

A building permit is generally required to erect a tent, stage or other temporary building as part of a public gathering, such as a wedding, sporting event, charity run or walk, music performance, street festival, parade, block party, film industry production, etc.

Temporary tents, greenhouses, event spaces, etc.

- A building permit is required for an individual or group of temporary buildings greater than 10m² (108 ft²).
- Structures must be at least 3m from other buildings or property lines unless located on fairgrounds or similar open spaces.
- Structures spaced more than 3m apart can be considered separate buildings.

Requirements for Tents over 10m²

- Structural design (manufacturer's shop drawings) signed and sealed by a licensed design professional.
- Tent or greenhouse coverings must conform to CAN/ULC-S109.
- The ground enclosed by a tent or air-supported structure and not less than 3 m of ground outside the structure shall be cleared of all flammable material or vegetation that will spread fire.
- Portable extinguishers must be provided for the protection of occupants and the building structure.
- Electrical systems and equipment, must not be accessible to the public. Cables on the ground must be in a trench or protected by covers.
- Open-flame devices are not permitted.
- Cooking that produces grease/oily vapours will not be allowed inside tents without an approved ventilation system.
 - 1m clearance surrounding cooking appliances shall be maintained
 - Cooking appliances must be placed on a stable base to limit the risk of tipping.

Stages

- A stage requires a building permit when it is higher than 600mm (24in) above grade.
- Wheeled apparatus (trailer stages) are considered vehicles rather than structures, and as such do not require a building permit.

Temporary Buildings (seasonal buildings, warm up shelters, etc.)

- Buildings over 10m² and used for any purpose other than a construction office on a property under construction will require a building permit.

Required Inspections

- Occupancy Inspection - After construction or set-up is complete.
- Final Inspection – The structure has been removed and the location returned to its original state.

Construction cannot begin until the building permit is issued.

Other permit application(s) may be required and are separate from the building permit process. Development permits, Fire department inspections, and health and liquor licensing may also be necessary.

If you have any specific questions or require clarification, please contact our office at office@pro-inspections.ca.