

**TOWN OF OLDS
BYLAW NO. 2024-16**

BEING A BYLAW OF THE TOWN OF OLDS TO REGULATE PANHANDLING WITHIN THE TOWN OF OLDS

WHEREAS the practice of Panhandling has been identified as a significant social and safety concern;

AND WHEREAS public awareness and outreach programs to promote alternative income generating or support options are available for panhandlers;

AND WHEREAS a bylaw regulating Panhandling is a required part of this coordinated approach to mitigate the negative impact of Panhandling activities;

NOW THEREFORE the municipal Council of the Town of Olds in the Province of Alberta, duly assembled, enacts as follows:

**PART 1
BYLAW TITLE**

1. This Bylaw may be cited as the “**Panhandling Bylaw**”.

**PART 2
DEFINITIONS**

2. “*Panhandling*” means the Personal, Verbal, and direct solicitation by a Person of gratuitous donations of money, food, or goods of any kind whether by spoken or printed word, or bodily gesture, from any member of the public but does not include a solicitation allowed or authorized pursuant to the *Charitable Fund-raising Act*, R.S.A 2000, c.C-9 or any other legislation permitting the solicitation of charitable donations.
3. “*Person*” means any individual, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company, or society but, unless the context otherwise requires, does not include the Town.
4. “*Pedestrian Crossing*” means a special place in a road where traffic must stop to allow people to walk across.
5. “*Verbal*” means spoken, written, or gestural.

**PART 3
STATEMENT OF TO WHOM AND TO WHAT THE BYLAW APPLIES**

6. This bylaw applies to all Persons within the Town of Olds.

PART 4
GENERAL RULES AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS

7. No Person shall engage in Panhandling within the Town of Olds corporate limits between 8:00pm and 8:00am.
8. No Person shall engage in Panhandling within 10 metres of the following:
 - i) the entrance to a bank, credit union, trust company or other financial institution where cash can be withdrawn, or
 - ii) an automated teller machine or other device from which cash can be electronically accessed, or
 - iii) any pedestrian crossing.
9. No Person shall engage in panhandling in private retail areas, including but not limited to Cornerstone and Mountain View Plaza, without the property owner's written permission.
10. No Person shall engage in panhandling by any person who, at the time, is an occupant of a motor vehicle.
11. No Person shall, while engaging in panhandling, move to obstruct the passage of, walk next to, or follow the person being solicited.

PART 5
PENALTY CLAUSE

12. The specified penalty for a contravention of any provision of this Bylaw is FIVE HUNDRED (\$500.00) DOLLARS for the first offence, ONE THOUSAND (\$1000.00) DOLLARS for the second offence, and ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED (\$1,500.00) DOLLARS for the third offence. The penalty in lieu of prosecution is TWO HUNDRED FIFTY (\$250.00) DOLLARS.
13. Any person who contravenes any provision of this Bylaw is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine of not more than TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2500.00) and not less than FIFTY (\$50.00) DOLLARS.
14. Section 8 shall not prevent any enforcement officer from issuing a violation ticket requiring a court appearance of the defendant, pursuant to the provisions of the *Provincial Offences Procedures Act*; R.S.A. 2000 c. P-24, or from laying an information in lieu of issuing a Municipal Violation Ticket.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Bylaw shall come into effect at such time as it has received a third reading and has been signed in accordance with the *Municipal Government Act RSA 2000 C M-26*, as amended from time to time.

READINGS

Read for the first time on the 25th day of March 2024.

Read for a second time on the 25th day of March 2024.

Read for a third and final time on the 8th day of April 2024.

SIGNATURE LINE



Judy Dahl,
Mayor



Brent Williams,
Chief Administrative Officer

SIGNED by the Chief Elected Official and the Chief Administrative Officer the 9th day of April 2024.