



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF WASAGA BEACH

POLICY MANUAL

SECTION NAME: Community, Tourism & Special Events	POLICY NUMBER: 9-5
POLICY: Special Events Busking Policy and Guidelines	REVIEW DATE: March 2021
EFFECTIVE DATE: March 22 nd , 2016	REVISIONS:
IMPLEMENTATION: March 22 nd , 2016 By-law 2016-41	ADMINISTERED BY: Special Events Coordinator

PURPOSE

Council is interested in supporting busking in certain designated areas within the Town of Wasaga Beach.

SCOPE

This policy and guideline has been developed to provide staff and Council with information so that they can make decision on busking being operated on Town of Wasaga Beach property.

POLICY & GUIDELINES

1. Definitions

- a. **“Council”** means the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Wasaga Beach;
- b. **“Busker ID”** means valid identification issued by the Town of Wasaga Beach relating to a Busker.
- c. **“Buskers”** means an individual who undertakes Busking
- d. **“Busking”** includes, but not limited to the following activities: acting, singing, playing musical instruments, juggling, magic, dancing, puppetry and reciting. Busking does not include face painting or hair wrapping.
- e. **“Special Event”** means an exhibition, event, or function held within the Municipality of the Town of Wasaga Beach that is defined in Section 3 of this By-law;
- f. **“Municipal”, “Municipality”, or “Municipal Corporation”** means the Corporation of the Town of Wasaga Beach;

- g. **“Permit”** shall mean any permit issued in accordance with the provision of this By-Law;
- h. **“Person”** shall include a corporation, business entity or group;
- i. **“Town or Public Facility”** means road allowances, parks, property or buildings controlled by the Town or other government agencies.

2. Permit Requirements & Fees:

- a. A professional Busker Audition Committee will evaluate auditions and decisions will be based on the criteria listed in section 4 below.
- b. Entertainers will be required to attend a short audition and if successful, obtain an annual Busker Permit Licence and photo ID.
- c. Prior to obtaining a busker ID, Buskers will be required to complete a Town liability waiver and sign the Busker’s Code of Conduct (Schedule B).
- d. Cost of a permit is \$20.00 for Town of Wasaga Beach residents and \$40.00 for non-residents.
- e. Licenced buskers may entertain seasonal (May to Sept), 10:00am – 8:00pm at designated busking areas in the Town of Wasaga Beach.
- f. The committee's decisions are final and not open to appeal.

3. Applicable to:

- a. Buskers who perform in the following designated areas:
 - Areas to be determined
 - –
 - –
- b. Buskers are permitted in designated Busking locations only.
- c. Busking at transit stops, in transit vehicles or other areas not designated above is not permitted.

4. Submission and Assessment Criteria:

These attributes describe the artists and performances we are seeking:

- a. Showmanship - The ability to entertain:
 - The performer is engaging and has a distinct look, genre or theme.
- b. Talent and/or Potential:
 - Safety is always a concern.
 - The talent and potential of the performer is evident.
- c. Uniqueness - Unusual, Special, One-of-a-kind:
 - The performer possesses a unique quality, subtle or dramatic, that makes them interesting.
- d. Organization and Seriousness of Manner:
 - The performer has enough material to showcase (approximately one hour).
 - The artist’s equipment is in good working order.
 - The artist is prepared.
 - The Repertoire is family oriented.

5. Special Conditions:

- a. Busking in the Town of Wasaga Beach is on an honour system and therefore licenced buskers are asked to simply show up and entertain at any of the designated locations if they are available and rotate on the hour if there is another entertainer waiting to perform. Licenced buskers are encouraged to set out a hat or instrument case for voluntary donations.
- b. Buskers are permitted to sell goods directly related to their busking which may include CDs, merchandise or any other types of items related to busking. The Busking licence will include a transient sales licence, with no additional fee. All items available for sale have to be pre-approved by the audition committee. The Busking licence will include a transient sales licence, with no additional fee.
- c. Maximum performance time is one (1) hour per busking location within a four (4) hour time frame. Performance times begin at the top of the hour.
- d. Maximum number of performers in a single group will not exceed five (5) people.
- e. Buskers under the age of 18 must have an adult accompanying them at all times.
- f. Amplification is permitted with the following special conditions:
 - the sound level must be reasonable, within limits set in the Town by-laws and intended for an audience within 25 feet
 - if neighbouring businesses or residents complain about the sound level, it must be lowered
 - equipment, cables or other equipment must not cross roadways or pedestrian pathways or in any way interfere with the safe and convenient movement of pedestrians
 - the Town reserves the right to disconnect any equipment that is likely to cause injury or damage
- g. repeated failure to comply with these conditions will result in the busker's licence being revoked
- h. No high risk or unsafe performances, which may put the public and/or the performer at risk (use of knives, fire, etc. may not be permitted, subject to approval by Fire Chief and/or Audition Committee).
- i. Sidewalks, paths, bicycle routes and roads must not be blocked by either performers or their audiences.
- j. The comfort or safety of others must not be jeopardized.
- k. All performances must be suitable for a general family audience rating. Appropriate clothing must be worn at all times.
- l. Busking under this policy does not include face painting or hair wrapping.
- m. Failure to display a valid Busker ID or failure to follow these guidelines may result in your Busking Licence and privileges being revoked.

6. Exceptions:

- a. Buskers are not permitted where areas or events have "special event permits" as approved through the Town of Wasaga Beach unless authorized by the designated event organization or organizer.
- b. When event coordinators schedule buskers or entertainers to perform during town approved special events or occasions, they are exempt from this by-law and fall under the conditions of the Town's Special Events by-law.

- c. The requirement for a licence to carry out Busking does not apply to a performer who is registered through a “special event permit application” for events as approved by the town.
- d. During town sponsored events and festivals or while paid performers are working, busking may be temporarily suspended in areas usually designated for busking.

7. Staff Support

The Special Event Coordinator will be the main contact for arranging auditions, working with approved buskers and any matters relating to busking. To obtain a licence to busk contact events@wasagabeach.com or call 705-429-2844 ext. 2287

8. Other Requirements:

The granting of any permit required by this section shall not eliminate any requirement for any business license; any other permit(s) which may be prescribed by any other Municipal By-laws, rules and regulations or other governmental agencies

POLICY REVIEW AND PROCEDURE

This Policy will be review as required, but in any case no later than five (5) years from the date of the most recent review.

The Special Events Coordinator will be responsible for initiating the review of this Policy.

Schedule “B”

BUSKER CODE OF CONDUCT

Buskers will:

Respect the right of businesses to operate without undue disturbance by entertainers outside their premises.

Exhibit good conduct and character while performing (no nudity, swearing, performing while intoxicated, etc.).

Abide by all municipal by-laws and all federal and provincial statutes and regulations while performing.

Not solicit donations; however unsolicited donations are permitted in a receptacle such as a musical instrument case, box or hat.

I have read and understood the Buskers Code of Conduct.

Name :(Please Print) _____

Signature or Signature of Guardian (Buskers under the age of 18)

Date