



MEMBER MOTION

Section 5.4.4(b) of Procedure By-law

Meeting:	Committee of the Whole Meeting
Meeting Date:	June 18, 2025
Subject/Title:	Feasibility of banning fireworks in the City of Richmond Hill
Submitted by:	Councillor Carol Davidson

Whereas fireworks can pose significant safety risks to people, animals, and property, and generate noise and environmental pollution; and

Whereas the City of Richmond Hill and Members of Council receive complaints and concerns from residents about the use of fireworks, particularly in relation to excessive noise, litter, fire hazards, and negative impacts on pets and local wildlife; and

Whereas fireworks are set off outside of the dates, times, and locations currently permitted by the City's Fireworks By-law; and

Whereas the response to fireworks-related incidents requires the allocation of Fire and Emergency Services, By-law, and Access Richmond Hill resources; and

Whereas other municipalities have implemented restrictions or outright bans on the sale and/or use of fireworks and have adopted alternative forms of celebration that are more inclusive and environmentally responsible, and

Whereas a comprehensive review of the Richmond Hill Fireworks By-law is contemplated to commence in late 2025 as per SRCS.23.13.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved:

1. That as part of comprehensive review of the Fireworks By-law staff provide Council with the following information:

- Options for alternative public celebrations or visual displays (e.g., drone light shows, laser shows), and a cost analysis of implementing these alternatives;
- An assessment of fireworks-related complaints received by Access Richmond Hill;
- A comparative analysis of fireworks policies and bylaws in other municipalities;
- A review of potential enforcement mechanisms and associated challenges within Richmond Hill, along with a comparison of enforcement challenges experienced by other municipalities;
- An assessment of the environmental impacts of consumer fireworks, including air and water pollution, litter, and effects on wildlife.

Moved by: Councillor Carol Davidson

Seconded by: