

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF SAULT STE. MARIE

BY-LAW 2005-166

REGULATIONS: (R.1.2.19) A by-law to regulate signs within the City of Sault Ste. Marie and to repeal By-law 99-51 and Part 10 (Section 10.1 to Section 10.19) of By-law 76-185.

WHEREAS it is desirable to ensure that the public safety and vehicular traffic is not compromised by the placement and size of signs in the City of Sault Ste. Marie;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie, pursuant to Section 11(1).7 and 99 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O 2001, c. 25, and amendments thereto, ENACTS as follows:

1. **DEFINITIONS**

In this by-law

1. **ACCESSORY SIGN** – means any sign related to a business or profession conducted, or to a commodity or service sold or offered upon the premises where such sign is located.
2. **ANIMATED SIGNS** – means a sign that revolves or otherwise moves, a sign in which all or any part flashes, is lighted intermittently, a sign lighted gaseous or electrically and for which the lighting is interrupted by a circuit breaker or other device having a similar effect or a sign which portrays a scene in which movement is depicted.
3. **AWNING** – means any retractable or removable roof-like covering extended as a shelter at doors, windows and entrances, and usually consisting of canvas, light metal, wood or other lightweight material.
4. **BILLBOARD SIGN** – means an outdoor sign that advertises goods, products or services that are not sold or offered on the property where the sign is located and is either single faced or double faced.
5. **CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL** – means the person from time to time so appointed and employed by the Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie.
6. **COMMUNITY INFORMATION SIGN** – means a sign providing information relating to non-profit, not for profit or charitable community agencies.
7. **CURB** – means the line of the established curb in front of a building measured to the street side of the curb.
8. **ELECTION SIGN** – means any sign, advertising or promoting the election of any candidate in a municipal, provincial or federal election.
9. **ERECT** – means to erect, affix, build, place, construct, paint, letter or install.
10. **FACE OF BUILDING** – means the general outer surface, not including cornices, bay windows or other architectural trim, of any main exterior wall of a building or structure.

11. FLAT SIGN – means a sign which is attached directly to the building wall and which extends not more than eighteen inches from the face of the wall and the bottom of such signs shall hang at least nine feet above grade except where attached to canopies erected under this by-law.
12. GROUND SIGN – means a sign affixed to the ground and which is supported by one or more uprights or braces in or upon the ground.
13. IDENTIFICATION SIGN – means an overhanging sign not exceeding 0.3m by 1.2m in size bearing the name of the business carried on at the premises to which it is attached, and no other information.
14. LANE – means a passage or way open to traffic as a secondary means of access to abutting lots and not intended for general traffic circulation.
15. LIGHTED AREA – means if a sign is in any way illuminated such illumination shall be so designed and provided that:
 - it does not conflict with or reduce the effectiveness of any traffic signal on any street;
 - it does not interfere with any traffic that might reasonably be expected to be on any street; or
 - it does not create any undue glare to any residentially occupied property.
16. MARQUEE OR CANOPY – means any roof-like covering extended, permanently fixed or supported from the front, side or rear of a building whether over doors, windows or otherwise and composed of metal, wood, masonry, concrete or other material.
17. NON-ACCESSORY SIGN – means any sign unrelated to a business or profession conducted or to a commodity or service sold or offered upon the premises where such sign is located.
18. NON-CONFORMING SIGN – means any overhanging sign but a flat sign.
19. OVERHANGING SIGN – means any sign, which projects over the street more than eighteen inches.
20. PLACING – means placing, erecting, constructing, posting, painting, printing, tacking, nailing, gluing, sticking, carving or otherwise fastening, affixing or making visible in any manner whatsoever.
21. PORTABLE SIGN – means a structure larger than 0.6 square metres designed and constructed to be moved from place to place. Such signs are not permanently affixed to the ground, a structure, or a building.
22. ROAD ALLOWANCE – means all that property designated as a public thoroughfare.
23. ROOF SIGN – means a sign erected, constructed, located or maintained on or above the roof of any building.
24. SIGN – means a stationary device or structure used or capable of being used as a visual medium to attract attention to a specific

subject matter for identification, information or advertising purposes.

25. SIGN AREA – means the total surface area of that portion of a sign, which is used or capable of being used to provide information or advertising and which can be viewed from any one perspective. In the case of a sign composed of individual letters, numerals, or symbols, the sign area shall be the area that is enclosed by one continuous line connecting the extreme points or edges of the sign and encompasses all logos and lettering.
26. SIGN FACE – means the interior area of the sign and excludes the frame portion of the sign.
27. SIGN HEIGHT – means the vertical distance measured from the highest point of the sign, to the average ground level beneath the sign.
28. TEMPORARY SIGN – means a banner, sign or other advertising device intended for a limited period of display for holidays or public demonstrations.
29. TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE – means any sign, signal marking or installation placed or erected under public authority for the purpose of regulating, warning or guiding traffic.
30. ZONE – means a part of the City within which land use restrictions are in force under the relevant restricted area by-laws of the City.

PART 1 Portable Advertising Signs

2. PORTABLE SIGN REGULATIONS

Maintenance

- (a) Portable signs shall be properly installed and maintained in good, safe, working order. Such installation and maintenance shall be the responsibility of the owner of the sign. Proper maintenance includes but is not limited to the removal of all weeds and debris from the area surrounding and under the sign and general maintenance such as painting as necessary.

Electrical Signs

- (b) Where electrical connections exist on signs, CSA or Ontario Hydro approvals for electrical systems must be attached to the sign.
- (c) No extension cords shall be permitted to traverse parking areas, driveways or walkways.
- (d) No portable sign shall be “animated”.

Residential Areas

- (e) No portable sign shall be located in a residentially zoned area for more than 48 hours. Only special occasion non-commercial events may be indicated on a portable sign in residential zones.

Legal Non-conforming Uses

- (f) Commercial uses that enjoy legal non-conforming status within a residentially zoned area may use a portable sign subject to

compliance with regulations contained in this by-law as if the property were located on a commercially zoned property.

Location of Portable Signs

- (g) Portable signs shall be located on private property, however, where special circumstances warrant, portable signs may be allowed on the road allowance or on City property subject to the approval of the Commission of Public Works and Transportation once the site has been inspected and found to be safe and not obstructive to traffic movements. Such signs may require a licence with the City and there may be a fee imposed.
- (h) No portable signs are to be located within 3m horizontally of a high voltage overhead power line, without the Public Utilities Commission's written approval.
- (i) In order to lessen the risk of motorists being distracted by portable signs, no portable sign shall be located within 30m of a signalized intersection measured from the projected curb.
- (j) No portable sign shall be located within corner lot sight lines as defined in the Zoning By-law 2005-150. These sight lines also apply to all driveways intersecting municipal streets. In the case of driveways, the dimensions will be taken from the edge of the driveway on the property line into the subject property.
- (k) A minimum separation distance of 15m between portable signs located on the same property is required.
- (l) All portable signs shall be located at least 4.5m from the side yard lot line or the required side yard zoning setback, whichever is greater. The Planning Director may grant a variance from the 4.5m side yard setback requirement if all of the following requirements are met:
 - (i) the request for a variance from the requirement is made in writing accompanied by a graphic showing the proposed location of the sign in relation to the lot lines, the nearest driveway on either side of the sign, and the distance set back from the edge of the curb and the front lot line;
 - (ii) the request is accompanied by a letter signed by the adjacent property owner, nearest the sign, stating that the property owners have reviewed the requested variance and have no objection to its approval;
 - (iii) the Department of Public Works and Transportation, the Building Division and the Planning Division have reviewed the request for a variance and have no objection to it; and
 - (iv) the request for the variance is accompanied by a non-refundable \$50.00 application fee.

Portable Sign Size

- (m) The maximum sign height for a portable sign is 2.8m.
- (n) The maximum sign area for a portable sign is 4.5 sq. m. However, the right to use existing portable signs up to a maximum sign size of 5.5 sq. m. will be permitted for a period not exceeding 2 years from the date of the passing of the by-law, after which time, all portable signs must conform to the 4.5 sq. m. sign size.

Permits for Portable Signs

- (o) The sign permit will only be issued to the property owner or the property owner's authorized agent. Any instructions for compliance will be directed to the property owner or authorized agent. No permit is required for special occasion, non commercial signs being located in residentially zoned areas for less than 48 hours; however, the regulations contained herein shall apply to the said signs.
- (p) A permit shall be required for the installation of all portable signs. Together with the permit application, the following shall be submitted:
 - (i) - a scaled site plan showing:
 - proposed sign location and height,
 - existing permanent and portable signage on the subject property,
 - the sign setback from the road allowance, driveway access and curb cuts, building(s) on the subject property, parking and landscaping;
 - (ii) Location of underground utilities for any sign requiring anchoring into the ground;
 - (iii) When located on City property, the written authorization of Commissioner of Public Works and Traffic or his delegate;
 - (iv) The permit fee.
- (q) All portable signs are required to have permits and have paid the appropriate permit fees.

By-law Supersedes

- (r) This by-law supersedes all others in relation to portable signs.

2.1 Portable Sign Enforcement

- (1) The municipality may remove an illegal portable sign ten (10) working days, after written notice to the owner of the portable sign. Signs that present a hazard to the public, as determined by Public Works and Transportation, will be removed immediately. Where the municipality does not know who owns the portable sign, the sign may be removed immediately.
- (2) The removed sign shall be stored by the City for a maximum of 30 days from the date of removal and shall be disposed of following this period. If the municipality removes a sign, the charge for this work shall be collected from the owner of the sign.

2.2 Portable Signs Permit Fees

- (1) Permit Fees are \$60.00 for each portable sign and shall be valid for two (2) years from the date of issue.
- (2) Short term 30 day (or less) permits shall be issued at a cost of \$10.00 per permit.
- (3) Where a portable sign is removed and a new portable sign is replaced at the same location, a renewal permit fee of \$15.00 shall apply for each time a portable sign that is replaced at the same location.

- (4) An administrative fee of two times the value of the permit fee will be applied where the permit has not been obtained or renewed as required by this by-law.
- (5) All registered charities and non-profit organizations are exempt from the permit fees referred to in paragraphs 4(1) and 4(2).

PART 2 Advertising Signs

3. ADVERTISING SIGN - YARD AND SETBACK REGULATIONS

3.1 Types of Signs Permitted In All Zones

The following signs types may be erected, maintained and displayed in all zones subject to the listed regulations:

.1 Realtor's Sign

One non-illuminated real estate sign advertising the sale or rental of the lot or premises upon which it is maintained provided that

- .1 maximum size – 0.5m;
- .2 not more than two realtor signs shall be erected, maintained, or displayed on any lot or premises;
- .3 no sign shall be erected, maintained, or displayed within 30m of another sign upon land owned by the same person;
- .4 no such sign shall be erected closer to any lot line than 3m unless it is attached to a building on the lot; and
- .5 if more than one sign is permitted upon land owned by one person by virtue of clause 3 above, one larger sign may be erected having an area not exceeding 3m² in area, provided such sign is not closer to any lot line than 6m.

3.2 Non-conforming Use Signs

One sign to advertise and identify a non-conforming use that is lawfully being carried on or a business use permitted by section 39 provided

- .1 maximum size – 3m²;
- .2 no sign shall be animated in an RA or R Zone;
- .3 minimum setback from street line – the same as the front yard requirement for the zone in which the sign is located or the existing front yard whichever is the lesser;
- .4 minimum setback from side lot lines – the same as the side yard requirement for the zone in which the sign is located;
- .5 in any PR or I Zone no such sign, if animated, shall be closer to a residential zone than 60m; and
- .6 in any RA or R Zone no such sign shall be a roof sign.

3.3 Bulletin Board

A bulletin board in connection with a hospital, place of worship or other similar institutional building provided

- .1 maximum size – 1.2m²;
- .2 the sign is not animated;
- .3 the sign is not erected closer to a street line than 3m;
- .4 number restricted to one per each 30m of frontage, or part thereof, on any street.

3.4 Election Signs

This by-law does not apply to any sign relating to any Federal, Provincial or Municipal election.

3.5 Home Identification Plate

A name plate or other non-animated sign to identify the owner or occupant of any property and its civic address as part of a lawn ornament or attached to any gate, fence or building, provided that;

- .1 maximum size – 0.2 m², and
- .2 no home identification sign shall be animated.

3.6 Signs Required by Federal or Provincial Regulations

A sign or name plate required to be erected and displayed by any Act or Regulation of Canada or Ontario provided that;

- .1 where a sign or nameplate is to be erected or displayed in a residential zone it shall not be animated and it shall conform to the requirements provided by this by-law for home identification plates.
- .2 where a sign or name plate is erected and displayed in non-residential zones it shall be erected and maintained in compliance with the regulations provided by this by-law for similar signs in such zones.

3.7 Street and Traffic Signs

Any sign for the purpose of regulating, controlling or directing traffic or parking erected by the Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie or a local board thereof.

3.8 Construction Signs

Any non-animated sign having an area not exceeding 4.5m² which sign is incidental to construction being carried on on the lot during the time that such construction is actually being carried on.

3.9 Internal Traffic Signs

A sign or signs to regulate or direct the movement of pedestrians, and the movement or parking of vehicles on the premises provided

- .1 maximum size – no limit; and
- .2 minimum setback from any lot line – 3m.

4. SIGNS PERMITTED IN RURAL AREA (RA) AND AGGREGATE EXTRACTION (REX) ZONES

Signs may be erected, maintained and displayed in Rural Area (RA) Zones and the Aggregate Extraction (REX) zones as follows:

4.1 Agricultural Signs

A non-animated sign to advertise agricultural uses or the sale of agricultural products raised on the same lands;

- .1 maximum sign size – 4.5m²;
- .2 minimum setback from street line – 3m; and
- .3 where two or more signs are erected on land under the same ownership, the minimum distance between signs – 90m.

4.2 Advertising Signs

A sign to advertise the carrying on of a non-agricultural use, a lawful non-conforming use or a business use permitted conducted on the same property provided that:

- .1 maximum sign size – 4.5m²
- .2 minimum setback from the front lot line – 6m
- .3 maximum number of signs permitted – one per each 30m of lot frontage or fraction thereof; and
- .4 minimum setback from any other lot line – 7m

5. SIGNS PERMITTED IN PARKS AND RECREATION (PR) ZONES

Signs may be erected, maintained and displayed in Park and Recreation (PR) Zones as follows:

5.1 Identification Signs

To identify and advertise a use being conducted on the same lot, including the display of information relative to the use, provided that:

- 1.1 maximum size – no limit;
- 1.2 animation – no restrictions;
- 1.3 minimum setback from the front lot line – 3m
- 1.4 minimum setback from any other lot line – 15m
- 1.5 minimum setback from any Residential zone boundary
 - animated signs – 60m
 - other signs – 30m
- 1.6 maximum number of signs permitted – one per 30m frontage or fraction thereof;

OR

- 5.2 Any other sign in a PR zone.

- .5 maximum number of signs permitted – one per 30m of lot frontage or fraction thereof; and
- .6 minimum sign separation – 15m

8. SIGNS PERMITTED IN MEDIUM AND HEAVY INDUSTRIY (M2 & M3) ZONES

Signs may be erected, maintained and displayed in Medium and Heavy Industrial (M2 & M3) Zones as follows:

8.1 Advertising Signs

A sign or signs to identify and advertise any manufacturing or other industrial business carried on or performed on the property or the products or owner thereof, provided

- .1 maximum size – no limit;
- .2 animation – no restrictions; and
- .3 minimum setback from any Residential Zone Boundary
 - animated sign – 60m
 - other signs – 22m

9. INTERNAL TRAFFIC SIGNS, BULLETIN BOARDS

Notwithstanding the provisions of this by-law it does not restrict the erection, display, maintenance, or content of any internal traffic sign or bulletin board designed to direct or inform persons afoot or in vehicles on Industrially Zoned lands.

10. SIGNS PERMITTED IN COMMERCIAL (C1, C2, CT2, C3, C4, C5, & HZ) ZONES

Signs may be erected, maintained and displayed in Commercial (C1, C2, CT2, C3, C4, C5, & HZ) Zones as follows:

10.1 Advertising Signs

Signs of any type for any advertising purpose (with the exception of portable signs) subject to the conditions set out in the following table:

TABLE OF SIGN REGULATIONS FOR COMMERCIAL ZONES

		ZONE		
		C1, C2 C3 C4 & C5	CT2	HZ
1	Maximum Area (m2)	none	60	none
2	Minimum setback from Residential Zone boundary for animated sign	22 metres	22 metres	22 metres
3	Minimum setback from front lot line	none	3 metres	Where the bottom of the advertising sign is visually open between 2.43m and 0.76m above established grade – 4m. Where bottom of the advertising sign is visually solid between 2.43m and 0.76m above established grade – 6m.
4	Maximum Height (to highest point) (a) sign support by the ground (b) signs supported by buildings	12 metres building height + 7 metres	12 metres building height	12 metres building height + 7 metres
5	Maximum number of signs	none	none	none

11 TOURISM DIRECTIONAL ATTRACTION SIGNAGE

Tourism directional attraction signage is permitted in all zones. For the purposes of this section, “Tourism Directional Attraction Signage” means a sign installed and maintained by the Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie and a sign which is located either on ground supports or overhead panels within City road rights-of-way or road allowances identifying direction, through a trail system concept, to tourist site attraction venues and having a maximum message area of 4m² identifying a series of tourist attraction venues.

General Provisions – Advertising Signs

12 DEFINITIONS

12.1 See Section 1.0 “DEFINITIONS”.

12.2 APPLICATION

12.2.1 For the purposes of this part signs are divided into the following groups or categories.

(1) Ground Sign – is a detached sign placed upon or supported by the ground.

(2) Roof Sign – is a sign erected upon or above the roof of a building.

(3) Wall Sign – is a sign attached to or placed against the wall of a building or other structure.

- (4) Projecting Sign – is a sign other than a wall sign suspended from or supported by a building or structure and projecting out therefrom.
- (5) Cloth or Banner Sign – Cloth or Banner Sign – is a banner made of cloth or other like material.

12.2.2 The provisions of this part relate to signs and, except where inconsistent with this part, all the other provisions of this by-law apply hereto. Another part of this by-law is not inconsistent with this part if it provides additional requirements.

12.3 PERMITS AND OFFENCES

12.3.1 No person shall erect, construct or maintain any sign except as provided in this by-law and unless a permit for such sign has been issued by the Chief Building Official.

12.3.2 No owner of property shall permit on property owned him any of the acts specified in subsection 12.3.3.

12.3.3 No person shall perform any of the following acts:

- (1) The posting or exhibiting of placards, paybills, posters, writing or pictures or the writing of words, or the making of pictures or drawings, which are indecent or may tend to corrupt or demoralize, on any wall or fence or elsewhere on a highway or in a public place;
- (2) The erection of signs or other advertising devices, or the posting of notices on any building or vacant lot within the City, except as herein otherwise provided;
- (3) The pulling down or defacing of any sign or other advertising device lawfully affixed; or
- (4) The nailing or otherwise attaching of anything, or the causing of anything to be so nailed or otherwise attached to or upon any property managed and controlled by any local board as defined in The Municipal Affairs Act unless such person has the permission so to do from the local board having such management and control.

12.3.4 Notwithstanding the provisions of this part a permit under this part is not required for the following:

- (1) a wall sign not more than 3m² in area and projecting not more than 7.6cm., if such sign is otherwise permissible under the relevant parts of this by-law: and
- (2) Municipal or provincial traffic signs.

12.4 APPLICATIONS AND DRAWINGS

12.4.1 The application for a permit to erect any sign shall be filed with the Chief Building Official in addition to any other information required by this by-law;

- (1) an application for a permit upon the forms supplied from time to time by the Chief Building Official;
- (2) a block plan showing
 - (a) the street and property boundaries of the property upon which it is proposed to erect the sign, and

- (b) the proposed location of such sign thereon in relation to other structures, property boundaries and adjoining premises;

(3) complete drawings and specifications showing;

- (a) the construction of the sign;
- (b) a section through a supporting roof, wall and floor;
- (c) the construction, anchorage and elevation of the structure to which the sign is to be attached; and
- (d) any additional relevant information which may be required by the Chief Building Official to determine whether the structure of a building will safely carry and support the additional loads and stresses imposed thereon by the erection of such sign.

(4) In any application where the Chief Building Official is of the opinion that any of the foregoing information is not required he may dispense with the filing thereof.

(5) No permit shall be issued unless the Chief Building Official is satisfied that the proposed sign can be erected and maintained safely.

12.5 GENERAL

- 12.5.1 No sign shall be erected in such a manner that any portion of its surface or supports will interfere with the use of any fire escape, exit, window, standpipe, ventilator, door, stairway, passageway, sidewalk or street.
- 12.5.2 All signs and other structures regulated by this part shall be maintained in a safe condition of repair.
- 12.5.3 Each face or division of a multiple-faced sign shall be deemed to be a separate sign for the purposes of this by-law.
- 12.5.4 Except as herein provided, no person shall erect any sign on any road allowance, highway or street without the express approval of the Council given by a resolution thereof.
- 12.5.5 No person shall attach a sign to a tree or place a sign on or against a tree.
- 12.5.6 No person shall place a sign on a fence, boarding or barricade except the owner of the land who may place signs thereon to indicate the name of the contractors working on the premises, the access or nonaccess permitted to the place of business or the nature of the business being conducted thereon.
- 12.5.7 Every part of every sign shall be so designed to withstand a wind pressure of 6.8 kilograms per 0.09 m² of surface area in addition to dead load and all stresses acting in any direction on the structure.
- 12.5.8 The working stress of all chains, wire, ropes, steel guy rods and fastening used to support a sign shall provide 100 percent safety margin.

- 12.5.9 All sign fastenings, metal brackets, expansion bolts, through bolts, lag screws and other attachment devices shall be galvanized or otherwise rust proofed and of adequate strength as prescribed in this by-law. No material, part, portion, or device shall be used which may become dangerous because of vibration, corrosion, disintegration, or for any other reason whatsoever. Wire, other than stranded cable, shall not be used except for cloth or banner signs.
- 12.5.10 The bottom of any sign for which a permit is required shall be at least 76cm above ground, and the space under such sign may be open or trellised with light wood or metal.
- 12.5.11 No sign shall be erected, constructed or maintained if such sign is;
- (i) located so that any portion of a sign is closer to a telephone wire or cable or the wire or cable of any other communications company as follows:
 - (a) cable or wire above or below sign – 1.2m
 - (b) cable at side of sign – 1.2m
 - (c) wire at side of sign - .6m
unless the approval of the responsible telephone or other communications company has been obtained.
 - (ii) located so that any portion of a sign is closer to a primary conductor of electricity that 1.5m, closer to a secondary conductor of electricity that 0.9m, or closer to any electric power pole or supporting guy wire that 1.5m unless the approval of the Public Utilities Commission has been obtained.
- 12.5.12 No sign in the City of Sault Ste. Marie shall be constructed or maintained if such sign has corners, edges or projections, which in the opinion of the Chief Building Official are likely to cause injury.
- 12.5.13 (i) Where in the opinion of the Chief Building Official any sign or advertising device is in a dangerous or defective condition, the said Chief Building Official shall notify the owner, lessee or agent of the premises upon which such sign or advertising device is located, forthwith to remove such sign or advertising device or to place such sign or advertising device in a proper state of repair.
- (ii) Upon receipt of such notice from the Chief Building Official, the owner, lessee or agent of such premises shall at once proceed to repair or remove such sign or advertising device, provided that if the owner, lessee or agent of such premises fails to repair or remove such sign or advertising device, the Chief Building Official may have such sign or advertising device removed or such repairs made thereto as he deems necessary, the cost of which shall be recoverable as provided in Part 1 of this by-law.
- 12.5.14 Any sign or advertising device, whether or not erected under a permit from the Chief Building Official, shall be removed after a reasonable length of time if so ordered by the Chief Building Official, acting upon such instructions from the City Council as evidenced by a resolution thereof.
- 12.5.15 The owner, lessee or agent of the premises upon which any sign or advertising device is located, shall maintain, or cause such sign or advertising device to be maintained, in a proper state of repair.

12.5.16 If a sign which encroaches on or projects over municipal property is removed, the owner of such sign shall forthwith give written notice of such removal to the Chief Building Official.

12.6 GROUND SIGNS

12.6.1 No sign supported directly from the ground shall exceed in height 12.2m above grade unless the consent of Council is obtained therefore and such consent.

- (i) may be sufficiently given by a resolution of Council;
- (ii) may be subject to such conditions as the Council may impose in its resolution; and
- (iii) may be refused.

12.6.2 Braced signs shall be anchored to resist the wind load specified in this by-law acting in any direction. Anchors and supports shall be designed for safebearing loads on the soil and for an effective resistance to pull-out mounting to a force 100 per cent greater than the required resistance to overturning.

12.6.3 The soil; used for backfill for the dug-in type of anchor or cantilever support shall be carefully placed and thoroughly compacted.

12.6.4 Where anchors and supports and supports are embedded in the soil, wood shall be treated under pressure with creosote or other preservative approved by the Chief Building Official before erection.

12.6.5 Where the setback of signs is not required by the zoning by-law on the corner of two intersecting streets, signs shall be set back a minimum distance of 2.4m from all street lines.

12.6.6 Ground signs shall not be joined together to provide a total length in excess of 33.5m. For the purposes of this section signs are joined together if they are within 1.5m of each other.

12.6.7 The spacing between signs or between groups of signs joined together as provided by section 12.7 (f) shall be at least 15m.

12.7 ROOF SIGNS

12.7.1 Roof signs shall be designed and maintained as specified in this by-law and shall be constructed of steel or iron members secured to the frame of the building on which they are located. Plank walkways for access to the face of the sign are permitted provided they are not less than one and five-eighths inches in thickness and securely fastened, and do not overhang a public thoroughfare.

12.7.2 No roof sign shall be erected until detailed plans with stress drawings and specifications prepared by a Professional Engineer, who is a member or licensee of The Association of Professional Engineers of the Province of Ontario under The Professional Engineers Act, are submitted to and meet the approval of the Chief Building Official.

12.7.3 Roof signs over 1.2m in height shall be constructed so that the lowest part of the sign is 1.2m above the roof. The clearance of 1.2m so created shall be filled.

12.7.4 If the face of any roof sign is greater than 1.2m in height or the width of such sign shall have at least two vertical support members. Such vertical support members must be at least 1m apart.

12.7.5 No person shall construct a sign on any parapet wall unless the Chief Building Official is satisfied that the design, construction and condition of the parapet wall is sufficient for the purpose.

12.7.6 No part of any roof sign or supporting structure shall be so located or constructed as to interfere with drainage of the roof or contribute to excessive drifting of snow on the roof or any adjacent roof.

12.8 WALL SIGNS

12.8.1 No wall sign shall project to a distance of more than 7.6cm on a public thoroughfare when the height of the lowest part of the sign is less than 8 feet above grade; nor more than 30.5cm when the lowest part of the sign is more than 8 feet and less than 3.0m above grade; nor more than 61.0cm when the lowest part of the sign is 3.0m or more above grade.

12.8.2 No wall sign shall extend above the roof or parapet of parapet of the building more than 1/3 of the vertical length of the sign unless a steel "A" frame is provided. The parapet shall be braced to assist in supporting the sign and part of the sign above the parapet or roof shall be braced to the main roof satisfactory to the Chief Building Official.

12.9 PROJECTING SIGNS

12.9.1 No projecting sign shall, at its lowest point, be less than 2.7m above the sidewalk level.

12.9.2 Signs projecting from a building or structure shall not project beyond a point within one foot of a line drawn perpendicularly upward from the curb line.

12.9.3 Swinging signs shall be suspended only by approved methods.

12.9.4 No projecting sign shall contain any sheet or plate glass material.

12.10 AWNINGS

12.10.1 The provisions of this by-law apply to awnings.

12.10.2 Awnings shall not extend closer than 0.6m of a line drawn perpendicularly upwards from the curb line.

12.10.3 No awning shall be less than 2.3m above sidewalk level.

12.10.4 Awnings shall be kept free at all times of excessive snow, ice and water.

12.11 MARQUEES AND CANOPIES

12.11.1 The provisions of this section apply to marquees and canopies.

12.11.2 Every marquee sign shall be constructed of non-bombustible material and shall be attached to, hung from or set above the sides and front of the structure for the entire width and length. No part of a marquee sign shall be lower than 3.0m above the sidewalk level.

- 12.11.3 No marquee or canopy sign shall extend beyond the marquee or canopy.
- 12.11.4 Projecting signs attached to a building may also be attached to a canopy or marquee.
- 12.11.5 Every marquee or canopy shall be of flat roof design with a retaining edge on all exterior sides for water, snow and ice, and shall have at least one hopper type roof drain connected to the building sewer. Water shall not be permitted to spill over a marquee or canopy to the ground unless approval is obtained under section 7.9 of by-law 76-185.
- 12.11.6 No marquee or canopy shall extend closer than 0.6m to a line drawn perpendicularly upward from the curb line.

12.12 CLOTH OR BANNER SIGNS

- 12.12.1 Every cloth or banner sign placed on a building shall be strongly constructed and securely attached flat against the building with rope or wire guy lines, and shall be removed as soon as torn or damaged.

12.13 FEES FOR SIGN PERMITS

- 12.13.1 The fees to be charged for the issuance of permits as required in this part of this by-law are as approved by City Council.

12.14 ROAD ALLOWANCE

- 12.14.1 Except as herein or otherwise provided, no sign other than a traffic sign erected by the Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie, an excavation sign or a sign indicating a bus stop shall be erected upon a road allowance, street or highway.

12.15 OTHER BY-LAWS

- 12.15.1 The provisions of this part are subject to the provisions of other relevant by-laws.

PART 3 SIGNS ON PUBLIC STREETS

12.16 DEFINITIONS

- 12.16.1 See Section 1.0 "DEFINITIONS".

12.16.3 PERMITTED SIGNS ON PUBLIC STREETS

- 12.16.3.1 The following signs only, are permitted on public streets or parts thereof listed on Schedule "B" to this by-law and on the exteriors of buildings located on those streets or parts of streets.
- 12.16.3.2 Election signs must be on or before seven days after the day of the representative election;
- 12.16.3.3 Temporary signs, with written approval of the Commissioner of Engineering and Planning for a specified period of time;
- 12.16.3.4 Christmas lights and decorations erected by a Merchant's Association with written approval of the Commissioner of Engineering and Planning for a specified period of time;

- 12.16.3.5 Canopies will be permitted by special agreement, subject to approval of the Commissioner of Engineering and Planning, and must extend the length of a city block, excepting the corner premises.
- 12.16.3.6 Where a canopy is permitted under this section;
- (a) flat signs of a colour and type that, in the opinion of the Commissioner of Engineering and Planning, will not interfere with the operation of traffic control devices in the vicinity.
 - (b) Identification signs of uniform size, design and placing may be suspended underneath the canopy at right angles to the building.
- 12.16.3.7 Theatre marquees must be removed and replaced with flat signs or when it is necessary to replace more than fifty percent of the sign.
- 12.16.3.8 Roof signs and ground signs in existence are permitted provided they are accessory signs.
- 12.16.3.9 Protective awnings, except where a canopy has been lawfully erected under the by-law.
- 12.16.4 REMOVAL OF SIGNS – All signs in this part and not specifically permitted by section 12.16.3 and all structures by which those signs are attached to buildings shall be removed.
- 12.16.5 OTHER REGULATIONS APPLY – Nothing in this by-law shall constitute any exemption from the requirements of the Building By-law 76-185, the Streets By-law 69-150, or the Zoning By-law 2005-150, as amended from time to time, or any other by-law governing the regulation or prohibition of signs or canopies.
- 12.16.6 ENFORCEMENT – Any sign not removed within the period of time set out in section 12.16.3 may be removed by the Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie, its servants or agents and the cost of removal may be collected from the owner of the property on which the sign is erected, in the same manner as municipal taxes.

PART 4

12.16.7 SIGNS IN THE AREA OF THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE

- 12.16.7.1 No person shall erect a sign or other advertising device on a building or vacant lot within the following area;
- (a) all lands and premises that are within a horizontal distance of 91.4m measured from either side of the center line at ground level of the part of the right-of-way of the International Bridge that extends from the north bank of the power canal that adjoins the north limit of the north grounds of the Canadian Ship Canal and locks to the point of intersection of such center line and the west limit of the stopped up portion of Hudson Street, and
 - (b) all lands and premises that are within a horizontal distance of 91.4m measured from either side of the projection of said center line easterly in a straight line to a point distant 91.4m measured easterly along such projection from the point of its intersection with the center line of Huron Street.

12.17 PENALTY

12.17.1 Every person who contravenes the provisions of this by-law is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable to a fine as provided for in the Provincial Offences Act.

PART 5 Billboard Signs

13 BILLBOARD SIGNS

13.1. PERMITS

- (a) No person shall erect or display or allow the erection or display of any billboard sign within the City of Sault Ste. Marie without first obtaining a permit under this by-law.
- (b) Billboard sign permits shall be issued by the City's Building Division to the billboard sign owner or authorized agent. Permits shall be issued only if the requisite permit fee and appropriate documentation are provided to the City including but not limited to:
 - (i) plans showing the general location of the land on which the proposed billboard sign is to be located;
 - (ii) a plan of the premises drawn to scale showing the measurements in metric;
 - (iii) the municipal address and legal description of the premises;
 - (iv) the existing or proposed use of the premises;
 - (v) the zoning designation of the premises;
 - (vi) the location of all existing buildings and their entrances;
 - (vii) the location and dimension of the frontage and all boundaries of the premises on which the billboard sign is proposed to be erected;
 - (viii) the location of the proposed billboard sign on the premises;
 - (ix) details of the billboard sign drawn to scale;
 - (x) other information determined by the Commissioner with respect to the building including architectural and structural drawings as may be necessary to determine if the building is structurally capable under the Ontario Building Code of supporting the billboard sign; and
 - (xi) authorization of the owner of the premises on which the billboard sign is to be erected or displayed.

13.2 MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION

- (a) All billboard signs shall be properly installed and maintained in good, safe and working order by the owner of the billboard sign.
- (b) All billboard signs shall be constructed of appropriate building materials consisting of treated wood and/or metal.
- (c) All billboard signs shall bear tags indicating the name of the billboard sign owner and contact information.

13.3 ELECTRICAL ILLUMINATION

- (a) All electrical connections on and servicing the billboard must receive approval from the Electrical Safety Authority being in compliance with CSA standards and that such notification be identified on said billboard sign.
- (b) Billboard signs may be illuminated or non-illuminated. Billboard signs shall be single faced or double faced only. Illuminated

billboard signs shall be placed so that the lighting shall not present a traffic safety hazard.

- (c) No electrically illuminated billboard shall be a nuisance by creating undue glare unto any residentially occupied property.

13.4 SIZE

Billboard signs shall not exceed 8.0 m. in height. The sign face area of a billboard sign shall not exceed 20 m².

13.5 LOCATION

- (a) Billboard signs are permitted in the areas designated in Schedule "A-1, A-2, AND A-3" to this By-law.
- (b) No part of a billboard sign shall be closer than 120 m from the another billboard sign on the same side of the street.
- (c) No billboard sign shall be closer than 15 m to any site advertising signage.
- (d) No billboard signs shall be located closer than 60 m to a residential zone.
- (e) All billboard signs shall be set back 8 m on a commercially designated property.
- (f) No billboard signs shall be located on public rights-of-way except community information signs which may be located on public rights-of-way at the entrance to the City with the prior written consent of the City.
- (g) Except as set out in section 8 of this by-law, all billboard signs with the exception of community information sign boards shall be located on privately owned property.

13.6 EXEMPTIONS

- (a) Despite the provisions of this by-law, existing community information signs shall be permitted to remain in their current location for a period of two years commencing on the date of passing of this by-law. On at day two years from the date of the passing of this by-law all community information signs must comply with this by-law.
- (b) Despite the provisions of this by-law, no more than twenty billboard signs shall be located in the downtown area (defined as lands situated within the following boundaries: Church Street, Wellington Street East, Gore Street, Queen Street West, Huron Street and the waterfront).
- (c) Despite the location restrictions of section 13.5(a) the existing billboards owned by the Kiwanis Club of Sault Ste. Marie located on the north side of Great Northern Road east of Shultz Road and the billboard located on the north side of Trunk Road east of Fournier Road are permitted.

13.7 FEES

The permit fee is \$10.00 per \$1,000.00 value for the initial application. Changes in size or location require new application fees.

**PART 6
General Provisions**

14 MINOR AMENDMENTS (Signs listed in Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, AND 6)

Minor amendments to the standards listed in this by-law with respect to the size and location criteria for Fixed Advertising Signs and Billboards may be granted by the Planning Director provided that that in his opinion the amendment is minor and that the intent and purpose of the standard is upheld. Said minor amendments are subject to the following;

- i) An application is filed with the Planning Division. The application will include a drawing of the proposed location and design of the sign. The drawings must be done to scale and show;
 - i. the location of the sign with respect to at least two lot lines,
 - ii. any intersection or driveway curb cut within 15 metres of the sign,
 - iii. a drawing of the sign showing its size, height in both plan and elevation views.
- ii) An application fee of \$150.00 is paid by the sign owner.
- iii) The application will be circulated for review to the following officials plus other officials or agencies that the Planning Director deems appropriate;

The Chief Building Official
The Commissioner of Engineering and Planning
The Commissioner of Public Works and Transit
The Distribution Engineer for PUC Inc.

- iv) The applicant is not satisfied with the decision of the Planning Director he can ask that the matter be brought before Council for a final decision.

15 SCHEDULES A & B

Schedules A and B form a part of this by-law.

16 BY-LAW 99-51 REPEALED

By-law 99-51 is hereby repealed.

17 PARTS 10.1 TO 10.19 OF BY-LAW 76-185 REPEALED

Parts 10.1 to 10.19 of By-law 76-185 is hereby repealed.

18 EFFECTIVE DATE

This by-law is effective on the final day of its passing.

READ THREE TIMES and PASSED in Open Council this 14th day of November, 2005.

"John Rowswell"

MAYOR – JOHN ROWSWELL

"Donna Irving"

CLERK – DONNA P. IRVING

To view maps click on icons below.



Schedule A1.pdf



Schedule A2.pdf



Schedule A3.pdf

SCHEDULE "B"

	LOCATION	DATE OF APPROVAL
(1)	Both sides of Queen Street East between March and Spring Streets	June 1, 1974
(2)	Both sides of Queen Street East between Spring and Brock Streets	January 1, 1975
(3)	Both sides of Queen Street East between March and Elgin Streets	October 31, 1975
(4)	Both sides of Queen Street East between Brock and East Streets	November 30, 1975
(5)	Both sides of Queen Street East between Elgin and Dennis Streets	December 31, 1975