

CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF MAPLE RIDGE

BYLAW NO. 6839-2011

A Bylaw to regulate Hobby Beekeeping

WHEREAS under the provisions Section 8(3)(k) of the Community Charter, Council may, by bylaw regulate, prohibit or impose requirements in relation to animals.

NOW THEREFORE, the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the District of Maple Ridge, in open meeting assembled, **ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:**

This bylaw may be cited for all purposes as the “Maple Ridge Hobby Beekeeping Regulation Bylaw No. 6839-2011”.

Definitions

“Apiary” means a place where bees or beehives or beekeeping equipment is kept for the purpose of Hobby Beekeeping;

“Bee” means the insect *Apis mellifera*;

“Hive” means beehive equipment inhabited by live bees;

“Hobby Beekeeping” use means the keeping, owning, or maintaining of up to two (2) bee hives on a residential property occupied by the beekeeper or as an educational use in an institutional setting.

Registration of Apiaries

A person must not keep bees as a Hobby Beekeeper except in an Apiary registered under the Bee Act, RSBC 1996, Chapter 29 and amendments thereto.

Responsibility

- a) Hobby Beekeepers shall deter other animals and protect hives from disturbance by animals by a suitable method of prevention, including but not limited to adequate fencing or hedging or motion sensed high-pitched deterrent devices.;
- b) Hives shall be located so that the entrance to the hives face away from adjacent property dwellings.
- c) Every Hobby Beekeeper and every person who allows, permits or establishes the keeping of bees on their property has the duty to maintain, or to take reasonable precautions to prevent swarming or aggressive behaviour by the bees, and if the bees do swarm or show signs of aggressive behaviour, to ensure that the bees are requeened.

Provision of Water

Every Hobby Beekeeper and every person who allows, permits or establishes the keeping of bees shall ensure that the bees have sufficient water available on the property upon which the Apiary is located to provide for the needs of the bees.

Enforcement

A Public Health Officer, Bylaw Enforcement Officer, Property Use Inspector, Member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, or other municipal employee, or agent, duly authorized by Council to enforce municipal bylaws may enter upon any property to inspect and determine whether the requirements of this bylaw are being met.

Offences and Penalties

Any person who contravenes this bylaw is liable upon summary conviction to a maximum fine of \$10,000.00 and the cost of prosecution. Every day during which there is a contravention of this bylaw shall constitute a separate offence.

READ a first time the 8th day of May, 2012.

READ a second time the 8th day of May, 2012.

READ a third time the 8th day of May, 2012.

RECONSIDERED AND FINALLY ADOPTED, the 24th day of July, 2012.

PRESIDING MEMBER

CORPORATE OFFICER