

## THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

### **SEWER REGULATIONS BYLAW NO. 1974**

#### **A bylaw to provide for the regulation and use of the sanitary sewer system of the City of Grand Forks**

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**WHEREAS** the City of Grand Forks has established and operates a sewer disposal system pursuant to its powers under the Community Charter, for the purpose of providing sewer disposal service to the residents, institutions, commercial and industrial users, and all other users in the City;

**AND WHEREAS** it is deemed expedient to make provisions for regulating the rates, conditions and terms under or upon which sewer disposal services may be supplied to and used by the inhabitants of the City of Grand Forks;

**AND WHEREAS** discharge must be regulated as there are compounds in waste that in various concentrations are detrimental to the operation of the sanitary sewer system.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Council of the Corporation of the City of Grand Forks, in open meeting assembled, **ENACTS** as follows:

#### **1. TITLE**

- 1.1 This bylaw may be cited, for all purposes, as the **“Sewer Regulations Bylaw No. 1974, 2014.”**

#### **2. DEFINITIONS**

- 2.1 In this bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:

**"Authorized" or "Authorization"** granted by the Manager of Operations or his/her designate means approved in writing by the Manager of Operations on the terms and conditions specified in that written approval;

**“Bi-monthly”** means every two month period;

**“B.O.D.”** means Biochemical Oxygen Demand; the quantity of oxygen utilized in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter under standard laboratory conditions in five (5) days at twenty (20) degrees Celsius, expressed in milligrams per litre as determined by the appropriate procedure in Standard Methods;

**“Building Code”** means the British Columbia Building Code, as amended or replaced from time to time;

**“Building Permit”** means a building permit issued under the Corporation of the City of Grand Forks Building & Plumbing Bylaw, as amended or replaced from time to time;

**“Bylaw Enforcement Officer”** means a person in a class prescribed under Section 273(c) of the Community Charter who is designated by a local government as a Bylaw Enforcement Officer, and every Peace Officer;

**“City”** means the Corporation of the City of Grand Forks;

**“City Specifications”** means the specifications, drawings and other standards for works and services established under the City of Grand Forks Subdivision, Development and Servicing Bylaw, as amended or replaced from time to time;

**“C.O.D.”** means the Chemical Oxygen Demand; a measure of the oxygen consuming capacity of inorganic and organic matter present in domestic or industrial wastewater as determined by the appropriate procedure described in Standard Methods;

**“Collector”** means the individual appointed from time to time by Council;

**“Collector’s Roll”** means a list of each property served by the Sanitary Sewer System that is liable to sewer service charges, and which designates the Owner as a Domestic User, a Non-domestic User, an Agricultural User or a combination thereof;

**“Connection” or “Connect”** means tying into, tapping or otherwise connecting to the Sanitary Sewer System of the City by means of pipes, valves, fittings or other apparatus;

**“Cooling Water”** means untreated water originating from heat exchangers or similar units;

**“Council”** means the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the City of Grand Forks;

**“Domestic”** means use for household requirements and sanitation;

**“Domestic Wastewater”** means the water carried wastes produced from non-commercial or non-industrial activities and which result from normal human living processes;

**“Effluent”** means the liquid outflow of any facility designed to treat or convey wastewater;

**“Engineer”** means a person who is registered, or duly licensed as such, under the Engineers and Geoscientists Act of British Columbia;

**“Extraneous Flows”** means water originating from rainwater, snow melt, ground water, roof drain water, foundation drain water, subsurface drainage, surface water, single pass cooling water, condensate, or storm water;

**“Flammable Liquid”** means any liquid having a flash point below 38° C and having a vapour pressure not exceeding 280 kPa at 38° C;

**“Fuller’s Earth”** means any non-plastic clay or claylike earthy material that can be used to decolourize, filter, and purify animal, mineral, and vegetable oils and greases;

**"Garbage"** means solid wastes from domestic or commercial preparation, cooking and dispensing of food, and from the handling, storage, and sale of produce.

**"Grab Sample"** means a single sample of a wastewater stream or discharge that represents the composition of the wastewater at the particular time and location at which the sample was collected.

**“Grease”** means an organic substance recoverable by procedures set forth in Standard Methods and includes, but is not limited to, hydrocarbons, esters, fats, oils, waxes, and high molecular carboxylic acids;

**"Hazardous Waste"** has the same meaning as under the Hazardous Waste Regulation, 8.C. Reg. 63/88, as amended or replaced from time to time.

**“Industrial Wastewater”** means all water carried Wastes and Wastewater excluding domestic Wastewater and uncontaminated Wastewater, and includes all Wastewater from any processing, institutional, commercial, or other operation where the Wastewater discharged includes Wastes of non-human origin;

**"Lower Explosive Limit"** means the concentration limit of potentially explosive reactants present in private Wastewater Effluent.

**“Manager of Operations”** means the Manager of Operations of the City of Grand Forks or his/her designate;

**"Non-domestic"** in reference to any form of waste or private wastewater effluent means waste or effluent generated by industrial, commercial, agricultural or institutional users.

**"Occupier"** has the same meaning as in the Community Charter, as amended from time to time;

**"Offal"** means waste portions of food, animals, fowl, or fish;

**"One-day Composite Sample"** means a composite sample comprised of flow proportioned samples collected at one hour intervals over the duration of one operating day;

**"Owner"** has the same meaning as in the Community Charter, as amended from time to time;

**"Parcel"** means any lot, block, or other area in which land is held or into which land is subdivided but does not include a highway;

**"Person"** means any person, firm, partnership or corporation, or any trustee, manager or other person owning or occupying any building or place either individually or jointly with others, and includes an agent, workman, or employee of such person, firm, partnership, or corporation;

**"Pesticide"** means an organism or material that is represented, sold, used, or intended to be used, to prevent, destroy, repel, or mitigate a pest and includes:

- (a) a plant growth regulator, plant defoliator, or plant desiccant; and
- (b) a control product, other than a device that is a controlled product under the Pest Control Products Act (CAN).

**"pH"** means the negative logarithm to the base of ten (10) of the weight of hydrogen ions in grams per litre of solution;

**"Plumbing Code"** means Part 7 of the British Columbia Building Code (Plumbing Services), as amended or replaced from time to time;

**"Premises"** means any residence, building, or structure located on a parcel;

**"Pre-treatment"** means the use of any physical or chemical process to ensure the composition of private wastewater effluent conforms to the minimum requirements of this bylaw;

**"Private Wastewater Effluent" or "Sewage"** means water-borne waste derived from human or industrial sources, including domestic wastewater and industrial wastewater, that is discharged or intended to be discharged from a private wastewater system into the municipal sanitary sewer system but does not include storm water and uncontaminated wastewater;

**"Private Wastewater System"** means an assembly of pipes, fittings, fixtures, traps, and appurtenances constructed upon the land and premises of, and owned by, the owner of property;

**"Property" or "Real Property"** means any parcel of land within the boundaries of the City of Grand Forks;

**"Public Highway"** means any road, street, lane or other such facility designed for the express purpose of accommodating public vehicular traffic;

**"Sanitary Service Lateral"** means the City-owned pipe that extends from a sewer main to the sanitary service connection that is located at the property line of a parcel;

**"Sanitary Service Connection"** means the pipe or fitting that is located at the property line of a parcel, or at the edge of a statutory right of way, which forms the connection between a private wastewater system and the municipal sanitary sewer system;

**"Sanitary Sewer Catchment Area Boundary/Service area"** means a calculated boundary of serviceable land capable of drainage via gravity to a municipal sanitary sewer outlet;

**"Sanitary Sewer Service" or "Service"** means the City's service of collecting and conveying private wastewater effluent from real property through the municipal sanitary sewer system;

**"Sanitary Sewer System"** means all sewerage works and all appurtenances thereto, including sewer mains, service connections, pumping stations, treatment plants, lagoons and sewer outfalls laid within any highway, municipal right-of-way or easement and owned and operated by the City and installed for the purpose of conveying, treating, and disposing of domestic municipal wastes and industrial wastes;

**"Septic System"** means any form of onsite wastewater treatment process whereby private wastewater effluent is treated to an acceptable level of effluent quality prior to discharge to the natural environment;

**"Serviced"** means land that is within an area serviced by the municipal sanitary sewer system;

**"Standard Methods"** means the Standard Methods of Water and Wastewater Analysis (most current edition) as published by the American Public Health Association, the American Water Works Association, the Canadian Standards Association, and the Water Pollution Control Federation; as amended or replaced from time to time;

**"Statutory Right of Way"** means a statutory right of way pursuant to Section 218 of the Land Title Act, as amended or replaced from time to time, that is registered over real property in favour of the City for the purpose of accommodating the works that comprise part of the municipal sanitary sewer system;

**"Suspended Solids" or "S.S."** means the solid matter according to particle size, expressed in milligrams per litre, in a liquid as determined according to standard methods;

**"Two-hour Composite Sample"** means a composite sample consisting of equal portions of 8 Grab Samples collected at 15 minute intervals;

**"Uncontaminated Wastewater"** means water such as spent cooling water, water discharged from a swimming pool, water used in street cleaning, any groundwater or surface/storm drainage flows, including but not limited to storm drains, sumps, roof drains and foundation drains or wastewater classified as such by the Manager of Operations;

**"User"** means any person or owner contributing, connected to, or otherwise benefitting from the municipal sanitary sewer system;

**"User Fee"** means a fee imposed for the use of the municipal sanitary sewer system under **SCHEDULE "A"** of this bylaw or under any other bylaw of the City;

**"Waste"** means any material deposited in or collected by a common sewer pipe, sewer connection pipe or Wastewater Treatment Facility;

**"Wastewater"** means the water-borne wastes of the community derived from human or industrial sources including domestic wastewater and industrial wastewater, but does not include rainwater, groundwater, or drainage of uncontaminated water;

**"Wastewater Treatment Facility"** means any arrangement of devices and structures used for treating wastewater.

### **3. ADMINISTRATION**

3.1 The Manager of Operations and the Bylaw Enforcement Officer are authorized to

administer and enforce the provisions of this bylaw.

- 3.2 The Manager of Operations is authorized to administer the operation, maintenance, repair and renewal of the municipal sanitary sewer system.

#### **4. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE**

- 4.1 An owner, occupier of real property or other user may discharge private wastewater effluent into the municipal sanitary sewer system on the condition that:
- (a) the owner of that real property must pay all costs, rates, charges, and user fees that are or may be imposed for the use of the municipal sanitary sewer system under this bylaw or any other bylaw of the City; and
  - (b) the owner of that real property is responsible for any breach of this bylaw arising on the parcel to which sanitary sewer service is provided, whether the breach is committed by the owner or by an occupier or third party renting, leasing, or having access to the property.
- 4.2 No person shall make any connection to the common sewer without first receiving approval from the City.
- 4.3 The property owner shall keep the building sewer connection pipes, fixtures and fittings on their own premises or property free-flowing, in good repair, free from leaks and infiltration, and protect them from frost at their own risk and expense.
- 4.4 If a parcel of land has a building, occupied by one or more persons, and the parcel of land abuts a street, lane or right-of-way where there is a common sewer, the owner shall connect the building sewer with the common sewer in the manner provided by this bylaw.
- 4.5 The City shall not be required to supply a sewer connection to any property within the City which is serviced by other than the common sewer and in the City is not responsible for damages arising directly, or indirectly, out of the breakdown or malfunction of the common sewer.
- 4.6 The Property Owner shall be responsible for all costs associated with the works required for the installation of a sewer connection for his/her property.
- 4.7 No works or services shall be performed on the common sewer unless authorized in writing by the Manager of Operations, and shall conform to the requirements of the City of Grand Forks.
- 4.8 No person shall in any way interfere or tamper with any pipe, fixture, fitting, or other component of the common sewer.

- 4.9 The City shall not be liable for damages caused as a result of a disruption or discontinuation of sewer service.
- 4.10 No person being a Property Owner, occupant, or tenant of any premises supplied with sewer services by the City shall sell, give away or permit use of the common sewer for the benefit of others, except to those persons provided written authorization from the Manager of Operations.

## **5. INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT**

- 5.1 The Manager of Operations may, at any time and without notice, take private wastewater effluent samples from the sanitary service connection or otherwise inspect the sanitary service connection to determine whether a contravention of this bylaw has occurred.
- 5.2 Subject to the provisions of Section 16 of the Community Charter, the Manager of Operations, and any other City employee acting under the direction of the Manager of Operations, may enter onto any property and may enter into any premises to inspect and determine whether all regulations, prohibitions and requirements of this bylaw are being met.
- 5.3 No person shall interfere with, or otherwise obstruct the entry of the Manager of Operations or other authorized City employee in carrying out an inspection under the provisions of this bylaw.
- 5.4 The Manager of Operations may issue a Compliance Order to any person or owner who is found to be in contravention of this bylaw, which order may:
  - (a) require compliance with the provisions of this bylaw within a period of time set out in the Compliance Order,
  - (b) in the case of a discharge of private wastewater effluent that exceeds the effluent limitation parameters of this bylaw or that otherwise contravenes this bylaw, include an order to temporarily plug or seal the sanitary service connection, or otherwise physically disconnect the private wastewater system on real property from the municipal sanitary sewer service, until the private wastewater effluent from that property is brought into compliance with the requirements of this bylaw.
- 5.5 Without limiting the Manager's authority under Section 6.4, should the Manager of Operations determine that extraneous flows or deleterious substances are entering the municipal sanitary sewer system due to an unauthorized connection to the municipal sanitary sewer system, or due to improper maintenance or repair of a private wastewater system, or due to the discharge of any prohibited waste material or effluent, the Manager of Operations may issue a Compliance Order in accordance with the Section 6.4 of this bylaw.



- 5.6 If a Compliance Order includes an order under Section 5.4(b), no further discharge of private wastewater effluent to the municipal sanitary sewer system shall be permitted until:
- (c) the Manager of Operations is satisfied that the private wastewater effluent discharged from that property will comply with the requirements of this bylaw, and has authorized the commencement of such discharge; and
  - (d) any and all fees or charges imposed in connection with the Compliance Order, including but not limited to fees or charges for inspection and testing, and for reconnection to or reinstating of the sanitary sewer service, have been paid by the owner.

## **6. INTERRUPTION AND DISCONTINUATION OF SERVICE**

- 6.1 Sanitary sewer service may be limited or interrupted by the City to accommodate routine maintenance or the construction of improvements to the municipal sanitary sewer system.
- 6.2 Except in the case of an emergency, the City will endeavor to provide reasonable notice to affected parties of any service interruption or limitation of service.
- 6.3 The City may discontinue sanitary sewer service to any property where the owner or any other person on that property using the sanitary sewer service;
- (a) fails to comply with the rules established under this bylaw for the use of the service; or
  - (b) fails to pay when due any user fees, charges, or taxes imposed under this or any other bylaw of the City in relation to the service.
- 6.4 Before discontinuing service under Section 6.3, the Manager of Operations must:
- (a) provide the owner and all occupiers of that property with at least thirty days' notice in writing of discontinuation of the service;
  - (b) in the case of a termination under Section 6.3(a), inform the owner and all occupiers of the property that they may make representations to Council concerning the discontinuation of the service at a regularly scheduled Council meeting that is scheduled to take place within thirty days following delivery of the notice of discontinuation, provided that the owner or occupier wishing to make such representations notifies the City's Corporate Officer of their intention to do so at least 24 hours before that Council meeting.

## **7. SERVICE CONNECTIONS**

- 7.1 The owner of a private wastewater system that discharges private wastewater effluent to the municipal sanitary sewer system shall ensure that the private wastewater system is constructed in accordance with the provisions of the

Plumbing Code and the provisions of all applicable City bylaws.

- 7.2 The owner is solely responsible to construct any private wastewater system to meet the design parameters and elevation of any existing or future sanitary service lateral at the property line.
- 7.3 The City is not responsible to provide for, or otherwise accommodate in any form, the outlet from a private wastewater system that was constructed prior to the installation of a sanitary service lateral that services that property.
- 7.4 Any and all costs related to the construction, installation, repair and maintenance of any private wastewater system remains the sole responsibility of the owner.

#### Inspection Chambers and Manholes

- 7.5 All sanitary service connections shall be equipped with an inspection chamber, located at the property line, for the purposes of inspection and sampling of private wastewater effluent from the property serviced.
- 7.6 Where multiple buildings discharge from a single parcel of land, each building shall have a separate private wastewater system extending to a common inspection manhole that is designed and constructed in accordance with City specifications.
- 7.7 All inspection chambers and manholes required for the purpose of connecting a private wastewater system to the municipal sanitary sewage system shall be installed:
  - (a) at the sole expense of the owner of the property receiving the connection; and
  - (b) in accordance with City specifications.
- 7.8 A person must not cover, bury or otherwise obstruct access to an inspection chamber or manhole that forms part of the municipal sanitary sewer system.
- 7.9 An owner must ensure that every inspection chamber and manhole that provides service to that owner's property remains accessible for inspection by City Staff at all times.

#### Requirement to Connect

- 7.10 The owner of any parcel of land that is located within a sanitary sewer catchment area boundary/service area and that fronts onto a public highway containing an extension of the municipal sanitary sewer system must connect an existing private wastewater system to the municipal sanitary sewer system upon issuance of notice by the Manager of Operations of the requirement to connect. Any and all modifications of the owner's private wastewater system required as a result of

such notice shall be carried out at the owner's sole cost and in accordance with the requirements of Plumbing Code and any other applicable bylaws or regulations in effect from time to time.

- 7.11 An owner who receives notice under Section 7.10 may apply for an exemption, or alternatively, for an extension of the notice period, provided that the application is made in writing, directed to the Manager of Operations, and clearly outlines the reasons for the request. In all cases, an application for an exemption, or extension of the notice period, must be approved by Council.
- 7.12 Where an owner does not complete the required connection within the time stipulated, the Manager of Operations may order the completion of the connection by City forces at the owner's expense.
- 7.13 An owner of a parcel that fronts onto a public highway containing a municipal sanitary sewer must connect any new private wastewater system constructed by the owner to the municipal sanitary sewer system.
- 7.14 Where a new sanitary service lateral is required in order to connect any property to the municipal sanitary sewer system, the owner of the property must pay the applicable fee or charge imposed under any City bylaw for the installation of the sanitary service lateral.

Application to Connect.

- 7.15 No person shall connect any private wastewater system or other pipe to the municipal sanitary sewer system until an authorization for that connection has been issued by the Manager of Operations.
- 7.16 Applications for a connection under Section 7.15 must be made by the owner of the property to which the application relates, or by the owner's duly authorized agent.
- 7.17 All applications for connection shall identify the use of the premises for which the private wastewater system is to be connected, the number of dwelling units (or Equivalent Residential Units for non-residential connections), the legal description and location of the property or premises to which the connection is to be made, and any other information that is required under this bylaw, or that may be necessary to accurately assess the fees and charges applicable to the connection.
- 7.18 Authorization for connection to the municipal sanitary sewer system shall not be granted until the owner:
  - (a) submits an application for a building permit to the City, for any new building, structure or facility for which the connection is required, or for any

- proposed modifications to an existing building or structure or other facility, including but not limited to any additions to or modifications of an existing private wastewater system;
  - (b) pays all applicable fees and charges for the connection and for any works required to establish that connection, under this or any other bylaw of the City;
  - (c) complies with any applicable requirements of the Building Code requirements, the City's Subdivision and Development Servicing Bylaw, and this bylaw.
- 7.19 In all cases, the owner must not connect a private wastewater system to the municipal sanitary sewer system or undertake any construction under an authorization granted under Section 7.15, until the owner has obtained a building permit from the City for the building, structure or other facility for which the connection is required, including but not limited to any additions or modifications to an existing private wastewater system.
- 7.20 All works installed in order to establish a connection to the municipal sanitary sewer system must be inspected by City Staff and approved prior to placement of any backfill material.

#### Residential Connections

- 7.21 Every private wastewater system servicing a residential use shall be constructed by the owner in accordance with the requirements of the Building Code and Plumbing Code.
- 7.22 Each parcel of serviced residential land shall be limited to one sanitary service connection except that:
- (a) each residential unit on an R2 zoned property shall have a separate sanitary service connection; and
  - (b) where limitations in site servicing, development restrictions, future subdivision, or proposed stratification exist, the owner may make application for additional sanitary service connections. Additional sanitary service connections and their location must be approved by the Manager of Operations.
- 7.23 Where an owner is authorized to connect a residential parcel to the municipal sanitary sewer system, the owner must not construct a residential dwelling unit on that parcel until the sanitary service lateral required to service that parcel has been installed.
- 7.24 The City bears no responsibility for the accuracy of the location or elevation of any sanitary service connection.

- 7.25 The owner shall ensure that the private wastewater system for any residential unit constructed is capable of conveying any and all private wastewater effluent generated to the municipal sanitary sewer system.

Non-Residential Connections

- 7.26 Every private wastewater system servicing a non-residential use including any industrial, commercial, institutional or agricultural use shall be constructed by the owner in accordance with the requirements of the Building Code and Plumbing Code.
- 7.27 Each parcel of serviced non-residential land shall be limited to one sanitary service connection, suitably sized to accommodate any use permitted under the then-applicable zoning regulations.
- 7.28 Where an owner is authorized to connect a parcel used for a non-residential use to the municipal sanitary sewer system, the owner must not construct a building or structure that will generate private wastewater effluent until the sanitary service lateral required to service that parcel has been installed.
- 7.29 The City bears no responsibility for the accuracy of the location or elevation of any sanitary service connection required to service the proposed development.
- 7.30 The owner shall ensure that the private wastewater system for any building or structure constructed is capable of conveying any and all non-residential private wastewater effluent generated to the sanitary service lateral.
- 7.31 As a condition of approval of any proposed industrial, commercial, institutional and agricultural sanitary service connection, the owner must retain a qualified engineer to prepare and submit the following design information for review by the Manager of Operations:
- (a) a plan showing the scope of proposed or existing development or addition, including a sanitary flow schematic drawing,
  - (b) the daily volumes and peak discharge rates,
  - (c) the type of waste to be processed and discharged,
  - (d) the anticipated B.O.D. and the amount of suspended solids or grease,
  - (e) the pH and temperature of the private wastewater effluent,
  - (f) the chemical composition of the private wastewater effluent,
  - (g) the proposed pre-treatment, including dimensions of the proposed facility,
  - (h) flow equalizing or mixing facilities,
  - (i) the location of the inspection/sampling manhole,
  - (j) the proposed monitoring equipment, and
  - (k) any other relevant design information as required by the Manager of Operations.

- 7.32 In addition to the requirements of Section 7.31, the engineer retained by the owner must confirm that effluent quality for non-residential wastewater flows generated will be in conformance with the permitted effluent loading (sewage strength) for the City wastewater treatment plant.

The requirements of Sections 7.31 and 7.32 apply to any proposed expansion or change of use for an existing industrial, commercial, institutional or agricultural property.

## **8. RATES**

- 8.1 The user fees and charges specified in **SCHEDULE "A"** of this bylaw are imposed and levied for sewer services supplied by the City.

## **9. BILLINGS AND COLLECTIONS**

- 9.1 Property owners shall be responsible for payment of all fees and charges for sewer services provided to properties owned by them.
- 9.2 User rates shall be invoiced on a bi-monthly basis and be due and payable on or before the date shown as the DUE DATE on the bi-monthly billing rendered by the City.
- 9.3 User rates not paid by the DUE DATE shall be subject to an overdue account penalty, as set out in the Fees and Charges Bylaw, as amended from time to time, on the working day after the DUE DATE and monthly thereafter.
- 9.4 User rates may also be paid on the City's Tax/Utility Preauthorized Pre-Payment Plan. Upon application, the City will permit qualifying Customers to make equal monthly payments. The payments will be calculated to yield, during the period ending in December, the total estimated amount that would be payable by the Customer during the year. Applications will be accepted at any time of the year. All accounts will be reconciled in December.

A customer will qualify for the plan provided the account is not in arrears and the customer expects to be on the plan for at least one year.

The equal payment plan may be terminated by the customer or the City. If the customer has not maintained his credit to the satisfaction of the City, the plan will be terminated. On termination, the amounts payable by the Customer to the City for sewer service actually consumed during the equal payment period will be compared to the sum of equal payments made during the same period. Any amount owing by the customer will be paid to the City by cash, cheque or online banking. An excess of payments over charges will be refunded by the City to the Customer.

- 9.5 Notwithstanding Section 9.4, all fees and charges remaining unpaid on the 31st day of December in each year shall be added to and form part of the taxes payable in respect of the land and improvements therein, and shall be entered on the Collector's Roll as taxes in arrears.
- 9.6 The cost of works required to clear or flush waste or debris originating from a property and interrupting the free flow within the common sewer shall be charged to the owner of the originating property.
- 9.7 Where under the authority of this bylaw, the City performs any work on property or any premises, or provides any service to property or premises, the owner of the property or premises shall promptly reimburse the City for its costs in performing that work or providing that service, and the City's costs may be collected in the same manner and with the same remedy as property taxes, and if not paid by December 31st of the year in which the costs become due and payable, are deemed to be taxes in arrears.

## **10. TERMINATION OF SERVICE**

- 10.1 Where an owner intends to abandon or otherwise discontinue use of a private wastewater system, or where a sanitary service connection is no longer required as a result of the development or redevelopment of the owner's property, the owner must apply to the Manager of Operations for the discontinuation or termination of sanitary sewer service.
- 10.2 An application for discontinuation or termination of sanitary sewer service must be made by the owner of the property to which the application relates, or by the owner's duly authorized agent.
- 10.3 Approval for the termination of service shall not be granted until the owner submits a completed application for discontinuation of service stating the reasons for and, if applicable, the estimated duration of discontinuation of the service, and:
- (a) obtains a building permit for demolition of the building or structure that is the source of private wastewater effluent from that property;
  - (b) pays all applicable fees and charges for the discontinuation or termination of service.
- 10.4 Upon approval of the application for discontinuation or termination of service, the owner shall:
- (a) physically disconnect and seal or cap the sanitary service connection at a point that is at least 2.0m (minimum) inside the boundary of the property that abuts the public highway or right of way;
  - (b) mark the capped sanitary service connection location via a 2x4 service marker, extended 0.3m above grade.

- 10.5 The works required under Section 10.4 of this bylaw must be inspected and approved by the Manager of Operations or his designated representative prior to placement of any backfill material.
- 10.6 Where sanitary sewer service to a property has been discontinued or terminated, the owner must not connect a private wastewater facility on that property to the municipal sanitary sewer system except in accordance with Section 7 - Service Connections of this bylaw.

## **11. PROHIBITIONS**

### **11.1 No person shall:**

- (a) enter into or undertake any work upon or interfere with any aspect of the municipal sanitary sewer system unless authorized by the Manager of Operations;
- (b) make or terminate a connection to the municipal sanitary sewer system unless duly authorized by the Manager of Operations;
- (c) attach or detach any line, pipe, or other appurtenance of the municipal sanitary sewer system unless duly authorized by the Manager of Operations;
- (d) undertake any work upon or interfere with any aspect of the municipal sanitary sewer system unless authorized by the Manager of Operations.

### **11.2 No person shall directly or indirectly discharge into the municipal sanitary sewer system:**

- (a) any water or waste containing substances in concentrations that are not amenable to treatment or reduction by the sewage treatment process employed, or are amenable to treatment only to such a degree that the sewage treatment plant effluent cannot, during normal operation, meet the requirement of any other agency having jurisdiction over discharges to the receiving waters;
- (b) any material or substance (e.g. enzymes and/or bacteria) that alters the structure of the waste(s) but does not reduce the loading (C.O.D.);
- (c) any water or wastewater contained in, but not limited to, a swimming pool, hot-tub, or artificial pond;
- (d) any deleterious substance;
- (e) any sludge or other waste material contained in a septic system without prior written authorization from the Manager of Operations;
- (f) any extraneous amounts of water or waste effluent material for the purpose of diluting wastes which would otherwise not meet the allowable concentrations outlined in this bylaw;
- (g) any groundwater or surface/storm drainage flows, including but not limited to storm drains, sumps, roof drains, and foundation drains to the municipal sanitary sewer system;



- (h) any non-domestic liquid or vapour having a temperature in excess of sixty-five (65°C) degrees Celsius;
- (i) any substance which may solidify or become viscous at temperatures above zero (0°C) degrees Celsius;
- (j) any material which exerts or causes unusual concentrations of inert suspended solids (such as, but not limited to, Fuller's Earth); or any unusual concentrations of dissolved solids (such as but not limited to sodium chloride, calcium chloride or sodium sulphate);
- (k) any non-domestic water or waste which contains dyes or other colouring material;
- (l) any soluble waste or wastewater having a pH lower than 5.5 or higher than 9.5 or having any other corrosive property which could be hazardous to structures, equipment, or personnel including, but not limited to, battery or plating acids and wastes, copper sulphate, chromium salts or brine;
- (m) any flammable or explosive liquid, solid, or gas which has a closed cup flashpoint of sixty degrees Celsius (60 °C), or exceeds or could cause an exceedance of ten percent (10%) of the lower explosive limit (LEL) at any point within the municipal sanitary sewer system for any single reading or five percent (5%) for any two (2) consecutive readings. This includes but is not limited to gasoline, benzene, naphtha, alcohol, fuel, oil, solvents, and acetone;
- (n) any pesticides, insecticides, herbicides, or fungicides;
- (o) any toxic, radioactive, poisonous, corrosive, noxious, or malodorous gas, liquid, or substance which may either singly or by interaction with other wastes:
  - (i) cause public or worker health and safety hazards,
  - (ii) cause injury to or interference with the wastewater treatment process,
  - (iii) cause corrosive damage to the sanitary sewer system,
  - (iv) result in the release of toxic gases, vapours, or fumes within the municipal sanitary sewer system.
- (p) any solid or viscous substance, petroleum oil, non-biodegradable cutting oil, or products of mineral oil origin which may:
  - (i) obstruct the flow in the municipal sanitary sewer system,
  - (ii) interfere with or damage the municipal sanitary sewer system or the wastewater treatment process;
- (q) including but not limited to ashes, cinders, grit sand, mud, straw, grass clippings, insoluble shavings, metal, glass, rags, feathers, tar, asphalt, creosote, plastics, wood, animal paunch contents, offal, blood, bones, meat trimmings and waste, fish or fowl head, shrimp, crab or clam shells, fish scales, entrails, lard, mushrooms, tallow, baking dough, chemical residues, cannery or wine waste, bulk solids, hair and fleshings, spent grain and hops, whole or ground food or beverage containers, garbage , paint residues, cat box litter, slurries of concrete, cement, lime, or mortar;
- (r) any sludge, deposit, or material from a cesspool;
- (s) any hazardous waste.

## 12. EFFLUENT LIMITATION PARAMETERS (SEWAGE STRENGTH)

No person shall discharge any effluent into the municipal sanitary sewer system that, when analyzed in the specified sample type, exceeds the limits set out in the following table:

Table 1.0 – Effluent Concentrations		*Concentrations in milligrams per litre (mg/L)	
Parameter	One-day Composite Sample	Two-hour Composite Sample	Grab Sample
B.O.D.	500	1000	2000
C.O.D.	750	1500	3000
Suspended Solids	600	1200	2400
Oil & Grease (non-petroleum)	150	300	600
Oil & Grease (petroleum-based)	15	30	60
pH (non-domestic waste)	>6 and <9.5	>5 and <11	>5.5 and <10.5

No person shall discharge any effluent which, at the point of discharge into the municipal sanitary sewer system, contains any substance, in a combined or uncombined form, with a concentration in excess of the levels set out in the following table.

Table 2.0 - Waste Substances		*Concentration in Milligrams per Litre (mg/L)		
Substance	Abbreviation	One day composite sample	Two hour composite sample	Grab sample
Aluminum	Al	50.0	100.0	200.0
Arsenic	As	0.5	1.0	2.0
Boron	B	50.0	100.0	200.0

Cadmium	Cd	0.2	0.4	0.8
Chromium	Cr	2.0	4.0	8.0
Cobalt	Co	5.0	10.0	20.0
<b>Table 2.0 - Waste Substances (cont'd)</b>		<b>*Concentration in Milligrams per Litre (mg/L)</b>		
Copper	Cu	2.0	4.0	8.0
Cyanide	CN	0.5	1.0	2.0
Iron	Fe	10.0	20.0	40.0
Lead	Pb	1.0	2.0	4.0
Manganese	Mn	5.0	10.0	20.0
Mercury	Hg	0.025	0.05	0.1
Molybdenum	Mo	1.0	2.0	4.0
Nickel	Ni	2.0	4.0	8.0
Phenols	-	1.0	2.0	4.0
Phosphorus	p	12.5	25.0	50.0
Silver	Ag	1.0	2.0	4.0
Sulphate	SO <sub>4</sub>	1500.0	3000.0	6000.0
Sulphide	s	1.0	2.0	4.0
Tin	Sn	5.0	10.0	20.0
Zinc	Zn	3.0	6.0	12.0

\*All concentrations are expressed as total concentrations (expressed in milligrams per litre) which include both the dissolved and undissolved substances.

### 13. SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS PROTOCOLS

- 13.1 All tests, measurements, analyses, and examinations of private wastewater effluent, its characteristics or contents, required for the purpose of this bylaw shall be carried out in accordance with Standard Methods.
- 13.2 Where private wastewater effluent is required or authorized to be inspected, tested, measured, examined or analyzed under this bylaw, the owner of the property that is the source of the private wastewater effluent shall pay all

applicable fees and charges that apply to the City's inspection, testing, measurement, examination or analysis.

#### **14. PRE-TREATMENT REQUIREMENTS**

14.1 Where a private wastewater system, or a proposed private wastewater system, or any component of the private wastewater effluent discharged into the municipal sanitary sewer system from a private wastewater system:

- (a) does not comply with the regulations under this bylaw;
- (b) may damage or increase maintenance costs on the municipal sanitary sewer system; or
- (c) may detrimentally affect the operation of the City's wastewater treatment plant.

The Manager of Operations may by written notice direct the owner of the private wastewater system to retain the services of a qualified engineer to determine an acceptable method of pre-treatment of the private wastewater effluent to meet the requirements of this bylaw.

14.2 The Engineer shall provide:

- (a) detailed design drawings of the proposed pre-treatment facility;
- (b) detailed chemical analysis of the private wastewater effluent, including the concentrations of each component prior to and immediately following the pre-treatment process; and
- (c) detailed operation and maintenance requirements, sampling protocols and testing and analysis schedule required to ensure compliance with this bylaw.

14.3 The proposed pre-treatment facility and process must be approved by the Manager of Operations, and the Manager's approval may be withheld, and no construction may proceed until such time as the Manager is satisfied that the pre-treatment process is such that the private wastewater effluent will comply with the limits prescribed under this bylaw. Upon the Manager's approval being given the owner must at the owner's sole cost and expense construct the facilities necessary for the approved pre-treatment process within such time as the Manager has ordered.

14.4 The owner who is required to design and construct a pre-treatment facility shall maintain complete written records of all cleaning, repair, calibration, maintenance, sampling, and analysis and shall store those records on the owner's property or place of business the owner's facility for a minimum of three (3) years. The owner shall make those records available for examination by the Manager of Operations at all reasonable times.

- 14.5 It is the owner's sole responsibility to ensure that all components of the private wastewater effluent discharged into the municipal sanitary sewer system are in compliance with the provisions of this bylaw after the pre-treatment facility is completed and the Manager's approval of any pre-treatment process or facility does not imply that the quality of the wastewater discharged after passing through the pre-treatment process or facility will meet the requirements of this bylaw.

## **15. VOLUME CONTROL**

- 15.1 Where private wastewater effluent is discharged into the municipal sanitary sewer system in volumes that the Manager of Operations determines may exceed the available downstream system capacity, the Manager may by written notice to the owner or occupier of the property from which the wastewater effluent is discharged require the Owner:

- (a) to take measures specified by the Manager to equalize the discharge volumes and strengths; or
- (b) to retain the services of a qualified engineer to determine an acceptable method to equalize discharge volumes and strengths.

- 15.2 Where notice is given under Section 15.1(b):

- (a) the engineer shall provide such detailed calculations and design drawings that are necessary to demonstrate the viability of the method recommended for equalizing discharge volumes and strength; and
- (b) the proposed method for equalizing discharge volumes and strengths must be approved by the Manager of Operations, and the Manager's approval may be withheld, and no construction may proceed until such time as the Manager is satisfied that the proposed method will prevent the available downstream capacity from being exceeded.

- 15.3 Upon receiving notice of the Manager's requirement under Section 15.1(a), or the Manager's approval under Section 15.2(b), the owner must at the owner's sole cost and expense construct the facilities necessary to comply with the requirement or undertake the approved work.

- 15.4 Any equipment necessary to comply with a requirement of the Manager under Section 15.1 or 15.3 shall be provided, maintained, and operated by the owner or occupier of the property at their sole expense and in a manner satisfactory to the Manager.

## **16. INTERCEPTION DEVICES**

- 16.1 Where a private wastewater system, or any component thereof, may generate or contain grease, oil, grit, flammable or reactive liquids/gases, or other such

deleterious substances, the owner shall provide an interception device designed by a qualified engineer capable of effectively removing these substances.

16.2 Without limiting the generality of Section 16.1, the Manager may require the owners or operators of the following institutional, industrial, and agricultural operations to have designed and to install a permanent interception device in accordance with Section 16.1:

- (a) service/fuel stations, vehicle repair facilities, and automobile wash bays;
- (b) dry-cleaning establishments;
- (c) milk/cream/cheese production/processing plant;
- (d) laboratories;
- (e) commercial kitchens; and
- (f) concrete/aggregate plants/facilities.

16.3 All interception devices shall be:

- (a) of sufficient capacity to remove and retain the deleterious material;
- (b) designed by a qualified professional engineer;
- (c) located in an area that is readily accessible for inspection and maintenance purposes.

16.4 The owner or other person who is subject to a requirement under Section 16.1 shall submit detailed design drawings, calculations (including operation and maintenance manuals) and specifications prepared by the owner's qualified engineer to the Manager of Operations for approval prior to construction.

16.5 Construction and installation of an interception device shall not commence until such time as the Manager has reviewed and approved the design.

16.6 Approval to construct an interception device by the Manager does not imply that the quality of the private wastewater effluent discharged after passing through the interceptor will meet the requirements of this bylaw. It is the Owner's responsibility to ensure that all the components of the private wastewater effluent will comply with the provisions of the bylaw after passing through the interception device.

16.7 The design, construction, operation, and maintenance of an interception device shall be the responsibility of the owner and shall be at the owner's expense.

16.8 The owner shall maintain written records of all cleaning, repair, calibration, and maintenance of an interception device and shall store those records at the owner's property or place of business for a minimum of three (3) years. The owner shall make these records available for examination by the Manager of Operations at all reasonable times.

## **17. REPORTING OF ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGES**

- 17.1 Any person responsible for, or aware of, the accidental discharge of prohibited substances into the municipal sanitary sewer system shall promptly report that discharge to the Manager of Operations in order that immediate remedial action can be taken to minimize environmental risks.

## **18. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER REGULATIONS**

- 18.1 Notwithstanding the provisions contained within this bylaw, any person or owner is responsible for ascertaining, and ensuring compliance with, all other City bylaws, provincial or federal enactments and legislation, as in effect from time to time.

## **19. OFFENCES AND PENALTIES**

- 19.1 Any owner or person who contravenes a provision of this bylaw may, on summary conviction, be liable to the maximum penalty under the Offence Act, plus the cost of prosecution, for each offence.
- 19.2 Any penalty imposed under Section 19.1 is a supplement to and not a substitute for any other remedy or action under that may be available under his bylaw or any other applicable laws or enactments.
- 19.3 Each day that a contravention of this bylaw continues shall constitute a separate offence.

## **20. RECOVERY OF COSTS**

- 20.1 Where under the authority of this bylaw, the City performs any work on property or any premises, or provides any service to property or premises, the owner of the property or premises shall promptly reimburse the City for its costs in performing that work or providing that service, and the City's costs may be collected in the same manner and with the same remedy as property taxes, and if not paid by December 31st of the year in which the costs become due and payable, are deemed to be taxes in arrears.

## **21. SEVERABILITY**

- 21.1 If any portion of this bylaw is held to be invalid by a Court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this bylaw.

## **22. REPEAL**

- 22.1 The "Corporation of the City of Grand Forks Sewer Regulations Bylaw No. 1500, 1997" and all amendments thereto are hereby repealed.

**READ A FIRST TIME** this 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2014.

**READ A SECOND TIME** this 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2014.

**READ A THIRD TIME** this 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2014

**ADOPTED** this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2014.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Brian Taylor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Corporate Officer – Diane Heinrich

**CERTIFICATE**

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of Bylaw No. 1974, as  
passed by the Municipal Council of the City of Grand Forks  
on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2014.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Corporate Officer of the Municipal Council of the  
City of Grand Forks

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Signed



## **SERVICE CHARGES**

**1. Charges for installation of sewer service:**

- (a) **Residential:** 100 mm (4 inch) diameter

**At Cost by Contractor**, including any additional service costs itemized in (c), plus 15%

- (b) **Commercial, Industrial, Institutional, Multi-family:** 152 mm (6 inch) diameter

**At Cost by Contractor**, including any additional service costs itemized in (c), plus 15%

- (c) Additional service costs not included in (a) and (b) above:

i) Service or main extension (100 mm to 152 mm diameter and/or where the service length is greater than 15 m);

ii) Restoration including but not limited to: asphalt road repair, concrete curb, sidewalk (concrete), and boulevard landscaping

**2. Charges for after-hours callout – evenings, weekends, statutory holidays**

Private property issue	\$250.00	flat rate
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**SCHEDULE "A"**  
**Page 2 of 2**

**3. User Rates – Effective July 1, 2014**

	<b>Bi-Monthly Fixed Charge &amp; Capital Charge</b>	<b>Bi-Monthly Fixed Charge &amp; Capital Charge</b>	<b>Bi- Monthly Customer Charge</b>	<b>Sewer Rates Charge per 1/3 cubic meter Of metered water</b>	<b>Bi-Monthly Variable Sewer Charges for non-Metered</b>
<b>User Class</b>	<b>Per unit</b>	<b>Per Account (per meter)</b>	<b>Per Account</b>		<b>Per Residence</b>
Metered multi-Family Apartment (one tax folio)	35.25		10.50	0.400	
Commercial Office Properties (water use restricted to staff washroom)		38.25	10.50	0.400	
Commercial (Class 06) Properties not listed below		60.25	10.50	0.400	
Large Industrial (Class 04) Properties		60.25	10.50	0.400	
Commercial laundry, car wash properties		60.25	10.50	0.400	
Hotels, Restaurants, Malls		60.25	10.50	0.400	
Institutions, schools, recreation facilities (arenas, pools) irrigation systems		60.25	10.50	0.400	
Buildings not connected to sewer system on lots where service is available		35.25	10.50		
Residential Properties not metered	44.00		10.50		15.60