

CITY OF COQUITLAM

FP DIVISION

POLICY - Inspections

FOOD VENDING VEHICLES	Policy #1.08	Page 1 of 4
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PURPOSE:

To provide guidelines to ensure that mobile food vending vehicles comply with applicable fire safety requirements.

SCOPE:

All members of the Fire Prevention Division conducting inspections.

DISCUSSION:

Division A, Sentence 1.1.1.1.(1), states that the BC Fire Code applies to all new and existing buildings and facilities. Although not a defined term within the Code, Appendix reference A-1.1.1.1.(1) states that for the purposes of Sentence 1.1.1.1.(1), "facilities" is used in its broadest sense to include all premises that are not included in the definition of "building" in the Code, such as equipment.

Further, Division B of the Fire Code regulates commercial cooking equipment as follows:

- Sentence 2.6.1.9.(1) states, "Commercial cooking equipment exhaust and fire protection systems shall be designed and installed in conformance with the British Columbia Building Code."
- Sentence 2.6.1.9.(2) states, "Except as required in Sentences (3) to (5), the use, inspection and maintenance of commercial cooking equipment exhaust and fire protection systems shall be in conformance with NFPA 96, "Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations."
- Sentence 2.6.1.9.(1) also references the BC Building Code. Sentence 6.2.2.7.(1) of the Building Code requires that systems for the ventilation of commercial cooking equipment shall be designed, constructed and installed to conform to NFPA 96.

Based on the preceding discussion, motor vehicles or trailers containing fixed equipment used for the cooking of food producing grease laden vapours are

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considered as a "facility" and thus are regulated by the requirements of the BC Fire Code.

POLICY:

The vehicle 'kitchen system' shall comply with the 2008 version of NFPA 96 standard for the installation and maintenance of the kitchen exhaust fan, hood, grease removal devices, cooking appliances and the fire suppression system.

It will be the policy of our department to:

1. Inspect mobile food vending vehicles containing fixed equipment used for the cooking of food producing grease laden vapours to ensure compliance with the BC Fire Code;
2. Conduct inspections of the vehicles on an annual basis; and
3. Track inspections of the mobile food vending vehicles similar to that for buildings.

PROCEDURE:

Some discretion shall be applied when inspecting new or existing cooking installations within vehicles. Not all of the requirements listed below will apply in each case. When inspecting mobile food vending vehicles or trailers, the following kitchen system specific rules and general facility requirements apply:

1. The operator shall provide to our department a copy of the following:
 - (a) Installer's verification that the fire suppression system has been installed and tested in conformance with NFPA 96 and is also compliant with ULC 1254.6 - 1995 (standard for "Fire Testing of Restaurant Cooking Area Fire Extinguishing System Units."); and
 - (b) Installer's verification that the exhaust fans, hood, ducts and grease removal devices have been installed in conformance with NFPA 96.
2. The operator shall provide to our department copies of inspection approvals (or other suitable verification) from the BC Safety Authority for:
 - (a) Electrical installation related to the kitchen facility; and
 - (b) Propane gas installation related to the kitchen facility.

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The inspection approvals must be current.

3. The operator shall provide proof that the vehicle meets the provincial commercial motor vehicle regulations.
4. *Cooking appliances must be listed (ULC/WH, etc.) or certified by the BCSA for commercial cooking purposes.*
5. *Propane cylinders and tanks shall be secured to the vehicle and located in compliance with the BC Safety Standards Act and pursuant regulations.*
6. 1 - K-Class type fire extinguisher and 1 - 5 lb. ABC type fire extinguisher shall be installed within the vehicle.
7. Adequate egress shall be provided for the kitchen preparation area of the vehicle.
8. The vehicle shall be equipped with fluorescent road cones that can be placed adjacent to the vehicle on the side of the truck facing the street (when parked for business.)
9. Annual and semi-annual inspection, testing and maintenance (ITM) for the kitchen hood, ducts, fan and fire suppression system shall be completed as per the frequency and methods identified in the NFPA 96 standard. ITM for these systems shall be performed by an ASTTBC (Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of BC) qualified technician and the associated equipment shall be tagged properly after servicing.
10. *Exhaust hood, fan and ducts shall be cleaned at required intervals, by an ASTTBC qualified technician and the associated equipment shall be tagged properly after servicing.*
11. *Temporary electrical power installations, including generators, shall be proper gauge, rating, be protected from weather and vehicular traffic and be restricted from public access.*
12. *Tents and awnings associated with the vehicle shall be listed as conforming to ULC-S109, "Flame Tests of Flame-Resistant Fabrics and Films."*
13. The operator shall comply with other applicable City Bylaws.

An inspection of the mobile food vending vehicle or trailer by our department will be required prior to opening for business.

The vehicle identification number (VIN) shall be recorded on the inspection report. Although these vehicles are mobile, the first inspection site (relative property address) of the vehicle will form its permanent location for recording of the first

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and subsequent inspection records in the FDM RMS property module. For example, the food truck Japadog was first located on the street adjacent to Douglas College in the summer of 2013. The inspection record will be related to 1250 Pinetree Way (the address for Douglas College.) Contact information shall also be recorded in the database relative to the vehicle inspection record.

Recording of the VIN for each vehicle will ensure that we inspect the same mobile unit from year to year.