

Appendix B: Fire Regulations

Fire Regulations Show Assembly Guidelines

The Floor Plans shall contain the following information for all exhibits and displays:

1. Legible and accurate information of display areas or booths.
2. Dimensions of all areas or booths that will be displayed.
3. All exits and access to exits clearly marked and kept unobstructed.
4. Main aisles will lead directly to exits.
5. Aisle widths shall be posted on the plans.
6. Location and the amount of combustible or hazardous material located in each hall.
7. The number of trained personnel on site in case of an emergency.
8. Propane - allowed one - 5 lbs. per unit or appliance required for display, vending or demonstration purposes. *anything else, City of Edmonton Building Inspection Branch shall approve.
9. Final floor plans shall be submitted prior to show's opening (minimum 14 days in advance of show).

The plans will be pre-approved under the condition that a final inspection shall be made before the show's opening. After the site has been inspected and meets the requirements as specified, a letter will be left with the show office indicating the Emergency Response Department has approved the show. These inspections are subject to fees under City of Edmonton Emergency Response Fees and Charges Bylaw # 15597.

Refer to the other requirements governing aisles, booths, exhibits and displays in assembly buildings. If further information is required contact this Office at 496-3628.

**Emergency Response Department
Public Safety and Education Branch**

**Requirements Governing Aisle and Booth
Arrangements in Public Assembly Venues**

NOTE: While not specifically referenced in the Alberta Fire Code, the following excerpts from the Alberta Building Code (1985) and NFPA 101 Life safety Code (1988) are deemed to be applicable and reasonable.

1. No portion of a booth or display shall obstruct any exit or access to exit.
 - a. (Alberta Fire Code, Section 47(1)).
2. If a fire hose standpipe, manual fire alarm pull station or exit sign is located within the exhibit space, it shall be the responsibility of the exhibitor to provide access to such equipment and if the view to such equipment is obstructed, to provide designated signs for same.
3. Dead end aisles shall not be more than 6m in length.
 - a. (Alberta Building Code 3.3.2.4.(5)).
4. Travel distance to at least 1 exit shall not exceed 45m in any sprinklered floor area or 30m in any other occupancy.
 - a. (Alberta Building Code 3.4.2.4.(1)).
5. The above sentence need not apply if exits are placed along the perimeter of the floor area and are not more than 60m apart, measured along the perimeter, provided each main aisle in the floor area leads directly to an exit.
 - a. (Alberta Building Code 3.4.2.4.(2)).
6. Booths or displays shall be served by aisles having an unobstructed exit access of not less than 3m in clear width parallel to and adjacent to the booth or display front.
 - a. (NFPA 101, 1988, 24-4.4.1).
7. Notwithstanding the above noted requirements, display arrangements that do not conform may be accepted if the standard of safety is not reduced.

**Emergency Response Department
Public Safety and Education Branch**

**Fire Safety Requirements Governing Exhibits
And Displays in Public Assembly Venues**

NOTE: The requirements as noted below are only a condensation of the referenced sections of the Alberta Fire Code

If more information is required, contact the Public Safety and Education Branch at 496-3628.

1. Submit floor plans for Emergency Response Department approval prior to setup.
2. No portion of a display shall obstruct any exit aisle or exit doorways.
3. Dead end aisles shall not exceed 6 meters.
4. All exits must be unlocked and free of chains and padlocks during all periods of occupancy.
5. If a fire hose standpipe, manual fire alarm pull station or EXIT sign is located within the exhibit space, it shall be the responsibility of the exhibitor to provide access to such equipment and if the view of such equipment is obstructed, to provide designating signs for same.
6. The following materials, if used for display or decorative purposes, shall be inherently flameproof or properly treated with a chemical flame retardant:
 - flowers (artificial)
 - foliage (artificial)
 - paper, cardboard or compressed paperboard
 - plastic materials
 - split wood and bamboo fibers
 - textiles, table skirting, etc.
 - any other material used for festive decorations (including Christmas trees)
 - Wallpaper is permitted if pasted securely to walls or wallboard backing.
7. Permission may be given to use materials such as:
 - hay or straw
 - acetate fabrics
 - paper backed foil

After considering the amount and location of these combustibles and treating them with a chemical flame retardant.

8. It is not the intent of this guideline that textiles and similar combustible merchandise on display for sale be flame proofed; however, quantities shall be limited to an acceptable amount.

**Emergency Response Department
Public Safety and Education Branch**

**Fire Safety Requirements Governing Exhibits
And Displays in Public Assembly Venues (Continued)**

9. The use of open flame is limited to certain equipment that requires open flame to demonstrate the function of such equipment. However, individual approval is required from the Public Safety and Education Branch to have such open flame.
 - a. Equipment must be set up in a manner that will comply with acceptable safety standards and a suitable fire extinguisher shall be provided.
 - b. If at any time the Safety Codes Officer deems such equipment to be operated in a manner dangerous to public safety, he shall direct the property owner to cancel the privilege of the exhibitor concerned.
 - c. Every display using an open flame must have a 2A 10BC rated (minimum) multi-purpose fire extinguisher. Food Service concessions must have a K rated dry chemical fire system or extinguisher.
10. Interior food services events or displays shall provide information noting the location of cooking equipment (deep fryers, grills, stoves) fire extinguishers and aisle space within the booth area.
11. Open flame shall not be used solely for attracting attention. Burning candles must be contained within an enclosed, non-combustible structure (such as glass) and placed or displayed in a manner that avoids direct contact with guests. Candle sticks and / or free standing candles are not permitted.
 - a. Every display using candles must have an ABC rated fire extinguisher.
12. Under the authority of the Provincial Plumbing and Gas Protection Services, propane must be used for propane burning appliances; however, the cylinder shall not exceed 5 lb capacity.
13. Compressed gas or air cylinders shall be adequately secured or cart mounted to prevent tipping.
14. Gasoline tanks, on motor vehicles or other gasoline fueled equipment, shall be not more than 1/2 full, and shall be equipped with a lock-on type cap. Keys should be kept on hand in the event that an evacuation of the vehicles is required.
15. CSA Certified Propane fueled vehicles will be permitted inside the building, but not on display during events.
16. Natural gas powered vehicles are permitted provided main stop valves are closed.
17. Boxes and cartons from which merchandise has been removed must be neatly piled in storage areas designated by the property owner.
18. All electrical appliances, electrical cords and electrical connections shall comply with the Electrical Code.

**Emergency Response Department
Public Safety and Education Branch**

**Fire Safety Requirements Governing Exhibits
And Displays in Public Assembly Venues (Continued)**

19. Motor vehicles designed for open air food services are prohibited in public assembly buildings.
20. Outdoor displays, parked vehicles or other objects shall not restrict access to, or obstruct from view, any fire hydrant or Fire Department connection on any building.
21. Outdoor cooking appliances require 3m clearance of any structure or 1m from any vehicle. Propane, Natural Gas and Butane are accepted fuels.
22. The property owner shall have on hand the name and phone number of the person (promoter) who is responsible or in charge of the overall exhibition.
23. Natural gas appliances must be properly vented to the outside. Subject to approval, a limited number of appliances may vent directly into a display area overhead. This is subject to Occupational Health & Safety Guidelines concerning air quality and exchange.
24. All spare propane/gasoline shall be stored outside in a secured/accepted compound.

Failure to comply with these requirements may result in further action in accordance with the Safety Codes Act.

**Edmonton Emergency Response Department
Fire Prevention Branch**

Pyrotechnic materials and Devices

Requirements governing the purchase, possession, handling or discharge of explosives classified as Division Class 7, Subdivision 5 (Theatrical Effects) as per the Explosives Regulations (Canada), hereafter referred to as pyrotechnic materials and devices.

PERMIT CONDITIONS

1. No person who is under 18 years of age shall purchase, possess, handle, discharge, fire or set off pyrotechnic materials and devices.
2. No person shall purchase, possess, handle, discharge, fire or set off pyrotechnic materials and devices unless he holds a permit for that purpose issued by a Safety Codes Officer.
3. A permit issued under Sentence (2) above;
 - a) shall specify the date, time and location on which the pyrotechnic materials and devices are to be discharged, and,
 - b) may contain any other terms and conditions the Safety Codes Officer considers necessary to ensure the safe use of the pyrotechnic materials and devices.
4. A Safety Codes Officer shall not issue a permit under these requirements unless:
 - i. The applicant possesses a Fireworks Supervisor Card issued pursuant to the Explosives Act and regulations under that Act (Canada), and a permit to use, handle, prepare and fire an Explosive issued pursuant to the Alberta Occupational Health and Safety Act and Regulations, or documentation of alternate permits and experience which the Safety Codes Officer may consider as equivalent.
 - ii. The applicant can demonstrate knowledge of and experience in applying the standards presented in NFPA 1126 (1992) "Standard for the Use of Pyrotechnics before a Proximate Audience."
 - iii. The applicant submits a plan showing:
 - a) Location of the site of performance.
 - b) Exact distances of all pyrotechnic materials and devices from audience, performers, staging, sets, properties and curtains.
 - c) Legend showing symbols for each pyrotechnic material and device with numbers of each, and for Binary powders, the load values.
 - d) Ceiling height.
 - e) Listing of amounts of pyrotechnic materials and devices to be used in the show, and descriptions of cueing in the show.

**Edmonton Emergency Response Department
Fire Prevention Branch**

Pyrotechnic materials and Devices (continued)

- iv. The applicant supplies a certificate of insurance with a minimum value of five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00). This certificate will include, as additionally insured, the venue where the performance will occur and also the City of Edmonton.
- v. The applicant supplies written documentation proving the issuance of the venue of performance owners or agent's permission to discharge pyrotechnic materials and devices at site.
- vi. At the Safety Codes Officers' discretion, a representative demonstration of any or all effects will occur in the venue of performance prior to the issuance of the permit.
- vii. Edmonton Emergency Response Department, Fire Prevention Branch personnel may be present for all such pyrotechnic shows and will have the authority to cancel the show for just cause, including but not limited to,
 - a) Violation of permit.
 - b) Change of show product without approval.
 - c) Violation of any of the standards presented in NFPA 1126 (1992) Standard for the Use of Pyrotechnics before a Proximate Audience.

NOTE: Noncompliance with these requirements may result in action being taken in accordance with the Safety Codes Act.