* and the conservation, GHG emission reduction and accessibility aspects of the work when the *building* or *structure* is substantially complete, ready for *occupancy* but prior to *occupancy*.
- 10.33 A *building official* will only carry out an inspection under section 10.32 if the *owner* or the *owner's agent* has requested the inspection online or in writing in accordance with this bylaw.
- 10.34 Despite the requirement for the *building official's* acceptance of the work outlined in section 10.32, if a *registered professional* provides letters of assurance, the City will rely solely on *field reviews* undertaken by the *registered professional* and the letters of assurance submitted pursuant to this bylaw as assurance that the aspects of the construction referenced by those letters of assurance substantially conform to the *design*, plans and specifications and that the construction complies with the *building code*, this bylaw and other applicable enactments respecting safety.
- 10.35 No person may conceal any aspect of the work referred to in section 10.32 of this bylaw until a *building official* has *accepted* it in writing.
- 10.36 For work in respect of *complex buildings*, the *owner* must
- (a) give at least 24 hours' online or written notice to the City when requesting a preconstruction meeting with the *building official* prior to the start of construction, and the *owner* or his or her representative must ensure that the *coordinating registered professional*, the *constructor*, as well as representatives of major trades, are in attendance;
 - (b) give at least 24 hours' online or written notice to the City when requesting a pre-occupancy coordinated by the *coordinating registered professional* or other *registered professional* to have the *owner*, the *constructor* and the *registered professionals* demonstrate to the *building official* and Fire Services the compliance with *the health and safety aspects of the work*, the coordination and integration of the fire and life safety system, applicable City requirements and other enactments respecting safety and

the conservation, GHG emission and accessibility aspects of the work;
and

- (c) cause the *coordinating registered professional*, at least 24 hours prior to the pre-occupancy coordinated site review coordinated by the *coordinating registered professional*, to deliver to the *building official* the Confirmation of Required Documentation described in the prescribed form, complete with all documentation in a hard covered three ring binder and in digital pdf format on a memory stick.

Stop Work Order

- 10.37 The *building official* may direct the immediate suspension or correction of all or a portion of the construction on a *building* or *structure* by attaching a stop work order notice in the prescribed form on the premises whenever it is found that the work is not being performed in accordance with the requirements of the *building code*, any applicable bylaw of the City or the applicable provisions of the *Homeowner Protection Act*.
- 10.38 The *coordinating registered professional* may request, in writing, that the *building official* order the immediate suspension or correction of all or a portion of the construction on a *building* or *structure* by attaching a stop work order notice on the premises. The *building official* must consider such a request and, if not acted upon, must respond, in writing, to the *coordinating registered professional* and give reasons.
- 10.39 If a *registered professional's* services are terminated, the *owner* must immediately stop any work that is subject to his or her *design* or *field review* and the *building official* is deemed to have issued a stop work order under section 10.37.
- 10.40 The *owner* must immediately, after the posting of a notice under section 10.37, secure the construction and the lands and premises surrounding the construction in compliance with the safety requirements of every statute, regulation or order of the Province or of a provincial agency and of every applicable bylaw of the City.
- 10.41 Subject to section 10.37, no work other than the required remedial measures may be carried out on the parcel affected by the notice referred to in section 10.37 until the stop work order notice has been removed by the *building official*.
- 10.42 The notice referred to in section 10.37 must remain posted on the premises until that which is contrary to the enactments has been remedied.

Do Not Occupy Notice

- 10.43 If a person occupies a *building* or *structure* or part of a *building* or *structure* in contravention of this bylaw, a *building official* may post a Do Not Occupy Notice in the prescribed form on the affected part of the *building* or *structure*.
- 10.44 If a notice is posted under section 10.43, the *owner* of a parcel on which a Do Not Occupy Notice has been posted, and every other person, must cease *occupancy* of the *building* or *structure* immediately and refrain from further *occupancy* until all applicable provisions of the *building code* and this bylaw have been substantially complied with and the Do Not Occupy Notice has been rescinded in writing by a *building official*.

Inspection and Other Fees

- 10.45 In addition to the fees required under other provisions of this bylaw, the *owner* must pay the non-refundable fee set out in the current City of Vernon Fees and Charges Bylaw for
- (a) a second and each subsequent re-inspection where it has been determined by the *building official* that due to non-compliance with the provisions of this bylaw or due to non-complying work, more than one site visit is required for any required inspection;
 - (b) a special inspection during the City's normal business hours to establish the condition of a *building*, or if an inspection requires special arrangements because of time, location or construction techniques; and
 - (c) inspection required under this bylaw which cannot be carried out during the City's normal business hours.

Permit Expiration

- 10.46 Every *permit* is issued on the condition that the *permit* expires and the rights of the *owner* under the *permit* terminate if
- (a) the work authorized by the *permit* is not commenced within 180 days from the date of issuance of the *permit*;
 - (b) work is discontinued for a period of 180 days; or
 - (c) the work is not completed within two years of the date of issuance of the *permit*.

Permit Extension

- 10.47 A *building official* may extend the period set out under section 10.46 for only one period, not to exceed twelve months, if construction has not been commenced or has been discontinued due to adverse weather, strikes, material or labour shortages, other similar hardship beyond the *owner's* control, or if the size and complexity of the construction warrants, if
- (a) application for the extension is made at least 30 days prior to the date of *permit* expiration; and
 - (b) the non-refundable fee set out in the current City of Vernon Fees and Charges Bylaw has been paid.

Building Permit Revocation

- 10.48 The *building official* may revoke a *building permit* if there is a violation of
- (a) a condition under which the *permit* was issued; or
 - (b) a requirement of the *building code* or of this or another bylaw of the City,
- such *permit* revocation must be in writing and sent to the *permit* holder by signature mail to, or personal service on, the *permit* holder.

Building Permit Cancellation

- 10.49 A *building permit*, or a *building permit* application, may be cancelled by the *owner*, or his or her *agent*, on delivery of written notification of the cancellation to the *building official*.
- 10.50 On receipt of the written cancellation notice, the *building official* must mark on the application, and a *permit* if applicable, the date of cancellation and the word "cancelled".
- 10.51 If the *owner*, or his or her *agent*, submits changes to an application after a *permit* has been issued and the changes, in the opinion of the *building official*, substantially alter the scope of the work, design or intent of the application in respect of which the *permit* was issued, the *building official* may cancel or amend the *permit* and mark on the *permit* the date of cancellation or amendment and the word "cancelled" or "amended".
- 10.52 If a *building permit* application or *permit* is cancelled, and construction has not commenced under the *permit*, the *building official* must return to the *owner* any fees deposited under the current City of Vernon Fees and Charges Bylaw, less
- (a) any non-refundable portion of the fee; and

- (b) 15% of the refundable portion of the fee.

Occupancy

- 10.53 No person may occupy a *building* or *structure* or part of a *building* or *structure* until a final inspection notice has been issued by a *building official*.
- 10.54 A final inspection notice will not be issued unless
- (a) all letters of assurance have been submitted when required in accordance with this bylaw;
 - (b) all aspects of the work requiring inspection and acceptance pursuant to sections 7.11 to 7.14 of Part 7 of this bylaw have both been inspected and *accepted* or the inspections and acceptance are not required in accordance with this bylaw;
 - (c) the *owner* has delivered to the City as-built plans of works and *services* in digital format as required by the City;
 - (d) the *owner* has provided to the City a *building* survey prepared by a British Columbia Land Surveyor showing the *building* height, size, location and elevation determined in accordance with the City's land use regulations;
 - (e) all other documentation required under applicable enactments has been delivered to the City; and
 - (f) the *owner* has delivered to the City as-built drawings of the *building* or *structure* in digital format as required by the City.
- 10.55 When a *registered professional* provides letters of assurance in accordance with this bylaw, the City will rely solely on the letters of assurance when issuing a final report authorizing *occupancy* as assurance that the items identified on the letters of assurance substantially comply with the *design*, the *building code*, this bylaw and other applicable enactments respecting safety.
- 10.56 A *building official* may issue a final inspection notice for partial *occupancy* of a portion of a *building* or *structure* under construction when
- (a) that portion of the *building* or *structure* is self-contained and provided with essential services respecting *health and safety aspects* of the work, and if applicable, accessibility, GHG emissions and conservation; and
 - (b) the requirements set out in section 10.54 have been met with respect to it.

- 10.57 A final inspection notice may not be issued unless
- (a) all letters of assurance and the Confirmation of Required Documentation described in the prescribed form have been submitted when required in accordance with the requirements of this bylaw;
 - (b) all aspects of the work requiring inspection and review pursuant to Part 9 and sections 10.29 through 10.36 of this bylaw have both been inspected and *accepted*;
 - (c) the *owner* has executed and delivered to the City every agreement, instrument or form required by the City in relation to the work or the site; and
 - (d) all required offsite works respecting safety have been completed.

Temporary Buildings

- 10.58 Subject to the bylaws of the City and orders of Council, the *building official* may issue a *building permit* for the erection or placement of a *temporary building or structure for occupancy* if
- (a) the *permit* is for a period not exceeding one year; and
 - (b) the *building or structure* is located in compliance with the City's zoning bylaw, built in compliance with the *building code* and this bylaw, and connected, as required by enactments, to City utility services.
- 10.59 An application for a *building permit* for the erection or placement of a *temporary building or structure* must be made in the form of a temporary *permit* application under the prescribed form, signed by the *owner* or *agent*, and must include
- (a) plans and supporting documents showing the location and *building height* of the *building or structure* on the parcel;
 - (b) plans and supporting documents showing construction details of the *building or structure*;
 - (c) a statement by the *owner* indicating the intended use and duration of the use;
 - (d) plans and supporting documents showing the proposed parking and loading space;
 - (e) a written description of the *project* explaining why the *building* is temporary;

- (f) a copy of an issued development *permit*, if required;
- (g) in the case of a manufactured *building*, a CSA label in respect of manufacture and, without limitation, a Quonset or other steel *building* must be certified in accordance with CSA Standard A660;
- (h) a report or drawing by an engineer, architect or designer confirming compliance with the *building code*, this bylaw, the City's zoning bylaw and other applicable bylaws;
- (i) a security deposit as prescribed in the current City of Vernon Fees and Charges Bylaw, which security
 - (i) may be used by the City to remove the *building* after one year of the date of the final inspection required under this bylaw; or
 - (ii) must be returned to the *owner* if the *owner* removes the *temporary building* within one year of the date of the final inspection of the *temporary building* required under this bylaw; and
- (j) in the case of a *temporary building*, information to comply with article 1.1.1.1(2)(f), Division C of the *Building Code*.

10.60 Before receiving a *building permit* for a *temporary building* or *structure* for *occupancy*, the *owner* must pay to the City the applicable *building permit* fee set out in the current City of Vernon Fees and Charges Bylaw.

10.61 A *permit fee* for a *temporary building* or *structure* is not refundable.

Sanitary Facilities

10.62 During the time a *building permit* has been issued and remains valid under this bylaw, the *owner* must provide on the parcel of land in respect of which the *permit* has been issued, sanitary facilities for the disposal of human waste from individual persons who enter on the parcel in relation to the work referred to in the *permit*, which facilities must be accessible and unlocked when not occupied while work is being carried out on the parcel under this bylaw, and every sanitary facility that is not connected to a

- (a) sanitary sewer; or
- (b) septic disposal system approved under the *Health Act*,

by plumbing that complies with the *Building Code* and this bylaw, must be provided, at all times the facility is required under this bylaw, with toilet paper, a locking door for privacy, and ventilation, and must be kept in sanitary condition without leaking beyond the facility and without overflowing within the facility. Such facilities must be located so as not to create a nuisance to neighbouring parcels or highways.

PART 11: RETAINING WALLS AND GRADES

- 11.1 No person may construct, or structurally repair, a *retaining wall* without a *building permit*.
- 11.2 Except as certified by a professional engineer with expertise in geotechnical engineering registered in the province of British Columbia, fill material placed on a parcel, unless restrained by permitted *retaining walls*, must not have a surface slope exceeding a ratio of one linear unit vertically to two linear units horizontally.
- 11.3 Without limiting section 11.2, no person may occupy a *building* unless the finished *grade* complies with all applicable enactments.

PART 12: BUILDING MOVE

- 12.1 No person may move a *building* or *structure* into or within the City
 - (a) except where certified by a *registered professional* that the *building*, including its *foundation*, will substantially comply with the current version of the *building code*; and
 - (b) a *building permit* has been issued for the *building* or *structure*;
 - (c) in the case of a manufactured *building*, be affixed with a CSA Rating Plate in respect of manufacture providing the year, make, model and serial number and/or the Province of British Columbia Mobile Home Registry.

PART 13: ADDRESSING OF BUILDINGS

- 13.1 Immediately upon issuance of a *building permit* governing the *construction*, *alteration* or repair of a *building*, or prior to and during the *occupancy* of a *building*, the *owner* or occupant must display the address number assigned to it by the City
 - (a) on or over the entrance to the *building* or where landscaping or *structures* obscure the visibility of a *building* entrance from the adjacent highway, on the *building* property within sight of the adjacent highway; and

- (b) until such time as the *building* is removed from the site or has been demolished.
- 13.2 Despite section 13.1, the City's Director of Development Services may renumber or alter the assigned numbers in respect of any *building* on any parcel, including those already in existence or numbered.
- 13.3 Without limiting sections 13.1 or 13.2, the *building official* must, on the issuance of a *building permit*, designate a house number or set of house numbers related to the *building* authorized by the *permit*. The *owner* or occupier must post the number or numbers on the site immediately after obtaining the *building permit* and keep the numbers posted in a conspicuous location at all times during construction.
- 13.4 Without limiting sections 13.1 through 13.3, on issuance of an *occupancy permit*, the *owner* or occupier of the parcel must affix the numbers permanently in a conspicuous place on the *building* such that the number is visible from an adjacent highway that is not a lane.

PART 14: POOLS

Swimming Pool Permit and Fencing

- 14.1 Without limiting section 5.1 of this bylaw, a person must not construct, or structurally repair, a swimming *pool* without a valid *building permit*.
- 14.2 A swimming *pool*, including a spa or hot tub must be enclosed within a fence constructed without footholds or grips that children may use to climb into the enclosed area, having a minimum height of 1.22 metres and no openings greater than 100 mm at their greatest dimension.

Pool Gate

- 14.3 Access through a fence enclosing a swimming *pool*, spa or hot tub must be only through a self-closing and self-latching gate designed and constructed or installed so as to cause the gate to return to a closed position when not in use and secured by a latch located on the swimming *pool*, spa or hot tub side of the gate.

Spa or Hot Tub Lid

- 14.4 In lieu of a fence, a spa or hot tub may be covered with a locking cover, which would prevent unauthorized access to the water.

Maintenance

- 14.5 A person may not use or *occupy* a swimming *pool*, including a spa or hot tub unless the *owner* or *occupier* of property on or in which a *pool*, spa or hot tub is located maintains every fence or cover required under sections 14.2 to 14.4 in good order. and without limitation maintains and repairs in good order at all times all sagging gates, loose parts, torn mesh, missing materials, worn latches, locks or broken or binding members.

Leaks or Other Failures

- 14.6 A person may not obtain a valid and subsisting *building permit* for or use or *occupy* a swimming *pool* without first delivering to the *building official* at the time of the *building permit* application an opinion of a *registered professional* that the *design* of the *pool* will not cause or result in leaks or other failures of the *pool*.

PART 15: ENERGY CONSERVATION AND GHG EMISSION REDUCTION

Step Code Requirements

- 15.1 In relation to the conservation of energy and the reduction of GHG emissions, the City of Vernon incorporates by reference the Step Code as outlined in the Building Code in accordance with Section 15.2 and 15.3.
- 15.2 A building regulated by Part 3 of the Building Code must be designed and constructed to meet the minimum performance requirements specified in
- a) Step 1 of the Step Code as of July 1, 2022 for all Part 3 Buildings.
- 15.3 A building regulated by Part 9 of the Building Code, of new residential construction, must be designed and constructed to meet the minimum performance requirements specified in
- a) Step 1 of the Step Code as of January 10, 2022 for all Part 9 residential buildings;
 - b) Step 3 of the Step Code as of January 1, 2023 for all Part 9 residential buildings.

Solar Ready Construction

- 15.4 Applications for building permits for the construction of new buildings of residential occupancy that contain one dwelling unit or one dwelling unit and one secondary suite must contain plans or other information satisfactory to the

Building Official to confirm that the construction contains design considerations for the future use of solar photovoltaic and solar domestic hot water systems.

- 15.5 Where it is shown to the satisfaction of the Building Official that building site conditions do not permit the effective use of solar photovoltaic or solar domestic hot water systems, section 15.4 does not apply. *(Bylaw 5966)*

Zero Carbon Step Code

- 15.6 A building regulated by Part 9 of the Building Code must be designed and constructed to meet or exceed the performance requirements specified in GHG Emission Level 1 (measure only) of the Zero Carbon Step Code. *(Bylaw 5993)*

PART 16: ACCESS ROUTE FOR FIRE VEHICLE

- 16.1 Prior to the issuance of a *building permit* for a *simple building* of multi-family or commercial occupancy under Part 9 of the *building code*, the *owner* must satisfy the *building official* that the *building* or *structure* for which the *permit* is issued will be served by a fire access route that satisfies the following:
- (a) the width of an access route must be not less than 6.0 meters;
 - (b) the centerline radius of an access route must be 12.0 meters;
 - (c) the overhead clearance of an access route must be 5.0 meters;
 - (d) the gradient of the access route must not change more than 1 in 12.5 over a minimum distance of 15.0 meters;
 - (e) the access route must comply with the bearing load and surface material standards of the City's Subdivision and Development Servicing Bylaw, as amended or replaced from time to time; and
 - (f) the length above which a dead-end portion of an access route requires turnaround facilities is 90.0 meters.

PART 17: OFFENCES

Violations

- 17.1 Without limiting Part 4 of this bylaw, every person who
- (a) violates a provision of this bylaw;
 - (b) *permits*, suffers or allows any act to be done in violation of any provision of this bylaw; and

- (c) neglects to do anything required to be done under any provision of this bylaw,

commits an offence and on summary conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction, the person is subject to a fine of not more than \$10,000.00, or a term of imprisonment not exceeding three months, or both, in addition to the costs of prosecution. Each day during which a violation, contravention or breach of this bylaw continues is deemed to be a separate offence.

- 17.2 Every person who fails to comply with any order or notice issued by a *building official*, or who allows a violation of this bylaw to continue, contravenes this bylaw.
- 17.3 Every person who commences work requiring a *building permit* without first obtaining such a *permit* must, if a Stop Work notice is issued and remains outstanding for 30 days, pay an additional charge as outlined in the City bylaws.

Deemed Offence

- 17.4 An *owner* is deemed to have knowledge of and be liable under this bylaw in respect of any construction on the parcel the *owner* owns and any change in the use, *occupancy* or both of a *building* or *structure* or part of a *building* or *structure* on that parcel.
- 17.5 No person is deemed liable under section 17.4 who establishes, on a balance of probabilities, that the construction or change of use or *occupancy* occurred before he or she became the *owner* of the parcel.
- 17.6 Nothing in section 17.5 affects
 - (a) the City's right to require and the *owner's* obligation to obtain a *permit*; and
 - (b) the obligation of the *owner* to comply with this bylaw.

Ticketing

- 17.7 The offences in the City's Bylaw Notice Enforcement Bylaw and Municipal Ticketing Information Bylaw, amended from time to time, are designated for enforcement under s. 264 of the *Community Charter*.
- 17.8 The following persons are designated as bylaw enforcement officers under section 264(1) (b) of the *Community Charter* for enforcing the offences in City's Bylaw Notice Enforcement Bylaw and Municipal Ticketing Information Bylaw,

amended from time to time: *building officials*, fire inspectors and persons designated by Council as bylaw enforcement officers.

PART 18: INTERPRETATION

Definitions

18.1 In this bylaw

accepted means reviewed by the *building official* under the applicable provisions of the *building code* and this bylaw;

addition means an *alteration* to any building which will increase the total aggregate floor area or the *building height* (in storeys), and includes the provision of two or more separate *buildings* with openings between each other for intercommunication;

agent includes a firm, corporation or other person representing the *owner*, by written designation or contract, and includes a hired tradesperson or *constructor* who may be granted a *permit* for work within the limitations of his or her licence;

alternative solution means an alternative solution authorized under the *building code*;

alteration means a change, repair or modification of the *construction* or arrangement of or use of any *building* or *structure*, or to an *occupancy* regulated by this bylaw;

Architects Act means the *Architects Act* RSBC 1996, c. 17;

building code means the *British Columbia Building Code* as adopted by the Minister responsible under provincial legislation, as amended or re-enacted from time to time;

building official means the person designated in or appointed to that position by the City, and includes a building inspector, plan checker, plumbing inspector gas inspector, or electrical inspector designated or appointed by the City, and for certainty the *building official* is the “building inspector” referred to in the *Community Charter* and *Local Government Act*;

complex building means:

- (a) a *building* used for a *major occupancy* classified as:
 - (i) *assembly occupancy*;
 - (ii) *care occupancy*;
 - (iii) *detention occupancy*;
 - (iv) *high hazard industrial occupancy*,
 - (v) *treatment occupancy*; or
 - (vi) *post-disaster building*,
- (b) a *building* exceeding 600 square metres in *building area* or exceeding three storeys in *building height* used for a *major occupancy* classified as:
 - (i) *residential occupancy*;
 - (ii) *business and personal services occupancy*;
 - (iii) *mercantile occupancy*; or
 - (iv) *medium and low hazard industrial occupancy*,

coordinating registered professional means a *registered professional* retained pursuant to the *building code* to coordinate all design work and field reviews of the *registered professionals* required for a development;

construct includes build, erect, install, repair, alter, add, enlarge, move, locate, relocate, reconstruct, demolish, remove, *excavate* or shore;

constructor means a person who *constructs*;

Engineers and Geoscientists Act means the *Engineers and Geoscientists Act* RSBC 1996, c. 116;

existing, in respect of a *building*, means that portion of a *building constructed* prior to the submission of a *permit* application required under this bylaw;

foundation means a system or arrangement of *foundation* units through which the loads from a *building* are transferred directly to supporting soil or rock and

includes any portion of the exterior walls of a building that lie below the finished grade immediately adjacent to the building;

GHG means greenhouse gas;

health and safety aspects of the work means design and construction regulated by Parts 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, Division B, of the *building code*; and subject to Parts 1 and 2 in relation to Parts 3 through 10, Division B;

owner means the registered *owner* in fee simple, or an *agent* duly authorized by the *owner* in writing in the prescribed form, and also where the context or circumstances so require

(a) a tenant for life under a registered life estate;

(b) a registered holder of an agreement for sale;

(c) a holder or occupier of land held in the manner mentioned in Sections 228 and 229 of the Community Charter; or

(d) a lessee with authority to build on land;

permit means permission or authorization in writing by the *building official* to perform work regulated by this bylaw and, in the case of a final inspection notice, to occupy a *building* or part of a *building*;

pool means a *structure* or *constructed* depression used or intended to be used for swimming, bathing, wading or diving which is designed to contain water and has a depth, at any point, exceeding 0.6 m, including an in-ground *pool* and hot tub;

professional design means the plans and supporting documents bearing the date, seal or stamp, and signature of a *registered professional*;

project means any construction operation;

retaining wall means a *structure* exceeding 1.2 metres in height that holds or retains *soil* or other material behind it;

simple building means a *building* of three storeys or less in *building height*, having a *building area* not exceeding 600 square metres and used for a *major occupancy* classified as

(a) *residential occupancy*;

- (b) *business and personal services occupancy*;
- (c) *mercantile occupancy*;
- (d) *medium hazard industrial occupancy*; or
- (e) *low hazard industrial occupancy*,

structure means a *construction* or portion of *construction*, of any kind, whether fixed to, supported by or sunk into land or water, except landscaping, fences, paving and retaining *structures* less than 1.22 meters in height;

temporary building includes a sales office, construction office or a *structure* in which tools are stored during construction of a *building* or other *structure*;

value of the work means that amount that is calculated as follows:

- (a) for construction of a *building* containing a *residential occupancy* that is served by only one stove, or two stoves if permitted as an auxiliary and secondary *residential occupancy*, the greater of
 - (i) the declared *value of the work*; or
 - (ii) the value calculated using “Marshall & Swift Valuation Service”, or such universal source of calculating valuation as the building official deems reasonable, practical, and expedient; or
- (b) for all other construction, the greater of
 - (i) the declared *value of the work*; or
 - (ii) the value calculated using a method stipulated in the “Marshall & Swift Valuation Service”, or such universal source of calculating valuation as the building official deems reasonable, practical, and expedient.

18.2 In this bylaw the following words and terms have the meanings

- (a) set out in section 1.4.1.2 of the *building code* as of the date of the adoption of this bylaw: *accessible assembly occupancy*, *building*, *building area*, *building height*, *business and personal services occupancy*, *care occupancy*, *constructor*, *coordinating registered professional*, *designer*, *detention occupancy*, *excavation*, *field review*, *firewall*, *first storey*, *grade*, *high hazard industrial occupancy*, *industrial occupancy*, *low hazard industrial occupancy*, *major occupancy*, *medium hazard industrial occupancy*, *mercantile occupancy*, *occupancy*, *post disaster occupancy*,

private sewage disposal system, registered professional, residential occupancy, treatment occupancy or unsafe condition;

- (b) subject to this bylaw, set out in the Schedule to the *Community Charter*: *assessed value, highway, land, occupier, parcel, public authority, service and soil*; and
- (c) subject to this bylaw, set out in section 29 of the *Interpretation Act*: *may, must, obligation, person, property, writing, written* and *year*.

18.3 Every reference to this bylaw in this or another bylaw of the City is a reference to this bylaw as amended to the date of the reference.

18.4 Every reference to

- (a) the *building code* is a reference to the current edition as of the date of issuance of the *building permit*; and
- (b) a section of the *building code* is a reference to the applicable successor sections,

as the code or section may be amended or re-enacted from time to time.

18.5 Definitions of words and phrases used in this bylaw that are not included in the definitions in this Part have the meanings commonly assigned to them in the context in which they are used in this bylaw, considering the specialized use of terms with the various trades and professions to which the terminology applies.

Severability

18.6 If a section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph or phrase of this bylaw is for any reason declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the decision will not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this bylaw.

PART 19: REPEAL

“The City of Vernon Building and Plumbing Bylaw No. 4900” and all amendments are hereby repealed and replaced for all purposes.

PART 20: IN FORCE

This bylaw comes into force upon adoption by the Council of The Corporation of The City of Vernon.

READ A FIRST TIME this 13th day of December, 2021.

READ A SECOND TIME this 13th day of December, 2021.

READ A THIRD TIME this 13th day of December, 2021.

ADOPTED this 10th day of January, 2022.

Mayor  Corporate Officer 