

CITY OF FORT SASKATCHEWAN

Animal Control Bylaw C7-16

Motions:

1. That Council give first reading to Animal Control Bylaw C7-16.
2. That Council give second reading to Animal Control Bylaw C7-16.
3. That Council provide unanimous consent to proceed with third and final reading of Animal Control Bylaw C7-16.
4. That Council give third and final reading to Animal Control Bylaw C7-16.

Purpose:

To request the passing of Animal Control Bylaw C7-16.

Background:

Animal Control Bylaw C1-02 was approved on February 12, 2002, and was subsequently amended on April 22, 2014 (Bylaw C5-14). In 2015, Animal Control Services became part of Municipal Enforcement, transitioning from a part-time, one-person contract. With the change came enhanced services and extended hours of operation.

As part of the transition, Municipal Enforcement undertook an evaluation of the current Animal Control Bylaw C1-02 beginning with bylaw reviews of neighboring communities (Edmonton, Leduc, St. Albert, Morinville, Strathcona County and Parkland County). Research supported the need to make substantial changes and resulted in a complete re-write of the Bylaw.

Appendix 1 provides a comprehensive summary of the proposed changes, however some of the notable changes are:

- The use of plain language improves readability for residents making it easier to comprehend and comply with the Bylaw.
- Nuisance dog category has been added.
- Restricted dog category has replaced the vicious dog category.
- Service dog category has been added.
- Residents will be permitted to license and house up to three dogs and/or three cats within any one municipal address in the City versus the previous limit of up to two dogs and/or two cats.
- Prohibited animals are now defined in the Bylaw.

Plans/Standards/Legislation:

Bylaw C7-16 supports Fort Saskatchewan's Strategic Plan in two distinct ways. First, as animals play a major part in the lives of residents, it promotes long-term sustainability of our community as a preferred location to live, work, and play (Position for Growth). Second, the Bylaw clarifies responsibilities of pet ownership and will permit Municipal Enforcement to foster a livable and safe community (Vibrant and Thriving Communities).

Financial Implications:

Changes to fines will position Fort Saskatchewan's fines at the median/mean average of neighboring communities and should result in a modest \$1,500 increase in fine revenue over 2015 (\$9,743 vs. \$8,243).

Changes to the City's Fees and Charges Bylaw regarding licensing of animals will be brought forward at a future Council meeting.

Recommendation:

That Council give three readings to Animal Control Bylaw C7-16.

Attachments:

1. Appendix 1 – Summary of Changes to the Animal Control Bylaw
2. Bylaw C7-16 – New Animal Control Bylaw
3. Bylaw C1-02 – Current Animal Control Bylaw (Consolidated Version)

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Approved by:	Brenda Rauckman General Manager, Corporate and Protective Services	Date: May 18, 2016
Reviewed by:	Kelly Kloss City Manager	Date: May 19, 2016
Submitted to:	City Council	Date: May 24, 2016