

# District of West Vancouver

## POLICY

Title: Filming

Division: Parks, Culture, and Community Services

Policy Number: 0119

File Number: 0282-20-0119

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## 1. Purpose

- 1.1. This policy provides a framework to guide decision making when considering filming in the District. The framework considers both the high value the film industry brings to the local economy and the impact the industry may have on residents, the local community, the general public, visitors, and local area businesses.

## 2. Scope

- 2.1. This policy applies to all filming activities occurring within the municipal boundaries of the District that:
  - a) occur on District-owned or District-managed property, including parks, facilities, and highways/roads under District jurisdiction; and/or
  - b) occur on private property where filming requires District approval or is reasonably likely to impact the neighbourhood, general public, or District operations, including, without limitation, impacts related to traffic, parking, noise, lighting, public safety, environmental protection, or cumulative filming activity in a defined area.

## 3. Definitions

- 3.1. **“Affected Area”** means the geographic area determined by the District for Neighbourhood Notification or Polling purposes, having regard to the type of impacts anticipated.
- 3.2. **“Commercial Filming”** means filming undertaken in whole or in part for commercial gain or business purposes, including film/television productions, commercials, corporate videos, real estate marketing, influencer or brand content that is monetized, and any filming involving cast/crew engaged for compensation.
- 3.3. **“District”** means The Corporation of the District of West Vancouver.
- 3.4. **“Film Liaison”** means the District-designated employee assigned to monitor compliance/coordinate requirements on site during filming.
- 3.5. **“Filming”** means any commercial, non-commercial, educational, or student motion picture, television, digital media, or photography activity, and includes, without limitation, data collection or operational monitoring (including surveying, inspection, mapping, analytics, or compliance monitoring), scouting, site and technical surveys, site preparation and clean-up, equipment staging, circus and crew parking locations,

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- equipment/work truck parking, film work (including set dressing and rehearsals), and any necessary site restoration after filming, but excludes news broadcasts.
- 3.6. **“Film Permit”** means written authorization issued by the District permitting filming subject to Permit Conditions.
  - 3.7. **“Film Production”** means an individual, group, or company undertaking filming and/or applying for or holding a Film Permit in the District.
  - 3.8. **“Location Manager”** means the person acting as location department head on behalf of the Film Production who selects a filming location, manages logistics, oversees on site requirements, and addresses concerns in a timely and appropriate manner.
  - 3.9. **“Neighbourhood Notification”** means District-approved written notice distributed/posting to the Affected Area describing dates, times, scope, impacts, and contact information.
  - 3.10. **“News Broadcasts”** means filming, recording, or live transmission undertaken by or on behalf of a bona fide news organization for the primary purpose of reporting current events or matters of public interest for public distribution via television, radio, or an equivalent digital news platform (including live hits, scheduled newscasts, and regularly issued news segments). News Broadcasts must not involve higher-risk elements or create neighbourhood impacts, including, but not limited to: drones, stunts, special effects, replica weapons, or traffic control.
  - 3.11. **“Non-Commercial Filming”** means filming conducted entirely on private property that is intended for personal, family, or community use and is not undertaken for compensation or in connection with advertising, brand promotion, sponsorship, product placement, or a monetized production. Non-Commercial Filming must not impact neighbourhoods or involve higher-risk elements including, but not limited to: drones, stunts, special effects, replica weapons, and traffic control.
  - 3.12. **“Permit Conditions”** means requirements imposed by the District and attached to a Film Permit.
  - 3.13. **“Polling”** means a District-approved process to obtain feedback from the Affected Area regarding proposed filming impacts.

## 4. Policy Statement

- 4.1. The District recognizes the benefits of the film industry to the local economy and strives to encourage and support filming in West Vancouver.
- 4.2. Filming, including Commercial Filming, requires District approval through the issuance of a Film Permit under this policy, whether on public or private property, unless expressly exempt. Exemptions apply to news broadcasts and Non-Commercial Filming on private property, provided all applicable criteria are met. All filming, including exempt activities, must comply with all applicable laws and District bylaws.
- 4.3. Film Productions filming within the District, on public or private property, must comply with all applicable District requirements, and are responsible for all fees, charges,

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and District costs associated with filming, including any services required to support filming activities.

- 4.4. The District reserves the right to designate certain locations as restricted, conditionally available, or unavailable for filming in order to protect environmental values, cultural/heritage resources, public safety, privacy, and/or to ensure the continuity of public services and District operations.
- 4.5. The District reserves the right to limit the number, timing, duration, and/or concentration of filming activities in the District or within defined areas in order to manage cumulative impacts, operational capacity, community disruption, and District operations.
- 4.6. The District reserves the right to approve, impose conditions on, suspend, revoke, or deny filming activities on District property, and/or a Film Permit, based on operational, safety, environmental, or community considerations.
- 4.7. Film Productions must comply with all applicable District bylaws, policies, and Permit Conditions, and with all applicable provincial and federal requirements.
- 4.8. Where required to protect public safety, the District may require appropriate public safety oversight and measures for film activities, including those involving traffic control, special effects, pyrotechnics, stunts, or weapons, including simulated weapons. The Film Production is responsible for the costs associated with this requirement.

## 5. Authority

- 5.1. The Director, Parks, Culture, and Community Services, or designate, is responsible for administering the application of this policy and the associated procedure.
- 5.2. The Director, Parks, Culture, and Community Services, or designate, on a case-by-case basis, may provide exemptions to District bylaws to a Film Production, within reason, should the requirements outlined in the associated Filming Procedure be met.

## 6. Related Documents

- 6.1. Filming Procedure 0237
- 6.2. Fees and Charges Bylaw (as amended)
- 6.3. Good Neighbour Bylaw No. 4380, 2004 (as amended)
- 6.4. Fire Protection and Emergency Response Bylaw No. 4366, 2004 (as amended)
- 6.5. Firearm Regulation Bylaw No. 4686, 2011 (as amended)
- 6.6. Traffic and Parking Bylaw No. 4370, 2004 (as amended)
- 6.7. Solid Waste Utility Bylaw No. 4740, 2012 (as amended)

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**7. Approval**

<b>Approved by</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> CAO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor and Council
<b>Approval date</b>	2020/09/14	
<b>Council minutes eDocs # (Council Policies only)</b>	4122761	
<b>Council report eDocs # (Council Policies only)</b>	4001463	
<b>Signature</b>	<u>[Original signed by Mayor]</u> MAYOR	

<b>Replaced by</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Manager	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor and Council
<b>Replacement date</b>	2026/05/27	
<b>Council minutes Document ID (Council Policies only)</b>	LGDM-711734498-25366	
<b>Council report Document ID (Council Policies only)</b>	LGDM-711734498-25387	
<b>Replacement description</b>	To strengthened requirements and clearer expectations related to the use of drones; animals-on-set protocols; and environmental impact reduction measures, including the use of battery powered generators and improved waste management practices.	
<b>Signature</b>	<u>[Original signed by Mayor]</u> MAYOR	

## 8. Additional Information

<b>Category</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative
<b>Related procedure</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (0282-20-0237)	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Date of last review</b>	2026	