#### BY-LAW NO.

# A By-law to amend Building By-law No. 14343 regarding the Establishment of a Groundwater Protection Area and Requirements for Certain New Developments

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VANCOUVER, in public meeting, enacts as follows:

- 1. This by-law amends the indicated provisions of Building By-law No. 14343.
- 2. In Sentence 1.1.3.1.(1) of Book I, Division A, Council strikes out Clauses (c) and (d) and substitutes:
  - "c) A-1.4.1.2.(1) Groundwater protection area of Division A, including Figure A-1.4.1.2.(1)-F,
  - d) A-Table 9.23.3.5.-B of Division B, and
  - e) A-9.23.13. of Division B, including Table A-9.23.13."
- 3. In Sentence 1.4.1.2.(1) of Book I, Division A, Council adds the following defined term in the correct alphabetical order:
  - "Groundwater protection area means those lands in the City which are located in the areas shown shaded on the map attached to this By-law as Diagram C. (See Figure A-1.4.1.2.(1)-F for Diagram C: Groundwater Protection Area.)"
- 4. In the Notes to Part 1 of Book I, Division A, Council:
  - (a) adds the following to Note A-1.4.1.2.(1) in the correct alphabetical order:
    - "Groundwater Protection Area. The Groundwater Protection Area is illustrated on Diagram C. See Figure A-1.4.1.2.(1)-F.", and
  - (b) adds the following after Figure A-1.4.1.2.(1)-E in Note A-1.4.1.2.(1):

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Figure A-1.4.1.2.(1)-F
Diagram C: Groundwater Protection Area".

Groundwater Protection Area Still Creek and Culverts

- 5. In Article 5.7.3.4. of Book I, Division B, Council:
  - (a) in Sentence (1), strikes out "Vertical" and substitutes "Except as prohibited by Sentence (3), vertical"; and
  - (b) adds a new Sentence (3) as follows:
    - **"3)** Dampproofing is not permitted as an alternative to the requirements of Article 5.7.3.2. for *buildings* located in whole or in part within the *groundwater protection area.*".
- 6. In Book I, Division C, Council adds a new Subsection 2.2.11 as follows:

## "2.2.11. Buildings in the Groundwater Protection Area

### **2.2.11.1. Application**

- 1) Except as provided in Sentence (2), this Subsection applies to *buildings* located in whole or in part within the *groundwater protection area*.
- 2) This Subsection does not apply to *alterations* of *existing buildings* if there is no further encroachment into the setbacks required by Article 2.2.11.3. and the *building area* is increased by less than 25 percent of the total *building area* existing as of January 1, 2026.

#### 2.2.11.2. Design Considerations

- 1) The *building* designer shall design the *building* assembly to withstand continuous hydrostatic pressure by means permitted in Subsection 5.7.2. of Division B.
- The *building* designer shall design the drainage system to comply with Sentence 2.4.2.4.(3) of Division B of Book II (Plumbing Systems).

#### 2.2.11.3. Setback Requirements

- 1) Except as required by Sentence (2), no normally occupied area, enclosed parking area, storage area or mechanical room of a *building* shall be constructed more than 6.5 m below *grade*.
- 2) Within 30 m of the *natural boundary* of Still Creek or within 30 m of the inside wall of a culvert enclosing Still Creek, no normally occupied area, enclosed parking area, storage area or mechanical room of a *building* shall be constructed below *grade*."
- 7. In Subclause 7.1.5.1.(1)(d)(ii) of Book I, Division B, Council adds the following defined term in the correct alphabetical order:
  - "Groundwater protection area\* means those lands in the City which are located in the areas shown shaded on the map attached to this By-law as Diagram C. (See Book I, Division A, Figure A-1.4.1.2.(1)-F for Diagram C: Groundwater Protection Area.)".
- 8. In Clause 7.1.5.2.(2)(k) of Book I, Division B, Council strikes out:

#### "2.4.2.4. Connections to Storm Drainage Systems

- 1) Except as provided in Sentence (2), *building* and site drainage shall connect to a *storm drainage system*.
- 2) Building and site drainage need not connect to a storm drainage system if
  - a) on-site *rainwater* management practices are employed and overflow is connected to a *storm drainage system*, and
  - b) *rainwater* does not create a hazardous condition or discharge upon or impact other lands or sites.

(See Note A-2.4.2.4.(2).)"

#### and substitutes:

## "2.4.2.4. Connections to Storm Drainage Systems

- 1) Except as provided in Sentence (2), *building* and site drainage shall connect to a *storm drainage system*.
- 2) Building and site drainage need not connect to a storm drainage system if
  - a) on-site *rainwater* management practices are employed and overflow is connected to a *storm drainage system*, and

b) rainwater does not create a hazardous condition or discharge upon or impact other lands or sites.

(See Note A-2.4.2.4.(2).)

- 3) For buildings located in whole or in part within the groundwater protection area, the drainage system shall be designed to not intercept, collect or divert any subsurface water outside of the building assembly.
  (See Note A-2.4.2.4.(3).)".
- 9. In Subclause 7.1.5.2.(2)(dd)(ii) of Book I, Division B, Council strikes out:
  - "A-2.4.2.4.(2) Water Flow and Hazardous Conditions. Refer to the *Street and Traffic By-law* and *Standards of Maintenance By-law* for restrictions on water flow to streets, sidewalks, driveways, stairways and landings, and for prohibitions on ponding or entrance of water into a *building*."

#### and substitutes:

- "A-2.4.2.4.(2) Water Flow and Hazardous Conditions. Refer to the *Street and Traffic By-law* and *Standards of Maintenance By-law* for restrictions on water flow to streets, sidewalks, driveways, stairways and landings, and for prohibitions on ponding or entrance of water into a *building*.
- **A-2.4.2.4.(3) Groundwater Protection Area.** The intent is to preserve existing groundwater levels, sustain natural watercourse baseflows, and preserve sewer capacity.".
- 10. A decision by a court that any part of this by-law is illegal, void, or unenforceable severs that part from this by-law, and is not to affect the balance of this by-law.
- 11. This by-law comes into force and takes effect on the date of its enactment.

ENACTED by Council this	day of	, 2026
	-	Mayor
	-	City Clerk