

BLOCK PARTY

SECTION: Administration

DEPARTMENT: Community Services

COUNCIL APPROVAL DATE: March 19, 2019

LAST REVIEWED BY COUNCIL: July 7, 2026

POLICY STATEMENT

The Bon Accord Block Party program helps create stronger community foundations, promote inclusivity, and create community awareness – all of which is the basis of the Bon Accord Community Services department's values.

PURPOSE

To establish clear guidelines for community members who wish to host a Block Party.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all individuals who wish to host a Block Party within Town limits.

DEFINITIONS

“Applicant” means the Block Party organizer who is responsible for ensuring all Block Party rules are followed during the event.

“Block Party” means a public daytime event organized by residents, often involving closing a road to vehicle traffic for the purpose of community socializing, music, food, and games.

“Town” means the Town of Bon Accord.

I. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The Community Services department is the main contact for Block Parties and is responsible for

- a. Accepting and reviewing Block Party applications;
 - b. Communicating decisions with applicants;
 - c. Advising Public Works of the dates of any road closures required;
 - d. Informing Sturgeon County Protective Services/Bylaw Services of any road closures; and
 - e. Providing a \$100 gift card to the first 5 approved Block Parties, per calendar year, to help with the cost of food and supplies.
2. The Public Works department is responsible for
 - a. Dropping off road closure barricades outside the homes noted on the Block Party application 1 business day prior to the date of the Block Party;
 - b. Picking up the barricades the next business day after the Block Party, and
 - c. Inspecting barricades after a Block Party for any damage and communicating any such damage with Corporate Services for invoicing.
3. Applicants are responsible for
 - a. Arranging barricades on the street during the time of the event to adequately warn approaching vehicles of road closure;
 - b. Removing the barricades at the conclusion of the event;
 - c. The safe return of barricades. The Town will invoice the cost of any damages to barricades to the applicant;
 - d. Any damage to public or private property relative to the Block Party;
 - e. Clean up after the Block Party; and
 - f. Remaining at the Block Party until its conclusion.

II. APPLICATIONS

1. Applicants must complete a Bon Accord Block Party application a minimum of 3 weeks prior to the event date.
2. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older.
3. At least 15 households that are directly impacted by the Block Party must be

notified and agree to the Block Party before the event can take place. Signatures and addresses must be obtained prior to the approval of the event and/or road closure. The Town reserves the right to reject incomplete or seemingly fraudulent applications.

4. All households that are directly impacted by the Block Party must be notified of the date and time of the event and applicable road closure by the Block Party organizer(s) at least 4 days prior to the Block Party.

III. RESTRICTIONS

1. All Block Parties must:
 - a. Adhere to the Town's Community Standards Bylaw and all other applicable Town bylaws;
 - b. Take place between the hours of 10:00 am and 10:00 pm. No Block Party may continue past 10:00 pm;
 - c. Maintain access for emergency vehicles. All structures/items on the street must be easy to move; and
 - d. Be held during warmer months, approximately mid-May through mid-September.
2. No alcohol is permitted on Town property.
3. Fire pits are only permitted with an approved Fire Pit Permit issued by the Bon Accord Fire Department and cannot be placed on the road.
4. Fireworks are not permitted.
5. Bouncy houses/castles are not permitted on Town property.
6. No road closures are permitted on arterial roads to ensure emergency vehicle access.
7. The Town reserves the right to reject applications that conflict with Town events including, but not limited to parades, garbage pickup days, large item pick up, traffic-heavy events, etc.