



**The Corporation of the
City of Sault Ste. Marie**

C O U N C I L R E P O R T

March 17, 2025

TO: Mayor Matthew Shoemaker and Members of City Council
AUTHOR: Kathy Fisher, Curator ECNHS
DEPARTMENT: Community Development and Enterprise Services
RE: 2025 Firearms and Noise By-law Exemptions – Ermatinger
Clergue National Historic Site

Purpose

The purpose of this request is to obtain Council approval of exemptions to the current firearms regulation and the noise by-law.

Background

In 2025 staff and volunteers of the ECNHS will be hosting a number of special events at the site. At these events, re-enactors from the Royal Newfoundland Regiment and the Coureur Du Bois II demonstrate the loading and firing of militia muskets and a cannon (black powder shooting).

A temporary exemption of firearms regulation 2008-168, regulation R.1.2.6 is requested from May to December 2025. These exemptions would permit the staff and volunteers of the Ermatinger Clergue National Historic Site (ECNHS) to carry out period re-enactments (black powder musters and cannon firing), during operations and special events on the ECNHS grounds.

Due to the noise the muskets and cannons produce, a temporary exemption of the noise By-law 80-200 regulation is also requested from May through December 2025.

Analysis

This application to Council concerns the annual exemption for the discharge of historic firearms within the City limits at the Ermatinger Clergue National Historic Site.

Due to the nature of the ECNHS, the re-enactors are contacted to be part of the interpretation on a regular basis – sometimes with little-to-no lead-time, and they are most willing to join ECNHS re-enactments and programs.

Financial Implications

There is no financial impact to the City with regards to this matter.

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Strategic Plan / Policy Impact / Climate Impact

This matter is linked to the Strategic Plan through developing a rich Cultural and Heritage Site with living history interpretation.

Recommendation

It is therefore recommended that Council take the following action:

The relevant By-law 2025-43 is listed under item 12 of the Agenda and will be read with all by-laws under that item.

Respectfully submitted,

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