

October 8, 2025

Safety Codes Service Bulletin

GENERATOR USE AT PUBLIC EVENTS

See the Following Electrical Code References, from the Canadian Electrical Code, Part 1, 24th Edition, C.S.A. C22.1:24

Rule #2-004 Permits

Rule #10-214 Generator Grounding Rule #66-200 Generator Grounding

See the following references to the Alberta Safety Codes Act

Section 5 "Owners Care and Control"

Purpose

To inform electrical contractors, general contractors, event promoters/owners, and other stakeholders about the specific electrical system requirements for electrical systems powered by large generators.

Discussion

With the rising popularity of festivals and other public events, the use of "large" generators is becoming more common. To ensure public safety and regulatory compliance, all event organizers and stakeholders must adhere to the applicable Acts, Codes and Bylaws governing the proper installation and use of these generators.

Requirements

- The installation/electrical connection of generators must be completed by a qualified electrical contractor.
- The electrical contractor must have an electrical permit in place before electrical work commences.
- The permitted electrical work must be inspected before energization of electrical services powered by generators.

Restrictions

- All electrical connections under the active electrical permit must be inspected before energization of the electrical system being powered by the generator.
- Maintenance of the electrical system during an event must be completed by a qualified electrical contractor.

Takeaway

A portable generator rated up to 7500 watts, easily movable without wheels, **and** used with approved extension and power cords plugged directly into the unit (without a distribution panel board) will likely not require an electrical permit.

To confirm whether a permit is needed for your specific event setup, please contact us with the generators make and model details, and we'll be happy to advise.

Reference

See the above Electrical Code and Safety Code Act references.

Likely no permit required



Electrical Permit Required

