

CITY OF THOMPSON
BY-LAW NO. 2064-2026

BEING A BY-LAW OF THE CITY OF THOMPSON TO MANAGE CLIMATE-RELATED RISKS THROUGH PRACTICAL MEASURES THAT DEMONSTRATE GENUINE LONG-TERM ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT, INVEST IN SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ASSETS, AND ENSURE ECONOMIC STABILITY.

WHEREAS the City of Thompson is empowered to adopt by-laws for the safety, health, welfare, and good government of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the City acknowledges that environmental stewardship requires evaluating the total, long-term impact of decisions, including resource extraction, manufacturing, operation, and disposal;

AND WHEREAS short-term solutions that create long-term waste or hidden environmental damage are contrary to the City's responsibility to future generations;

AND WHEREAS the most environmentally sound solutions are often those that are durable, repairable, and have a net positive impact over their complete lifecycle;

AND WHEREAS the City's primary duty is to provide reliable services using the most genuinely sustainable methods available, without imposing false economies or hidden future costs on taxpayers;

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of The City of Thompson, duly assembled, enacts as follows:

1. SHORT TITLE

This by-law may be cited as the "Thompson True-Stewardship and Resilience By-law."

2. APPLICATION

This by-law applies to all City of Thompson operations, asset procurement, capital planning, and service delivery, and shall be integrated with the Corporate Asset Management By-law and Strategic Asset Management Plan.

3. CORE PRINCIPLE – FULL LIFECYCLE RESPONSIBILITY

- a) **Primary Directive:** All decisions made under this by-law, especially regarding procurement and capital projects, shall be evaluated on their **Total Lifecycle Environmental and Financial Impact**.

- b) **Definition:** “Total Lifecycle Impact” includes the environmental and financial costs of:
 - i. Resource extraction and material sourcing;
 - ii. Manufacturing and transportation;
 - iii. Operation, maintenance, and expected repair;
 - iv. Decommissioning, disposal, or recycling.
- c) **Burden of Proof:** Preference shall be given to options that demonstrate **durability, repairability, recyclability, and a lower total environmental burden over their expected usable life.**

4. RESILIENCE THROUGH DURABILITY

- a) The City’s Climate Risk Assessment and Resilience Action Plan shall prioritize **long-lasting, robust adaptations** over temporary or high-maintenance fixes.
- b) **Example:** A larger, properly engineered culvert that lasts 50 years is preferable to a smaller, cheaper one that may fail in 15 years under heavier rains, even at a higher upfront cost.

5. THOMPSON RESILIENCE RESERVE FUND

- a) Funds may only be used for projects where the **long-term benefit (environmental and service-related) clearly justifies the total lifecycle cost.**
- b) Projects that reduce future liability, emergency response costs, and repetitive maintenance shall be prioritized.

6. THE DURABILITY AND REPAIR MANDATE

- a) In all procurement, the City shall prioritize assets that are:
 - i. **Built to Last:** With a proven, extended service life.
 - ii. **Designed for Repair:** Where components can be replaced without discarding the entire asset.
 - iii. **Supported Locally:** Where maintenance and repair services are available in Northern Manitoba or can be reasonably performed by City staff.

- b) **The “Thompson Test” for Vehicles & Equipment:** Before purchasing any vehicle or major equipment marketed as “green” or “electric,” the City must publicly report on:
 - i. The expected total lifecycle compared to conventional options.
 - ii. The environmental impact of battery/material production and end-of-life disposal plans.
 - iii. The real-world operational viability in Thompson’s climate (-40°C winters).
 - iv. The total cost of ownership, including projected battery/component replacement.

7. FUNCTIONAL GREEN SPACES – NATURE’S DURABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

- a) **Native and Adaptive Species:** All Functional Green Space projects shall primarily use **native, drought-resistant, and perennial plant species** adapted to Thompson’s climate, requiring less water, no fertilizer, and providing long-term habitat.
- b) **Natural Systems Over Engineered:** Where possible, use **natural processes** (e.g., restoring a wetland’s function, planting trees for shade) over manufactured solutions with shorter lifespans and higher embodied energy.
- c) **Multi-Generational Planning:** Green space design shall consider **50 to 100-year growth plans** for trees and landscapes, ensuring benefits accrue for future residents.

8. WASTE AND CIRCULARITY

- a) The City shall favor projects and purchases that:
 - i. Use recycled or locally sourced materials.
 - ii. Reduce long-term waste generation.
 - iii. Consider deconstruction and material reuse at end-of-life.
- b) **Demolition and Construction Policy:** A policy shall be developed to maximize salvage and recycling from City projects, keeping materials out of the landfill.

9. LIFE-CYCLE IMPACT STATEMENT

- a) For any procurement or project over a value to be set by policy, the CAO shall require a **Life-Cycle Impact Statement**.

- b) This public document must compare options based on Section 3 b) criteria and justify the selected option based on **long-term genuine environmental and financial benefit to Thompson.**

10. ANNUAL REPORT – THE LONG-TERM TRACKING REPORT

The annual report shall include:

- a) **Durability Track Record:** Performance and maintenance costs of major assets purchased under this by-law.
- b) **Waste Audit:** Progress on reducing project-related and operational waste.
- c) **Legacy Projects:** Status and benefits of long-term investments like tree canopy coverage or restored natural areas.

11. ALIGNMENT WITH ASSET MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

This by-law shall be implemented in conjunction with the City’s Asset Management System, and all Climate Resilience Assessments required under the Corporate Asset Management By-law shall incorporate the full lifecycle principles outlined herein.

12. EFFECTIVE DATE

This by-law comes into force on the date of its passing.

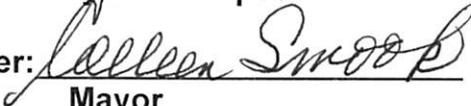
Read a first time this 12th day of January , 2026 A.D.

Read a second time this 26th day of January , 2026 A.D.

Read a third time this 26th day of January , 2026 A.D.

DONE AND PASSED by the Council of the City of Thompson in regular session assembled this 26th day of January, 2026 A.D.

The City of Thompson

Per: 
Mayor

Per: 
City Manager