



Bennett Lawn and Landscape Achieves City of Ottawa Licensed Hardscape Contractor Status Under New 2026 Municipal Bylaw

June 24, 2026

OTTAWA, ON - June 24, 2026 -

Bennett Lawn and Landscape has achieved Licensed Hardscape Contractor status under the City of Ottawa's new 2026 municipal bylaw governing residential hardscape installations, becoming one of the first companies in the Ottawa market to meet the licensing requirements introduced by the updated regulatory framework. The designation confirms that the company meets the city's newly established criteria for contractors undertaking permitted hardscape work on residential properties within Ottawa's jurisdiction.

The City of Ottawa's 2026 hardscape contractor bylaw was introduced in response to growing concerns about the quality and compliance of residential hardscape installations across the city, including interlock driveways, patios, retaining walls, and walkways. The bylaw establishes contractor licensing as a prerequisite for obtaining permits for qualifying hardscape projects, requiring applicants to demonstrate technical competence, insurance coverage, and compliance with the city's drainage and impermeable surface standards. Contractors who have not completed the licensing process are no longer eligible to pull permits for regulated hardscape work within city limits.

The licensing requirement addresses a gap in the previous regulatory framework, under which any contractor could undertake hardscape installations regardless of demonstrated competency or insurance status. That gap contributed to a pattern of installations that failed to meet drainage requirements, violated setback rules, or lacked the structural foundation necessary for long-term performance. These issues have highlighted the importance of custom hardscape design in Ottawa that accounts for site conditions, drainage requirements, and long-term durability before construction begins. By tying permit eligibility to contractor licensing, the bylaw shifts accountability to the installation stage rather than relying on after-the-fact enforcement.

“Going through the licensing process was a straightforward decision for us,” said Isaac Bennett, Owner of Bennett Lawn and Landscape. “We were already operating to the standards the bylaw is asking contractors to meet. The formal designation matters to homeowners because it gives them a concrete way to verify that the contractor they’re hiring has been evaluated against the city’s criteria, not just making claims about their own work.”

Bennett Lawn and Landscape provides hardscaping services in Ottawa for residential clients across the city and surrounding communities, specializing in interlock installation for patios, driveways, walkways, and retaining walls. The company was founded in 2020 and has built its client base through referrals, operating as an Ottawa landscape company providing custom hardscape projects while maintaining a 5.0 rating on Google across its review history. Its focus on owner-operated project management has been a consistent element of the company’s service model since its founding, with Isaac Bennett directly involved in each project from planning through completion.

The licensed hardscape contractor designation also carries implications for homeowners beyond the permit process. Property owners whose hardscape work is completed by a licensed contractor under the new bylaw have an additional layer of documented accountability if workmanship issues arise after installation. The licensing framework creates a formal record of which contractor completed the work under what permit, giving homeowners a clear point of reference if remediation is required.

Ottawa’s hardscape sector has grown significantly over the past decade, driven by increased homeowner investment in outdoor living spaces and a rising emphasis on functional, well-constructed exterior improvements. As demand has grown, so has the range of contractors operating in the market, creating greater variation in the quality and regulatory compliance of completed work. The 2026 bylaw’s licensing requirement is expected to reduce that variation by establishing a minimum standard that all permitted contractors must meet before beginning regulated work on residential properties.

About Bennett Lawn and Landscape: Bennett Lawn and Landscape is an Ottawa-based company

specializing in landscaping services, custom hardscape solutions and interlock repair services for Ottawa homeowners. Founded by Isaac Bennett in 2020, the company provides interlock patios, driveways, walkways, and retaining walls for homeowners across Ottawa and surrounding areas. Bennett Lawn and Landscape holds City of Ottawa Licensed Hardscape Contractor status under the 2026 municipal bylaw and maintains membership with Landscape Ontario.

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Bennett Lawn and Landscape

Bennett Lawn and Landscape is an Ottawa-based company specializing in residential and commercial landscaping, hardscaping, and interlock services.

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