

## The Corporation of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake Information Report to Council

**SUBJECT:** Bylaw Enforcement Metrics – May 2022  
**DATE:** 2022-06-13  
**REPORT #:** CS-22-016  
**PREPARED BY:** Chris Sabourin  
**DEPARTMENT:** Corporate Services

---

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of By-law Enforcement metrics for the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake during May 2022.

By-law Enforcement is part of the Corporate Services Department and is responsible for investigating and resolving By-law violation complaints and resolving the violations. The *Municipal Act, 2001* allows municipalities to pass by-laws to regulate many areas affecting health, safety and the enjoyment of property. In August 2021, Council approved Report No. CDS-21-022 regarding the required amendments to the Town's by-laws to allow for the implementation of the Administrative Monetary Penalty System (AMPS). AMPS provides the municipality with a means to encourage compliance and efficiently deter non-compliance. The Administrative Monetary Penalty System became active in Niagara-on-the-Lake on September 7, 2021. At that time, Staff committed to providing regular enforcement metrics.

The By-laws enforced through AMPS include: Animal Care & Control (Bylaw 4512-11), Clean Yards (Bylaw 5190-19), Fences (Bylaw 4778-14), Fireworks Sale of and Use (Bylaw 5172-19), Noise (Bylaw 4588-12), Nuisance (Bylaw 4397-10), Parks (Bylaw 5306-21), Property Standards (Bylaw 5192-19), Sign (Bylaw 4586-12), Site Alteration (Bylaw 3941-05), Short Term Rental (Bylaw 4634-13), Swimming Pool (Bylaw 5155-19), Private Trees (Bylaw 4571-12), and Public Trees (Bylaw 5139-19).

### **Bylaw Enforcement Metrics for May 2022**

Bylaw Enforcement metrics for the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake between May 1 and May 31, 2022, are attached as **Appendix I**.

In May 2022, Staff undertook **86** Municipal Law Enforcement (MLE) investigations. Town Staff issued **9** AMPS tickets in May (4 clean yard violations, 1 swimming pool violation, 2 tree cutting violations, and 2 Short Term Rental violations).

By-law Enforcement Staff were able to meet the daily requirements of the municipality and build upon the significant progress made on some of the Town's recent enforcement initiatives.

Additional information related to the core enforcement areas is provided below.

**Parking** - There were **2078** parking penalties issued, representing a significant increase in the number of tickets compared to May 2021. This increase is to be expected considering the easing of COVID-19 restrictions. The number of tickets reflects additional tourist traffic in the Town, with many violations occurring in Old Town during weekends. Parking tickets were issued by seasonal and full-time Parking Enforcement Officers. There will continue to be a proactive approach to parking violations in addition to responding to parking complaints.

**Short Term Rental (STR)** - Throughout May, Bylaw staff focused on achieving compliance within the Short Term Rental (STR) Bylaw. Building on the progress from previous months, staff continued to gain compliance by taking a proactive approach. Compliance through education is By-law Enforcement's first step, followed by enforcement through penalties if compliance isn't achieved voluntarily.

Staff issued **2** AMPS tickets in **May** for Short Term Rental non-compliance.

As non-compliance numbers can change daily, Bylaw Staff anticipates that the number of non-compliant operators will be maintained in the range of 0 to 10 at any given time. STR compliance remains an area of high priority within the By-law division.

**Summary** - The table below provides a monthly summary of the Service Requests directly related to the By-law Enforcement Division, including a comparison to the previous year.

Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake Bylaw Data for May 2022		
	May 2022	May 2021
Parking Penalty Notices Issued	2078	1313
Screenings for Parking Notices	12	6
Special Enforcement Area Penalties Issued*	2	N/A
By-law MLE Investigations	24	21
Property Standards Investigations**	34	12
COVID-19 Related MLE Investigations	N/A	22
Tree By-law Investigations		
Tree Permit Exemptions	15	9
Tree Permits Issued	5	3
Tree Permit Denials	0	1
Tree Investigations in Progress	13	N/A
Tree By-law Penalties Issued	2	N/A
Short Term Rental Investigations	15	1
Short Term Rental Penalties Issued	2	N/A
Other By-law Penalties Issued	5	N/A
Total AMPS Penalties Issued	9	N/A
Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake Overall By-law Data for 2022		
Total AMPS Penalties Issued in 2022	24	
Total Short Term Rental Penalties Issued in 2022	10	
Total Tree By-law Penalties Issued in 2022	7	
Total Other By-law Penalties Issued in 2022	7	

\* Special Enforcement Area increased fines are in place from March 15th to November 15th in accordance with the by-law

\*\* Property Standards Investigations include Property Standards, Long Grass and Clean Yards

Attached as **Appendix I** are the By-law Enforcement metrics for May 2022.

## NEXT STEP / CONCLUSION

The Town's Corporate Services Department will continue to provide a monthly update to Council regarding the By-law metrics.

## ATTACHMENTS

- **Appendix I** - By-law Metrics Infographic for May 2022