

City of Ottawa - Bylaw Services

All Night Dance Events (aka Raves)

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Bylaw Implementation

In 2001 the Ottawa Police Services Board requested that City Council look at enacting a RAVE Bylaw

Principal concerns related;

- Drug Trafficking
- Drug Use
- Under-Aged Patrons
- Sexual Assaults
- Indecent and or disorderly behavior

Secondary concerns relate directly to fire & health

- Room capacity
- Fire exits
- Lighting
- On-site first aid
- Availability of portable water and sanitary facilities
- Noise Complaints

The Bylaw 2002-189

Schedule No. 6

DEFINITIONS

- “All night dance events” means an event for gain or profit:
 - That offers live or pre-recorded music or both,
 - Where any part of the event takes place between the hours of 0300 and 0900, and
 - Where the principal activities include listening and dancing to music
- “promoter” means the person who organizes the all night dance event and whose responsibilities may include contracting entertainers, security firms, owners of premises and advertisers and “promotes” has a similar meaning.

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LICENSE REQUIRED

- A separate license shall be obtained for each all night dance event.

LICENSE EXPIRY

- Every all night dance event license is valid only for the date and time of the all night dance event indicated on the license application.

LICENSE FEE

- \$180.00 per event

CONDITIONS FOR ISSUANCE OF AN ALL NIGHT DANCE EVENT LICENSE

No applicant for an all night dance event license shall be issued a license unless:

- (a) the applicant is at least eighteen (18) years of age,
- (b) the applicant is the promoter of the event,
- (c) the applicant submits a detailed plan of the event that includes the information outlined in Appendix "A" at least 28 days before the all night dance event is scheduled to occur,
- (d) the Fire Chief has reported in writing that the premises and the detailed plan comply with all applicable fire regulations,
- (e) the Medical Officer of Health has reported in writing that the premises complies with all applicable public health regulations and that there are no objections to the detailed plan,
- (f) the Chief of Police has reported in writing as to the good character of the applicant and that there are no objections to the detailed plan,
- (g) the premises from which it is proposed to carry on the late night dance event complies with the zoning, building and property standards requirements of the City,
- (h) the applicant has agreed to obtain insurance as required by Section 10 of this Schedule, and
- (i) the applicant has paid the fees outlined in Schedule "A" of this by-law.

If the applicant is not the owner of the premises, he or she must provide written evidence to the satisfaction of the Chief License Inspector that the owner of the premises is aware of and agrees with the use of the premises for the late night dance event.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

Every licensee shall post the license in a prominent location on the licensed premises so as to be clearly visible to the public.

No person shall hold an all night dance event in a building or place without first obtaining a license to do so.

Despite Section 6, no person shall hold an all night dance event in a building that is not licensed as an amusement place.

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Every licensee shall:

- (a) ensure that patrons of the all night dance event comply with the applicable noise by-laws,
- (b) ensure that food preparation on premises must comply with Regulation 562-90 of the Health Protection and Promotion Act,
- (c) keep the licensed premises free from any fire or other hazard,
- (d) ensure that the capacity of the room is not exceeded,
- (e) ensure that the number of tickets sold for the all night dance event does not exceed the capacity of the premises and the number of tickets indicated in the application form,
- (f) ensure that tickets for the all night dance event clearly indicate that the event is:
 - (g) restricted to people 16 years of age or older if alcohol is not served, or
 - (h) restricted to people 19 years of age or older if alcohol is served,
- (i) ensure that the all night dance event is smoke free,
- (j) ensure that no person under 16 years of age is allowed entry

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- (k) ensure that all exits are free and remain free of any obstruction,
- (l) ensure that all washroom facilities are maintained and operational,
- (m) ensure that free potable water under suitable pressure is available at all times to all sinks and sanitary devices in the premises,
- (n) ensure that patrons have access at all times to all sinks and sanitary devices in the premises;
- (o) ensure that all security and medical personnel are easily identifiable,
- (p) upon being so ordered by Police, Fire or Health, immediately terminate the event if there is non-compliance with any applicable regulations,
- (q) ensure that all security personnel can communicate directly with the licensee at all times during the all night dance event, and
- (r) ensure that the premises is kept suitably illuminated and ventilated in accordance with the detailed plan.

No person shall sell tickets to or advertise an all night dance event unless an all night dance event license has been issued.

INSURANCE

Prior to the issuance of the license, the licensee shall file with the Chief License Inspector proof of insurance of Commercial General Liability or Special Events Liability coverage subject to limits of not less than Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) inclusive per occurrence for bodily injury, death and damage to property.

If applicable to the licensed activity, such insurance shall be endorsed to include Liquor Licence Act Liability or Host Liability insurance.

TRANSFERS

No all night dance event license shall be transferable

Bylaw Con't Appendix "A"

INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN THE DETAILED PLAN FOR AN ALL NIGHT DANCE EVENT LICENSE

1. Date of the all night dance event (the "event").
2. Location of the event.
3. The name, address and phone number of the promoter.
4. The name, addresses and phone number of the registered owner of the premises.
5. If the promoter or registered owner is a corporate entity, the names, addresses and phone numbers of the directors.
6. Times of commencement and termination of the event.
7. Number of tickets to be issued for the event.
8. Capacity of the premises
9. Expected attendance at the event.
10. A plan indicating the location and particulars of the entrances, exits, washrooms, lighting, ventilation, sound system, DJ booth, stage and room dividers.
11. A first aid logistical plan including:
12. A security plan including:
13. If pyrotechnics are to be used at the event, a detailed description of its use and an outline of precautions being undertaken with respect to fire prevention and public safety

Enforcement Strategy

December 1st, 2002 Bylaw came into effect;

Pro-Active Enforcement Stage

- Bylaw / Police / Fire – Joint enforcement team, pooled resources and enforcement tools
- Identified “Rave” locations, carried out joint inspections between 03:00 and 09:00
- Closed establishments, obtained compliance, issued charges

Within 2 weeks of the initial pro-actively enforcement stage – compliance was obtained

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Monitoring Enforcement Stage

- Coordinator of Licensing circulates applicant information to the respective Staff Sergeants / Bylaw Services / Fire Personnel
 - Collectively, proposed venue is monitored for activity
- Should there be an increase application submissions, Police / Bylaw / Fire may request that a joint enforcement blitz take place
- Day to Day intelligence from the street comes from the police (24/7).
- Issuance of Charges and Prosecution will be the responsibility of the Bylaw Services Branch.

Discussion Points

- Change in “Rave” venues to Night Clubs
- Good Communication Plan prior to commencement of enforcement
- Importants of a Joint Enforcement Team
- Licensing vs Underground

- Questions and Answers