

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN

INFORMATION RELEASE January 15, 2018

Changes to Retaining Wall Bylaw and Building Height Calculation in the RDOS:

Please Review Building Permit Applications prior to submission

At its regular meeting on January 4th the Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen Board approved amendments to the RDOS Zoning bylaws with regards to Retaining Walls and Building Height.

Zone Amendment Bylaw 2773, 2017 addresses the following key points:

- The definition of height has been standardized across all Electoral Area zoning bylaws as follows:

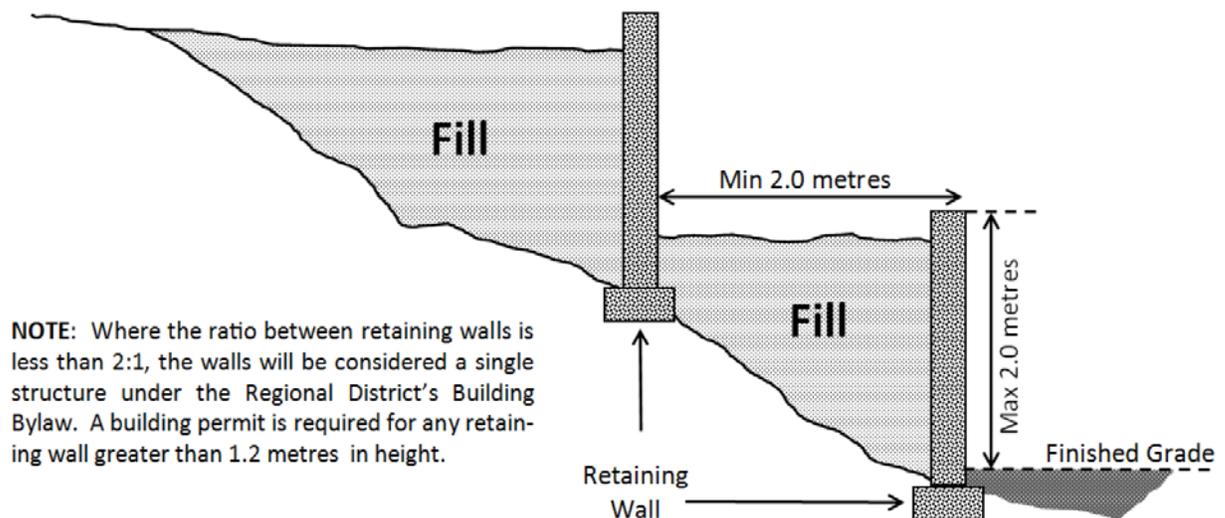
***“height”** means, when used in reference to a building or structure except for a retaining wall, the vertical distance from the finished grade to the highest point of the roof or structure.*

This will affect any proposed structures in Electoral Areas that previously required that height be calculated from natural grade, or to any point on the structure other than the peak.

- The height of retaining walls is now determined by a measurement from the lowest finished grade at the base of the retaining wall to the top of any part of the retaining wall. No retaining wall shall exceed a height of 2.0 metres, except a retaining wall within required setbacks which shall not exceed a height of 1.2 metres.

NOTE: a retaining wall in a required setback may be 2.0 metres where the finished grade of the subject parcel at the base of the wall is lower than the finished grade of the abutting parcel or highway.

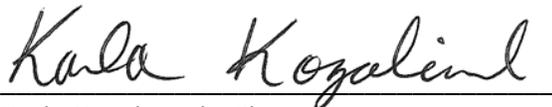
- Retaining walls must have a horizontal separation of no less than the height of the shorter of the two walls as measured from the outer face of each wall.



Please ensure that any building permits and development permit applications submitted after January 4th conform to these regulations.

These amendments are to be applied to the Electoral Area “A” Zoning Bylaw No. 2451, 2008, Electoral Area “C” Zoning Bylaw No. 2453, 2008, Electoral Area “D-2” Zoning Bylaw No. 2455, 2008, Electoral Area “D-1” Zoning Bylaw No. 2457, 2008, Electoral Area “E” Zoning Bylaw No. 2459, 2008, Electoral Area “F” Zoning Bylaw No. 2462, 2008 and Electoral Area “H” Zoning Bylaw No. 2498, 2012.

For further information, please contact the Planning Department, at (250)492-0237 or planning@rdos.bc.ca.



Karla Kozakevich, Chair
Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen

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