

Noise Regulation Bylaw Review Survey Results

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Project Background

At the direction of Council, Village of Pemberton staff launched a public engagement process on Engage Pemberton to gather feedback on the Noise Regulation Bylaw No. 699, 2012. A project page and survey were created to better understand how the bylaw is working in practice and to identify areas for potential improvement. This initiative was informed by community concerns and aimed to support future decision-making with local input.

Survey Promotion

The survey was promoted through multiple communication channels to encourage broad participation, including:

- Social media posts on Village of Pemberton Facebook page
- Addition within the online Community Newsletter
- Addition within the online Building Update Newsletter
- An article in Pique Newsmagazine

Results Overview

In total, 34 responses were received. Residents expressed strong support for clearer and more consistent noise regulations that protect quality of life, particularly in residential areas. Key themes included later and shorter construction hours, designated quiet days on Sundays and statutory holidays, and earlier evening quiet hours.

Concerns about industrial noise, especially in the Business Park, highlighted the need for aligned rules across all zones and clearer distinctions between general construction activities and heavy industrial operations.

Respondents emphasized better enforcement and meaningful penalties to improve compliance. While most supported tighter controls, a few noted the need to balance community expectations with construction timelines and economic impacts.

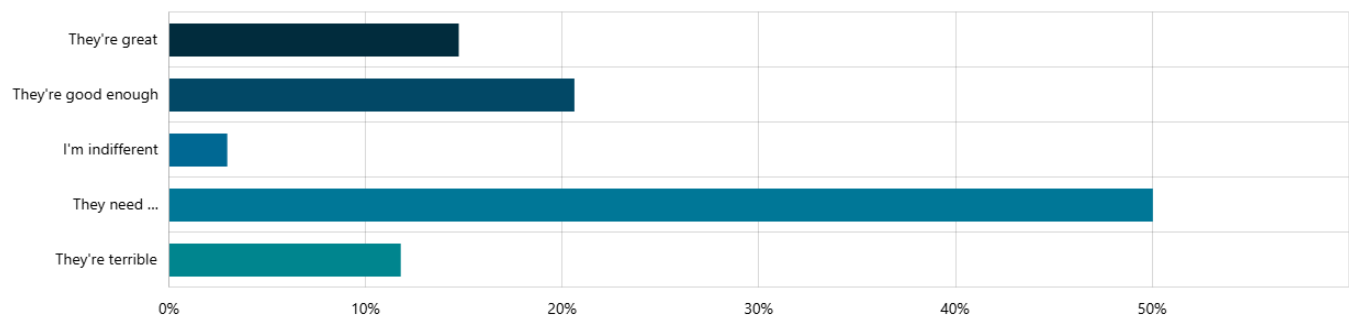
Demographics: Where Respondents Live

Before starting the survey, respondents were asked where they live. A map accompanied the survey question, displaying areas within the Village of Pemberton municipal boundary. Options for Lílwat Nation, the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD), and Other were also provided. The table below provides a detailed look at how respondents answered this question.

Answer Choice	Count
Village of Pemberton - A (Brown) - Benchlands	0
Village of Pemberton - B (Blue) - Downtown	2
Village of Pemberton - C (Orange) - Aspen Fields, The Glen	8
Village of Pemberton - D (Green) - Tiyata, Creekside, Gateway	8
Village of Pemberton - E (Purple) - Airport Road	0
Village of Pemberton - F (Yellow) - Pemberton Plateau, Sunstone, The Ridge	9
Village of Pemberton - G (Red) - Industrial Park	4
Lílwat Nation	0
SLRD	2
Other	0

Survey Results

2. Overall, how satisfied are you with the Village of Pemberton's current noise regulations?



They're great

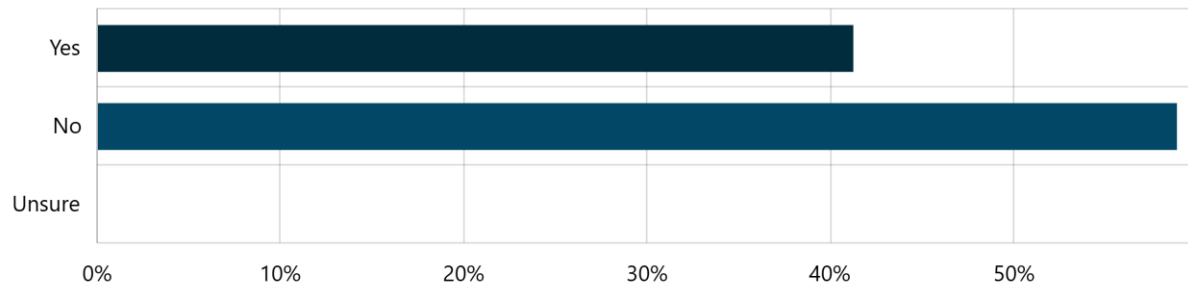
They're good enough

I'm indifferent

They need improvement

They're terrible

3. Do you think the current quiet hours are appropriate?



4. If no or unsure, what changes to quiet hours would you recommend? (20 contributions)

No construction on Sundays or statutory holidays

- The majority of respondents supported designating these as quiet days, emphasizing the need for rest and respect for community and cultural values.

Reduced weekend construction hours

- Many recommended starting later (around 9–10AM) and finishing earlier (by 5PM), noting that this aligns with practices in other municipalities such as North Vancouver.

Later start times on weekdays

- Several residents felt the current 7AM start is too early, suggesting 7:30 or 8AM as more reasonable.
- Some noted that construction activity occasionally begins before the permitted time.

Earlier general quiet hours

- A number of respondents proposed ending noisy activities by 7–8PM, particularly in residential areas with young families.
- A few suggested beginning general quiet hours at 10PM rather than 11PM, to better reflect the needs of family-oriented neighbourhoods.

Improved enforcement

- Many expressed concern that existing quiet hour regulations are not consistently enforced, particularly for early starts and high-noise operations.

Stricter limits for industrial and heavy equipment noise

- Respondents called for shorter operating hours (e.g., 9AM–5PM) and decibel limits for high-impact noise sources.
- Some also recommended clearer definitions distinguishing industrial noise from general construction activity.

Health and safety concerns

- Some expressed worry about high-decibel industrial noise affecting hearing and overall quality of life, particularly for families with young children.

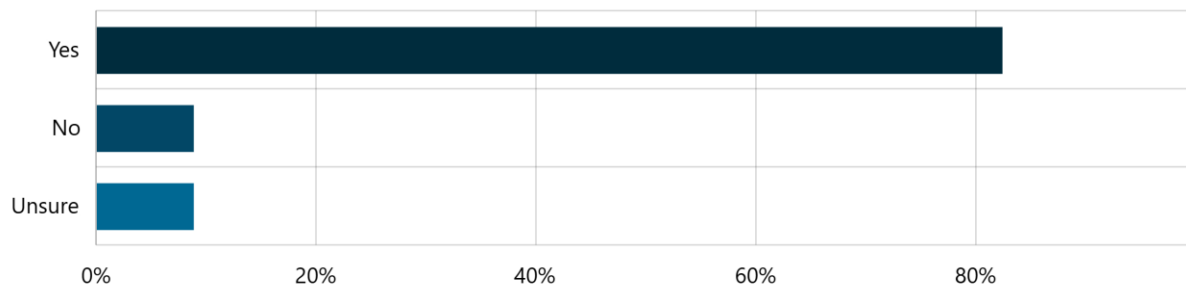
Comment Highlights

"I think 8:00 am is more reasonable in residential areas for construction noise."

"General quiet hours should only be until 10pm. There are a lot of young families in Pemberton and 11pm is too late to allow noise in our small neighbourhoods."

"Consider no construction noise on Sundays and stat holidays to give nearby residents a day or proper rest."

5. Do the current exemptions (e.g., emergency work, public events) meet the needs of the community?



6. If no or unsure, what changes to exemptions would you suggest? (Three contributions)

Concerns about excessive noise in the Business Park

- Several respondents highlighted recurring nighttime and early-morning noise from the Business Park.
- Some reported operations starting as early as 4–6AM, which they described as unacceptable in proximity to residential areas.

Calls for clearer and more consistent regulations

- Respondents noted that current bylaws contain grey areas and should be rewritten for clarity.
- Many felt the Business Park should follow the same quiet-hour rules as the rest of Pemberton to ensure fairness and livability.

Comment Highlights

"The bylaws for the business park should be reviewed and rewritten in a clearer, more precise way. At present, there are grey areas that leave too much room for subjective interpretation."

7. Do you have any other comments or suggestions about the Noise Regulation Bylaw? (22 contributions)

Enforcement and penalties

- Many respondents emphasized the need for stronger enforcement of existing bylaws and meaningful penalties for violations.
- Suggestions included fines significant enough to deter repeat offences.

Clearer definitions and zoning distinctions

- Several called for clearer differentiation between commercial, light industrial, and heavy industrial operations.
- Some suggested setting decibel limits (e.g., 60 dB day / 50 dB night) and classifying heavy industrial uses.

Equal treatment for the Business Park

- Multiple comments supported aligning Business Park noise regulations with the rest of the community, to balance residential and business needs.
- Some noted that the area's potential depends on maintaining a respectful and livable environment.

Refinement and accessibility of the bylaw

- Respondents described the current bylaw as confusing or contradictory and recommended a full review.
- Suggestions included making the bylaw easier to find on the Village's website, particularly alongside permitting information.

Distinction between noise types

- Several residents recommended differentiating between types of construction or operational noise (e.g., heavy equipment vs. hand tools, industrial vs. residential).
- Some proposed restricting high-impact noise to standard business hours.

Mixed perspectives on construction hours

- While many supported shorter or later construction hours (e.g., starting at 8AM), a few respondents cautioned that tighter limits could slow development and increase costs due to Pemberton's short building season.

Comment Highlights

"We are a seasonal community; the construction industry has a limited timeframe to build."

"Construction and works crew noise is often heard before the start times and need to be enforced."

"Warming up of construction trucks should begin at the time of noise regulation bylaw begins, not before."

“Limiting construction noise hours will slow down upcoming projects which will make them more expensive.”

“Enforcement of construction noise is necessary.”