



Sale of Fireworks in Mississauga

Prepared for:

Mayor and Council

January 18, 2023

About Kaboom

- 33 years in business
- Locally owned small business
- Employs up to 200+ people seasonally
- Quality focused retailer and wholesaler
- Industry leader
- Works closely with regulators and retailers to ensure safety and compliance with regulations.



Types of Fireworks

- Federal Explosives Act
 - F2 classification – Professional display
 - F1 classification – Consumer use
- Consumer use fireworks
 - Aerial
 - Mortars, Roman Candles, Cakes, Barrages,
 - Typically 85%-90% of sales
 - Ground Effects & Sparklers
 - Fountains, Pinwheels, Spinners, etc.
 - Sparklers
 - Typically 10-15% of sales



Staff Training

- Training program for all employees
 - Training program details
 - Handling & Storage
 - Safe use, safety instructions
 - Sales including minimum age
- Education for wholesale customers (ie Big Box Retailers)
 - Understand the explosives regulations
 - Understand municipal bylaws for the sale and use of fireworks



Inspections and Permits

7.4.

- Inspections by the Mississauga Fire Dept integral to current permit process
 - Prior to each selling season in storefronts
 - Prior to each holiday selling period in mobile stores
- Inspectors verify that set-up and sales comply with all regulations
- Sale permits are only issued once fire inspections are fully passed
- Random inspections are common



Kaboom Temporary Stores

7.4.

- Among the safest sites possible
- 8 ft wide entrance/exit
- Permanent steel shelves
- Products displayed in lots
- 2 Fire extinguishers(Certified)
- No Smoking signs
- Safe distance to roadways/buildings
- Pylons to mark safe distances
- Non-Self Serve presently



Where to sell Fireworks

7.4.

- Safety advantages to selling in mobile stores and fireworks-only stores
 - All staff trained in sales and handling of fireworks
 - Customers fully aware of their proximity to fireworks
 - Fireworks can easily be attended to at all times
 - Shelving, lot dividing protocols can be maintained
 - Safest most compliant stores for sale of fireworks



Insurance Coverages

7.4.

- Kaboom carries \$5M liability insurance
- Policy names the City of Mississauga as additional Insured
- This has been required for Mobile stores for many years
- Currently not required for store fronts
 - This could provide a challenge for many other retailers



Temporary Permit by Holiday^{7.4.}

- Already a requirement for mobile stores
- Kaboom only operates for Victoria Day and Canada Day in mobile locations
- Many retailers do not operate for Diwali and Lunar New Year
- Inspections for permit require fireworks display to be set up prior to inspection
- Arbitrary Sales deadline of 7 PM
 - Not possible in larger chain stores
 - Customers may be waiting in line to purchase when time hits
 - Displays will not be able to be removed and re-installed



Fees per Permit

7.4.

- Escalated permits costs \$1000 and application per holiday
 - Will reduce the number of stores able to sell
 - Likely completely remove availability for Diwali and Lunar New Year
- Requirements for permits/Inspections per holiday
 - Already a requirement for mobile stores
 - Storefront inspections and permits occur once per year, per location
- Current costs: Mobile stores
 - Vendor License, Site inspection, Fire inspection, Operator licenses per employee
- Current costs: Storefronts
 - Vendor License, Fire inspection



Landlord Responsibility

7.4.

- Holding Landlords responsible to for violations incurred by their tenants will make it difficult for tenant to sell fireworks
- Building owners will not agree to allow the sale of consumer Fireworks if this is implemented
- Will effectively ban sales of Fireworks in Mississauga



Consumer Interaction

7.4.

- Providing customers with set of safety instructions is already a requirement
 - Mississauga has its own pamphlet that we are required to distributed with each sale
 - Inspectors confirm availability at time of inspection
- Minimum Age of 18 to purchase is a requirement of the Explosives Act.
- Logging of addresses of purchasers will be difficult
 - May be considered an invasion of privacy
 - Big Box retailers are unlikely to agree
 - Many customers purchase to display fireworks at locations other than their home



Home Kit Size and Day of Use^{7.4.}

- Vast majority of kits do not exceed 22.68 kg or 50 lbs.
 - This restriction could be considered arbitrary and potentially excessive
 - Customers may choose to combine purchases or purchase at multiple locations to get around this restriction
- Restricting day of use should be carefully considered
 - Large number of residents typically discharge fireworks the day before the holiday
 - Restrictions of this type might compromise religious freedoms

