



Sunshine Coast Regional District Building Division Policy

Swimming pools

August 6th, 2009

Subject: Pools used for swimming

Policy:

A swimming pool is defined as a hard surface sided pool used for swimming in excess of 15 square meters in area or in excess of 600 mm deep

1. Except as specifically permitted by this Bylaw, no person will construct or install a pool on any parcel within the SCR D without first obtaining a pool permit in accordance with this Bylaw.
2. Every application for a pool permit will:
 - (a) be made in the form prescribed by the Chief Building Official from time to time;
 - (b) include a plot plan showing the location of the proposed or existing pool in relation to all existing buildings on the parcel;
 - (c) specify whether the Owner intends to use the services of a registered professional for purposes of providing inspections that would otherwise be done by a Building Inspector or as a necessity of design.
 - (d) identify and describe in detail the method of construction of the proposed or existing pool;
 - (e) describe the water supply and proposed or existing method of drainage of the same;
 - (f) describe, in sufficient detail to show compliance with the provisions of Article 44 of this Bylaw, the proposed or existing fencing around the pool; and
 - (g) include the application fee prescribed by the Building Bylaw; except that the Chief Building Inspector may, but is not obligated to, waive some or all of the submission requirements if he determines that the nature and complexity of the proposed work is adequately described without reference to them.

Issuance of Pool Permit

Where the Chief Building Inspector is satisfied that:

- (a) the application conditions set out in the SCRD Building and plumbing Bylaws have been met and the application otherwise complies with these Bylaws;
- (a) the Applicant has paid the prescribed fee as set out in the fee Schedule
- (c) the Applicant has provided security in a form satisfactory to the SCRD
The Building inspector may issue the permit.

Pool fencing requirements

- Every pool must be completely enclosed within a fence or a building or combination of both, which is not less than 1.2 meters in height. The fence, building or both must form a continuous enclosure around the pool except for points of access which meets the requirements of 44.2 below.

Access to the pool will be from either:

- (a) gates within a fence that complies with this Bylaw, provided such gates are ;
 - (i) of the same or greater height than the fence of which they form a part,
 - (ii) designed so that they will return to a latched or locked position when not in use, and
 - (iii) secured by a latch or lock located not less than 150 mm from the top of the gate and 1 meter above grade on the pool side of the gate; or
- (b) a door from the building which encloses some or all of the pool, provided such door meets the requirements of this Bylaw and the Provincial Code as the same relate to an exterior door and, in addition to any other locking mechanisms, has a lock or latch that meets the requirements set out in paragraph (a)(iii) above.
 - The Owner and the occupier of the parcel on which the pool is located are jointly and severally responsible for ensuring that the fence or building, or both, that encloses the pool is maintained in good order and repair so that, at all times, such fence, building, or both, complies fully with this Article.

Pool Requirements

Every pool must:

- (a) be constructed of or painted with material light in colour and be surrounded by a continuous non-slip surface apron with a minimum width of 4 feet;
- (b) be designed such that there is a complete view of the pool from any point on the apron required by paragraph (a) above;
- (c) have a filtering system that ensures absolute visual clarity of the pool water at all times;
- (d) have a treatment system that will eliminate all bacterial growth in the pool water; and
- (e) otherwise meet all requirements determined by the Medical Health Officer, or his lawful designate or successor in title appointed by the Province of British Columbia pursuant to its health legislation then in effect, to be necessary for the preservation of the health and safety of any persons using the pool.

Pool Drainage Requirements

Pool drainage and backwash discharge lines are to be connected to a SCRD approved sanitary sewer system or other private drainage system approved in writing by the Building Inspector by means of one of the following methods:

- a regulation size sump pump for any concrete or gunnited pool;
- indirectly connected to a 3 inch or greater soil and waste pipe other than a wet vent by means of a 3 inch P- trap and stand pipe.

Inspections

Inspections must be called by the owner or his agent giving the SCRD not less than 24 hours notice when requesting such inspections. Inspections shall be called at the following intervals:

- a) a sighting and foundation inspection for any above-ground pools before the same is concealed in any manner;
- b) after excavation for in-ground pools and the steel reinforcing is in place, complete with rough in plumbing but before any concrete is placed.

- (b) After the fence security has been installed, the final plumbing is completed and any decking or retaining walls or patio surfaces have been completed.
- No work shall be concealed by the owner or his designate without first relieving approval in writing by the building inspector.
 - Provisions for any appropriate letters of assurance must be made where applicable at key stages of construction in accordance with the building inspectors request.
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Peter Longhi, CBO