Minutes – Standing Policy Committee on Community Services – March 3, 2026

REPORTS

Item No. 2 Operation of Fireworks on Private and Public Property

STANDING COMMITTEE DECISION:

The Standing Policy Committee on Community Services concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and granted an extension of time of 60 days to report back on the following:

1. A cross jurisdictional scan and report on the use, permitting, and penalties for operating fireworks on private and public property, including the following:

    A. Comparisons of fines for the use of fireworks without a permit in other cities.

    B. Specific provisions from other jurisdictions which govern the use and sale of fireworks on public and private property.

    C. Additional recommendations to control the use of fireworks in the City of Winnipeg.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Gilroy,

That the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service be concurred in.

Carried

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On November 4, 2025, the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services concurred in the recommendation of the Assiniboia Community Committee, as amended, and directed the Winnipeg Public Service to complete a cross jurisdictional scan and report back in 120 days on the use, permitting, and penalties for operating fireworks on private and public property, and include the following:

1. Comparisons of fines for the use of fireworks without a permit in other cities.

2. Specific provisions from other jurisdictions which govern the use and sale of fireworks on public and private property.

3. Additional recommendations to control the use of fireworks in the City of Winnipeg.

The following persons submitted communications:

- Aleem Kanji, Chief Advocacy Officer, Canadian National Fireworks Association, with respect to the matter
- Councillor Lukes, Waverley West Ward, in support of the matter

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On October 3, 2025, the Assiniboia Community Committee passed the following motion:

WHEREAS fireworks are often used in celebration of joyous cultural or national holidays;

AND WHEREAS in urban environments fireworks can be very celebrative, but also can be very disruptive and dangerous;

AND WHEREAS many yards within the City of Winnipeg do not meet the minimum requirements to accommodate fireworks;

AND WHEREAS cities across Canada are implementing updated rules and guidelines related to setting off fireworks on private and public properties;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services be requested to direct the Winnipeg Public Service to complete a cross jurisdictional scan and report back in 120 days on the use, permitting, and penalties for operating fireworks on private and public property, and include the following:

1. Comparisons of fines for the use of fireworks without a permit in other cities.

2. A listing of cities in which the use or sale of fireworks is banned.

3. Specific provisions from other jurisdictions which govern the use of fireworks on public and private property.

4. Additional recommendations to control the use of fireworks in the City of Winnipeg.