TOWN OF SHAUNAVON

Province of Saskatchewan, Canada

BYLAW NO. 2026-04

A BYLAW TO REGULATE AND PROHIBIT THE DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS

The Council of the Town of Shaunavon in the Province of Saskatchewan, pursuant to Section 8 of The Municipalities Act, enacts as follows:

1. SHORT TITLE

1.1. This Bylaw may be cited as the "Firearms Discharge Bylaw."

2. DEFINITIONS

In this Bylaw:

"Administrator" means the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) or Administrator appointed by Council.

"Conservation Officer" means a conservation officer appointed pursuant to The Natural Resources Act or The Wildlife Act, 1998.

"Council" means the Council of the Town of Shaunavon.

"Enforcement Officer" means a Bylaw Enforcement Officer appointed by the Municipality, a Peace Officer, a Conservation Officer, or a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).

"Firearm" means any device from which any shot, bullet, dart, pellet, arrow, or other missile can be discharged, whether by explosive charge, compressed air, gas, spring, or mechanical force, and explicitly includes but is not limited to: rifles, shotguns, handguns, pellet guns, BB guns, air guns, airsoft guns, paintball guns, spring guns, longbows, recurve bows, compound bows, or crossbows.

"Municipality" means the Town of Shaunavon.

"Nuisance Wildlife Control Permit" means a valid permit issued by the Ministry of Environment pursuant to The Wildlife Regulations (Saskatchewan) authorizing designated wildlife control operations.

3. PROHIBITIONS

3.1. Except as expressly provided in Section 4 of this Bylaw, no person shall discharge any firearm within the corporate limits of the Municipality.

3.2. No person shall discharge any firearm in a manner that causes a projectile, shot, bullet, arrow, dart, or missile to cross any boundary line of the corporate limits of the Municipality.

3.3. For greater certainty, no private property owner, resident, tenant, or member of the general public is permitted to discharge any firearm within the Municipality for the purpose of pest control, wildlife dispatch, backyard target practice, or animal management, unless operating under an explicit exemption provided in Section 4.

4. EXEMPTIONS & PERMITTED DISCHARGE

Section 3 does not apply to:

a) A Peace Officer, Conservation Officer, or RCMP member acting in the lawful performance of their official duties.

b) A Municipal Wildlife Control Officer duly appointed in writing by Council, provided that:

i. The officer is operating under and in full compliance with a valid provincial Nuisance Wildlife Control Permit issued pursuant to The Wildlife Regulations; and

ii. The firearm discharge strictly conforms to the specific weapon types, calibers, equipment, noise restrictions, and operational parameters authorized in said Nuisance Wildlife Control Permit. The use of any weapon or caliber not explicitly authorized under the permit remains strictly prohibited under Section 3.

c) Members of a recognized shooting range or archery club operating within a facility or location that has received prior written authorization and approval from Council.

5. PERMITS FOR SPECIAL RANGES OR EVENTS

5.1. Council or the Administrator may issue a temporary written permit to an organization or event authorizing the discharge of firearms (e.g., target practice, archers) under specified safety conditions, location constraints, and hours.

5.2. Any permit issued under subsection 5.1 may be revoked immediately by the Administrator or Enforcement Officer if safety conditions or municipal terms are breached.

6. ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES

6.1. Any person who contravenes any provision of this Bylaw, or who fails to comply with the strict terms of an authorized permit under Section 4 or 5, is guilty of an offence and liable upon summary conviction to a fine of:

First Offence: $500.00

Second Offence: $1,000.00

Third and Subsequent Offences: Not less than $2,000.00 up to the legal maximum permitted under The Municipalities Act ($10,000.00).

6.2. Voluntary payment of fines may be accepted by the Municipality if paid within fourteen (14) days of the issuance of a Bylaw Violation Notice.

6.3. Nothing in this Bylaw restricts Peace Officers, Conservation Officers, or the RCMP from laying criminal charges under the Criminal Code of Canada or applicable statutes for dangerous, reckless, or negligent firearm discharge.

7. REPEAL OF PREVIOUS BYLAWS

7.1. Bylaw No. 2000-06, titled "A Bylaw to Regulate and Prohibit the Discharge of Firearms," and all amending bylaws thereto, are hereby repealed upon the coming into force and third reading of this Bylaw.

8. SEVERABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE

8.1. Severability: If any section, clause, or provision of this Bylaw is declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining sections shall remain in full force and effect.

8.2. Effective Date: This Bylaw shall come into force and take effect on the date of final passage and third reading by Council.

Read a first time this _____ day of _____, 2026.
Read a second time this _____ day of _____, 2026.
Read a third time and adopted this _____ day of _____, 2026.

_____ _____

Mayor Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

[SEAL]