



**PUBLIC AGENDA
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL CONTROL**

**Thursday, November 24, 2016, 11:30 a.m.
Committee Room A, Second Floor, City Hall
Committee Members:**

**Ms. A. Ziegler, Chair
Ms. M. Gieni, Vice-Chair
Councillor Z. Jeffries
Dr. D. Hockley
Dr. E. Hudson
Ms. K. Shymko
Ms. J. Thomson
Dr. K. Sheehan**

Pages

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Recommendation

That the agenda be confirmed as presented.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Recommendation

That the minutes of Regular Meeting of the Advisory Committee on Animal Control held on September 15, 2016 be adopted.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. REPORT OF THE CHAIR (CK. 225-9)

Verbal Update - A. Ziegler

Recommendation

That the information be received.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

7. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION

7.1 Report of Open Space Consultant (CK. 151-18)

Verbal Update - C. Schafer

Recommendation

That the information be received.

7.2 Court Report - Animal Control Bylaw Prosecutions (CK. 435-17)

4 - 5

Verbal Update - J. Manastyrski

Attached for the Committee's information are the August and September, 2016 reports.

Recommendation

That the information be received.

7.3 Pet Licensing 2017 Rates and Fees (CK. 151-15)

Verbal Update - B. Babyak, Section Manager, Open Space Programming & Development

Recommendation

That the information be received.

8. ANNUAL BYLAW REVIEW - BYLAW NO. 7860 - THE ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW, 1999 AND BYLAW NO. 8176 - THE DANGEROUS ANIMALS BYLAW, 2003 (CK. 151-1)

6 - 10

The Committee at its meeting held September 15, 2016 resolved to further continue its discussion on the matter.

Attached is a report from the Saskatoon SPCA regarding reducing pound holding times for the Committee's information.

Recommendation

That the direction of Committee issue.

9. BITE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN (CK. 151-7)

11 - 12

Subcommittee Verbal Update - C. Schafer

Attached is a "Good Dogs Bite Too" pamphlet for the Committee's information.

Recommendation

That the information be received.

10. ANIMAL IMPOUNDING SERVICES - STATISTICS (CK. 435-6)

13 - 13

Verbal Update - P. Cameron, Executive Director, Saskatoon SPCA

Attached for the Committee's information is the August, September, and October statistics.

Recommendation

That the information be received.

11. UPDATE ON ANIMAL PROTECTION IN THE CITY OF SASKATOON (CK. 151-1)

Verbal Update - P. Cameron, Executive Director, Saskatoon SPCA

Recommendation

That the information be received.

12. COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE (CK. 175-9)

The Advisory Committee on Animal Control meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m., with the exception of July, August, and December. The following dates are being proposed for 2016:

- January 26
- February 23
- March 23
- April 27
- May 25
- June 22
- September 28
- October 26
- November 23

Recommendation

That the meeting dates for the Advisory Committee on Animal Control for 2016 be approved.

13. STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES (CK. 1704-5)

14 - 14

Attached is a current Statement of Expenditures.

Recommendation

That the information be received.

14. ADJOURNMENT

**Office of the City Solicitor
August 2016 COURT REPORT
Animal Control Bylaw Prosecutions - City of Saskatoon**

Convictions/Orders	2016		2015	
	No.	Average Fine	No.	Average Fine
Cat at Large	4	\$100.00 + \$50.00 surcharge	2	\$100.00 + \$50.00 surcharge
Cat With No License	3	\$250.00 + \$60.00 surcharge	2	\$250.00 + \$60.00 surcharge
Dog at Large	21	\$100.00 + \$50.00 surcharge	5	\$100.00 + \$50.00 surcharge
Dog at Large	1	\$200.00 + \$50.00 surcharge	7	\$200.00 + \$50.00 surcharge
Dog at Large	1	\$300.00 + \$60.00 surcharge	3	\$300.00 + \$60.00 surcharge
Dog with No License	26	\$250.00 + \$60.00 surcharge	8	\$250.00 + \$60.00 surcharge
Dog with No License	4	\$300.00 + \$60.00 surcharge	4	\$300.00 + \$60.00 surcharge
Dog Collar				
Dog No Leash			1	\$100.00 + \$50.00 surcharge
Fail to Comply with Order				
Dog Attack Person			1	\$250.00 + \$60.00 surcharge
Dog in Prohibited Area	3	\$100.00 + \$50.00 surcharge		
Dog Barking (Nuisance)			1	\$100.00 + \$50.00 surcharge
Total Convictions/Orders	63		34	
Other Outcomes				
Withdrawn	8		8	
Dismissed	7		1	
Total Other Outcomes	15		9	
Total Charges Before Court	78	\$11,750.00 + \$3,490.00 surcharge	43	\$7,150.00 + \$1,880.00 surcharge

Only those violations dealt with by the Court are recorded in this report. The number of fines paid voluntarily are not included.


 Jodi Manastyrski,
 Solicitor /dde

cc: Advisory Committee on Animal Control (Office of the City Clerk)
 Eva Alexandrovici, SACA (306-931-9792)
 City Solicitor

**Office of the City Solicitor
September 2016 COURT REPORT
Animal Control Bylaw Prosecutions - City of Saskatoon**

	2016		2015	
Convictions/Orders				
Cat at Large	1	\$100.00 + \$50.00 surcharge	3	\$100.00 + \$50.00 surcharge
Cat at Large			1	\$200.00 + \$50.00 surcharge
Cat at Large	1	\$300.00 + \$60.00 surcharge		
Cat With No License	4	\$250.00 + \$60.00 surcharge	3	\$250.00 + \$60.00 surcharge
Cat Collar	1	\$50.00 + \$40.00 surcharge		
Dog at Large	12	\$100.00 + \$50.00 surcharge	3	\$100.00 + \$50.00 surcharge
Dog at Large	2	\$200.00 + \$50.00 surcharge	2	\$200.00 + \$50.00 surcharge
Dog at Large	10	\$300.00 + \$60.00 surcharge	9	\$300.00 + \$60.00 surcharge
Dog with No License	16	\$250.00 + \$60.00 surcharge	10	\$250.00 + \$60.00 surcharge
Dog with No License	3	\$300.00 + \$60.00 surcharge	2	\$300.00 + \$60.00 surcharge
Dog with No License	1	\$350.00 + \$60.00 surcharge	1	\$350.00 + \$80.00 surcharge
Dog Collar	3	\$50.00 + \$40.00 surcharge		
Dog Collar			1	\$100.00 + \$50.00 surcharge
Dog Collar			1	\$150.00 + \$50.00 surcharge
Dog Attack Person	3	\$250.00 + \$60.00 surcharge	2	\$250.00 + \$60.00 surcharge
Dog Attack Dog	1	\$250.00 + \$60.00 surcharge	2	\$250.00 + \$60.00 surcharge
Dog in Prohibited Area	2	\$100.00 + \$50.00 surcharge		
Dog in Prohibited Area	1	\$200.00 + \$50.00 surcharge		
Total Convictions/Orders	61		40	
Other Outcomes				
Withdrawn	1		3	
Dismissed	5		1	
Total Other Outcomes	6		4	
Total Charges Before Court		\$12,850.00 + \$3,400.00 surcharges	44	\$9,350.00 + \$2,310.00 surcharges

Only those violations dealt with by the Court are recorded in this report. The number of fines paid voluntarily are not included.


Jodi Manastyrski
Solicitor /dde

cc: Advisory Committee on Animal Control (Office of the City Clerk)
Eva Alexandrovici, SACA (306-931-9792)
City Solicitor

FOSTERING RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP:

Reducing Pound Holding Times in The City of Saskatoon



Since 1968

Patricia Cameron
Executive Director
Saskatoon SPCA
November 7, 2016

REDUCING PET HOLDING TIMES UNDER THE ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW

The City of Saskatoon enacted an Animal Control Bylaw as part of its efforts to ensure our community is a safe and healthy one. The Bylaw currently specifies a holding time of 5 days – the first day is the day in which the Saskatoon SPCA impounds the animal and 4 days for holding. Once the 1 + 4 day holding period elapses, the animal becomes the property of Saskatoon SPCA, which then adopts the animal if it is deemed safe and healthy.

Based on the statistics and information in the report below, we recommend that the City of Saskatoon reduce the impoundment holding period in the Animal Control bylaw from 5 days (the day of impoundment plus 4 additional days) to a 72-hour period.

There are several key reasons to reduce the currently lengthy holding period and the following report will address each one of these reasons in turn:

1. Fostering Responsible Pet Ownership in Our City
2. Reducing risks to All Impounded Pets
3. Reducing Special Risks to Infant Animals (Kittens and Puppies)
4. Aligning City Practices with Pound Capacity
5. Increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of pound services – i.e. speeding time between homelessness/abandonment/neglect to adoption into a safe and responsible home

Impoundment and Redemption Statistics for 2014, 2015, and Year-to-date 2016

As Table 1 below illustrates, over the past three years (2014, 2015, and YTD 2016)

- an average of 45.6% of adult dogs were redeemed or returned to their owner,
- an average of 12% of adult cats were redeemed or returned to their owner
- an average of 9% of puppies were redeemed or returned to their owner
- an average of 1% of kittens were redeemed or returned to their owner

Table 1: Statistics on Pet Redemption/Return to Owner Versus Intake

Animals Redeemed	Kittens	Puppies	Cats	Dogs
2014	11/816 = 1%	11/300 = 4%	142/1371= 10 %	497/1144 = 43%
2015	10/821 = 1%	22/199 = 11%	152/1137 = 13%	507/1076 = 47%
2016 YTD	9/984= 1 %	26/214 = 12%	168/1184 = 14%	408 / 866 = 47%

As Table 1 also illustrates, the majority of animals sheltered at the Saskatoon SPCA are cats and kittens – those animals with the lowest redemption rate; thus, the lengthy holding period is both counter to these animals welfare – the faster they are adopted the better from them in terms of stress reduction,

socialization, and disease prevention – and in terms of The overwhelming majority of redemptions or return to owners occur within 3 days (1 + 2 days of impound - the day the animal is apprehended plus two additional days). After the initial 3-day period, rates of redemption or return plummet to near zero.

These rates of redemption or return to owner and the time lines for redemption and return clearly demonstrate that the holding period defined under the current Animal Control bylaw is too long.

Fostering Responsible Pet Ownership in Our City

Animal control efforts in our City, such as the licensing requirements and education & outreach efforts have focused on supporting “responsible pet ownership. A lengthy impound holding period works counter to these efforts.

If we wish to foster responsible pet ownership in our city, we should send a clear signal to owners about their responsibility to their pets. Limiting the time during which the City and its partner organization, the Saskatoon SPCA, assumes care and pay for that care sends just such a signal.

Given that close to 100% of companion animals experience at least one loss incident in their lives, crucial responsibilities of pet ownership are

- 1) Licensing one’s pet and provide additional identification – e.g. microchipping and
- 2) Having a loss recovery plan should a pet go missing – e.g. call the Saskatoon SPCA, have a photo of the pet, license the pet and microchip and keep microchip information current.

Saskatoon SPCA supports the efforts of pet owners to locate and be reunited with their pet by making calls to all owners who we can identify. Despite these calls - which give pet owners clear knowledge of where their pet is and how they can redeem the pet - many owners do not take steps to recover their pet. A further group of pet owners fail to both license and microchip their pets, indicating a lack of interest or forethought in ensuring the pet can be found during a loss incident. A yet further group of pet owners simply abandon their pets, dumping kittens in city parks, on the city outskirts, or allowing the animal to roam and, if it gets lost, they make no effort to recover the pet.

Yet another group of pet owners choose to wait several days before coming to redeem their pet. This delay in redemption is especially true over weekends.

It is important to emphasize and make clear that whenever Saskatoon SPCA finds there are special circumstances, e.g. If the pet’s owners are out of town and the animal was lost while being in the care of someone else, or when a pet owner is in hospital, or out of town and cannot immediately travel to redeem their pet, we will hold the animal until the owner or their designate can redeem the animal.

Reducing Risks to All Impounded Pets

Impounded animals come to the Saskatoon SPCA in varying states of health, and there are several epidemic diseases that are chronic threats in the community – e.g. parvovirus the spores of which can persist for months or even years. These spores are spread throughout the City of Saskatoon.

Disease outbreaks in any shelter are directly aligned with three factors:

1. intake and care protocols (e.g. vaccination on admission);

2. shelter populations, and
3. duration of stay.

Through their intake and care protocols, Saskatoon SPCA does an excellent job of controlling shelter diseases, but high shelter populations coupled with lengthy holding periods combine to increase a pet's chances of becoming sick while impounded. The risk of illness increases for two main reasons:

- 1) longer periods of stay may increase exposure to diseases;
- 2) the stress of impoundment is known to reduce animals' immunity to disease.

Reducing Risks to Infant Animals (Kittens and Puppies)

We are seeing a serious increase in instances of litters of kittens and puppies simply being abandoned in city parks, neighbourhoods, or in the rural areas close to the city. These kittens and puppies are not "owned" and will never be redeemed.

Infant animals are particularly disadvantaged by long hold periods. First and foremost, they have a very low rate of redemption / return to owner. In the case of kittens, that rate is 1% or less. In the case of puppies, the redemption rate is less than 10%.

Thus, 99% of the days kittens are impounded and slightly more than 90% of the days puppies are impounded are a waste of time, resources, and pound capacity, and serve only to expose vulnerable infant animals to disease and stress, and delay their chances of being adopted into responsible, caring homes.

Holding infant animals increases costs of care, reduces shelter capacity, slows the time to adoption, and poses significant health risks to these little ones and does nothing to foster responsible pet ownership in our city.

Aligning Impound Times with Pound Capacity

The current City pound facility was built in the 1970s when Saskatoon had a significantly smaller population. Further, standards of animal sheltering have evolved significantly, as have community expectations of what acceptable standards of impound care.

Given the limits to capacity at the pound facility, efficient and effective time lines between impoundment and redemption or adoption are crucial to supporting the best possible care for pets housed in the pound facility. The shorter the stay in pound, the quicker pets can be adopted, and thus create space for other incoming animals.

Best Practices in Animal Control

Several Canadian municipalities have already shortened their holding period for animals found running at large, for example:

1. The City of Regina has a 72-hour holding period, with no mention of an additional day for the day on which the animal was apprehended
2. When there is no identifiable owner of an animal, both the City of Edmonton and the City of Calgary bylaw specifies a 72-hour holding period (no mention of an additional day for the day the animals are apprehended). NOTE: Each have longer hold periods when animals have a

known owner, but I would argue that makes no sense. If an owner is alerted to their pet being impounded, they have opportunity to immediately redeem their pet and should be held responsible to do so.

OUR BYLAW REVISION REQUEST TO CITY COUNCIL

Based on these statistics and facts, we ask The City of Saskatoon to revise the Animal Control Bylaw to

1. reduce the hold period for animals apprehended running at large from 5 days (1 + 4 days) to 72 hours, and
2. eliminate hold periods for infant animals (animals that cannot “escape” from a home, but rather are either the offspring of feral mothers or have been deliberately abandoned).
3. Eliminate hold periods for animals brought in from other communities (e.g. RM of Corman Park) that have already held the animal in their own community (a tiny fraction of our annual intake (less than 1%) but again a holding period that makes no sense and does not increase redemption).

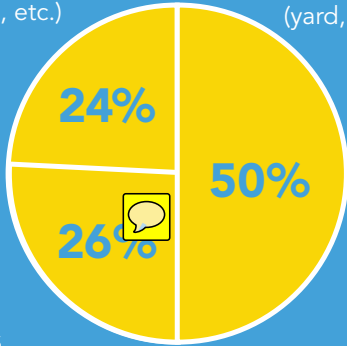
WHERE DO ANIMAL BITES HAPPEN?



Other spaces
(victim's home,
farmyard, etc.)



Pet's own
home/yard
(yard, front door,
indoors)



Public
spaces
(parks, off-leash
areas, sidewalks)



THE FACTS (Saskatoon Health Region)

1. 15% increase in reported bites in the last five years in our health region.
2. The majority of bites occur to adults.
3. On average there are 100 reported bites per year in our health region and that number is increasing.
4. On average there are 100 reported bites per year in our health region and that number is increasing.
5. Without vaccination, rabies is fatal.

Everyone can prevent bites from happening – including you!

WHAT TO DO IF BITTEN

- Get own name and phone number
- Call Public Health 306-655-4612
- Call Animal Control 306-385-7387
- Contact doctor and discuss:
 - Rabies
 - Tetanus immunization
 - Possible infection

If your animal has bitten, take steps to ensure no one else is bitten.

Prevention is key for a safe community.



Good Pets Bite Too

Bite Prevention



COMMON TIPS FOR ANIMAL OWNERSHIP

- Research which breed fits best with your lifestyle.
- Socialize your animal and exercise it regularly.
- License your animal.
- Regular veterinary visits and vaccinate your animal.



LEARN THE STEPS OF BITE PREVENTION

OWNER RESPONSIBILITY

- The owner is responsible to maintain control of the animal and always use a leash in public.
- Make sure visitors to your door are safe.
- Ensure yard is safe and animal is under control.
- If your dog is “friendly”, that doesn’t necessarily mean others want to interact.
- Walk between the dog and the person approaching, acting as a barrier on a path or sidewalk.
- Ask if people are comfortable around dogs. **DON'T ASSUME.**
- Allow the dog to calmly sniff the person first. Then invite the person to pet the animal. ¹²

- Avoid putting your dog in situations where they are uncomfortable and bite; such as in crowds, tethered etc..

COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY

- Always ask the owner before approaching an animal.
- Avoid approaching an animal with no owner present.
- Make sure children are cautious around new animals.
- Avoid putting your hand in the way of the animal’s food or when animals are fighting.
- Do not tease animals (i.e. pulling tails, ears, fur, etc.).
- If confronted by an aggressive animal stand quietly until animal turns away.

Animal Impounding Services - Statistics

AUGUST 2016 INTAKE

SOURCE	CATS	DOGS	OTHER	
BYLAW	117 (49%)	52 (38%)	22(0%)	
OTHER	124	85	0	
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>241</u>	<u>137</u>	<u>22</u>	TOTAL INTAKE: 400

(191 brought in under bylaw 48%)

SEP 2016 INTAKE

SOURCE	CATS	DOGS	OTHER	
BYLAW	113 (44%)	43 (39%)	0(0%)	
OTHER	142	68	22	
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>255</u>	<u>111</u>	<u>22</u>	TOTAL INTAKE: 388

(156 brought in under bylaw 40%)

OCT 2016 INTAKE

SOURCE	CATS	DOGS	OTHER	
BYLAW	95 (37%)	40 (33%)	0(0%)	
OTHER	160	82	4	
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>255</u>	<u>122</u>	<u>4</u>	TOTAL INTAKE: 381

(135 brought in under bylaw 35%)

