

# Canada Day Parade Rules & Regulations

All participants must review and acknowledge these rules.



ABBOTSFORD  
CANADA DAY

## Contacts & Required Attendance

- Each group must assign one Designated Representative for all communication.
- The Designated Representative (or secondary) must attend a mandatory Parade Info Session. Sessions cover rules, route, safety, and Q&A. Multiple times will be offered.

## Theme, Decorations & Conduct

### Theme & Decorations

- Floats must follow the Roots and Rhythm theme, celebrating music, movement, colour, and the people/places of our diverse community.
- Decorations should be affixed to the vehicle/float without risk of falling off and should not impede visibility of the driver.

### General Conduct

- No stopping for photos or performances along the route. Keep the parade moving.
- No drugs or alcohol. Anyone under the influence will be removed.
- No confetti or confetti cannons.
- No corporate advertising on nonprofit entries.

## Giveaways

- **No throwing items** from floats or vehicles.
- Walking volunteers may hand out items while maintaining pace and safety.

## Animal Entries

- Provide your own clean-up crew; waste must not be left on streets.
- Animals must be leashed, hydrated, and able to tolerate noise, crowds, and heat.



## Vehicle & Float Safety

### Driver Requirements

- All vehicles must be insured and roadworthy.
- Drivers must hold a valid license for their vehicle type.
- Driver's license photos and vehicle insurance must be submitted by May 22nd. Please upload copies to your original online application form.
- Drivers must sign the Operator Safety Acknowledgement.
- No cell phone use while driving.

### Spotters/Walkers

- Minimum 2 adult (19+) spotters per vehicle entry; more for multi-vehicle entries.
- Spotters must wear high-visibility vests and help maintain pace and safety.

### Float Requirements

- Floats must pass safety inspections by APD and AFRS in staging.
- No mounting/dismounting during the parade.
- Standing riders require safety harnesses; seated riders require seatbelts or secure handholds.
- Railings (if used) must be at least 36 inches high with top and mid-rails.
- Carry a valid fire extinguisher on all floats/vehicles. AFRS will do an inspection in the marshalling area to verify.
- No overcrowding—organizers may remove riders for safety.

### Other Vehicle Rules

- Helmets required for cyclists, rollerbladers, & motorcyclists.
- Only emergency vehicles may use sirens.
- Maintain a 20-foot (6 m) gap between entries.
- Drivers must stay with their vehicles and be prepared for emergency movement.
- Any towing or breakdown costs are the responsibility of the entry.



### Partner with Another Group

- Groups wishing to march / stage together must indicate this on their application.

### Disbandment

- Follow staff instructions to the **designated dispersal area at W.J. Mouat Secondary**.
- Only pre-approved entries may proceed to Rotary Stadium/Exhibition Park.
- All vehicles must follow the BC Motor Vehicle Act upon departure.



### **Tolerance and Inclusion**

- All parade entries must uphold the values of respect, diversity, and community.
- **Parade entries must not include or promote:**
  - Racism, discrimination, or hate speech
  - Harassment, intimidation, or degrading content
  - Sexually explicit, violent, or otherwise inappropriate imagery or messaging
  - Political or ideological messages that may be divisive, offensive, or contrary to the spirit of the event
  - Any behavior or materials that undermine the safety, dignity, or inclusion of others

### **Indemnity & Insurance**

- All entries must carry their own Special Events policy with general liability insurance.
- Applicants agree to indemnify and hold harmless the City of Abbotsford, Tourism Abbotsford, Sevenoaks Mall, and all associated parties from any claims arising from participation.

### **Questions?**

Please email [events@tourismabbotsford.ca](mailto:events@tourismabbotsford.ca) if you have any further questions or concerns.