

# Home Occupation Information

**A home occupation is where a resident carries on a business in the home. There are three levels to a home occupation dependent on the zoning of the property. The following regulations apply to all levels:**

- No offensive noise, vibration, traffic, smoke, dust, odours, heat, glare, electrical or radio disturbance shall be produced.
- No exterior alterations are permitted that are not consistent with the residential character of the buildings and property.
- Outside storage of materials, commodities, or finished products is not permitted.

## **Level 1 Home Occupation:**

- Shall be wholly contained within the principal dwelling unit.
- Must be carried out exclusively by a resident of the principal dwelling unit in which the home occupation is located.
- Shall not generate customer visits.
- No signs advertising a home occupation are permitted.

## **Level 2 Home Occupation:**

- Shall be wholly contained within the principal dwelling unit or accessory building.
- Total floor area may not exceed 50m<sup>2</sup> (538 square feet), except for a family day care licensed under the Community Care and Assisted Living Act.
- Must be carried out exclusively by a resident of the principal dwelling unit in which the home occupation is located and not more than one non-resident employee.
- One off-street parking space required for non-resident employee.
- Shall not generate significant vehicular traffic impacts within the neighbourhood.
- One sign with a maximum area of 0.4m<sup>2</sup> (4 square feet) is permitted.

## **Level 3 Home Occupation:**

- Shall be wholly contained within the dwelling unit or an accessory building, except for horticultural occupations in an A zone.
- Total floor area may not exceed 112 m<sup>2</sup> (1,205 square feet), except for a family day care licensed under the Community Care and Assisted Living Act.
- Commercial repair and maintenance of farm motor vehicles, farm equipment and trucks licensed as farm vehicles under the Commercial Transport Act shall be permitted in the A1, A2, and A3 zones only.
- Must be carried out exclusively by a resident of the principal dwelling unit in which the home occupation is located and not more than two non-resident employees.
- Two off-street parking spaces required for non-resident employees.
- Shall not generate significant vehicular traffic impacts within the neighbourhood.
- One sign with a maximum area of 1.2 m<sup>2</sup> (12 square feet) is permitted.



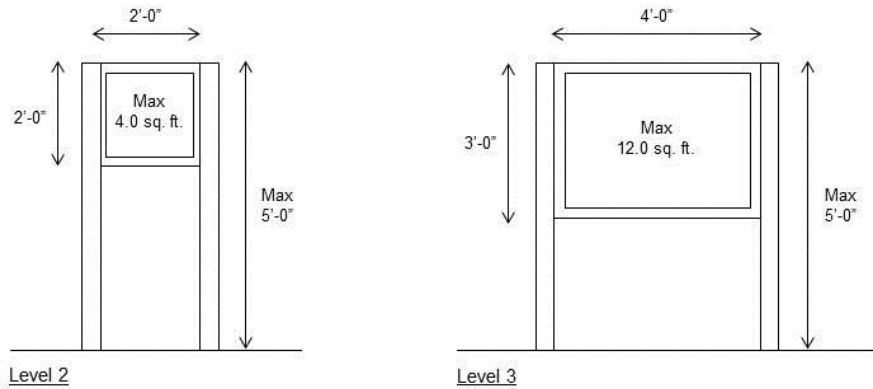
## **BUILDING PERMITS & LICENCES**

1st Floor, 32315 South Fraser Way, Abbotsford, BC  
T 604-864-5525 E [businesslicence@abbotsford.ca](mailto:businesslicence@abbotsford.ca)

[www.abbotsford.ca](http://www.abbotsford.ca)

## Business identification signs are only permitted in Home Occupation Level 2 and 3:

- There must be no indication that the building is being used for a business other than one freestanding identification sign.
- The height shall not exceed 1.5 m (5 feet) above grade.
- Window and fascia signs are not permitted.
- Shall not be illuminated.



## Bed and Breakfast: Where permitted, must meet the following criteria:

- Be contained within the principal dwelling unit.
- Be limited to not more than eight guests in the A1, A2, A3, RR, CR and SR zones, and six guests in the RSI, RS3 and RS3-A zones at one time within one dwelling unit.
- Be limited to not more than four sleeping units in the A1, A2, A3, RR, CR and SR zones, and three sleeping units in the RSI, RS3 and RS3-A zones for guests.
- Provide on the lot, one parking space for each guest sleeping unit.
- Not be operated on a lot where there is a boarding use or secondary suite.

## How do I apply for a Business Licence?

- Online at [www.abbotsford.ca/business](http://www.abbotsford.ca/business)

## Other Resources:

- OneStop Business Registry: [www.onestopbc.ca](http://www.onestopbc.ca)
- Community Futures (ph.604-864-5570)
- Fraser Health Authority (ph. 604-870-7900)
- Community Care Facilities Licencing (ph.604-870-6000)

***The above has been formatted as an information hand out only and should be read in conjunction to the Zoning Bylaw and Business Licence Bylaw.***