

Application and Guidelines 2022



Thank you for your interest in being part of the Kelowna Buskers Program. The purpose of the program is to offer citizens and visitors to Kelowna a unique entertainment experience and to provide additional performance opportunities for performing artists.

As a participant you will be able to select your performance location from 13 designated BUSK STOPS located throughout the downtown core and waterfront areas. You will have the flexibility of performing as much or as little as you choose based on the permit you purchase, while adhering to the general program timelines of 10:00 AM – 10:00 PM, offered seven days a week throughout the year.

Benefits of being a part of the Kelowna Buskers Program:

- Exposure to new audiences as you hone your performance skills
- Busk stops locations around Kelowna have a high volume of people passing by
- Buskers gain exposure to Festivals Kelowna and other producers who may book them for events and programs. For example, in 2019 approximately 30% of Buskers in the program received paid performances at our events.

Application Process:

1. Interested participants must call ahead to book an appointment, phone 250-868-3307
2. Applicants must bring all gear, including all instruments, equipment, props, etc., needed to showcase their busking act(s). Staff can only approve elements of the act(s) that have been demonstrated in the audition
3. Applicants will be asked to perform a short 2 – 5 minute performance showcasing their repertoire
4. Following a sample performance, a photo will be taken and a permit issued
5. Payment is required in **cash only**. A receipt will be issued following the payment

***Please note we do not accept debit or credit cards**

The following permits are available:

Solo Rate:

- Annual Permit (1 year from approval date) = \$45.00
- Summer Permit (June 1st to September 30th) = \$30.00
- Monthly Permit = \$20.00
- Weekly Permit = \$10.00

Group Rate:

- Annual Permit (1 year from approval date) = \$62.00
- Summer Permit (June 1st to September 30th) = \$35.00
- Monthly Permit = \$22.00
- Weekly Permit = \$15.00

Please note: Given the staff time required to update/revise a current permit or to replace a lost one, a replacement fee of \$10.00 will be charged.



Program Structure:

Buskers are permitted to perform at official **BUSK STOPS** from 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM (excluding Pipers, see policy # 11), seven days a week **except during special events in the downtown area**. In this case, participants are expected to respect the space allocated to City approved special events if requested by the City, the event organizer, or Festivals Kelowna staff.

Please Note: Owners and Occupiers of property next to the BUSK STOPS have the right to detour Buskers from performing adjacent to their property by contacting Festivals Kelowna, in which case Festivals Kelowna staff will work with both the Busker and business to identify an alternate location if appropriate.

General Information:

1. *Good Neighbor Policy:* While we value creative and artistic expression, we must also ensure we do not cause undue disturbance to neighboring businesses and residences resulting from the Busker Program.
2. Busking includes, but is not limited to, the following activities: acting, singing, playing musical instruments, juggling, magic, dancing, puppetry and reciting. **Please note:** participants are not currently permitted to sell CD's, merchandise or any other type of items while performing under this program.
3. Restricted or ineligible instruments and activities include, but are not limited to:
 - a) The use of sharp or dangerous objects; this includes but is not limited to juggling knives, hatchets or chainsaws.
 - b) The use of drums, including hand drums, which need to be authorized on a case by case basis
 - c) Amplification of a performance. Exceptions may be given on a case by case basis in which amplification is considered *integral* to the performance. In these instances, the volume level will be approved at the discretion of Festivals Kelowna and noted on the permit.
 - d) Performances involving flaming objects, which will be authorized on a case by case basis. Proof of valid and adequate insurance, and a safety and crowd control plan must be provided for approval.
4. All approved applications for a permit will include agreeing to and signing a "Service Agreement" which includes a "Buskers Code of Conduct".
5. A "Group" permit is considered to be 2 or more people, up to a maximum of 5. However, if the performance group is larger than 5 members then an exception may be given *at the discretion of Festivals Kelowna* and only in designated locations determined by Festivals Kelowna. All group members must be present at the time of the audition and will be identified on the permit.
6. Any electrical equipment must be battery operated.
7. Permits are non-transferable.
8. Buskers must clearly display their permit while performing, and allow inspection of the permit by Festivals Kelowna Staff, Downtown Patrol, City By-Law or RCMP Officers upon request. These agencies have the authority to *temporarily* revoke a Busker's permit if observed breaching program guidelines. A follow up meeting with Festivals Kelowna will be set to determine a future course of action.



9. Buskers are encouraged to rotate between stops, and should not occupy any one location for more than two (2) hours at a time in any four (4) hour time period in order to fairly share locations amongst all participants.
10. Buskers are permitted to encourage donation; however performers may not aggressively solicit donations. Contributions may be received in a receptacle such as a musical instrument case, box or hat.
11. While we love the sound of bagpipers, not everyone holds them with such affection. As such, Pipers are restricted to busking between the hours of 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM and only in the following BUSK STOPS: City Park Hot Sands Beach, and the Waterfront Promenade Boat Locks location. Only one piper is permitted per BUSK STOP unless prior arrangements have been made with Festivals Kelowna.
12. Buskers must abide by all municipal by-laws and all federal and provincial statutes and regulations.

Festivals Kelowna administers this program with the approval of the City Kelowna. As such we reserve the right to refuse to grant, suspend, or terminate a permit issued with respect to any Busker performance in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Act, the Noise Control By-Law or these policies. Refunds will not be issued.

For more information on this program contact:

Samara Emsley
Program Coordinator, Festivals Kelowna
OFFICE LOCATION: Suite 100– 1680 Water Street
Kelowna, BC
V1Y 8T8
Tel 250-868-3307
Email: semsley@festivalskelowna.com

Visit our website www.festivalskelowna.com to learn more about the other program we offer





Service Agreement

1) This agreement is made between _____, including _____ performers, (hereafter called the ACT, and includes all persons connected with the ACT for any performance covered in this agreement) and Festivals Kelowna.

The primary representative or spokesperson for the ACT is:

- 2) The ACT will provide all of its own performance equipment, musical instruments, and other equipment including costumes, set, furniture, props and other necessities.
- 3) The ACT agrees to abide by the following **Code of Conduct**:
 - (a) Buskers will only perform in designated BUSK STOPS (within a 2 meter radius of the sign)
 - (b) Buskers must locate themselves and their audience so that they are not obstructing the flow of pedestrian or vehicle traffic or any business entrance or patio area
 - (c) Buskers will respect the right of businesses to operate without undue disturbance by entertainers outside their premises
 - (d) Buskers must be of good conduct and character while performing (no swearing, performing while intoxicated, etc)
 - (e) Buskers will project a professional appearance while participating in the Busker Program (for example, appropriate clothing and footwear is required)
- 4) **Liability and Insurance:**
 - a) The ACT shall hold harmless: Festivals Kelowna employees or volunteers free from liability for any damages to or loss of performance equipment used by the ACT in performances under this agreement. Performance equipment includes any physical object(s) rented, borrowed, owned or otherwise obtained by the ACT for use in their performance. The ACT recognizes their responsibility to provide insurance for any performance equipment used under this agreement.
 - b) The ACT shall also hold Festivals Kelowna free from liability for any personal injury (including death) or property damage associated with the ACT's performance under this agreement. The ACT recognizes their responsibility to provide adequate insurance policies to cover such an eventuality.
- 5) The ACT shall also hold Festivals Kelowna free from and against any and all suits or claims alleging damage or injury (including death) to any person or property that may occur or be alleged to have occurred in the course of the performances and, at its own expense, the ACT shall defend any and all such actions and pay all legal charges and other costs arising.



- 6) If circumstances shall arise that are not covered by the above clauses, the ACT acknowledges responsibility for all of their own insurance and liability, as well as any responsibility that may be associated with them or their performance equipment under this agreement.

- 7) Festivals Kelowna reserves the right to cancel this agreement. Festivals Kelowna reserves the right to halt a performance by the ACT at any time, during any performance. Under this agreement, **the ACT agrees to conduct themselves in a manner that will promote a FAMILY ORIENTED ENVIRONMENT**. This includes abstaining from alcohol or other substances while performing, refraining from using coarse language, and playing inappropriate music. Such behavior waives the ACT's right to continue participation in the Kelowna Buskers Program.

Agreement to the Above Conditions

The ACT and Festivals Kelowna agree to the conditions detailed above concerning the performance of the ACT for the Kelowna Buskers Program at the time(s), date(s) and location(s) listed above.

X

ACT Representative (print name)

Date

X

ACT Representative (signature)

Festivals Kelowna

Date





Application

(Please print clearly and complete the form as fully as you can)

Name: _____

City: _____ Province: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Permit sought - Annual: _____ Summer: _____ Month(s): _____ Temporary: _____

Style of entertainment to be performed/instrument(s) to be played:

Performance background (training or previous experience):

Musical repertoire and genres (Blues, Classical, Jazz, Country):

Please be aware that Festivals Kelowna is often contacted by other organizations/businesses looking to hire performers, with your permission we will give out your contact information: Yes / No

Signature: _____

Date: _____

