

Public Service Announcement

Want to add flavour to the Fort Smith food scene?

December 12, 2022 – Fort Smith, Northwest Territories

Want to add flavour to the Fort Smith food scene?

The Town of Fort Smith is looking to work with small business and entrepreneurs to help them succeed. Any sales and/or handling of food for commercial purposes requires:

- Business license (renewed yearly; fee: \$100)
- Home Occupation permit (one-time; fee: \$165)
- Food Establishment Permit (Yearly, seasonal, or temporary; fee: \$25 to \$108)
 - Total upfront cost for a full year operation: **\$373.00**
 - Total annual renewal cost for ongoing operation: **\$208.00**

The Town of Fort Smith recognizes the benefits of home cooking as a preferred alternative for families and individuals. The Town also encourages entrepreneurship among residents as it creates new products and services, and stimulates new employment, which ultimately results in the acceleration of economic development.

With more residents conducting business from home, where they buy and sell prepared foods, the Town is reminding residents that they must obtain a valid business license and/or require permits to sell prepared food.

Any company, partnership or sole proprietor found to be operating a business in violation of Bylaw 504 and its amendments, shall receive a written notice of their offence or offences and appropriate action will be taken in accordance with this Bylaw and its amendments. Failure to respond to the written notice may result in a fine and/or court action.

Not sure if you need a business license and/or permits? Please see the resources below for support and guidance.

Resources:

1. If you have questions or concerns about how to apply for a business license, please visit: <https://www.fortsmith.ca/business/start-your-business> or contact Diane Seals at dseals@fortsmith.ca or 867-872-8400.
2. For more information on starting a business in the Northwest Territories, please visit: <https://www.bdic.ca/canada-business-nwt/start-a-business/>
3. Please see the Government of Northwest Territories' Food Establishment - Inspections and Permits: <https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/en/services/environmental-health/food-establishment-inspections-permits>
4. Please see the Government of Northwest Territories' Public Health Act: <https://www.justice.gov.nt.ca/en/files/legislation/public-health/public-health.a.pdf>