



## **Part 9 Signs**

### **Section 79 Sign Regulation Procedures**

- 79.1 The Development Authority may by notice in writing:
- (a) direct the owner to correct the condition of any sign or remove any sign within 30 days of receipt of the notice where, in the opinion of the Development Authority, that condition or sign constitutes a violation of this bylaw or any permit hereunder, has become unsightly or is unsafe;
  - (b) order the owner to stop work on a sign if it is proceeding in contravention of this bylaw;
  - (c) order the owner to stop work on a sign if a permit has not been issued.

### **Section 80 Sign Permit and Requirements**

- 80.1 Except as provided in Section 81, and pursuant to Section 51.1 and Section 88, no person shall place, replace, erect or use any sign without first obtaining a sign permit.
- 80.2 The Development Authority shall issue a sign permit if the sign complies with the provisions of the Land Use Bylaw.
- 80.3 The sign permit shall bear the date on which it is issued and if active work is not commenced within the period of 12 months from the date of its issuance, the sign permit shall expire and become invalid, unless the Development Authority approves an extension of time which must be requested by the owner in writing.
- 80.4 Provided the sign is erected within 12 months of the date of issue of the permit, the permit shall continue in force from year to year.
- 80.5 An application for a sign permit shall include the following:
- (a) the name and address of:
    - i) the sign company responsible for the sign; and
    - ii) the owner of the sign; and
    - iii) the registered owner of the land or premises upon which the sign is to be erected.
  - (b) a site plan designating location and setback requirements;
  - (c) a plan showing the following construction details:
    - i) a rendering/illustration of the proposed sign;
    - ii) the overall dimensions of the sign and the total sign area;
    - iii) the amount of projection from the face of the building, where applicable;
    - iv) the amount of projection over County Property, where applicable;



- v) the height of the top and the bottom of sign above the average ground level at the face of the building or sign;
  - vi) the distance to aerial power lines from freestanding signs.
- 80.6 Normal maintenance of a sign in accordance with an existing permit does not require a new permit.
- 80.7 Whenever the conditions of installation require unusual structural provisions, the Development Authority may require that a structural drawing be prepared by and bear the seal of a professional engineer.
- 80.8 Upon application by the Owner, the Development Authority may consider a relaxation of only the size, dimension, area or distance separation for any sign, and the Development Authority may, if it considers that the request is reasonable, grant a relaxation for those items only.

## **Section 81 Signs Not Requiring a Sign Permit**

- 81.1 The following signs shall not require a sign permit but must comply with the regulations of the Land Use Bylaw as amended, where applicable:
- (a) signs, notices, placards or bulletins required or permitted to be displayed:
    - i) under the provision of federal, provincial or municipal legislation;
    - ii) by or on behalf of the federal, provincial or municipal government;
    - iii) on behalf of a department, a commission, a board, a committee or an official of the federal, provincial or municipal government;
  - (b) street numbers or letters displayed on a premises where together the total copy area is less than 1.2 m<sup>2</sup> (13 ft<sup>2</sup>);
  - (c) one non-illuminated sign with a total copy area not exceeding 0.3 m<sup>2</sup> (3.0 ft<sup>2</sup>) for each major home business, bed and breakfast establishment or guest ranch that has been issued a development permit.
  - (d) a fascia sign which is attached to a residential dwelling unit or its accessory buildings and states no more than the name of the building or the name of the persons occupying the building or both, provided that the total sign area does not exceed 0.3 m (3.0 ft<sup>2</sup>);
  - (e) a fascia sign or a canopy sign which is attached to a building other than a residential dwelling unit and states no more than:
    - i) the name or address of the building;
    - ii) the name of the person or institution occupying the building; and
    - iii) the activities carried on in the building including hours of operations and rates charges, provided the total sign area does not exceed 1.5 m<sup>2</sup> (16 ft<sup>2</sup>);
  - (f) a real estate property management sign provided that the total sign area does not exceed 1.0 m<sup>2</sup> (11 ft<sup>2</sup>) in Residential Districts;



- (g) a real estate or property management sign provided that the total sign area does not exceed 6.0 m<sup>2</sup> (65 ft<sup>2</sup>) in any other district;
- (h) signs placed on a premises for the guidance, warning or restraint of persons;
- (i) candidates' election signs only during the following time frames:
  - i) between September 1 of an election year and the date of the election, in the case of an election under the Local Authorities Election Act, and,
  - ii) between the date the election is officially called and the date of the election, in the case of elections for Federal and Provincial public office;
- (j) directional signs with an area less than 1.4 m<sup>2</sup> (15 ft<sup>2</sup>);
- (k) temporary signs with an area less than 3.0 m<sup>2</sup> (32 ft<sup>2</sup>) intended to advertise any local event being held for charitable purposes, which may be religious, educational, cultural, political, social or recreational, but not for commercial purposes;
- (l) construction signs, provided they conform to the following requirements:
  - i) there shall not be more than a total of four construction signs per site, and:
    - 1) in residential subdivisions, the total area of all four construction signs shall not exceed 6.4 m<sup>2</sup> (69 ft<sup>2</sup>); and,
    - 2) in commercial and industrial subdivisions, the total area of all four construction signs shall not exceed 25 m<sup>2</sup> (270 ft<sup>2</sup>);
  - ii) no individual construction sign in a residential area may exceed 3.0 m<sup>2</sup> (32 ft<sup>2</sup>) in area;
  - iii) all construction signs must be located on private property;
  - iv) construction signs shall be professionally designed and maintained to the satisfaction of the Development Authority; and,
  - v) construction signs may be erected within a period starting not earlier than six (6) months before the date of intended construction and ending three (3) months following the completion of construction, but in no case shall a construction sign be erected for a maximum total time period of 18 months.

## **Section 82 Sign Owner's Responsibility**

- 82.1 Neither the granting of a sign permit, nor the approval of the plans nor any inspections made by the Development Authority shall in any way relieve the Owner from full compliance with the Land Use Bylaw or other applicable legislation.
- 82.2 The Owner of a sign shall permit Development Authority representatives to enter the Owner's premises at any reasonable time for the purpose of inspecting the sign or administering or enforcing this bylaw.
- 82.3 The owner of a sign shall at all times maintain the sign in a proper and safe state of repair and shall not allow or permit the sign to become dilapidated or unsightly.
- 82.4 Unless otherwise allowed in this bylaw, no person shall attach anything to an existing permitted sign unless a new permit is issued for such addition.



### **Section 83 Structural Provisions**

83.1 All sign structures shall be securely built, constructed and erected to conform to the standards set forth in this bylaw.

### **Section 84 Safety Provisions**

84.1 No person shall:

- (a) erect or maintain any sign that is in contravention of this or any other County bylaw;
- (b) erect a sign or sign structure on any exterior stairway, fire escape, fire tower or balcony serving as a horizontal exit; or,
- (c) erect a sign so that any portion of the surface or supports will interfere in any way with any of the following:
  - i) any opening necessary for a standpipe, required light, ventilation or exit from the premises,
  - ii) the free use of any window above the first storey, or,
  - iii) the free passage from one part of a roof to another part of the same roof;
- (d) erect, construct or maintain a sign or a display structure so as to create a hazard for pedestrian or vehicular traffic by blocking sight lines between pedestrian and vehicular traffic or distracting a driver or pedestrian, as determined by the Development Authority;
- (e) erect, construct or maintain any sign which makes use of the words, "STOP", "LOOK", and "DANGER" or any other word, phrase, symbol or character in such a manner as to interfere with, mislead or confuse traffic.

### **Section 85 Illumination Provisions**

85.1 No signs or advertising structures shall have flashing or running lights.

85.2 No permit shall be issued for and no person shall erect, install or maintain an electric sign, unless it conforms with the Alberta Safety Codes Act and regulations thereto.

85.3 Signs operating or employing stereo-opticon, video, motion pictures, laser or other similar projection devices may only be allowed in commercial or industrial districts at the discretion of the Development Authority.

### **Section 86 Sign Projection/Encroachment Over County Property**

86.1 Except for an A-board sign for which a permit has been issued under this bylaw or an Election Sign pursuant to Section 92, no person shall erect a sign upon or over County property (including rights of ways, easements and utility lots), or within any setbacks required by the Land Use Bylaw without:

- (a) the approval of the Development Authority; and,



- (b) entering into an Sign Encroachment Agreement (Schedule D - Forms) binding upon the owner of the land or building to which the sign is attached, and containing provisions to:
  - i) indemnify the County;
  - ii) place and maintain insurance; and
  - iii) charge the land with any costs incurred by the County.

- 86.2 No person shall erect a sign so that any part of the sign or the sign structure projects into or over a lane at a clearance less than 4.6 m (15 ft) above grade.
- 86.3 The owner of any sign that overhangs County property, where a permit has been issued, shall be responsible for maintaining in force an insurance policy naming the County as an additional insured and shall provide evidence of such insurance to the County on demand.
- 86.4 Where a sign is permitted on County land, the owner shall pay to the County an annual license fee in an amount as established by Council in the Red Deer County Fee Bylaw.
- 86.5 The permit fee for a sign is determined in the Red Deer County Fee Bylaw.
- 86.6 The Development Authority may revoke any sign permit where:
  - (a) a sign for which such permit was issued violates the conditions of the permit or any of the provisions of this bylaw; or,
  - (b) the owner is in breach of any of the provisions of this bylaw.

**Section 87 Offensive Signage**

- 87.1 No sign shall be erected which promotes intolerance, hatred or ridicule of any race, religion or other segment of society.
- 87.2 No sign shall be allowed to feature nudity.

**Section 88 Permitted and Discretionary Signs**

- 88.1 Subject to Section 51.1 the various types of signs are either not allowed or are permitted or discretionary in all land use districts as provided for in Table 89-1.
- 88.2 The sign provisions in Schedule A shall have precedence over those of this Section.

**Table 88-1 Permitted and Discretionary Signs**

Sign	A	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	IL	IM	IH	IA	PS	PU
A-Board	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Awning and Canopy					■	■		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Billboard										D	D	D	D	D	D				
Election	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Fascia	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Free Standing						D			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Painted Wall						■			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■



<b>Portable</b>						D														
<b>Projecting</b>																				
<b>Subdivision</b>																				
<b>Wall</b>						D														

**Table Key**

	Not Allowed
■	Permitted
D	Discretionary

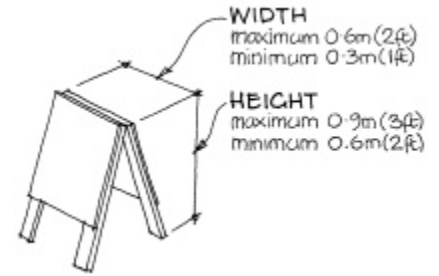


**Section 89 A-Board Signs**

Figure 89-1 A-Board Sign

89.1 A-Board Signs shall:

- (a) be of a painted finish, be neat and clean, and be maintained in such condition; and,
- (b) be of a size not exceeding 0.6 m (2 ft) wide by 0.9 m (3 ft) high, and not less than 0.3 m (1 ft) wide by 0.6 m (2 ft) high.



**Section 90 Awning and Canopy Signs**

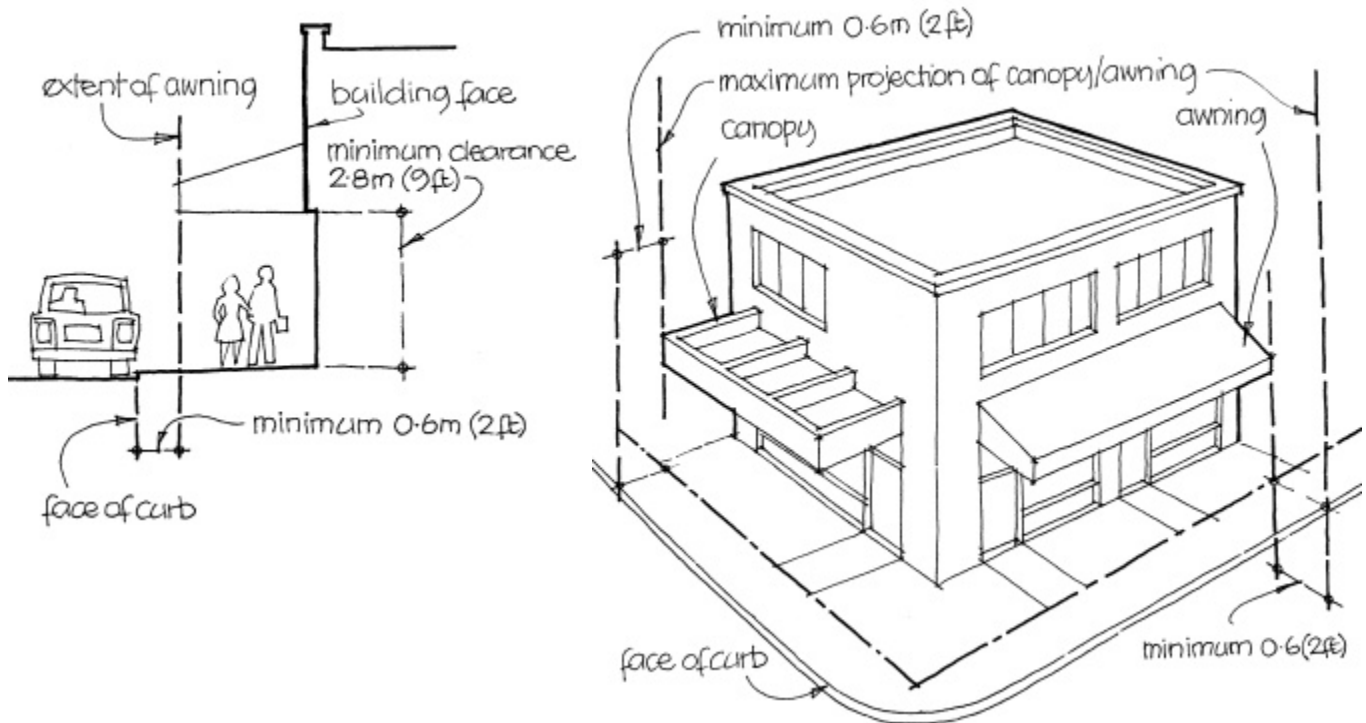
90.1 Awning and canopy signs shall not project from the building to a point greater than where a perpendicular line from the front edge of the awning will intersect the sidewalk 0.6 m (2 ft) from the face of curb.

90.2 Canopy signs may be attached to the sides and front of the canopy, and such signs may extend the entire length and width of the canopy.

90.3 Under canopy signs may be hung from the canopy provided such signs shall not:

- (a) extend beyond the sides or the front of such canopy; and
- (b) exceed a vertical dimension of 1.5 m (5 ft).

Figure 90-1Awning and Canopy Signs





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- 90.4 No person shall erect an awning sign, a canopy sign or an under canopy sign unless such sign:
- (a) is securely hung and anchored to the building to which it is attached;
  - (b) the structure to which it is attached is capable of resisting all stresses resulting from dead weight, snow and wind loads;
  - (c) is at clearance of not less than 2.8 m (9 ft) from the average ground level at the face of the building;
  - (d) does not project more than 3.0 m (10 ft) from the face of the building or structure to which it is attached.
- 90.5 Projecting signs installed over or above canopies shall not be supported by the canopy.

## **Section 91 Billboards**

- 91.1 A billboard sign shall not:
- (a) be more than 3.0 m (10 ft) high, and not more than 6.0 m (20 ft) long;
  - (b) have a maximum height above grade of more than 6.0 m (20 ft);
  - (c) have a maximum area exceeding 19 m<sup>2</sup> (205 ft<sup>2</sup>);
  - (d) not be located closer than 3.0 m (10 ft) to any property line;
  - (e) not be erected, constructed, altered or used anywhere within the County except as provided by this and other bylaws of the County.
- 91.2 The land and the sites in and about where the billboards are permitted shall be at all times maintained in a neat and clean manner, free from all loose papers and rubbish. A second face may be required on the billboard where the back of the billboard is visible to pedestrian or vehicle traffic.
- 91.3 An existing billboard may be relocated on the same site with the approval of the Development Authority.

## **Section 92 Election Signs**

- 92.1 Election signs may be placed on private or public property (with the approval of the owner/public authority).
- 92.2 Election signs are permitted on municipal property only as designated by the Development Authority.
- 92.3 No encroachment of an election sign from private property onto municipal property will be permitted unless it is at a designated location.
- 92.4 Election signs must be located at least 2.0 m (6 ft) from the edge of the travelling surface of a roadway.



- 92.5 Election signs on public property may not exceed 1.5 m<sup>2</sup> (16 ft<sup>2</sup>) in size nor 3.6 m (12 ft) in height.
- 92.6 Candidates shall remove their election signs from public and private property within 72 hours after the close of the voting stations on election day and ensure that the site is cleaned up and that the holes are filled with a mixture of topsoil and grass seed;
- 92.7 If a candidate fails to remove his or her election signs within 72 hours after the voting stations close on election day, the Bylaw Enforcement Officers may remove them and the candidate shall be liable for the cost of removal.
- 92.8 When an election sign interferes with work being carried out by County work crews or contractors doing work on behalf of the County, the crews may remove and dispose of such signs.
- 92.9 Bylaw Enforcement Officers employed by the County may remove any election signs which have been erected, affixed, posted or placed on any County property in contravention of this bylaw.
- 92.10 A candidate whose name appears on an election sign which is in contravention of this bylaw shall be guilty of an offence under this bylaw.

### **Section 93 Fascia Signs**

- 93.1 Fascia signs shall not be located above any portion of a street, or project over public property unless there is a minimum clearance from grade of 2.5 m (8 ft) and a maximum projection of 0.4 m (1.3 ft).
- (a) a fascia sign shall not exceed 15% of the visible area of the façade of each wall of the building on which it is located;
  - (b) a fascia sign may be illuminated.

### **Section 94 Freestanding Signs**

- 94.1 A freestanding sign may be allowed in a setback area as established in the Land Use Bylaw and is subject to the condition that it be removed or relocated at the owner's expense upon 30 days written notice from the County.
- 94.2 Freestanding signs are subject to the following regulations:
- (a) one (1) freestanding sign shall be allowed per lot frontage for the purpose of identifying the use or building on that lot;
  - (b) the sign shall be designed in a manner which is architecturally compatible with the general character of the building and/or the surrounding streetscape, as approved by the Development Authority;
  - (c) the maximum area of the freestanding sign shall not exceed 12 m<sup>2</sup> (130 ft<sup>2</sup>);
  - (d) the maximum height of the freestanding sign shall not exceed 9.0 m (30 ft);



- (e) Where more than one business occupies a building, additional signage shall be located in accordance with a comprehensive signage package prepared for the building, and submitted as part of the required landscape plan;
- (f) freestanding signs shall not identify any accessory tenants within the principal building;
- (g) the sign may be illuminated, but shall not have flashing or intermittent lights or devices or mechanisms that create the impression of flashing or intermittent lights. Reader board signs are however permitted; and
- (h) at the discretion of the Development Authority, landscaping may be required at the base of the sign.

94.3 Unless the Development Authority approves a lesser distance, the bottom of a freestanding sign shall be a minimum of 3.6 m (11.8 ft) above grade and the space between the bottom of the sign and the grade shall be unobstructed, except for such supports as the sign may require.

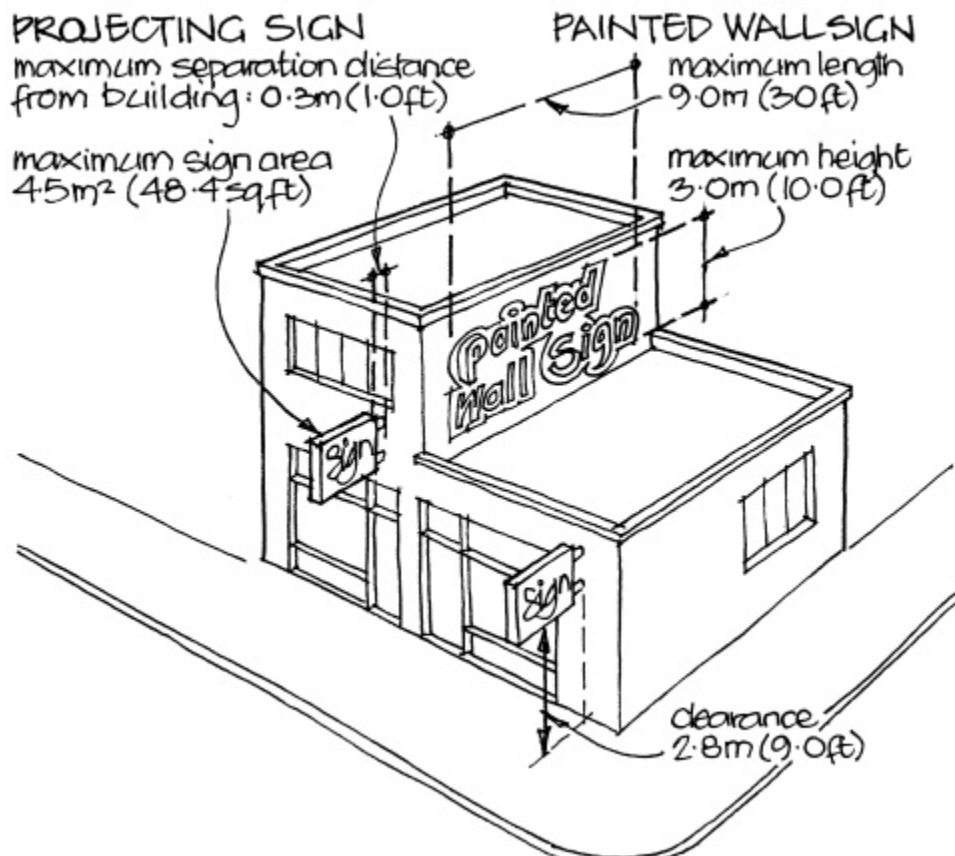
## Section 95 Painted Wall Signs

95.1 A painted wall sign shall not exceed 3.0 m (10 ft) in height and 9.0 m (30 ft) in length.

95.2 Only one sign per wall is permitted.

95.3 Notwithstanding Section 95.1, a supergraphic may be the entire length of an exterior wall providing the design has been approved by the Development Authority.

Figure 95-1 Painted Wall Signs and Projecting Signs





## **Section 96 Portable and Inflatable Signs**

96.1 Except portable signs erected by the County or the RCMP as warning signs in connection with traffic speed or safety, no person shall place, erect or use a portable, temporary or inflatable sign anywhere in the County.

## **Section 97 Projecting Signs**

97.1 No projecting sign shall be erected so that the bottom thereof is less than 2.8 m (9 ft) above the sidewalk; provided however, where traffic lights may be obscured in the opinion of the Development Authority, the minimum requirement for the bottom of the projecting sign may be increased to a height of 3.6 m (12 ft) or more above the sidewalk.

97.2 All projecting signs shall maintain the required clearance from overhead power and service lines as required forth under The Electrical Protection Act.

97.3 The maximum area of a projecting sign shall be 4.5 m<sup>2</sup> (48 ft<sup>2</sup>).

97.4 The nearest edge of a projecting sign shall not be set off more than 0.3 m (1 ft) from the building face.

## **Section 98 Subdivision Identification Sign**

98.1 A Subdivision Identification Sign must meet the following requirements:

- (a) it must be professionally designed and maintained;
- (b) the appearance and contents of the sign must be approved by the Development Authority;
- (c) it must be located on private property adjacent to the entry of the subdivision;
- (d) it may not exceed 12.0 m<sup>2</sup> (130 ft<sup>2</sup>) in area unless the sign is located more than 100 m (330 ft) from a roadway and is approved by the Development Officer;
- (e) not more than one sign for each entrance to the subdivision;
- (f) it may be approved for a period of up to five years; and,
- (g) the Development Authority may approve one-year renewals of the permit for a Subdivision Identification Sign after the initial five-year term, provided that the sign remains properly maintained, there are still lots available for sale and the continued presence of the sign will not adversely affect any municipal interests in the land on which the sign is erected.

## **Section 99 Wall Signs**

99.1 Wall signs shall be securely fastened to walls and shall not be entirely supported by an unbraced parapet wall.

99.2 The maximum horizontal dimension of a wall sign shall be 6.0 m (20 ft).