



THE CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

TAXI BYLAW

BYLAW NO. 5143

Adopted August 27, 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Taxi Bylaw Bylaw No. 5143

PART 1 -	DEFINITIONS, INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION.....	4
PART 2 -	CHIEF TAXI INSPECTOR	7
PART 3 -	LICENSING PROVISIONS	9
	DIVISION 1 – BROKERAGE LICENCE	9
	DIVISION 2 – TAXI DRIVER LICENCE	11
	DIVISION 3 – TAXI LICENCE AND PLATE	12
	DIVISION 4 – LICENSING GENERAL.....	14
	DIVISION 5 – LICENSING POWERS	14
PART 4 –	MOTOR VEHICLE PROVISIONS	16
PART 5 -	TAXI INSPECTIONS	19
	DIVISION 1 – MECHANICAL INSPECTIONS	19
	DIVISION 2 – TAXI EQUIPMENT INSPECTIONS.....	20
PART 6 –	TAXI OPERATING PROVISIONS.....	21
PART 7 –	BROKERAGE PROVISIONS.....	24
PART 8 –	APPEALS	26
PART 9 –	ENFORCEMENT	28
PART 10–	GENERAL	30
SCHEDULE A		33
SCHEDULE B		34

BEING A BYLAW OF THE CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES TO REGULATE AND CONTROL TAXIS AND TAXI SERVICES**WHEREAS:**

- A.** Pursuant to section 70.(1) of the *Cities, Towns and Villages Act*, a council may make bylaws for municipal purposes respecting:
- a. the safety, health and welfare of people and the protection of people and property;
 - b. transport, motor vehicles, pedestrians and local transportation systems;
 - c. businesses, business activities and persons engaged in business; and
 - d. the enforcement of Bylaws; and
- B.** Pursuant to section 72 of the *Cities, Towns and Villages Act*, a council may, by bylaw:
- a. regulate or prohibit activities;
 - b. create offences;
 - c. deal with any development, activity, industry, business or thing in different ways, divide each of them into classes and deal with each class in different ways;
 - d. provide for a system of licences, permits or approvals, including
 - i. establishing fees that may be in the nature of a reasonable tax for the activity authorized or for the purpose of raising revenue,
 - ii. establishing higher fees for non-residents,
 - iii. prohibiting any activity or thing until a licence, permit or approval has been granted,
 - iv. providing that terms and conditions may be imposed on any licence, permit or approval, and specifying the nature of the terms and conditions and who may impose them,
 - v. setting out the conditions that must be met before a licence, permit or approval is granted or renewed, the nature of the conditions and who may impose them, and

- vi. providing for the duration of licences, permits and approvals and for their suspension or cancellation for a failure to comply with a term or condition or the bylaw or for any other reason specified in the bylaw;
- e. provide for a right of appeal and specify the body that is to decide the appeal and related matters, unless a right of appeal is already provided in an enactment;
- f. provide for procedures, including inspections, for determining whether bylaws are being complied with; and
- g. provide remedies for contraventions of bylaws.

AND WHEREAS Council of the City of Yellowknife deems it expedient and in the public interest to pass a Bylaw to regulate and control taxis and taxi service within the City;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the City of Yellowknife, duly assembled, enacts as follows:

PART 1 - DEFINITIONS, INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION

Short Title

1. This Bylaw may be cited as “The Taxi By-law”.

Definitions

2. In this Bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:

“Act”	means the <i>Cities, Towns and Villages Act</i> , SN.W.T. 2003, c.22, as amended;
“Accessible Taxi”	means a taxi that is equipped to provide transportation services to persons using a mobility aid and that meets the requirements of the Canadian Motor Vehicle Safety Standards/Canadian Association Standards D409-02 for Motor Vehicles for the Transportation of Persons with Physical Disabilities, as amended from time to time;
“Applicant”	means a person who applies for a Licence;
“Brokerage”	means a person named on a valid Brokerage Licence
“Brokerage Licence”	means a licence issued pursuant to this Bylaw authorizing the Licensee to conduct Brokerage Operations;

“Brokerage Operations”	means the business of: i. administering Taxi fleets; ii. employing or contracting with one or more Drivers; and iii. accepting calls for the dispatch of Taxis through a manned communication system that operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year;
“Chief Taxi Inspector”	means the City Manager or their delegate;
“City”	means the municipal corporation of the City of Yellowknife and includes the geographical area within the boundaries of the City where the context so requires;
“Colour Scheme”	means the specific colour(s) to be used, including reference paint or colour sample, where the colour(s) will be applied on the body of the Motor Vehicle, logos (if any), colour and design of top lights, and stand numbering system;
“Council”	means the municipal council of the City of Yellowknife;
“Driver”	means an individual who is employed by or under contract with a Brokerage to operate a Taxi;
“Electronic Payment System”	means a system by which a passenger may pay a fare by an immediate electronic withdrawal from their bank account or charge to their credit card account;
“Fees Bylaw”	means the City’s Fees and Charges Bylaw, Bylaw No. 4436, as amended;
“Licence”	includes a Brokerage Licence, a Taxi Driver Licence, and a Taxi Licence as context requires;
“Licensee”	means a person named on a Licence;
“Licenced Mechanic”	means a person holding a valid Journeyman Certificate as an automotive service technician or heavy duty mechanic recognized by the Apprenticeship, Trade and Occupation Certification branch of the Government of the Northwest Territories and operating under a valid business licence issued pursuant to the City’s Business Licence Bylaw, Bylaw No. 3451, as amended;
“Mechanical Inspection Report”	means a Mechanical Inspection Report, in a form acceptable to the Chief Taxi Inspector, issued by a Licence Mechanic pursuant to this Bylaw certifying the Motor Vehicle is mechanically fit to be operated as a Taxi;

“Motor Vehicle”	means a motor vehicle as defined in the <i>Motor Vehicles Act</i> ;
“Motor Vehicles Act”	means the <i>Motor Vehicles Act</i> , RSNWT 1988, c M.16, as amended;
“Owner”	when used in relation to a Motor Vehicle means: i. any person named as an owner or a lessee on the vehicle registration certificate; or ii. any person with a beneficial ownership interest in the Motor Vehicle pursuant to a written bill of sale in their favour from a person named as an owner on the registration certificate;
“Officer”	means a person who is appointed in accordance with the <i>Cities, Towns and Villages Act</i> as a by-law officer to enforce the by-laws of the City of Yellowknife and any peace officer who is entitled by law to enforce the by-laws of the City of Yellowknife;
“Taxi”	means a Motor Vehicle used for transporting at least one passenger in return for a fare from any place within the City to a destination either within or outside of the City, but does not include: i. a Motor Vehicle having a manufactured seating capacity of thirteen or more passengers, including the driver; or ii. any service where the passenger is driven in their own Motor Vehicle;
“Taxi Driver Licence”	means a licence issued under this Bylaw to permit an individual to operate a Taxi;
“Taxi Licence”	means a licence issued under this Bylaw to a specific Motor Vehicle and includes a taxi plate;
“Taxi Stand”	means an area used by a single Motor Vehicle and designated by the Chief Taxi Inspector to be used for the pick-up and drop-off of passengers; and
“Violation Ticket”	means a ticket issued under the <i>Summary Conviction Procedures Act</i> , RSNWT 1988, c.S-15

PART 2 - CHIEF TAXI INSPECTOR

Delegation of Authority

3. Council delegates the administration of this Bylaw and the power to make any decision required under this Bylaw to the Chief Taxi Inspector who may further delegate this authority to employees of the City.

Powers of Chief Taxi Inspector

4. Without restricting any other power, duty or function granted by this Bylaw, the Chief Taxi Inspector may:
 - (1) carry out any inspections required to determine compliance with this Bylaw;
 - (2) take any steps or carry out any actions required to remedy a contravention of this Bylaw;
 - (3) prescribe forms for the purposes of this Bylaw;
 - (4) prescribe procedures for the administration of this Bylaw;
 - (5) prescribe the manner in which rates are to be displayed in Taxis;
 - (6) prescribe equipment and maintenance standards for Taxis;
 - (7) prescribe makes, models and year of production for Taxis that are not inconsistent with this Bylaw;
 - (8) designate areas of roads as Taxi Stands (following request by a Brokerage and payment of the annual fee set out in the Fee Bylaw);
 - (9) prescribe the Colour Scheme for Taxis;
 - (10) specify or prohibit safety equipment or devices which may be placed in or on Taxis;
 - (11) specify the type, content, format and location of advertising or promotional material, brochures, cards, stickers, signs, decals or other similar material which may be carried in or on a Taxi; and
 - (12) any other matter necessarily incidental to the purpose of this Bylaw and not inconsistent with any other provision of this Bylaw or any territorial or federal legislation.

Effective Date

5. The exercise of those powers set out in section 4 shall be made in writing and are effective upon the date they are signed by the Chief Taxi Inspector unless the Chief Taxi Inspector specifies a later effective date.

Bulletins

6. (1) Where the Chief Taxi Inspector exercises any of the powers conferred in subsections 4((3)-(12), the Chief Taxi Inspector shall cause a bulletin to be published in accordance with subsection (2).

(2) The Chief Taxi Inspector shall publish bulletins by:

- a. making a copy of the bulletin available for public viewing during normal business hours at the office of the Chief Taxi Inspector; and
- b. delivering a copy of the bulletin to all Brokerages by one of the following methods:
 - i. ordinary mail or hand delivery to the business address provided to the Chief Taxi Inspector by the Licensee;
 - ii. electronic mail transmission to the e-mail address provided to the Chief Taxi Inspector by the Licensee;
 - iii. facsimile transmission to the fax number provided to the Chief Taxi Inspector by the Licensee.

(3) The Chief Taxi Inspector may publish bulletins in respect of matters other than those set out in section 4 where the Chief Taxi Inspector believes it is in the interest of the Taxi industry to be advised on those matters.

Brokerage Posting

7. Upon receipt of a bulletin a Brokerage shall:
- a. post the bulletin in a prominent location within the Brokerage premises; and
 - b. promptly provide a copy to all Drivers associated with the Brokerage.

Industry Obligation

8. Despite the obligations imposed upon the Chief Taxi Inspector and Brokerages to provide notice of bulletins, it is the obligation of each member of the Taxi industry including, without restriction, each Driver, to be informed of the contents of bulletins and industry members are deemed to be aware of all bulletins that are published in accordance with sections 6 and 7.

PART 3 - LICENSING PROVISIONS**Division 1 – Brokerage Licence****Licence Required**

9. No person may conduct Brokerage Operations unless they have a valid Brokerage Licence.

Licence Conditions

10. No person may conduct Brokerage Operations contrary to any restrictions or conditions placed on the Brokerage Licence.

Display of Licence

11. No person may conduct Brokerage Operations unless their Brokerage Licence is clearly displayed at the Brokerage premises in a manner and location that is clearly visible to all Drivers.

Licence Application

12. (1) A person may apply to the Chief Taxi Inspector for a Brokerage Licence in accordance with the provisions of this Bylaw.
- (2) An Applicant for a Brokerage Licence shall provide all of the following to the Chief Taxi Inspector:
- a. a completed application in the form prescribed by the Chief Taxi Inspector;
 - b. the name of the individual Applicant or, if a corporation, the names of all shareholders, officers and directors;
 - c. a copy of a valid business licence issued pursuant to the City's Business Licence Bylaw, Bylaw No. 3451, as amended;
 - d. the location of the dispatch centre;

- e. the fee for the issue of a Brokerage Licence prescribed by the Fee Bylaw;
 - f. a criminal record check, including a vulnerable sector check, acceptable to the Chief Taxi Inspector from the RCMP dated within 30 days of the application. If the Applicant is a corporation, a criminal record check, including a vulnerable sector check, is required for each director and shareholder of the corporation;
 - g. proof in a form satisfactory to the Chief Taxi Inspector that the Applicant has an agreement, or agreements, to provide dispatch services for at least ten Taxis within the City;
 - h. proof in a form satisfactory to the Chief Taxi Inspector that the Applicant will be able to make an Accessible Taxi available 24 hours per day every day of the year;
 - i. specifications, to the satisfaction of the Chief Taxi Inspector, respecting:
 - i. mobility aids used in all Accessible Taxis, such as wheelchair lifts;
 - ii. dispatch equipment to be used for the Brokerage Operations;
 - iii. specifications of security cameras to be used in all Taxis and the associated fleet management software to ensure the privacy of all footage taken; and
 - j. anything else the Chief Taxi Inspector may reasonably require to process the application.
- (3) An Applicant for a Brokerage Licence may also include in their application a request:
- a. for the use of an existing Taxi Stand; or
 - b. that the City designate a new Taxi Stand at a specified location and grant the Applicant the use of the same.

Expiry

- 13.** Unless otherwise cancelled or suspended, every Brokerage Licence shall be valid for a period of three years after the date of issue.

Division 2 – Taxi Driver Licence

Licence Required

- 14. No person may operate a Taxi unless they hold a valid Taxi Driver Licence.
- 15. No person may operate a Taxi outside of a Brokerage.

Licence Conditions

- 16. No person may operate a Taxi contrary to any restrictions or conditions placed on the Taxi Driver Licence.

Display of Licence

- 17. No person may operate a Taxi unless their Taxi Driver Licence is displayed in the Taxi in a manner and location that is clearly visible to all passengers.

Licence Application

- 18. (1) A person who is at least nineteen years old and able to communicate in English may apply to the Chief Taxi Inspector for a Taxi Driver Licence in accordance with the provisions of this Bylaw.

(2) An Applicant for a Taxi Driver Licence shall attend in person and not by agent or attorney at the office of the Chief Taxi Inspector and provide all of the following to the Chief Taxi Inspector:
 - a. a completed application in the form prescribed by the Chief Taxi Inspector;
 - b. the fee for the issue of a Taxi Driver Licence prescribed by the Fees Bylaw;
 - c. a valid Class 1, 2, 3 or 4 driver's licence issued under the *Motor Vehicles Act*;
 - d. an abstract of the Applicant's driving record issued by the Government of the Northwest Territories dated within 30 days of the application;
 - e. a criminal record check, including a vulnerable sector check, acceptable to the Chief Taxi Inspector from the RCMP dated within 30 days of the application; and

- f. anything else that the Chief Taxi Inspector may reasonably require to process the application.

(3) In addition to submitting the information above, an Applicant for a Taxi Driver Licence shall attend in person at the office of the Chief Taxi Inspector, at a time and date indicated by the Chief Taxi Inspector and, upon paying the fees prescribed by the Fees Bylaw, complete:

- a. a written test in the form prescribed by the Chief Taxi Inspector; and
- b. a driving test for the purpose of demonstrating the Applicant is familiar with the geography of the City.

(4) If an Applicant fails either of the tests prescribed in section 18(3), the Applicant may not retake either test for a period of 14 days.

Expiry

19. Unless otherwise cancelled or suspended, every Taxi Driver Licence shall be valid for a period of three years after the date of issue.

Division 3 – Taxi Licence and Plate

Licence and Plate Required

20. No person may operate, cause or permit the operation of a Taxi unless:
- a. a valid Taxi Licence has been issued for that Taxi and is displayed in the Taxi in a manner and location that is clearly visible to all passengers; and
 - b. a valid Taxi Plate has been issued for that Taxi and is attached to the exterior rear-end of the Taxi.
21. No person may operate or advertise a Taxi as an Accessible Taxi unless:
- a. a valid Taxi Licence has been issued for that Taxi that is endorsed to recognize the Taxi as an Accessible Taxi; and
 - b. the Taxi posts the accessibility symbol in the format and size specified by the Chief Taxi Inspector on both sides of the Taxi.

Licence and Plate Application

- 22.** (1) A person may apply to the Chief Taxi Inspector for a Taxi Licence in accordance with the provisions of this Bylaw.
- (2) An Applicant for a Taxi Licence shall attend at the office of the Chief Taxi Inspector and provide all of the following to the Chief Taxi Inspector:
- a. a completed application in the form prescribed by the Chief Taxi Inspector;
 - b. the Motor Vehicle description, including the make, model, year, serial number and licence plate number;
 - c. a Mechanical Inspection Report, dated within thirty (30) days of the application;
 - d. proof of insurance for the Motor Vehicle that meets the requirements of the *Motor Vehicle Act*;
 - e. for Motor Vehicles powered by natural gas, a valid gas inspection sticker;
 - f. the fee for the issue of a Taxi Licence prescribed by the Fees Bylaw;
 - g. proof that the applicant has entered into a written contract with a Brokerage for the provision of 24 hour dispatch service, or that the applicant holds a valid Brokerage Licence; and
 - h. anything else that the Chief Taxi Inspector may reasonably require to process the application.

Expiry

- 23.** Unless otherwise cancelled or suspended, every Taxi Licence shall be valid for a period of twelve months after the date of issue, or for a further period of time as determined by the Chief Taxi Inspector.

Ongoing Provision of Information

- 24.** If a person is in receipt of a Taxi Licence for a period exceeding twelve months, that person must submit to the Chief Taxi Inspector proof of current Motor Vehicle registration and valid Motor Vehicle insurance every twelve months, in a form satisfactory to the Chief Taxi Inspector.

Division 4 – Licensing General

Property of City

25. Every Licence issued under this Bylaw remains at all times the sole property of the City and the person in possession of a Licence shall immediately return it to the Chief Taxi Inspector upon the suspension, cancellation or expiry of the Licence.

Licence Inspection

26. (1) A Licensee shall produce their Licence for inspection on request by the Chief Taxi Inspector or an Officer.
- (2) No person may refuse to produce a Licence on request by the Chief Taxi Inspector or an Officer.

No Transfer

27. A Licence is not transferrable.

Division 5 – Licensing Powers

Authority of Chief Taxi Inspector

28. The Chief Taxi Inspector shall refuse to issue a Taxi Driver Licence and shall cancel an existing Taxi Driver Licence if the person seeking or holding the Licence:
- a. Has been convicted of any of the following offences under the *Criminal Code* (Canada) or the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* (Canada):
 - i. any offence of a violent nature;
 - ii. any offence involving sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual interference, procuring or invitation to sexual touching;
 - iii. trafficking;
 - iv. any offence involving fraud or fraudulent transactions, conspiracy to defraud, the use of false pretences, bribery, extortion, or theft; or
 - v. any offence committed while on duty as a Driver;

- b. Has been, within the two-year period immediately preceding the date of application, or is subsequently after the issuance of the Licence, convicted of any offence under the *Criminal Code* (Canada) or the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* (Canada) not described in Section 28(a);
 - c. Has been convicted of five or more offences under the *Motor Vehicles Act*, the *Liquor Act*, or any Bylaw of the City regulating taxis or traffic within a period of one year immediately preceding the date of the application, or within a one-year period at any point after the issuance of the Licence; or
 - d. Has received a suspension of their licence under the *Motor Vehicles Act* within a period of two years immediately preceding the date of the application, or within a two-year period at any point after the issuance of the Licence.
- 29.** The Chief Taxi Inspector may refuse to issue a Licence, may suspend or cancel a Licence, and may impose any conditions on a Licence for the following reasons:
- a. the Applicant or Licensee does not or no longer meets the requirements prescribed by this Bylaw or by the Chief Taxi Inspector with respect to the Licence applied for or held;
 - b. the Applicant or Licensee:
 - i. furnishes false information or misrepresents any fact or circumstance to an Officer or the Chief Taxi Inspector;
 - ii. fails to pay a fine imposed by a court for a contravention of this Bylaw; or
 - iii. fails to pay any fee required by this Bylaw; or
 - c. in the opinion of the Chief Taxi Inspector based on reasonable grounds it is in the public interest to do so.

Notice

- 30.** Subject to Section 31, before refusing to issue a Licence, and before a Licence is suspended or cancelled or conditions are imposed, other than any suspension, cancellation or conditions required by this Bylaw, the Applicant or Licensee must be given:
- a. notice of the proposed refusal, suspension or cancellation or the proposed conditions with reasons; and
 - b. an opportunity to make written representations to the Chief Taxi Inspector.

31. If the Chief Taxi Inspector is of the opinion that a Driver or the use of a particular Taxi poses a serious risk to public safety, the Chief Taxi Inspector may suspend a Licence without first providing the Licensee an opportunity to make written representations to the Chief Taxi Inspector.

Decision

32. If a decision is made to refuse the issuance of a Licence, to suspend or cancel a Licence, or to impose conditions on a Licence other than conditions required by this Bylaw, notice of the decision may be served on the Applicant or Licensee:
- a. personally; or
 - b. by registered mail to the address in the application or in the records of the City for the Licence.

PART 4 – MOTOR VEHICLE PROVISIONS

Minimum Requirements for Taxis

33. A Motor Vehicle must not be operated as a Taxi unless that Motor Vehicle:
- a. is in good mechanical repair and a safe condition to drive;
 - b. has a seating capacity for a minimum of five adults, including the Driver with all seats constructed by the manufacturer and unaltered;
 - c. is of a make and model approved for use as a Taxi by the Chief Taxi Inspector;
 - d. is not more than fifteen model years old;
 - e. is equipped with a Taxi Meter which is:
 - i. of a type, make and model approved by the Chief Taxi Inspector;
 - ii. mounted in such a manner that the fare can easily be read by passengers in any seat of the vehicle;
 - iii. illuminated so that the fare can be read at all times by passengers in any seat of the vehicle, including a separate line showing applicable taxes;
 - iv. programmed to only allow fares as authorized by the City;

- v. sealed by the Chief Taxi Inspector or a third-party provider approved by the Chief Taxi Inspector; and
- vi. capable of producing a paper printout/receipt containing the amount of fare; rate used; Broker Licence number, as applicable; and time and date of trip;
- f. displays, in a manner approved by the Chief Taxi Inspector and in a form with content specified by the Chief Taxi Inspector, the rates and fare to be charged for the hire of the Taxi, and any additional fees that may be charged pursuant to Schedule “A” of this Bylaw;
- g. displays, in a manner approved by the Chief Taxi Inspector, a placard noting:
 - i. that the Taxi has a recording device that records images and audio of the interior of the Taxi; and
 - ii. the City’s contact information respecting questions or concerns regarding the regulation of Taxis;
- h. is painted with the Colour Scheme approved by the Chief Taxi Inspector;
- i. displays numbers and decals in the manner, position and colour approved by the Chief Taxi Inspector;
- j. if operated under a Brokerage Licence, includes the unit number of the Taxi displayed on both sides and the rear of the Motor Vehicle in numerals or letters at least three inches high;
- k. has an operating 2-way communications system;
- l. is equipped with a global positioning system (“GPS”), approved by the Chief Taxi Inspector that:
 - i. is capable of tracking and locating the position of a Taxi;
 - ii. includes a vehicle location system accessible by the Brokerage;
 - iii. is fully operational at all times when the Taxi is available for hire to the public, or transporting a passenger; and
 - iv. be capable of storing data.
- m. is equipped with an in-car security camera, approved by the Chief Taxi Inspector, that records both images and audio and that:
 - i. is mounted on the inside of the Taxi windshield or otherwise in the front compartment of the Taxi;

- ii. fully shows the interior of the Taxi at all times; and
 - iii. is fully operational at all times when the Taxi is available for hire to the public, or transporting a passenger, and for at least 30 minutes after the motor of the Taxi has been shut off;
- n. has a top light approved by the Chief Taxi Inspector which is connected in such a manner so as to be illuminated when the Taxi is available for hire and turned off when the Taxi is not available for hire; and
- o. is equipped with an Electronic Payment System.

Appearance and Cleanliness

- 34.** A Taxi must not be operated unless it is maintained in accordance with the following requirements:
- a. the interior of the vehicle shall be kept reasonably clean, neat and free of refuse, loose papers and other materials;
 - b. all vehicle upholstery including roof interior, door panels, floors and floor mats, shall be kept reasonably clean and in good repair having no holes, rips or stains on the upholstery;
 - c. the interior of the vehicle trunk shall be kept reasonably clean, neat, free of refuse, loose papers and other materials, and free of hazards that may stain or tear passenger luggage;
 - d. the dashboard and rear window ledge shall be free of any item or material that may impair the Driver's vision, otherwise compromise safety, or give the impression of an unkempt appearance;
 - e. the vehicle exterior shall be kept in a reasonably clean condition at all times. There shall be no ornamentation other than the original equipment, except as approved in advance by the Chief Taxi Inspector;
 - f. all exterior vehicle trim shall be maintained as closely as possible to the original manufacturer's trim. Damaged or missing exterior vehicle trim shall be replaced;
 - g. all exterior vehicle body panels shall be maintained as closely as possible to the original manufacturer's specifications. Dents and rust areas shall be repaired to match the Colour Scheme;

- h. all wheels shall have appropriate hubcaps in good condition;
- i. front and rear bumpers shall be in good condition and affixed properly; and
- j. all decals, Licences and notices required by this Bylaw shall be properly placed, intact, clean and visible without obstruction.

PART 5 - TAXI INSPECTIONS

Division 1 – Mechanical Inspections

Requirement for Mechanical Inspection Report

- 35.** No person may operate, cause or permit the operation of a Taxi unless a valid Mechanical Inspection Report has been issued for that Taxi.

Frequency of Mechanical Inspections

- 36.** (1) Every Taxi that is less than six model years old shall be inspected at least once every twelve months by a Licenced Mechanic.
- (2) Every Taxi that is more than six model years old shall be inspected at least once every six months by a Licenced Mechanic.
- (3) In addition to the requirements in section 36(1) and (2), upon the direction of the Chief Taxi Inspector, a Licensee shall provide the Taxi for inspection at the time and location specified by the Chief Taxi Inspector to undergo an inspection by a Licenced Mechanic.
- (4) All costs associated with mechanical inspections shall be borne by the Owner of the Motor Vehicle.

Issuance of Mechanical Inspection Report

- 37.** (1) After conducting an inspection, a Licenced Mechanic must issue a Mechanical Inspection Report for that Motor Vehicle.
- (2) The Owner of the Motor Vehicle shall forthwith deliver the Mechanical Inspection Report to the Chief Taxi Inspector upon it being issued.

Refusal and Repairs

38. (1) If the Chief Taxi Inspector has reasonable grounds to believe that a Licensed Mechanic has improperly issued a Mechanical Inspection Report, the Chief Taxi Inspector may refuse to accept the Mechanical Inspection Report signed by that Licensed Mechanic.
- (2) If a Mechanical Inspection Report does not certify that a Motor Vehicle is safe, fit and suitable for use as a Taxi, or the Chief Taxi Inspector refuses to accept an improperly issued Mechanical Inspection Report, the Motor Vehicle shall not be operated as a Taxi unless and until all deficiencies have been corrected and repaired a Mechanical Inspection Report, acceptable to the Chief Taxi Inspector, has been issued.

Prohibitions

39. (1) No person may inspect a Taxi and complete, in whole or in part, a Mechanical Inspection Report unless such person is a Licenced Mechanic.
- (2) No person may cause or permit a Taxi to be inspected and a Mechanical Inspection Report to be completed, in whole or in part, unless the person inspecting the Motor Vehicle is a Licenced Mechanic.
- (3) No person may obstruct or interfere with any inspection that may be required or carried out pursuant to this Bylaw.

Division 2 – Taxi Equipment Inspections**Frequency of Taxi Equipment Inspections**

40. (1) Every twelve months, upon the direction of an Officer or the Chief Taxi Inspector, a Licensee shall provide the Taxi at the time and location specified by the Officer or Chief Taxi Inspector to undergo an inspection of equipment in the Taxi, including but not limited to the Taxi meter and the security camera.
- (2) All costs associated with the inspection of the Taxi equipment shall be borne by the Owner of the Motor Vehicle.
41. No person shall tamper with a security camera or a taxi meter.

PART 6 – TAXI OPERATING PROVISIONS**Driver Obligations****42.** A Driver shall:

- a. take the most economical route to the passenger's destination unless otherwise requested or directed by the passenger;
- b. charge a fare that complies with the rates prescribed in Schedule "A" of this Bylaw;
- c. maintain a record of each trip in the manner prescribed by the Chief Taxi Inspector;
- d. immediately after delivering a passenger check the vehicle for any articles of personal property apparently left behind by a passenger and make reasonable efforts to return the personal property to the passenger within 24 hours. If a Driver cannot reasonably locate the passenger, the Driver shall within 24 hours deliver the personal property to the Brokerage which must hold the items for at least 90 days, and in accordance with any direction given by the Chief Taxi Inspector;
- e. be professional and courteous at all times and provide reasonable assistance to any passenger as requested or required in the circumstances;
- f. communicate in English, unless a different language shared by the driver and passenger is requested by the passenger;
- g. be neat and clean in person and dress;
- h. promptly attend to passenger pickups;
- i. when requested to do so, supply a passenger with a legible receipt;
- j. take proper care of all baggage and personal property given to him for conveyance, and deliver such property as directed; and
- k. immediately report a conviction or regulatory action against them, if any, of the offences listed in Section 28 of the Bylaw to the Chief Taxi Inspector.

43. A Driver shall, when so requested, assist any Officer, member of the R.C.M.P., or member of the City's Fire Division by conveying any person to any place within the City, and the Driver shall be entitled, after the performance of such service, to receive the prescribed fare which shall be paid by the organization who requested the Driver's services.

Prohibited Driver Actions

44. A Driver shall not do any of the following:
- a. consume any food or beverage while the Taxi is in motion and is carrying one or more passengers;
 - b. charge a person any fare or fee in excess of the those prescribed in the Fees Bylaw;
 - c. discriminate against any person while on duty on the basis of any grounds protected under the *Human Rights Act*, SNWT 2002, c. 18;
 - d. smoke any tobacco or non-tobacco product in the Motor Vehicle;
 - e. play the radio or other sound emitting device while one or more passengers are in the Motor Vehicle unless the passengers grant permission to do so;
 - f. carry a number of passengers in excess of the number stipulated by the manufacturer of the Motor Vehicle;
 - g. permit any passenger to enter or leave the Motor Vehicle while the Motor Vehicle is in motion, or while the passenger is standing in the Motor Vehicle;
 - h. collect any fare or give any change while the Motor Vehicle is in motion;
 - i. use a cell phone while transporting a passenger, unless receiving a call from dispatch;
 - j. pick up additional passengers during a trip, unless at the request of current passengers;
 - k. occupy a Taxi Stand unless the Driver is an employee or contractor for the Licensed Brokerage with permission from the Chief Taxi Inspector for the use of that Taxi Stand; or
 - l. permit anything to be placed or remain in the Motor Vehicle in such a position as to obstruct the Driver's vision.

Gratuities and Other Fees

45. A Driver may:
- a. accept gratuities; and
 - b. require passengers to pay any fees that are prescribed in Schedule “A” of this Bylaw and displayed in the Taxi.

Refusal of Service

46. (1) A Driver shall not refuse a request for service from a potential passenger except in accordance with this section.
- (2) A Driver may refuse a request for service from a potential passenger if:
- a. the Taxi is not in service and the top light is not illuminated;
 - b. the person is indebted to the Driver or Brokerage with which the Taxi is affiliated;
 - c. the person requests that the Driver carry an animal in the Taxi other than a service animal assisting a person with a disability;
 - d. the person requests the Driver to carry baggage in the Taxi which might be detrimental to the repair, cleanliness or sanitary condition of the Taxi;
 - e. the person requests the Driver to carry any passengers or baggage which the Taxi is incapable of carrying;
 - f. the person refuses to pay a deposit requested by the Driver in an amount authorized under the Fees Bylaw;
 - g. the person insists on smoking, vaping or consuming alcohol in the Taxi; or
 - h. the Driver:
 - i. believes there is danger to their personal safety or of serious harm to property; and
 - ii. such belief is reasonable in the circumstances.

PART 7 – BROKERAGE PROVISIONS

Taxi Responsibilities

47. A Brokerage shall ensure that each Taxi affiliated with the Brokerage:
- a. complies with this Bylaw and operated in compliance with this Bylaw;
 - b. is marked or painted in accordance with the Colour Scheme approved by the Chief Taxi Inspector;
 - c. is operated by a person who is employed by or under contract with the Brokerage; and
 - d. has a valid Mechanical Inspection Report.

Driver Responsibilities

48. A Brokerage shall:
- a. ensure that all Drivers that it employs or contracts with have a valid and current Taxi Driver Licence issued under this Bylaw;
 - b. maintain a daily record of all Taxis and Drivers who were dispatched that day, as well as the times that Drivers were available to be dispatched;
 - c. maintain the records listed in section 48(b) for a minimum period of one year; and
 - d. upon the request of an Officer or the Chief Taxi Inspector, submit any records outlined in section 48(b) to the City.

Licence Posting

49. A Brokerage shall post in a location accessible to all Drivers affiliated with the Brokerage:
- a. its Brokerage Licence; and
 - b. any terms and conditions that are imposed with respect to that Brokerage Licence.

Complaint Management System

- 50.** (1) A Brokerage shall establish and maintain a system for receiving, documenting, and responding to complaints from the public respecting Drivers, Taxis and services operated under this Bylaw.
- (2) The system established under section 50(1) shall, at minimum, include the date of the complaint, the name of the complainant and contact information, the name of the Driver subject to the complaint (if applicable), the nature of the complaint and any action taken by a Driver or the Brokerage in response.
- (3) A Brokerage shall:
- a. maintain the records outlined in section 50(2) for a minimum period of one year; and
 - b. upon the request of an Officer or the Chief Taxi Inspector, provide any such records.

Additional Obligations

- 51.** A Brokerage shall:
- a. inform the Chief Taxi Inspector, in writing, of all trade names used in connection with the Brokerage Operations;
 - b. immediately notify the Chief Taxi Inspector when a Taxi or Driver becomes affiliated or ceases to be affiliated with the Brokerage;
 - c. immediately notify the Chief Taxi Inspector when the Brokerage is unable to meet the conditions of its Brokerage Licence;
 - d. maintain an up to date list of all Drivers who operate a Taxi affiliated with the Brokerage and, on demand, provide the Chief Taxi Inspector with a copy of such list;
 - e. provide dispatch services on a continuous basis, 24 hours per day every day of the year;
 - f. provide all Drivers affiliated with the Brokerage training in regards to customer service, the radio dispatch system, and other equipment used in Taxi services;
 - g. ensure at least ten Taxis are available 24 hours per day every day of the year;

- h. ensure an Accessible Taxi is available 24 hours per day every day of the year;
 - i. if an Accessible Taxi becomes temporarily inoperable, the Chief Taxi Inspector may allow a temporary agreement with another Brokerage for the shared use of an accessible vehicle to ensure maximal coverage in the circumstances;
 - i. in all but exceptional circumstances, provide to the passenger the services requested, at the location and within the time specified by the passenger upon receiving the passenger's request for services; and
 - j. provide the passenger with the same Taxi that the Brokerage agreed to provide.
- 52.** Except as otherwise provided for under this Bylaw, GPS data and images and audio captured by a security camera in a Taxi must be accessed only by an Officer, a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police ("RCMP"), or the Chief Taxi Inspector, for the purpose of law enforcement, insurance purposes, as otherwise determined by the Officer or Chief Taxi Inspector, or as required by law.
- 53.** A Brokerage shall retain and store GPS data and, images and audio captured by a security camera, for a period of at least 168 hours, and shall immediately produce any GPS data and, images and audio, if still available in accordance with this Bylaw, upon request of an Officer, a member of the RCMP, or the Chief Taxi Inspector.
- 54.** No person shall provide GPS data, or images and audio captured by a security camera, to any person other than an Officer, a member of the RCMP, the Chief Taxi Inspector, or as otherwise required by law.
- 55.** Notwithstanding the foregoing, it is not an offence for a Brokerage to review GPS data, or images and audio captured by a security camera, for the purpose of responding to a public complaint, provided such data is not shared or otherwise provided to any person except as permitted under this Bylaw or as otherwise required by law. GPS data may also be used, and shared with customers or potential customers, for dispatch purposes.

PART 8 – APPEALS

Appeal Procedure

- 56.** (1) Subject to subsection (2), a person:
- a. who has been refused the issuance of a Licence;
 - b. whose Licence has been suspended or cancelled; or

- c. whose Licence is made subject to conditions, other than conditions required by this Bylaw;

may appeal the decision to Council within fourteen days of the date of decision and the decision of Council on such an appeal shall be final.

(2) A person may not appeal:

- a. a refusal to issue a Licence if the reason for the refusal is the failure to pay any fee or provide any required information;
- b. a refusal to issue a Licence if the reason for the refusal is required automatically by the provisions of this Bylaw; or
- c. any condition, suspension or cancellation required automatically by the provisions of this Bylaw.

(3) An appeal made under subsection 56(1) shall:

- a. be in writing, stating the reasons for the appeal;
- b. be delivered to the Chief Taxi Inspector; and
- c. be heard within twenty-one days from the date the appeal is received.

(4) Council may modify, waive or supplement any hearing procedure set out in this Bylaw during any hearing.

(5) At a hearing, the following procedures shall be used, subject to subsection (4):

- a. Council members shall elect a chair;
- b. The chair will open the hearing and outline how the hearing will proceed;
- c. The chair shall ask if anyone objects to any member of the Council hearing the appeal;
- d. The chair shall then call upon:
 - (i) Administration to outline the matter under appeal and make submissions, if any;
 - (ii) The appellant to make submissions, if any; and

- (iii) Administration to make submissions in response, if any.
 - e. Council members may ask questions after each presentation; and
 - f. At the conclusion of the presentations and questions, the chair will close the hearing.
- (6) After hearing an appeal, Council may dismiss, uphold or vary the decision of the Chief Taxi Inspector.
- (7) A decision of Council shall be in writing and be delivered to the person who filed the appeal and to the City.

PART 9 – ENFORCEMENT

Inspection on Demand

57. (1) Upon the direction of an Officer, a Licensee shall provide the Taxi for inspection at the time and location specified by the Officer.
- (2) The Chief Taxi Inspector or an Officer may inspect a Taxi or cause a Taxi to be inspected to determine the mechanical condition of the Motor Vehicle relating to passenger and public safety or cleanliness of the Taxi.
- (3) A person shall not interfere with an Officer's ability to inspect a Taxi.
- (4) All costs associated with inspections shall be borne by the Owner of the Motor Vehicle.

Production of Documents

58. On request of an Officer, a Driver shall produce to the Officer a valid Mechanical Inspection Report for the Taxi.

Seizures and Suspensions

59. (1) If an Officer has reasonable grounds to believe that a Taxi does not comply with this Bylaw or is being operated contrary to this Bylaw, the Officer may seize and take possession of the Licence associated with that Motor Vehicle, for a period not exceeding seventy-two hours.

- (2) Any Licence seized pursuant to this section must be returned to the Chief Taxi Inspector by the Officer as soon as practicable.

Prohibited Operation

60. No person shall operate, cause or permit to be operated a Taxi while the Licence associated with the Taxis is under suspension.

Offence

61. A person who contravenes any provision of this Bylaw is guilty of an offence.

Continuing Offence

62. In the case of an offence that is of a continuing nature, a contravention constitutes a separate offence in respect of each day, or part of a day, on which it continues and a person guilty of such an offence is liable, upon summary conviction, to a fine in an amount not less than that established by this Bylaw for each such day.

Fines and Penalties

63. (1) A person who is guilty of an offence is liable, upon summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding:
- a. \$10,000, in the case of a corporation; or
 - b. \$2,000 in the case of an individual.
- (2) Without restricting the generality of subsection (1), the fine amounts established for use on Violation Tickets if a voluntary payment option is offered are as prescribed by Schedule B

Violation Tickets

64. (1) An Officer may issue a Violation Ticket, in accordance with the *Summary Conviction Procedures Act*, to any person whom the Officer has reasonable and probable grounds to believe has contravened this Bylaw.
- (2) If a Violation Ticket is issued in respect of an offence, the Violation Ticket may:
- a. specify the fine amount established by this Bylaw for the offence in Schedule B
 - b. require a person to appear in court without the alternative of making a voluntary payment.

Voluntary Payment

65. A person who commits an offence may:
- a. if a Violation Ticket is issued in respect of the offence; and
 - b. if a Violation Ticket specifies the fine amount established by this Bylaw for the offence;

make a voluntary payment equal to the specified fine.

Licensee Liable

66. Where a Motor Vehicle is involved in a contravention of this Bylaw, the Owner is liable for the contravention unless the Owner proves, on a balance of probabilities, that the Motor Vehicle was being operated without their consent, either express or implied.

Proof of Licence

67. The onus of proving that a person has a valid Licence is on the person alleging the existence of the Licence on a balance of probabilities.

Operating Without a Licence

68. In a prosecution for a contravention of this Bylaw against a person carrying on business without a Licence, proof of one transaction, offer of a transaction or advertisement is sufficient to establish that a person is carrying on business as alleged.

PART 10– GENERAL**Transitional**

69. Licences issued under the Livery Licence Bylaw, Bylaw No. 4526 remain effective until their date of expiration.

Repeal

70. The Livery Licence Bylaw, Bylaw No. 4526, is hereby repealed.

Severability

71. If any provision of this Bylaw is declared invalid for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction that provision shall be severed, and all other provisions of this Bylaw shall remain valid and enforceable.

Effective Date

72. This Bylaw, except for those sections requiring:
- a. a Brokerage to have available and operate an Accessible Taxi (Sections 12(2) (h) and 51(h));
 - b. Taxis to have security cameras (Section 33(m)); and
 - c. Taxis to have GPS (Section 33(l)),

shall come into force when it has met the requirements of section 75(1) of the Act.

73. Sections 12(2)(h) and 51(h) shall come into force November 30, 2026.

74. Sections 33(m) and 33(l) shall come into force on January 31, 2027.

Read a First time this 22 day of July, A.D. 2026.

<Original Signed by the Mayor>

Mayor

<Original Signed by the City Manager>

City Manager

Read a Second Time this 22 day of July, A.D. 2026.

<Original Signed by the Mayor>

Mayor

<Original Signed by the City Manager>

City Manager

Read a Third Time and Finally Passed this 26 day of August, A.D., 2026.

<Original Signed by the Mayor>

Mayor

<Original Signed by the City Manager>

City Manager

I hereby certify that this Bylaw has been made in accordance with the requirements of the *Cities, Towns and Villages Act* and the Bylaws of the Municipal Corporation of the City of Yellowknife.

<Original Signed by the City Manager>

City Manager

SCHEDULE "A"**RATES and FEES**

1. A Driver must charge a metered fare calculated in accordance with the following:

	Until December 31, 2026	Effective January 1, 2027	Effective January 1, 2028
Taxi Service			
Each pick-up and delivery where no passenger is conveyed	\$3.00 plus fare shown on meter	\$3.00 plus fare shown on meter	\$3.00 plus fare shown on meter
Van/ Station Wagon (when requested by a customer other than a customer who needs an Accessible Taxi because of a disability)	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00
Taxi Meter Fares*			
Flag Rate (includes 150 meters of travel)	\$4.70	\$4.70	\$4.70
Meter Rate (each additional 100 meters)	\$0.31	\$0.32	\$0.33
Waiting Time			
First three (3) minutes	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge
Each additional minute	\$0.95	\$0.95	\$0.95
*Start time is 14 seconds, Crossover – 20km			

2. Other fees:

Description	Fee
Ride Deposit	Up to \$30.00
Soiling a Taxi Interior	Up to \$100.00

SCHEDULE "B"**PENALTIES**

SECTION(S)	OFFENCE	FINE
9-11	Offences Related to Brokerage Licence	\$1,000.00
14	Operating a Taxi Without a Taxi Driver Licence	\$1,000.00
15-16	Offences Related to Taxi Driver Licence Requirements and Conditions	\$250.00
17	Failure to Display Taxi Licence	\$100.00
20-21	Offences Related to Taxi Licence and Plate	\$250.00
24	Failure to Submit proof of current Motor Vehicle Registration and Insurance	\$100.00
25-27	Offences Related to General Taxi Licensing	\$250.00
29b(i)	Applicant or Licencee furnishes false information or misrepresents any fact or circumstance to an Officer or the Chief Taxi Inspector	\$250.00
33	Offences Related to Minimum Requirements for Taxis	\$250.00
33m	Offences Related to Minimum Requirements for Taxis (Security Camera)	\$1,000.00
34	Offences Related to Taxi Appearance and Cleanliness	\$250.00
35-39	Offences Related to Taxi Mechanical Inspections	\$100.00
41	Tampering with a Security Camera or a Taxi Meter	\$1,000.00
42-44	Offences Related to Taxi Operating Provisions	\$250.00
46	Unlawfully Refuse a Request for Service	\$250.00
47-51	Offences Related to Brokerage Provisions	\$1,000.00
52-54	Offences Related to Brokerage Provisions (GPS and Security Camera)	\$2,000.00
57-58	Offences Related to Enforcement	\$500.00
60	Operate, Cause or Permit to be Operated a Taxi with suspended Licence	\$500.00

All other offences under this Bylaw for which no fine is specified are \$250.00.