

**REPEALED BY THE BODY MODIFICATION BY-LAW NO. 40/2005
MARCH 23, 2005
(effective January 1, 2006)**

CONSOLIDATION UPDATE: DECEMBER 11, 2002

THE CITY OF WINNIPEG

**TATTOO STUDIO BY-LAW
NO. 4653/87**

**A By-law of THE CITY OF WINNIPEG to
regulate the establishment and maintenance of
Tattoo Studios.**

SECTION 1 - SHORT TITLE

This By-law shall be referred to as the "**Tattoo Studio By-law**".

SECTION 2 - INTERPRETATION

amended 7609/2000; 8162/2002

In this By-law unless the context otherwise requires:

"Autoclave" means a container for sterilizing by superheated steam under pressure.

amended 6595/95

"Communicable Disease" means an illness due to a specific infectious agent or its toxic products which arises through transmission of that agent or its products from a reservoir to a susceptible host either directly or indirectly.

"Operator" means any person occupying, in possession of, or in charge of any tattoo studio or carrying on the business of a Tattoo Studio.

"Person in Charge" means the operator or individual present in a Tattoo Studio who is the apparent supervisor or owner of the Tattoo Studio and if no individual who is the apparent supervisor or owner is present, then any employee present shall be conclusively deemed to be the person in charge.

"Premises" means any building or other structure, or portion thereof, used for the carrying on of the business of a Tattoo Studio.

"Public Health Inspector" means a Public Health Inspector appointed under *The Department of Health Act or The Public Health Act.*
amended 8162/2002

"Reception Area" means the public space for receiving clients or other persons dealing with the Tattoo Studio which is separate from the work station.

"Sterilization" means autoclaving:

- (a) at a temperature of 121 degrees Centigrade or 249.8 degrees Fahrenheit, at a pressure of 103.4 kilopascals, or 15 pounds per square inch for 15 minutes, or
- (b) at a temperature of 126 degrees Centigrade, or 258.8 degrees Fahrenheit, at a pressure of 137.9 kilopascals, or 20 pounds per square inch for 10 minutes, or
- (c) at a temperature of 134 degrees Centigrade, or 273.2 degrees Fahrenheit, at a pressure of 197.3 kilopascals, or 29 pounds per square inch for 3 minutes.

"Tattoo" means a permanent mark or design made upon the skin by puncturing it and inserting a pigment or pigments.

"Tattooer" means anyone performing tattooing.

"Tattoo Studio" means the premises in which tattooing is carried on and includes the reception area and work station.

"Work Station" means the area of the Tattoo Studio used for tattooing customers.
amended 6595/95

SECTION 3 - APPLICATION AND RESPONSIBILITY

No person shall operate a tattoo studio in contravention of any provision in this By-law, and the operator or person in charge of a tattoo studio shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with the terms of this By-law and shall be liable for any violation thereof.

SECTION 4 - PERMIT

- (1) No person shall commence the operation of a Tattoo Studio without obtaining a permit from the Public Health Inspector and without complying with the provisions of The City of Winnipeg License By-law as amended from time to time.
amended 7609/2000

- (2) Prior to issuance of a permit, the Public Health Inspector shall inspect the Tattoo Studio and determine compliance with this By-law.
amended 7609/2000
- (3) No person shall transfer or assign a permit to another person without the approval in writing of the Public Health Inspector.
amended 7609/2000
- (4) The permit shall be renewed annually and may be suspended or withheld by the Public Health Inspector where any provision of this By-law is found to have been violated.
amended 7609/2000

SECTION 5

- (1) Every Tattoo Studio shall
 - (a) Be entirely separate from any area used for living, dining or sleeping purposes.
 - (b) Be entirely separate from any business, eating or drinking place.
 - (c) Have a reception area which shall be separate from the work station.
 - (d) Have a work station in which all tattooing shall be performed and which shall be separate from the reception area.
 - (e) Have at all times an adequate supply of hot and cold water and all plumbing, drainage and sewerage constructed and maintained in accordance with the Manitoba Building Code as amended from time to time.
 - (e) Have adequate toilet facilities in accordance with the Manitoba Building Code as amended from time to time.
 - (g) Have adequate lighting and ventilation.
- (2) The reception area shall be provided with furnishings for customer use which shall be kept clean and in a good state of repair at all times.
- (3) Each Work Station shall:
 - (a) Have a hand basin with hot and cold running water and a supply of towels and antibacterial soap.

- (b) Have floors, walls and ceiling surfaces made of easily cleanable materials and kept clean and in a good state of repair at all times. Carpeting is prohibited in each work station.
- (c) Have a minimum floor area of 9.29 square meters (100 square feet) for the first work station and 4.64 square meters (50 square feet) for each additional work station.
- (d) All cabinets, tables and other furniture shall be constructed of easily cleanable material, shall have smooth, non-absorbent surfaces and at all times be kept clean and sanitary.
- (e) Sufficient cabinets with doors shall be provided for the storage of supplies and materials.
- (f) Be equipped with sufficient covered receptacles.
- (g) Be separate from any other work station by a partition wall of substantial construction.

SECTION 6 - EQUIPMENT SUPPLIES AND INSTRUMENTS

Every Tattoo Studio shall:

- (1) Be equipped with an autoclave which shall be used to sterilize instruments prior to and after each use.
- (2) Have sterile containers for the storage of sterile needles and needle bars.
- (3) Have paper tissues, sanitary towels and single service cups.
- (4) Have for the dispensing of bulk vaseline a sufficient supply of tongue depressors which shall be discarded after each use.
- (5) Have a sufficient supply of bandages and dressings.
- (6) Have syringes which are capable of being sterilized.

SECTION 7 - PROCEDURES

- (1) All tattooing shall be performed in a work station only.
- (2) No person suffering from a communicable disease shall engage in the practice of tattooing.

- (3) Every Tattooer shall be sanitary in his/her habits and wash his/her hands with soap and water prior to serving each customer.
- (4) Every Tattooer, when engaged in tattooing shall wear a clean garment of washable or disposable light-coloured material covering all clothing above the hips.
- (5) Tattooing shall be done only on normal healthy skin surfaces.
- (6) All needles used in tattooing shall either be of the disposable type that shall be used only once and then discarded or stainless steel which shall be sterilized before and after each use.
- (7) All needle holders and all other equipment that comes in contact with the needles shall be sterilized before each use.
- (8) Before shaving the area to be tattooed, it shall be cleansed with tincture of green soap or an equivalent approved by the Public Health Inspector. After shaving the area to be tattooed 70% alcohol shall be applied to the skin.
amended 7609/2000
- (9) Safety razors with disposable blades shall be used for each customer in preparation of the area to be tattooed. The razor blade holder shall be sterilized before treatment of each customer.
- (10) Tattoo pigments shall be obtained from a commercial manufacturer or supplier. The pigment shall be chemically pure, non-toxic and non-sensitizing. Pigments shall be poured into individual disposable containers and any unused dye after treatment of a customer shall be discarded with the container and shall not be used on any other customer.
- (11) Every needle, blade or other instrument used for cutting and piercing shall, before disposal, be sterilized and securely wrapped or placed in a container to prevent penetration by and exposure of any needle, point, blade or cutting edge.
- (12) Prior to autoclaving, tubes, needle bars and needles shall be thoroughly cleansed in hot water so as to remove all external blood, tissues, fluids and residue.
- (13) Motors and frames of all equipment shall be treated daily with a chemical sanitizer containing a minimum of fifty (50) parts per million available chlorine.
- (14) Sterile forceps or tweezers shall be used for handling sterile needles or bars.
- (15) The completed tattoo shall be washed with sterile gauze or cotton, saturated with tincture of green soap or equivalent and disinfected with 70% alcohol and a sterile dressing applied to the tattoo area.

SECTION 8 - RESPONSIBILITY

- (1) The operator or person in charge shall provide and maintain on the premises an up to date and accurate record of transaction with clients including names, addresses and dates of attendance.

amended 7609/2000; 8162/2002

SECTION 9 - ENFORCEMENT

- (1) A Public Health Inspector may conduct inspections and take steps to administer and enforce this by-law or remedy a contravention of this by-law in accordance with *The City of Winnipeg Charter*¹ and, for those purposes, has the powers of a "designated employee" under *The City of Winnipeg Charter*.
- (2) An order to remedy a contravention of this By-law must be issued in accordance with *The City of Winnipeg Charter*.²
- (3) A notice, decision or order shall contain the information and be served in accordance with *The City of Winnipeg Charter*.³
- (4) Where an address for sending a notice, order, decision or other document is required, one of the following shall be used:
 - (a) if the person to be served is the owner of the real property, the address maintained by the tax collector for the purpose of issuing the tax notice for that property and
 - (b) if the person to be served is the occupant of the real property, the street address for that property.
- (5) An appeal from an order to remedy a contravention of this By-law or from the refusal to issue a permit under section 4 may be made in accordance with *The City of Winnipeg Charter*⁴ to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services.
- (6) Notwithstanding subsection (2), (3), (4) and (5) where an emergency arises that affects the health of persons, the Public Health Inspector may issue a closing notice, effective immediately, and there shall be no appeal from said notice. The notice shall be effective once served on the operator or person in charge.

amended 8162/2002

SECTION 10 - GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- (1) No person who is under the influence of alcohol or drugs shall be tattooed.
- (2) No person who is under the age of eighteen (18) years shall be tattooed unless written approval is provided by a parent or guardian.
- (3) No person with a visible skin infection or disease shall be tattooed.
- (4) Every operator or person in charge shall provide written information to each client concerning after care of the tattoo including the following:
 - (a) Keep the tattoo covered for three to six hours then remove the dressing and wash thoroughly.
 - (b) Pat dry with clean towel.
 - (c) Do not re-dress.
 - (d) Wash tattoo daily until healed.
 - (e) Do not apply creams or vaseline.
 - (f) Do not pick at scab.
 - (g) Do not rub tattoo while wet.
 - (h) Protect the tattoo from contamination.

SECTION 11 - CONFLICT WITH OTHER BY-LAWS

Where a provision of this By-law conflicts with a provision of another By-law or Regulation in force in the City, the provision that establishes the higher standard to protect the health, safety and welfare of the general public prevails.

SECTION 12 - PENALTY

Any person who contravenes or disobeys or refuses or neglects to obey any provision of this By-law is guilty of an offence and liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$1,000.00 in the case of an individual or \$5,000.00 in the case of a corporation or, in the case of an individual, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six (6) months or to both such a fine and such imprisonment.

SECTION 13

- (1) If any provision of this By-law is held to be invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions of this By-law shall not be invalidated.
- (2) All by-laws and any amendments thereto passed prior hereto by any municipality defined in clause (A) of section 1 of *The City of Winnipeg Act* still in force, relating to tattoo studios, as defined in this By-law shall hereinafter cease to have effect.
- (3) Without restricting the generality of the foregoing, By-law 19018 of The City of Winnipeg is hereby repealed.

DONE AND PASSED in Council assembled, this 15th day of February, 1989.

1 [See sections 180-181 and sections 183-188 of The City of Winnipeg Charter for information about some of the key powers given to designated employees.](#)

2 [See sections 180 to 184 and sections 116 and 117 of The City of Winnipeg Charter for information about the powers given to designated employees to issue compliance orders and how they must be served.](#)

3 [See sections 116 and 117 of The City of Winnipeg Charter for information about how to serve orders, decisions and other documents.](#)

4 [See sections 189 and 121 of *The City of Winnipeg Charter* for information about appeals, including information about the time limit for appeals and how appeals are to be filed.](#)