

## **Fort Honey Bee – Draft Beekeeping Requirements**

Urban backyard beekeeping will be permitted through the granting of a Beekeeping Licence. These requirements ensure best practices and compatibility within an urban context.

### **Training**

Completion of an accredited beekeeping course is required. First time beekeepers must have an experienced beekeeper as a mentor to provide support and assistance.

### **Provincial Registration**

All beekeepers are required to register with the provincial apiculturist as per the *Alberta Bee Act* and shall comply accordingly. A Premises Identification (PID) must be obtained and provided under the Premises Identification Regulation in the *Alberta Animal Health Act*.

### **Hive and Site Requirements**

- Only honey bees are allowed (*Apis mellifera* L.)
- 2 hives per site
- Imported hive equipment is not permitted
- Minimum 25 metre setback from community facilities such as playgrounds, sports fields and schools
- Hives shall be located in rear yards and located a minimum of 2 metres from adjacent residential property lines
- Property is to be separated by a solid fence or hedge at least 1.5 metres high
- Hive entrances shall be directed away from adjacent residential properties

### **Notification**

All adjacent neighbours shall be notified in writing of the proposed hive by the applicant. This requirement is for the notification to neighbours, not a request for neighbour permission.

### **Application Requirements and Process**

- Complete application form
- Confirmation of proposed hive location (site plan drawing/sketch)
- Beekeeping course certification
- Copy of provincial registration

### **Application Requirements and Process (continued)**

- Mentor information for 1<sup>st</sup> time beekeepers
- Confirmation of adjacent neighbour notification

### **Responsibility and Care**

- Beekeepers shall follow good hive management and husbandry practices
- Measures to prevent swarming, aggressive behavior and disease are to be taken
- Municipal Enforcement shall be notified of any swarms and or/disease, however the resident is responsible and must retain a bee expert.
- Sites with hives are subject to inspections

### **Revocable Permission**

The Beekeeping Licence can be revoked at any time should the City deem a site, hive, or beekeeper to be unsuitable or not in keeping with the requirements. All costs associated with relocating the hive and bees will be the responsibility of the property owner.