

From: John Ford
Sent: November 4, 2011 3:51 PM
To: Robicheau, Vanessa; Edwards, Karen
Subject: Proposed New Animal By-law for the City of Hamilton Tarantula Hobbyist Opinion

Dear Consultants,

My name is John Ford, and I am writing this letter about the "Proposed New Animal By-Law for the City of Hamilton" concerning venomous animals specifically reptiles and insects. I write this letter not out of anger but out of respect and in hopes for your understanding and sympathy.

I am one of **thousands** who are hobbyist who currently own a venomous animal, and I have for years and hopefully for many years to come. I currently own a *Grammostola rosea* or more commonly known to many as a **Chilean rose tarantula** and I have a great deal number of experience with these animals/pets, I am not here to change anyones mind, if anything I am only trying to promote awareness specifically about TARANTULAS. Although I cannot say about snakes, or other reptiles I have a number of years experience with these spiders in general that are considered venomous.

There are two types of tarantulas one comes across in the hobby and that is **New World** and **Old World** tarantulas, each of these are venomous. However, does venomous necessarily make them dangerous? Not exactly. Like any animal, it is capable of doing harm. Studies have shown that at least 327 people die from dog attacks alone in a period of 10 years, on average dog attacks range between 2,000 to 15,000 a year depending on various provinces. On average, 150 to 670 people are bit by a tarantula (either those who are apart of the hobby or those just fooling around irresponsibly), do you know how many people die from a tarantula bite?

None.

No where on record, either in the UK, Australia, US and Canada, have reports on *anyone* dying from a tarantula bite, this also includes those who are allergic to spider bites in general. My point here is to say that if 327 people die from dogs in a period of 10 years and that **no one has died by a tarantula bite** in our records and also in many other countries who have these animals, how is this fair to people who might be paying their bills with their hobby?

There are far more numbers of tarantula hobbyists alone in Ontario than there are dog breeders, each of which having hundreds of thousands of these animals—this is how they pay their bills, put food on the plates for their family, this is how they live. Now, how is it fair for these responsible owners of such creatures to have to throw them away due to the unfamiliarity and unawareness to the general public *if no one has ever died from a single bite from these creatures?*

Owners of tarantulas are far more aware about their animals than does that purchase a cat, or a dog, or even a bird. Often times these animals are returned to the stores they are bought, whereas in contrary to tarantula keepers, our percentage is 7%.

On average, 12,000 dogs and cats can be seen roaming the streets in Ontario alone from careless owners of dogs, cats and yes even birds. Whereas, those who carry tarantulas have never reported their tarantula missing or had any incident what so ever.

Tarantulas are like fish (many owners by which have poisonous fish), they are meant to be looked at, not played around with. People who buy these exotic creatures are well informed, compared to the laziness of many dog owners today who know very little about how to properly support their own lives let alone their dogs.

So ask one last time, how is it fair to the people who make a living by selling their prized possessions, who **have never killed anyone in our records**, who use this money to support their children, their family, their own business and raise our economy, and to simply band them because people are unaware and are "frightened" of such creatures?

By taking away tarantulas alone, I guarantee that at least 500 (if not more) people will be unemployed. In our economy today, we cannot afford this. These creatures have never killed anyone, have never caused to much harm (in fact on average, those who do get bit by these creatures, often only suffer from a headache to cramping) and do not run amuck our streets because of careless owners. Taking away these creatures from people who genuinely care and support these beings, use them for financial purposes, and are given to good homes, will in my most sympathetic of opinions cause more harm than good.

Reflect on your decision, and ask yourself, what do you know about these creatures to make a solid base opinion?

Do you think it is fair that for a creature that has never killed anyone (compared to a dog or even a cat) that it should be denied to the people that genuinely look after and support them? People need these animals, as much as others need their cats and dogs. The only real difference? In all do respect, we tend to be a lot more respectful of others, our animals and ourselves.

Thank you,

John B. Ford

(b)

Robicheau, Vanessa

From: PATRICIA OERTEL
Sent: November 4, 2011 2:15 PM
To: Robicheau, Vanessa
Subject: cat licensing bylaw

Dear Hamilton City Hall,

I believe that cats should not be allowed to wander off their property.

Our neighbors believe that their cat has a right to experience its wild nature by killing (and not even eating) animals.

To date, if I catch my neighbor's cat on my property and transport it safely from Dundas to the other side of Hamilton, my neighbor has to pay a fine.

This would place our neighborhood relationships, which are valuable to us, in an awkward position.

In the meantime, we who love wild birds and wild chipmunks, continue to pick up their dead bodies in our yards.

City bylaws are designed to decide issues which divide our citizens.

Please develop a cat licensing bylaw.

Thank you,

Pat Oertel

Robicheau, Vanessa

From: Jessica Aird |
Sent: November 8, 2011 9:07 AM
To: Robicheau, Vanessa; O'Dwyer, Sue; McHattie, Brian
Cc:
Subject: Urban Chicken Ban

Hello,

I am writing to oppose the part of the new animal by-law that bans urban chickens. I would show up to the public consultation, but unfortunately I have to work, as most people do. This is a backwards step for sustainability in Hamilton with little to no benefits, especially considering that there aren't many people raising chickens in the city. I've been in several back yard chicken coops and met many people who raise chickens in a clean and friendly environment. Sure, people can have messy chickens, but they can also have messy dogs, wild cats, messy pigeons, and messy pet pigs. People who don't take care of their chickens should be dealt with in the same way as those who don't take care of their dogs or other pets.

There has been a lot of research around sustainability and urban farming, as well as several how-to websites that support and encourage pet chickens. They provide eggs to the family, teach children about raising animals and bring them closer to understanding that food doesn't actually come from a supermarket. They also provide fertilizer for gardens.

I would encourage the people developing this by-law to provide solid scientific proof that urban chickens cause disease, smell and noise any more than pigeons, dogs, cats, rabbits or any other pet. Chickens are not a public health issue any more than the feral cats and coyotes hanging out in the field behind my house (which is very much in the city) or the wild turkeys that live in Westdale, or the Deer that live around McMaster and Cootes Paradise, or the raccoon, rat and opossum problems that exist city-wide.

I believe this by-law should be amended to limit the number of urban chickens allowed within the city limits depending on yard size and housing density, or even to require a licensing fee for the chickens to be sure that these pets are in line with the by-law. This would actually generate money for the city and reflect ACTUAL health and safety concerns of having too many animals in a small space.

The real problem with chickens is a lack of public education and understanding. The public opinion about urban chickens does not reflect reality, but rather a false belief that a few chickens are noisy and smelly. Of course you can't keep 20 chickens in your yard, and roosters can cause problems similar to dogs barking, but a few chickens will not hurt anyone and are in fact beneficial to families and to educate children. It's not fair or that someone can have 3 huge dogs beside a house full of children, but 3 chickens will get them a fine.

Please consider realistic and solid scientific evidence when deciding on this by-law and others.

Regards,

Jessica Aird, BSc. A.Sc.T

(d)

Robicheau, Vanessa

Subject: FW: Urban Chicken Bylaw Input**Attachments:** Urban-Egg-Farmer_FINAL.pdf; Municipality Recommendations.docx

From: Mike Petrik**Sent:** November 9, 2011 9:07 AM**To:** clerk@hamilton.ca**Subject:** Urban Chicken Bylaw Input

Hello;

My name is Dr. Mike Petrik, and I have been a poultry veterinarian specializing in laying hens for the past 12 years. I am interested in the discussion your city council is having on the potential bylaw change affecting the keeping of urban chickens in Hamilton. I became aware of the issue through the Hamilton Spectator article. I have been involved in the debate regarding urban chickens in several municipalities, including the City of Toronto, City of London, City of Windsor and the City of Kingston. I would be very interested in being part of the discussion on the bylaw, but the 9:30am time of the meeting makes it impossible for me to attend, due to another commitment. I have attached some documents on urban hen keeping that I have developed in co-operation with the Egg Farmers of Ontario that explain the pros and cons of city-kept hens from a veterinary perspective. My hope is that these will be useful in the discussion, and was wondering if you could include them in the information package. Also, if there is any way that I can be of further assistance in this area, please contact me via

09/11/2011

Urban Egg Production – Considerations for Municipalities

The following is a check list of some issues that a municipality should consider when developing regulations to control and monitor egg laying flocks that might be kept within their borders. A more complete explanation of these points are in the following pages.

Bird Welfare

- Sources need to be in place to provide access to appropriate feed for laying hens
- Educational information needs to be available for inexperienced producers to be able to provide suitable housing and nutrition for the hens they wish to care for
- Enclosures need to be audited to ensure that they provide for the hens physical needs, including heat for winter, shade for hot summer days, effective feeding and watering systems that inhibit contaminants
- Enclosures need to be audited to ensure that they adequately contain the hens, and provide protection from predators
- Protocols for developing relationships with veterinarians who are willing and able to care for sick or injured laying hens need to be in place

Public Health

- Protocols need to be established to ensure eggs are handled in a safe fashion, from collection to storage to distribution
- Regulations are necessary to control the distribution of excess eggs, and a traceback mechanism should be in place in case of bacterial contamination
- Urban farmers need to know how to handle soiled or cracked eggs so that bacterial contamination is minimized
- Safe standards are necessary so that infection of the farmer or his family does not occur due to the waste products produced by the hens
- Programs and information delineating safe slaughter procedures must be available to urban farmers planning on using the hens for meat

Environment and Public Nuisance

- Plans need to be in place for disposal of poultry waste, including manure, broken eggs and carcasses
- Protocols must be implemented that will resolve neighbour disputes over noise and odour
- Regulations that minimize the attraction of vermin by the availability of either hens or chicken feed as feed sources are necessary
- Programs that ensure that areas of poultry production are rotated so that the ground does not become overly contaminated with pathogens need to be in place

International Considerations

- Programs that allow urban farmers to be identified and located will be necessary in order to guard against viral diseases that may have international trade consequences for poultry producers in the province

Urban Egg Production – Considerations for Municipalities

There has been a recent increase in interest for the maintaining of laying hens in urban environments, and numerous municipal governments are or have been considering the implementation of programs to permit egg production in their regions. As a full time laying hen veterinarian, I have concerns around the production of food in an urban setting by people who may not have sufficient experience or education with regards to hen's needs or food safety protocols. Risks are evident in several areas, all of which will be of concern for the municipal government which is administering any program which allows egg production. The risks fall under five main categories: 1) bird welfare, 2) public health, 3) environmental concerns, 4) public nuisance and 5) international poultry health issues. Regulations must address all these categories to minimize risk to the constituents of the municipality.

The municipal government involved must design a strategy that will produce food safe for human consumption by hens that are well cared for and healthy. A well thought out program that predicts potential problems, and addresses them proactively will help avert many animal welfare, animal health, and human health problems.

Bird Welfare

Laying hens have specific disease risks, and unique anatomy, which have no analogues in commonly kept urban animals. For this reason, many urban veterinarians are uncomfortable treating laying hens, and may feel ill equipped to do so. A complicating factor in this is that laying hens are quite stoic in the face of disease or injury. Municipalities will need to ensure that urban farmers are able to recognize illness and injury, and are able to develop a relationship with a veterinarian who is comfortable treating chickens.

Regulations will be necessary to ensure that urban producers are educated in the physical needs of the laying hens, and are provided with guidance to provide for these needs. Laying hens have significant and strict nutritional and physical requirements. Modern strains of laying hens are genetically predisposed to lay a high number of eggs in a year. In order to provide calcium to put shells on these eggs, hens will draw the mineral from their bones if there is insufficient calcium provided in the feed given to the hens. For this reason, uneducated urban farmers may inadvertently cause osteoporosis and bone fractures in poorly fed laying hens. There is no ration available that provides sufficient calcium that is not specifically designed for laying hens; indeed, any laying hen feed would be detrimental to any

other animal. This means that pet food stores will not be able to provide appropriate feed for urban hens, and the municipality needs to provide information on nutrition requirements, as well as a local source for the feed.

Laying hens have been developed from subtropical birds, and have difficulty with adapting to cold, wet weather. Appropriate shelter is important to allow birds to maintain proper temperature, as well as protect the hens from predators such as dogs, cats, rats, foxes, skunks and raccoons. Laying hens need to be protected from the extremes of Ontario's climate. Heat and shade must be provided during cold or excessively hot spells, respectively. Plans must be in place to house the hens over the winter, or means to euthanize or re-home them should be in place. Frostbite and heat prostration are very real risks for chickens housed in Ontario's climate.

Laying hens, like all birds, are prone to contaminate their feed and water sources if the sources are not well designed. Fecal contamination of food and water must be prevented in order to maintain bird health, and decrease risks of bacterial contamination of food produced for human consumption.

Public Health

Public health must be a major concern for any regulation or bylaw concerning urban poultry production. The laying hen industry has developed a complicated food safety infrastructure that begins with methods of egg collection on the farm, appropriate egg storage, a complicated grading and government inspection strategy, and various checks and balances throughout the system to ensure compliance with accepted standards. This infrastructure is largely unknown to most non-farmers, and the misconception that any apparently wholesome egg would be safe to eat. Municipalities embarking on allowing urban egg production would need to take steps to ensure that producers are aware and compliant with safe food handling techniques, and that any distribution of excess eggs to neighbours or friends can be traced back to the source in the event of contamination. Strategies to handle soiled or cracked eggs must be in place for urban producers, as well as protocols to store eggs between collection and use. There will also need to be rules to determine who can consume eggs produced in an urban environment.

Another public health issue involves the urban producer himself. It is unavoidable for a backyard flock to contaminate their environment with fecal matter and feathers. Bacteria such as *E. coli*, *Salmonella*, and *Campylobacter* are all potential human pathogens, and can often be found in poultry manure. The urban farmer must know how to safely handle waste that is produced by the hens. A laying hen will produce almost 800g (2 pounds) of manure per week. This manure is high in minerals, especially phosphorus, which makes it inappropriate for backyard composting. Another system of manure disposal must be developed, as well as plans to dispose of any mortality or broken eggs which may arise through the duration of the flock.

Strategies must also be in place to ensure that poultry inhabited areas are given time to recover from the damage done to them by housing the hens. Poultry, by the actions of scratching and foraging will denude their enclosure of vegetation, and will accumulate pathogens which will eventually render the area unfit for poultry housing.

The final public health concern occurs when the productive life of the flock is ended, or when the producer tires of the experiment. Many people will consider eating the hens at the end of their lives, rather than simply euthanize or re-home them. Protocols for humane and safe slaughter, or methods to forbid it must be in place. It is more difficult to safely produce food than many people will be aware of.

Environmental Concerns and Public Nuisance

Because the near apposition of neighbours in an urban environment, most environmental concerns with regards to a poultry flock will also have impacts on neighbouring properties, so these issues can be considered together. Environmental and nuisance issues include, but are not restricted to issues surrounding noise, odours, and attraction of varmints and predators. Laying hens are quite vocal, even in the absence of males, and the noise they make may encourage local pets to respond. Odours can be difficult to control, and may be a source of neighbourhood irritation. Poorly handled feed, mortality or eggs and insufficient protection of hens in their coop are a strong attractant to small predators such as rats, foxes, skunks, dogs, cats, mice, and other birds. Strategies must be in place to ensure that all inputs are safely and meticulously handled to ensure that there is not a food source for feral creatures in the area.

International Poultry Health Concerns

One other aspect of urban poultry production that must be considered when developing a program is the surveillance and early detection of internationally important diseases. Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease are viral infections that are carried by wild birds and waterfowl. Birds maintained outdoors, as most backyard flocks will be, are susceptible to infection by these agents. Diagnosis of these diseases may have important international ramifications for the poultry producers in the country. It is crucial that any municipality that allows chickens to be raised be able to identify and locate any flock within its borders. There must also be a program that will monitor any events of high mortality or serious illness. This way, there will be the ability to identify and contain an incidence of one of the internationally important diseases.

In summary, there are many issues that need to be considered by any municipality in order to produce an effective, safe program to introduce laying hens into an urban environment. A poorly planned strategy has potential to cause many problems for the hens, producers and municipalities involved. None of the potential impediments to success are insurmountable, but much forethought and education are necessary

so that urban farmers are given the framework and tools to successfully maintain a flock of hens in their backyard.

Sincerely,

Mike Petrik, DVM

DO NOT COPY

urban egg farmer: **top ten list of chores**

There has been a growing interest in raising egg-laying hens in urban environments.

Properly taking care of chickens requires some physical adaptations to a typical backyard, a daily time commitment to caring for your flock, a lot of preparation, and a great deal of expertise.

If you are considering having a backyard flock of your own, here is an example of a chore list you should expect.

did you know:

- A hen excretes approximately 2 lbs of manure per week.
- A hen may appear healthy, but can be laying eggs to the detriment of their own health if not properly cared for.
- Laying hens need feed that is especially high in protein and calcium. The high calcium level that a hen needs in her diet would be toxic to non-producing animals such as a cat or dog.

- 1 Chicken feed must be purchased from a specialized supplier. Pet food stores are not known to carry the feed hens need.
- 2 To be comfortable, hens need shade for hot days, and a heat source for cold days.
- 3 Be sure to lock up the chickens at night to keep them safe from skunks, rats, raccoons and neighbourhood pets who will try to eat the hens and their feed.
- 4 Failing to provide clean water every day can lead to hen infections and illness.
- 5 Eggs are porous and can absorb invisible harmful bacteria if not handled properly.
- 6 Educate yourself on the different warning signs that indicate a hen is ill. Hens require vaccinations and health care from a qualified veterinarian.
- 7 It is not appropriate to compost chicken manure due to the high level of minerals (especially phosphorus) in the manure, which can stop the composting process in typical backyard composters. Develop a plan for how to dispose of your chicken manure.
- 8 All livestock including chickens can be carriers of diseases which can be transmitted to humans who are in close contact with them including children. It is important to learn how to handle and care for hens without accidentally exposing yourself to an animal disease such as Avian Influenza.
- 9 Hens can live to be 7-10 years old. An older hen needs to take a break from egg production periodically. Going out of production is termed molting, and occurs naturally, and is necessary for old hens to remain healthy.
- 10 Any area where animals live will become increasingly contaminated the longer animals are housed there. Plan to have "down time" when no poultry live in the yard, which will give you a chance to decontaminate the area, and break the life cycle of the bacteria and viruses.

Being an Urban Egg Farmer can be a rewarding experience and a great source of pride. However, failing to do these daily chores can severely affect hen health, hen welfare, egg quality, and consequently, human health.

Dr. Mike Petrik, DVM, Poultry Veterinarian

This information fact sheet was prepared by Dr. Mike Petrik, DVM, on behalf of Egg Farmers of Ontario.

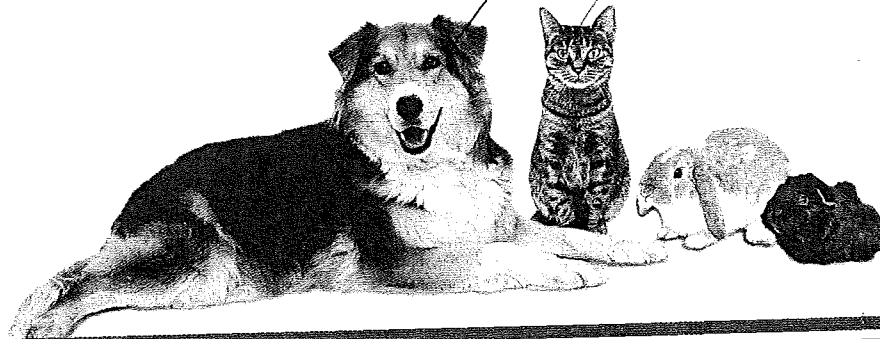
Dear Vanessa,

I am writing about the proposed updated Animal By-Law for Hamilton.

I am in total agreement that there not be a limit on pets per household as long as the animals are properly cared for & do not bother other people in the neighborhood.

I do not have chickens, but they would pose no problem for me as long as they were kept clean in their environment & their was somewhat of a limit so as not to encourage chicken farms.

Sincerely,
Judy Harrison



-----Original Message-----

From: Michelle Gibson [mailto:

Sent: Wednesday, November 09, 2011 10:28 AM

To: Edwards, Karen

Subject: Responsible Animal Ownership By-law

Hi Karen,

I am just writing with concern about the proposed animal bylaw. I am worried that prohibiting urban chickens is delivering the wrong message to communities regarding deepening our understanding about where our food comes from. This prohibition also impedes an individual's right to grow their own food (in this case, eggs). Chickens are a much more sensible pet than cats or dogs - they are actually useful! They can supply food and valuable lessons for children regarding where our food comes from and how we can be self-sufficient! A more appropriate by-law would be to regulate urban chickens - have standards for how they are kept and how many one person should be allowed to own.

Thank you for listening to my concern,

Yours respectfully,

Michelle Gibson

-----Original Message-----

From: jean rodde [mailto:jean.rodde@cityofhamilton.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2011 7:04 PM
To: Edwards, Karen
Subject: RE: restricting chickens in the City of Hamilton

Dear Karen,

I want to make this submission regarding the keeping of chickens in the city. There are groups who are attempting to put pressure on cities to allow chickens within the city limits, at least in the urban areas, not just the rural areas. I would like to direct your attention to a website entitled, www.birdmites.org. You will find it extremely disturbing to know what people have gone through because of bird mites. A local veterinarian told me of the time their family converted a chicken barn into a horse barn. Every warm-blooded family member, person, dog, cat, and horse, became infested with bird mites. Only because she was a vet and recognized the problem, was she able to quickly and completely eradicate the bird mites. In the process, she herself had to be hospitalized due to the quantity of pesticides that it was necessary for her to use, in order to cleanse all persons and animals of the bird mites. This horror may come on citizens in Hamilton if we allow chickens to be kept within the confines of the city.

Thank you to those responsible for putting forth the new bylaw, and having the sense to realize that some things are best left the way they are.

Jean Rodda

-----Original Message-----

From: Caroline [n]

Sent: November 1, 2011 10:57 AM

To: Animal Control

Subject: ban exotic animals

Hi,

Thank you Hamilton for banning the sale of exotic animals. Unfortunately the scope of the ban is not broad enough. Reptile, ferrets and large parrots do not belong in our houses. They belong outdoors, in the wild.

Caroline

-----Original Message-----

From: Encarni Escobar

Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2011 11:35 AM

To: Edwards, Karen

Subject: Re: Update: Proposed New Animal By-law for the City of Hamilton

How DARE you prohibit exotic animals. People want their pet chameleons, tropical fish, boas. This is absolute Tyranny.

-----Original Message-----

From: Encarni Escobar

Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2011 8:37 PM

To: Edwards, Karen

Subject: New Hamilton Animal Bylaw proposals

This is fascist, sadistic, and completely unnecessary. Only ban species which can become a pest if they go wild. Otherwise it is none of your god damn business what pet I choose to keep unless it poses a danger to me.

How is a six inch pet lizard or a big red pet fish or a little parrot or a turtle a threat to anyone? You have officially gone too far. This is Fascism.

Pablo Regueiro

-----Original Message-----

From: Justin and Rachel Cook

Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2011 1:46 PM

To: O'Dwyer, Sue

Subject: new animal by-law comment

Hi Sue,

I saw that you were the one to comment to regarding the new animal bylaw.

I would love to see chickens be allowed in urban settings in Hamilton. There would of course need to be law about how close they can be to a neighbour, but having urban chickens makes sense in so many ways:

- 1- They are not loud (compared to a dog).
- 2- They allow us to be in touch with where our food comes from. I have 3 young children and right now we have to drive to a friend who lives in the country so they can learn about where their meat comes from.
- 3- Farmed chicken practices raise chickens in such a cheap, hurried way that the quality of eggs and chicken meat is very poor. Urban chickens would give much better quality because they aren't squished into a tiny space while they are raised.
- 4- In this tough economic time, urban chickens allows a cheaper, economic way to get protien in our diets.

I know that a lot of other urban cities have adopted urban chicken laws. I urge Hamilton to do the same!

I should also add that other people I have talked to have similar feelings to my own on this matter.

Thanks,
Rachel Cook

-----Original Message-----

From: Hugh McGilchrist

Sent: Saturday, November 05, 2011 9:25 AM

To: Edwards, Karen

Subject: Re: Update: Proposed New Animal By-law for the City of Hamilton

Thank you for sending the information.

The by-law falls short. My neighbours are sick of wandering cats.

It is regretful that cats are not going to be licensed.

Hugh McGilchrist

-----Original Message-----

From: Colleen Simmons [mailto:
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2011 3:29 PM
To: O'Dwyer, Sue; Edwards, Karen
Subject: New Animal by law for the City of Hamilton

Please find attached comments regarding the new Animal By laws for Hamilton.

Thank you
Colleen Simmons

November 10, 2011

Colleen Simmons

City of Hamilton
71 Main Street West,
Hamilton, Ontario

Dear Friends,

In regards to the Updated Animal By-law I would like to submit my comments.

I live in rural Hamilton and am a licensed falconer. I have enjoyed the historical art of falconry for 7 years. My father and mother were falconers when I was a child so I have grown up with Birds of Prey.

To become a licensed falconer in Ontario, I had to find a Master Falconer that would mentor me through my apprenticeship. I had to prove to my mentor that I was serious, and understood the responsibility of caring for and training a raptor. Over my 14 month apprenticeship I had to prove that I was mastering the craft and that my birds were trained and in top physical condition. I was required to learn how to make the traditional fittings and have my housing inspected for hygiene and safety of the birds.

To train a hawk to fly free and come back to the falconer is a time consuming challenge. The birds do not have a sense of loyalty or love, it is training and patience that builds the relationship with hawk and falconer.

I think because of the dedication and time commitment, falconry will never become as popular as golf. But it is important that some of us carry on this centuries old tradition.

Having said all that, I would suggest that hawks and falcons are not a concern for urban restrictions by-laws. There are no odors, noise or safety issues that birds of prey would cause. If the main concern about birds of prey within Hamilton is escape, consider that birds of prey are actually encouraged with in cities to naturally deter the pigeon population. A loose falconry bird would not attach a person but would avoid human contact and would probably head out of town anyways. I would suggest that there be no restrictions on keeping raptors within city limits.

Also concerning section 9.2, that says "raptors permitted under this by-law shall not be at large when hunting". This is a problem, as a raptor must fly unleashed as it could be fatal for a bird to be caught up, by the leash, in a tree top where it could perish. During training we use creances (20 – 30' leashes) until we are certain the bird is responding to her training. Then when certain, we allow the bird to fly free, to use the wind to soar and to build on the relationship that we have fostered in the many weeks of training.

I understand the need for the City of Hamilton to harmonize the by-laws and to protect the residents from danger, noise or pollutants, but as far as birds of prey for falconry are concerned you do not need to restrict the keeping of the birds to rural locations any more than a dog or cat, perhaps even less.

Thank you for taking time to read my comments. If I can be of any further assistance please feel free to contact me or the Ontario Hawking Club.

Sincerely

Colleen Simmons

-----Original Message-----

From: Darren & Jessica
Sent: Friday, November 11, 2011 5:41 AM
To: McHattie, Brian; Brown, Dale
Subject: Animal by-law: Urban chickens!

Hi Brian and Dale,

I am very in favour of allowing urban chickens. (But obviously not roosters!) I spearheaded a chicken project when I lived in BC and was disappointed to find I couldn't have a couple urban chickens when I moved to Hamilton. Urban chickens can be fantastic part of local food security and a sustainable city.

I hope that you will be able to speak in favour of allowing urban chickens at the meeting next week.

Thank you for all the great work you do and for your consideration.

Take care,
Jessica Nye Brouwer (KNA Treasurer)

From: Wendy Moreton
Sent: November 11, 2011 2:44 PM
To: Robicheau, Vanessa
Subject: The Proposed Changes to the Animal Enforcement Bylaw

Attn: Ms. Vanessa Robicheau
 City of Hamilton Clerk's Office

Dear Ms. Robicheau,

I have enclosed a letter that I would ask be submitted to City Council at the Meeting this coming Tuesday, November 16th. I'm not good at Public Speaking and so chose to submit it via email for Council's consideration. I do however, expect to be present at the meeting to show my support for those wishing Urban Chickens.

Thank You for allowing the Public to voice our Opinions and Concerns in this matter.

Sincerely,

Wendy Moreton

The Plight of the Backyard Poulterer

In 1993, my husband and I left Hamilton and moved to a 50 acre farm about 40 minutes north of Kingston, Ontario. One of my first purchases was a flock of organically raised hens. Over the years, I also raised Ducks, Geese and Rare Breeds of Turkeys. The chicken breeds got fancier and for the last 5 years on the farm, we were active in breeding and exhibiting rare breeds of chickens. This included Crossborder showing which entails testing for infectious diseases so I understand the concerns of the Council and it's Advisors when they speak of the perils of Pullorum, Salmonella and Avian Influenza.

We remained on the farm until January 2009, when career and personal circumstances brought us back to Southern Ontario. First to the Niagara Region, then in July 2011, to the east end of Hamilton. So I was unaware until just this past week, that the City of Hamilton was considering outlawing Urban Chickens. This hasn't given me much time to prepare a letter in defense of Responsible Urban Poultrykeeping, but here goes.

Salmonella is apparently one of the primary concerns of the health community. So why is it then, that the City of Hamilton has proposed the approval of non-venomous snakes and lizards? Are you aware that Health Canada cites Snakes and Lizards as a primary source of infection?

"Salmonella can be found in the feces of some pets, especially those with diarrhea. Exotic pets, such as snakes, turtles and reptiles, may carry Salmonella even when healthy. People can become infected if they do not wash their hands after contact"

<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hl-vs/iyh-vsv/food-aliment/salmonella-eng.php#so>

When researching Salmonella outbreaks in Ontario since 2005, I have only been able to find reference to those from Commercially prepared foodstuffs. These include:

Headcheese (a gelatin based meat product from the head meat of pork) prepared by G. Brandt Foods and Freybe Foods of B.C., distributed for sale in B.C. and Ontario, July 2010
 Green Onions distributed by Highland Foods, August 2010

In 2005, there were 552 reported cases of Salmonella poisoning in Ontario. 247 of those

cases were attributed to Mung Bean Sprouts from Sun Wah Foods of Toronto.

As far as poultry related outbreaks, there was a Salmonella outbreak in the U.S.A. in August 2010 which resulted in a massive recall of eggs produced on two farms in the state of Iowa. 170.4 Million eggs were recalled. The CNN report on the conditions at the two farms where the eggs were produced included the following statements.

"Jack DeCoster, who leads Wright County Egg, in June pleaded guilty to 10 civil counts of animal cruelty over his company's treatment of its chickens, said Dr. Donald E. Hoenig, state veterinarian. DeCoster and his company agreed to a \$25,000 fine and made a \$100,000 payment to reimburse the state for future monitoring of the facility.

Allegations included too many birds in cages, injured chickens not being treated, dead animals not being promptly removed from cages and improper euthanization, Hoenig told CNN.

"Since then, the company ... has followed all of our requirements," he said.

"It's no surprise that these birds that are crammed together, basically defecating on top of other birds," said Dan Hauff, director of investigations for Mercy for Animals. "It's no surprise that this is the outcome, this type of outbreak."

<http://www.cnn.com/2010/HEALTH/08/20/eggs.recall.salmonella/index.html>

IF Every Person in the City of Hamilton owned 3 chickens and those three chickens produced one egg per day, it would take 14 days to lay that many eggs. I think it's safe to say that Hamilton is not going to ever see that volume of crowding nor egg production, and therefore we won't have to deal with Irresponsible Husbandry such as caused the Disease on those egg farms.

I have one more comment regarding Disease outbreaks and Poultry. In 2004, in Abbotsford, B.C. there was an outbreak of Avian Influenza on a Commercial Poultry farm.

I have a friend who lives within the 1 km "Kill Zone" mandated by the World Health Organization. Her flock and premises were tested on 3 separate occasions for infection and found NONE. Yet because of her physical location, All of her birds were Euthanized. 30 years of breeding and showing destroyed in 10 minutes because of irresponsible health practices of a commercial poultry farm.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency told the C.B.C. that "Vancouver Airport is one of the most likely access routes for the virus to enter Canada because 2-1/2 million people fly there from Asia every year."

"Health officials stated that Regular Influenza is Overall, a much bigger threat than the Avian kind."

http://www.cbc.ca/news/background/avianflu/poultry_industry_cdn.html

In closing I would just like to say that I believe that the City of Hamilton needs to reconsider their ban on Urban Chickens. Poultry husbandry isn't for everyone. There are always the people that buy a puppy at Christmas then turn the dog back in the first time it soils the carpet. I've personally seen my share of chicken lovers lose interest quickly and I believe that the novelty will wear off in time for many. But I truly believe that should the City of Hamilton reconsider, and set guidelines for Responsible Ownership, that we can all benefit from a few Chickens in the Backyard. I am proposing the following guidelines, based on my researching bylaws regarding poultry in other

cities throughout North America.

If the City of Hamilton is to limit the number of Pets per household to say 3 (2 dogs, one cat for example), then a backyard flock of chickens shall be no more than 3 hens. Roosters will not be allowed. Annual Permits to be Required, say \$50/yr per Flock. And that prior to a New permit being issued to a first time flock owner, that the housing for the flock be completed, inspected by Bylaw and Approved.

Thanks for listening.

Wendy Moreton

(0)

Robicheau, Vanessa

From: :
Sent: November 12, 2011 8:45 PM
To: Robicheau, Vanessa
Subject: Submission for Updated Animal By-law
Attachments: img426.jpg

November 12, 2010

To:
Vanessa Robicheau
City Clerk's Office
1st Floor, 71 Main Street West
Hamilton, Ontario
L8P 4Y5

Dear Vanessa Robicheau,

I am responding by e-mail to you with a submission for inclusion in the updated Animal By-Law meeting, as well as a copy of an article published in the 'View' newspaper of July 2-8, 2009, Vol. 15, No. 27. I am sending this to you as an attachment.

I would appreciate your consideration of an amendment to the Animal By-Law to adopt the same policy enjoyed in cities like Guelph, London, Vancouver, Victoria and Niagara Falls. These cities have certainly recognized the many benefits of raising urban chickens, such as eating home-raised organic eggs, lower grocery expenses, healthy eating, and going green by choosing this eco-friendly sustainable option.

Home owners of fully detached homes or those with adequate space could take advantage of this policy by raising up to a limit of six chickens. This would enable and encourage Hamiltonians to have the option to embrace a healthier lifestyle and be responsible for contributing to a 'going green' philosophy.

Thank you.
Agnes Nelson

14/11/2011

FEEL GREAT EAT LOCAL

area.

Any day of the year, it's possible to walk into a supermarket in Canada and pick up a ripe mango. It's a strange feeling to scrape two feet of snow off your car in suburban Hamilton and then, mere minutes later, hold the product of tropical sunlight that shines over 3000 km away in the palm of your hand.

The options for adding a little local food to your life are plentiful in our neck of the woods. There are many different reasons for buying local food, from concerns about farming practices, to reducing your carbon footprint, to supporting local farmers. Phil Mount, a PhD candidate in the local and alternative foods research group at the University of Guelph says that's why he "looks at local food more as a negotiation." The possible arrangements between you and a local producer are more flexible than they are in a standard grocery store.

The Farmers' Market

Farmers' markets are fairly accessible venues for local food. Vendors set up stalls to promote their wares, often extending beyond produce into meat, dairy products, and crafts. The Hamilton Farmers' Market is located at Jackson Square and is open every Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Community Shared Agriculture

Community Shared Agriculture is an increasingly popular arrangement where customers pay a lump sum to become a member of a farm and then pick up fruits and veggies once a week all summer and fall. Customers get fresh food and, by paying up front at the beginning of the season, share in the risks of that season's

crop production. Some CSAs that serve the Hamilton area include Heart's Content Farm, Simpler Thyme Farm, ManoRun Farm, and Plan B Farms.

Community Gardens

Open green space is at a premium in urban areas and a lot of residential lots aren't suited to growing veggies. Many community gardens with small plots for individuals or families have sprouted up around the area to solve that dilemma. Local community gardens include the Churchill Park Community Gardens and Dundas Community Gardens.

Backyard Gardens and Chickens

People are increasingly seeing potential for urban farming in their grassy lawns and sunny balconies. If tending a backyard plot doesn't suit you, there are other options. One of the simplest forays into local food is buying a potted tomato plant, throwing it in a sunny locale, watering it regularly, and picking the delicious sun-ripened fruit. Most grocery store tomatoes are picked green and artificially brought to full ripeness, which leaves their flavour significantly lacking compared to the real thing. And if that fruit tree in your backyard seems like more trouble than it's worth, there is another option. The Hamilton Fruit Tree Project picks fruit from local backyard trees and splits the produce between the tree's owner, food banks and local social service providers.

Hamilton does not allow backyard chickens, but the urban farming trend is growing elsewhere across Canada in cities like Guelph, London, Vancouver, Victoria and Niagara Falls. A Guelph urban chicken farmer finds that tending chickens brings many benefits – not the least of which is fresh eggs for his table. "I can respect anything that creates something everyday. I've got a good role model to look up to," he says.

Co-opting 'Local'

Many very large, non-local food providers are discovering that the term 'local' has a certain amount of cache. Mount points out that some grocery stores have started using it as a marketing tool. This is partially due to ambiguous definitions of 'local' in different regions. "In England, if you're sourcing more than 20 miles away, they wouldn't even call it local food," says Mount. Ultimately, people are looking for ways to improve access to local food in a way that doesn't compromise its original meaning and purpose. Mount suggests that one way to scale up the availability of local food may be to attach it to institutions, such as universities and hospitals.

Now that the sun has returned to our hemisphere, take the opportunity to hold a local, fresh, still warm from the sun, straight off the vine, heirloom tomato in your hand. Briefly. And then hurry up and eat the thing because before you know it, winter will be back again. **V** (LAURA TOZER)

SUMMERTIME IS HERE, drifting in on the smell of barbecues wafting out of backyards and the sound of bicycle bells in the street. Those wrinkled shorts are no longer crumpled into the back of the closet, but are back to their former glory beside the sunglasses, sunscreen and bug

spray. Surrounded by flowering plants and bursting buds, the promise of fresh food has arrived.

From farmers' markets to community gardens, from urban chickens to community shared agriculture programs, local food abounds in the Hamilton

(q)

Robicheau, Vanessa

From: Sam Stiling
Sent: November 13, 2011 9:57 AM
To: Robicheau, Vanessa
Subject: public adoptions

Ms Robicheau,

After viewing the attached video I am appalled to learn that Hamilton Animal Control has no public adoption policy and is therefore an automatic death sentence for any caught. This policy needs to be reviewed immediately, these animals deserve the chance of finding forever homes and to be treated with love and respect.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jRSzpYLNA20&feature=mfu_in_order&list=UL

Regards

Samantha Stiling

(r)

Robicheau, Vanessa

From: Bonnie Dawson
Sent: November 13, 2011 3:06 PM
To: Robicheau, Vanessa
Cc:
Subject: Hamilton Animal Control
Importance: High
Attachments: Letter to Robichau re HAC.pdf; 2010 ALDF Report on NWT.doc

Action for the Protection of Northern Animals,
Hay River, Northwest Territories, Canada
protectionofnorthernanimals@gmail.com
Loki-APNA@gmail.com

November 13, 2011

With all due respect and without prejudice

Vanessa Robicheau
City Clerk's Office,
1st Floor, 71 Main Street West , Hamilton , ON L8P 4Y5
Phone: 905-546-2424 Ext. 2729

SUBJECT: Hamilton Animal Control

Dear Ms Robicheau:

May I introduce myself. I am the Founder of Action for the Protection of Northern Animals, I am also the driving force behind the newly legislated NWT Dog Act. In the Spring of 2011, I won my three year battle with the Territorial Government for Animal Protection here. This major history making victory is merely the First Step towards the Comprehensive Animal Protection Act that I want. You may wish to note that the NWT has never had any form of Animal Protection in place and was deemed "Best Place to Abuse Animals" by the Animal Legal Defense Fund for three years in a row.

As a former Ontario resident, born and raised in this Nation's Capital, I continue to be well informed on issues going on in Ontario, hence I take a very active approach on all such issues.

Note just added: not contained in PDF attached.

According the Animal Legal Defense Fund Report of 2011, Ontario is supposed to be ranked as one of the leading provinces in Animal Welfare and Protection. Unfortunately this does not appear to apply with the animals at Hamilton Animal Control.

<http://www.aldf.org/article.php?id=1714>

With regard to the ongoing killings of animals at the Hamilton Animal Control, the proposed new By-Law, and the fact that this so-called shelter does not adopt out animals, thereby the killings will continue unabated...I find this to be a most unacceptable and intolerable situation.

Various animal rescue groups and their volunteers have been responding positively by taking in as many of these animals as they can into their own homes, caring for them, expending their own personal finances, time, energies and issuing alerts, posting pictures of these animals on newsletters and in emails with the hopes of finding them forever loving homes.

It is time that the Hamilton Animal Control immediately take the same active role in doing exactly the same as these caring taxpayers and residents.

14/11/2011

There are many alternatives available and which can be utilized effectively to end the unnecessary killing of these animals.

Here in the Northwest Territories where we do not have the luxury of fully equipped animal shelters, resident veterinarians and we have only one Animal Hospital to service all of the NWT, one has had to be very pro-active. Inuvik, NWTSPCA located in Yellowknife, the shelter volunteers located in my area all have a relocation program set in place. Discarded, often sick and injured animals, are relocated outside the NT, by way of Pawsitive Match located in Alberta, and which works with other groups within B.C. and elsewhere allowing NT dogs and cats to find forever homes, specialized medical treatment if necessary and needed rehabilitation.

By calling upon the airlines, these relocation programs, include free flights out of the Territory for x number of rescued animals per month. Canadian North is one such airline, and Buffalo Airways is another, Buffalo flies animals from Hay River to Yellowknife gratis; from Yellowknife another carrier flies them to Pawsitive Match in Alberta. This is just one instance of co-operation between different parties to ensure loving homes are found. The Humane Society of Ottawa established a program to take dogs from Iqualuit a number of years ago. I myself only recently was able to relocate six pups (one seriously injured) to Victoria, B.C. by using this established network. A number of years ago, the network, in which I participated, was successful in relocating 6 two and a half week old pups out of Old Crow, Yukon. Ironically that alert came out of Toronto, it was a Waterloo University student working on her thesis in Old Crow who contacted a group in Toronto, who then contacted me and I then made other necessary contacts. All airlines involved flew these pups in-board gratis and a relay of volunteers were involved. These pups survived and found not only a surrogate mom but also loving homes in Victoria, B.C.

Ontario most certainly has far more available resources than the NT, all provinces do. Given that fact, Hamilton Animal Control has had these resources available to them for a very long time.

Hamilton Animal Control needs to take the necessary time to set up a relocation program of their own, rather than continuing to take the easy road..killing of animals.

Hamilton Animal Control needs to establish positive relationships across the board with well established and effective rescue organizations, veterinary clinics, airlines, the major Animal Welfare groups available to them. By doing so, initiating spay/neuter blitzes, public education programs, as well and so very important: Start placing these animals up for adoption.....thousands of innocent lives will be saved.

Virtually every single day I receive emails coming from Ontario with the pictures and descriptions of the many beautiful cats and kittens held at and soon to be destroyed by Hamilton Animal Control. The time and energy that this contact puts into preparing such emails is mind boggling. The time and energy I spend circulating such alerts, copying and pasting these pictures and descriptions into my own posts is an ongoing issue.

Hamilton Animal Control needs to partner with not only the vast network of rescue groups, organizations, volunteers, and airlines it must also partner with the many newspaper and media resources available to them to develop a working relationship...here for example local papers publish weekly the pictures and descriptions of rescued and adoptable animals within the few shelters (actually only 3) that we do have in the NT.

The media is a most powerful tool, as I myself found out, it can be used in a most successful matter to shed a very negative light on issues. The International focus I was able to bring to the situation of unabated, unprosecuted animal neglect carried on for decades in the NWT increased the needed pressure on the Territorial government to put into effect the new NT Dog Act. The media coverage I personally received, newspaper, radio and TV interviews all strengthened by own fight for changes here. That being said as just one example, word is being spread by those concerned animal rescuers, caregivers and taxpayers throughout Ontario.

It is my sincere hope that my suggestions above concerning Hamilton Animal Controls need to actively participate in the adoption process, the relocation process and utilizing the vast resources available to them, will put an end to the continued killing of animals.

I will look forward to a response at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,
Bonnie Dawson, Hav River, NT

Founder: Action for the Protection of Northern Animals

Member: Animal Defense League of Canada

Animal Alliance of Canada

Animal Alliance Environment Voters Party

WSPA, PETA

Northern Representative: Canadians for Animal Welfare Reform (CAWR)

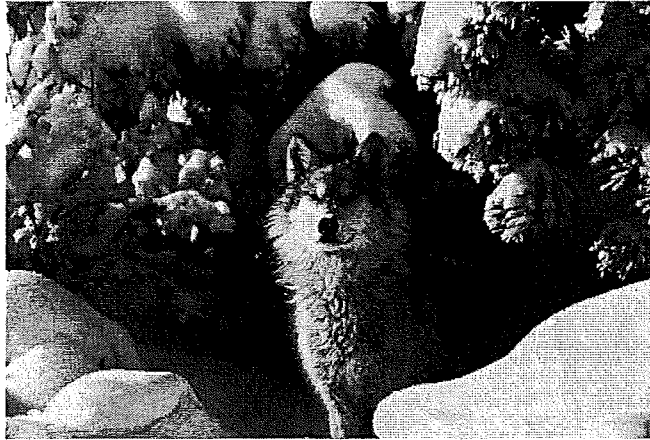
Nominee: 2009 International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)

Recipient: Certificate of Nomination: CBC's Champions of Change 2010

Author: Philly's Corner

www.bonnedawson.com <http://giftofloki.wordpress.com>

Big or Small, every living creature has a place on this planet, deserving of human respect, compassion and guardianship. The true measure of human society is in how we honor this role placed upon all of mankind.



Action for the Protection of Northern Animals,

Hay River, Northwest Territories, Canada

protectionofnorthernanimals@gmail.com

Loki-APNA@gmail.com

November 13, 2011

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Bonnie Dawson, Hay River, NT

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Author: Philly's Corner

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http://news.sympatico.ctv.ca/home/contentposting?feedname=CTV-TOPSTORIES_V3&showbyline=True&date=true&newsitemid=CTVNews%2f20100610%2fanimal-rights-laws-100610

2010 ALDF Report on NWT

NWT, Nunavut in dog house for lax animal rights laws

10/06/2010 10:20:49 AM

CTV.ca News Staff

The Northwest Territories and Nunavut have the worst animal protection laws in Canada, a California-based animal-rights group says in a new report card.

The Animal Legal Defense Fund's says the two territories are the "best places" to be if you're an animal abuser, because convictions for animal abuse there carry minimal fines, and the territories have weak laws when it comes to seizing abused animals.

Animals in Alberta and Quebec also have rotten legal protection, the group alleges in its report card.

Animals in Ontario, meanwhile, enjoy the best protection in Canada, the ALDF says, which ranked the province in the top spot. It applauded, in particular, Ontario's mandatory restrictions on future ownership of animals for those convicted of animal cruelty.

Here's the full ranking list:

Top Tier:

- 1. Ontario
- 2. Nova Scotia
- 3. Manitoba
- 4. New Brunswick

Middle Tier:

- 5. Yukon
- 6. British Columbia
- 7. Saskatchewan
- 8. Prince Edward Island
- 9. Newfoundland and Labrador

Bottom Tier:

- 10. Alberta
- 11. Quebec
- 12. Northwest Territories, Nunavut (tie)

To create the reports card, the ALDF says it conducted a detailed comparative analysis of the animal protection laws of each province and territory, ranking them on the relative strength and general comprehensiveness of their animal protection laws.

The group says New Brunswick showed the most significant improvement overall, moving from the bottom tier last year to fourth best in the country this year.

New Brunswick moved up after enacting some of Canada's stiffest penalties for cruelty offences.

Abusers there now face fines of up to \$100,000 and imprisonment for up to 18 months. By comparison, animal abusers in Alberta – which the ALDF ranked in the bottom tier -- can be fined only up to \$20,000, and abusers can't be incarcerated under provincial law.

Nova Scotia overtook Manitoba as the second best province due to a host of new laws including better standards of care for animals, stronger penalties and requiring veterinarians to report suspected offences.

Stephan Otto, ALDF director of legislative affairs and report author, said Alberta ranked sixth in 2008, ninth last year, and now 10th, because the province is simply not keeping up with other provinces in strengthening its laws.

He called for all provinces to update their animal protection laws and enforcement abilities.

"We continue to see significant disparity across the provinces and territories," Otto said in a news release.

"Animals do not vote, but those who love and care about them do. It is our hope that these ongoing reviews continue to garner support for both the strengthening and enforcement of animal protection laws throughout Canada."

ALDF was founded in 1979 with the unique mission of protecting the lives of animals through the legal system.

(S)

Robicheau, Vanessa

From: gemma conroy
Sent: November 13, 2011 5:51 PM
To: Robicheau, Vanessa
Subject: Hamilton Animal Control Bylaw

Vanessa

I would like to register my disagreement towards the proposed Animal Control Bylaw. Specifically I reference the the section regarding cats being "at large". I agree that there are a sub set of animals which should not be allowed to roam free as they pose a risk to the public, however to place a cat in this category is ludicrous. Never has a cat mauled a child, attacked unprovoked or posed any risk to the general public what so ever. They only issue that I can see with a cat being at large would be the possible defecation on another's property. However if this is cause to ban these animals then surely the animal control bylaw should be extended to include all animals at large. Continuing with ludicrous bylaws such as this will soon have every blue jay, beaver, skunk and raccoon in the area filling up the local pounds. I urge the city to reconsider they scope of animals included within this bylaw and to take a more sensible and practical approach to animal control.

Regards
Gemma Norman
Dundas, Ontario

14/11/2011

Robicheau, Vanessa

From: November 13, 2011 6:22 PM
Sent:
To: Robicheau, Vanessa
Subject: The City Run Shelter

I understand there will be a meeting regarding the by-laws of the Hamilton Animal Control on Tuesday; I cannot attend, therefore I am sending this email with my thoughts and feelings about the situation at the HAC.

I foster cats/kittens for a local rescue organization. We have taken out quite a few from HAC, all which have had Upper Respiratory Infection and some quite severely ill.

While I am aware the URI is typical within a crowded facility, I am hoping that the HAC can quarantine new arrivals before placing them in with the other animals in the shelter.

As for the number of pets owned, I believe it could be more than 2 however, I feel that owners of cats should also have to have their pets licensed or microchipped and this SHOULD be MANDATORY.

The number of cats euthanized on a weekly basis is appalling. I am under the assumption that a vet comes into the shelter twice per week to put to sleep unwanted animals and is paid per animal. I feel that the 72 hour holding time in which someone has to find their pet at the shelter is unfair. Recently I was on a site in which 2 different people lost their cats. I suggested to them the HAC, and they (living in Hamilton) had no idea this place existed...they were reunited with their cats ..more information regarding lost pets and the HAC is much needed. More cats would have a chance of returning home if they knew where they were to look.

I also feel that in this day and age we should be able to look and facilitate a NO KILL policy. Bill Bruce in Calgary has done so, and it is necessary to do so here. We will always have some people who think animals are disposable, but I feel that those working in such organizations with the animals should/need to take a better look at stopping the unnecessary killing of these animals yearly. I can't believe the numbers and there is no need for this. People's pets are being euthanized because 1. they don't know where to go/look 2. there is a 72 hour window in which they have to get their pet out of HAC!!!! Not fair.

I think it time for Hamilton to set an example for other Animal Control agencies in working towards a NO KILL shelter. There are ways of accomplishing this...reading "Redemption" by Winograd is a start.

I am hoping that this letter opens some eyes and hearts. I surely would think that we can move forward instead of backwards when it comes to the killing of these animals. Hamilton City Council needs to listen to the people, and make changes.

Sincerely,

J. Collins

cc: Animal Alliance

(u)

Robicheau, Vanessa

From:**Sent:** November 13, 2011 7:57 PM**To:** Robicheau, Vanessa**Subject:** Nov 15th animal law meeting

Hello, my name is Denise Richardson, I live at _____, Pittsburgh PA _____ USA. I am obviously unable to attend your meeting in person, to give my opinion and support the pet owners of your city, so I am sending this email message. I understand you would like a limit on number of pets residents may keep, and a roaming law for cats. First I would like to state that sounds like a good idea in theory; but trying to keep cats inside is like trying to nail jello to a wall! A cat's sense of independence is one of the things that cat lovers appreciate, and drives non cat lovers crazy! Here in _____ where I live, our cats are not allowed to roam loose outside your property. (Try telling that to my cats as I try to prevent them from escaping as I open a door!) or you face a fine. It sounds good on paper, but is tough to enforce. From what I understand, you want to sell the strays you impound? Am I correct? I am against selling any shelter animal alive or dead. The live ones suffer horribly through research and neglect, and selling the bodies of cats after euthenasia, makes them a lucrative commodity; taking away any incentive to save them or find adoptive homes. They are obviously worth more dead than alive as a source of income. When I was in Nursing school anatomy class, we had to dissect cats pickled in formaldehyde, and it was a sickening experience. I endured it because I knew I had to, to obtain my nursing degree, but I went home and cried every night I had a class when I would see my own pets. If the cat's weren't so easily available, they would find another way of teaching anatomy. My last point is on the limit on number of animals allowed to keep. That was also an issue in my township that was proposed, and defeated due to the research and hard work of one woman. Personally I have 5 cats, my oldest is 16, my youngest 1 year old, she was a young feral cat I rescued from living in a woodpile outside. I had her spayed, the world has enough unwanted kittens; and she is a house cat. No one was going to come into my home, and expect me to play King Solomon and make me decide which 2 of my carts I was going to keep. I would not have done it. It would have been asking me to decide between my children! I know it is hard for some people to understand, but pets are truly a part of a family. They are sentient beings that feel and return emotions and love, and provide companionship for lonesome souls as well. I have to work very hard to keep after my cats, but I CHOOSE to do it. You can not change human nature, and there are always going to be some irresponsible people in the world who won't follow the rules. I ask that you don't punish the majority who do, over the few that can't or won't for whatever reason. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

14/11/2011

From: petadvocate
Sent: November 13, 2011 8:16 PM
To: Robicheau, Vanessa
Subject: Re: Updated Animal By-law public meeting

Dear Ms. Robicheau,

Unfortunately I am unable to attend the meeting in person as previously arranged being 16th on the list of speakers. I would now like to add the following written submission for inclusion. Thank You.

"Good morning (afternoon) to all...

I have been aware of the terrible fate of literally thousands upon thousands of animals having the misfortune of ending up inside your Animal Control facility at it's current location. It matters NOT how those animals entered your facility, nor what species they are. What DOES matter is their treatment once you agreed to be fully responsible for each and every one of their lives.

While it surely is a daunting responsibility for all those involved, it is still none the less YOUR responsibility, and I personally am truly ashamed with all those who have made the choice to totally ignore and take no responsibility whatsoever in what happens to those thousands of our completely innocent fellow living, breathing and feeling creatures once they enter beyond your front door.

I am suggesting you all now get fully involved and take some personal and political responsibility for your animals lives AND deaths. Go past the front door--go see your animals--look into their eyes--listen to their cries for help--feel their pain--then go back again in 2 or 3 days. Watch how the life is being drained from all the ones chosen to simply be killed because you have not cared enough to stop this weekly ritual for years.

This treatment of your innocent animals, and yes they are all indeed YOUR animals because you all agreed to be responsible for them via your by-laws, is not only immoral, unethical, inhumane and politically incorrect--it is also totally UNNECESSARY! Each and every one of you have the power and an obligation to stop this today! I'm hoping you will fulfill your responsibility starting today. The animals are completely innocent in this terrible situation and their lives deserve the common respect that is expected of you. Thank you. Most sincerely, Mrs. Clark"

(W)

Robicheau, Vanessa

From: Paul Meixner
Sent: November 13, 2011 8:57 PM
To: Robicheau, Vanessa
Subject: urban chicken by-law

Hello, we are Paul Meixner and Lisa Kabesh and we would like to submit our views on the city by-law regarding urban chickens for the meeting at City Hall tomorrow. It is our hope that this statement can be read at the meeting in our absence.

We are strongly for the allowance of chickens in the urban and sub-urban environment. We can think of dozens of reasons why it is a good idea, but from what we understand from the city of Hamilton website, public safety is the biggest issue. We believe this can be resolved quite simply: there should be a minimum space requirement for the ownership of chickens. And, of course, education regarding the proper composting of waste is essential for safe usage of chicken manure.

What we hope to communicate in this letter, however, is our believe that quality of life can greatly be increased by people taking responsibility over their own food. We are in our early thirties, and are perhaps a part of the first generation raised so wholly in a processed-food and factory-farm culture. It is important that people like ourselves, and especially children today, have the opportunity to learn where food comes from, and to understand that local food production is a positive and real solution to problems surrounding nutrition and food supply. We often hear chicken-owners talk about how the noise and waste from chickens are much less offensive than that made by dogs; while we think this is a valuable point, we think it more important to recognize people's wonderful connections to dogs and cats as indicative of a strong human need for connection with natural life in the urban environment-- with both plant and animal life. For these reasons, we strongly recommend that the City of Hamilton chooses to allow interested residents to raise chickens and participate in a growing local culture in Hamilton dedicated to sustainable living.

We would like to thank you for your time, and your attention.
All the best,
Paul and Lisa.

(X)

Robicheau, Vanessa

From: Marie-Lynn Hammond
Sent: November 13, 2011 9:05 PM
To: Robicheau, Vanessa
Subject: Hamilton Animal Control

To Hamilton City Council:

I'm writing to voice my deep concern over the situation at HAC. I am involved with animal rescue, cats in particular, and also I work with other rescuers who take HAC cats to rehome them.

All of us rescuers do this on an unpaid basis in our spare time. Well, we no longer have spare time because of trying to save innocent creatures from unnecessary suffering or death.

I don't understand why HAC does not have an adoption program and/or offer low cost spay & neuter. I understand that Hamilton may have serious problems due to plant closures etc., but so do most big cities these days. And many of those cities still find money in their budgets for animal welfare. If you took the money you pay the vets to euthanize and instead used it for a website with pictures of the cats and a staff person to handle adoptions for even just a few hours a day, I suspect you might even SAVE money. Those vets are getting rich on the backs of innocent animals.

I don't live in Hamilton, I live two hours away, but the depressing policies at HAC are impacting us rescuers even this far, and even farther away than I am -- because other rescuers feel compelled to step in and do something to try to mitigate this shameful situation.

I do hope council finds it in their hearts to do the right thing, and soon!

Sincerely,

Marie-Lynn Hammond

--

Marie-Lynn Hammond
Editor, Writer, Musician

Don't litter! Spay or neuter your pet.

14/11/2011

(y)

Robicheau, Vanessa

From: LillyS
Sent: November 14, 2011 4:21 AM
To: Robicheau, Vanessa
Subject: Written submissions for inclusion in the meeting agenda-please confirm
Attachments: Hamilton Animal Control.doc

City Clerk's Office,
1st Floor, 71 Main Street West,
Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y5
Phone: 905-546-2424 Ext. 2729

Greetings Vanessa Robicheau

I would like you to print out and submit my report for the meeting on Hamilton Animal Control. If possible, is there anyway to have a video played during the meeting? I am unable to attend as per medical reasons which affects my mobility. The video I would want people to see is http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jRSzpYLNA20&feature=mfu_in_order&list=UL . My report is attached and I would like confirmation that you are able to open the document and print it for submission to the agenda.

With Gratitude

Lillian Szilagy

14/11/2011

**Request for a review and investigation into the treatment of
Animals while in the care of Hamilton Animal Control-**

**Examples of specific animals and their treatment while
under the care of Hamilton Animal Control. I am sure there
are more examples but this is the information I have found
that needs to be investigated or an inquiry made.**

**By Lillian Szilagy
Concerned Canadian Citizen**

**I am asking that all printed copies of this report black out all
the names and email addresses used and that if specific
information is required, they can contact me for details.**

Tigger-Two and Kobe- Elderly cat left to suffer for days before he passed away at shelter and cat suffering with abscess.

I first noticed this elderly cat Tigger-Two while looking on Petfinder March 14, 2011 and wrote a response because they were asking for someone to rescue him which I thought was unusual seeing as he looked like he was dying..

> On Mon, 14 Mar 2011 10:24:11 -0400, '[REDACTED]' <[REDACTED]>
> wrote:
>> Tigger Two looks like he needs more than a new home. He looks like my
>> 21 yr old cat did the day before she died! Whats that you hear? My
>> heart breaking?>>

Response I got from my inquiry about Tigger-Two who looked like he was dying in the picture.

----- Original Message -----

From: <[REDACTED]>
To: "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>
Cc: "[REDACTED]"; <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, March 14, 2011 10:34 AM
Subject: Re: urgent list for Monday Beth?

> Yes...he's probably a zillion years old, but he's VERY sweet and perky.
> There are no obvious medical problems other than age. He's eating,
> drinking, using the litterbox - but not too much if you know what I
> mean.

And then this email indicating Tigger-Two died on March 16, 2011.

----- Original Message -----

From: <[REDACTED]>
To: "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>
Cc: "[REDACTED]"; <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2011 10:16 AM
Subject: Re: URGENTS to be rescued by this Thursday?

> Tigger Two died yesterday. Poor little man.
>
> I rescued "Bob" and "Pebbles" yesterday.
>
> Calipso has a missing ear - probably from a dog. VERY sad.
> Kobe is awesome - has an abscess from fighting.
>
> Amos & Andy MUST be rescued together. VERY VERY sweet boys - bonded!

>

> Good looking list. Thanks, Ladies

In this email, Kobe is mentioned having an abscess. Below is his Petfinder picture. I am interested to know if Hamilton Animal Control gave him any antibiotics or pain medicine or if they drained the abscess? How was he treated medically while in the care of Hamilton Animal Control? Please investigate.



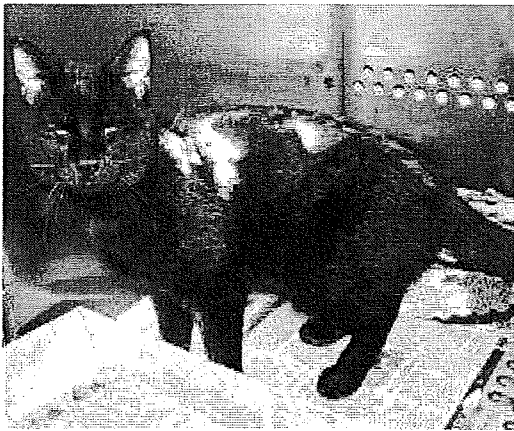
Burned Boy Trooper: Cat with burns on his back

I was advised that this cat was treated with ointment while at shelter. Is that appropriate seeing his condition? Should he not have been given antibiotics or painkillers? Please investigate as there is even a video of his burns.

----- Original Message -----

From: <[REDACTED]>
To: "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>
Cc: "[REDACTED]"; <[REDACTED]>; <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, February 20, 2011 10:15 PM
Subject: Re: Fw: OMG what can we do about this boy?

> I saw this guy and he's really really sweet. His wounds look like
> burns. :(
>
> Beth



YouTube video of burns

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o7Epf8liAw0&feature=autoplay&list=ULv8CQtQbpduM&index=8&playnext=1>

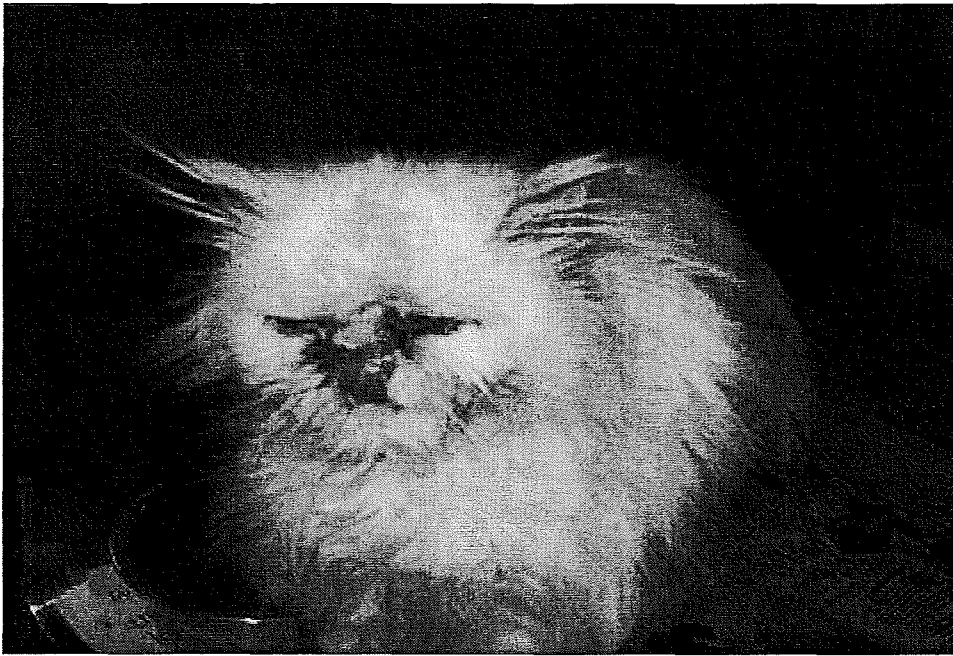
I asked the OSPCA to investigate this cat and was told "The cats are vet treated....the burned cat was treated 2 times a day with ointment while he was there and only had one open wound (the rest were scratches)". You watch the video and be the judge.

Here is an update on him-look under the name Trooper.

<http://www.northtorontocatrescue.com/happy-tails-rescued/>

Emma/Jessie: Persian cat that was also dying at the shelter.

I asked the OSPCA to investigate this Persian as her picture on Petfinder showed a cat that was in serious distress. I have still not been advised on how this cat was treated while in the care of Hamilton Animal Control so it still needs to be investigated. Please read the following email and blog about the rescue. Emma ended up being a boy renamed Jessie. Please investigate how this animal was medically treated while at shelter. Please investigate the suffering that is allowed at Hamilton Animal Control and see why the OSPCA is not called in immediately by the city workers when they get these animals in to be medically treated. Why isn't a rescue group called immediately by Hamilton Animal Control to save the animal? Why is it up to someone posting his picture and asking for help before he is saved from his suffering?



UPDATE: March 15, 2011 - It turns out Emma is a neutered male the animal control facility did not sex him correctly.

He is currently at our vet clinic - he was very sick, dehydrated and emaciated - he actually went into cardiac arrest on Wednesday and the tech revived him.

As of Thursday and Friday it was not looking good, but he seemed to perk up on Saturday with his heart rate, blood pressure and body temperature improving. Blood work indicated a severe infection, parasites, his levels are all over the place but that is to be expected considering the condition he is in and who knows how long he has been this way, from the severity of the matting we think for quite some time. Sunday he was actually able to sit up and yesterday he

stood up. He is a very sweet little guy, super affectionate and purrs so loud, loves to have his paw touching you. He is still on iv as he is not out of the woods yet, but...everyday we see improvement.

UPDATE - March 9, 2011 - We have pulled kitty from the animal control facility - and have moved her to our vet clinic where she is receiving much needed medical care. This poor sweet girl is approximately 1 year old; she came in as a stray. Emma (now identified as male) is severely matted, dehydrated and very emaciated. They have started to remove some of the matting on her which are right to her skin - it will take many grooming sessions to fully remove them all. We will be doing blood work and further testing and will keep you posted on her status.

<http://www.petfinder.com/petdetail/19276662>

Jessie is our little miracle. Once unloved and riddled with neglect this little fellow ended up in an animal control facility. Jessie's story: My name is [REDACTED] of AARF Rescue. I work full time and in my spare time after taking care of my family I try to help by saving animals on death row. One evening after a long day of work, and rescue, I thought I would check my emails one last time before retiring to bed. There were the usual messages we rescuers receive on a daily basis i.e. so many pleas for animals in desperate need. Being a rescue it is overwhelming at times. There was an email from [REDACTED] who frequently posts animals on death row, whose time has run out. I don't know why I clicked on that message as I am so over my limit with dogs and cats in my rescue, but I did, I read the usual plea for cats sitting on death row, I continued to read the message and saw a line that said "and the saddest is this persian who needs vetting asap", I scrolled down and there was a picture which horrified me. That night all I could think about was Jessie only having until Friday to find rescue help. I picked up the phone and called my contact at the facility; I asked if she could put a hold on him until Thursday. I had no idea what I would do to help this little soul, but there was just something that told me I would find help for him. I posted Jessie immediately on my rescue site with an urgent plea for a foster home. The next day, I checked my messages on my lunch and an email popped up referencing "urgent Jessie". My heart was racing and I couldn't open the email fast enough, there was a message from a woman named [REDACTED] enquiring about becoming his foster mom and asked if I could call her. I immediately picked up the phone and we talked, I sent [REDACTED] a foster application which she completed right away. Next, I called my vet to ask if I could bring him there as he was in immediate need of medical care. I was so anxious to go and get him but I had to wait until my work day was done. I arrived at the facility and went into the cat room, so many desperate faces peering at me with hope in their eyes; it is a hard place to go as death lingers around every corner. It is the sad reality of the facility that there are far too many cats and kittens to find rescue help. The worker directed me to a steel cage, as I approached I saw this poor little helpless face peering out at me, eyes so stuck shut with infection and fur so matted with feces and litter stuck everywhere. I opened the cage door and spoke softly to Jessie saying that he would be ok and that I was going to help him. I reached in and picked him up, he was so light and I could feel his bones protruding from beneath all the mattes; this poor soul had suffered so much. I immediately took him to my vets. It took the vet tech hours to work on him to remove the matting in order to give him some comfort. The next day I went to work, I was anxious to call the clinic to see how Jessie was doing. My phone rang at 8:30 am and it was the vet tech [REDACTED], she told me that when she arrived at 8:00 a.m. Jessie was dead, no sign of life, [REDACTED] immediately picked him up and started giving him CPR. Within a few minutes Jessie gasped for air but he was still not out of danger, his heart rate was so low and he was struggling. The clinic worked feverishly to save his life. I was on pins and needles all day worrying about this poor little angel. I went that night after work to see Jessie; my heart sank when I saw him, his little body was struggling and he was so weak. I prayed for him that night that he would be strong enough to live. I called the clinic the next day and there were some positive signs, his blood pressure and heart rate had improved, his body temperature was better; he was by no means out of the woods but he was showing improvement. Everyday Jessie made improvement and the clinic was very positive that Jessie would have a good recovery. I went every day to go see him and sit with him and the team at the clinic was so wonderful and caring. As well, Wendy who will be Jessie's foster mom goes 3 to 4 times a week to spend time with him. Today Jessie is so much better; he has made significant improvement. He is stronger and is up and walking and running around the clinic, he is sweet and affectionate and loves to soak up all the love he is given. He is an amazing little one, and has taught me that you should never give up because miracles do happen. Jessie is currently in the care of AARF rescue

Nayla-cat euthanized after being at the shelter with a broken jaw.

On May 08, 2011, an email was sent showing a picture of a cat at Hamilton Animal Control that had a broken jaw and needed to be rescued. She was euthanized on May 17, 2011, after suffering at this shelter for 9 days. I want to know how she was medically treated while in the care of Hamilton Animal Control and what pain medicine she was given during her week and a half stay at this place before euthanized. This needs to be investigated.



Healthy and Sick Cats and kittens being euthanized-How do they choose and why? Please investigate!

I keep seeing emails like the following one where a cat is killed and others aren't because they are considered easily adoptable. So my question is if the shelter does not allow adoptions, why do they make the distinction? Why would they kill the mother and save the babies if they will more than likely kill the babies anyways a few days later if a rescue does not take them. And if a rescue is going to take them, they would take the mother too. Seems cruel and needs to be investigated. Are their rules to who is chosen for euthanasia? Do they have some guideline to follow? Please investigate.

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2011 9:09 PM

Subject: POST VERY URGENT: DEADLINE Thurs. Feb. 10: Scared Mom euth early Friday..

Thanks for posting Wendy. Did your posting say that only rescue groups can get her/ them out? If you read down, my piece did, but people might miss that- this was the confusion two weeks ago, thanks!

Please check out these kittens with their Mother at www.catrescuer.blogspot.com to see them and please save their Mom.

Contact is [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] asap. Hamilton animal Shelter.....Deadline date for Mom is on Friday where there's a good chance she will be probably be euthanized first thing. Mom is not feral, but scared for herself and wee ones...She was friendly enough to be petted and stroked...Please help her...

Pass along to everyone.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Subject: Re: DEADLINE Thurs. Feb. 10: URGENT: 4 cats need to be rescued from HAS by rescue groups

I just posted on my blog about a Mom and kittens that need to be rescued. Kittens are 7 weeks, tame and darling. Mom is scared to death, but I've been able to pet her and love her. There's a video and pictures of this little group, so please take a look: www.catrescuer.blogspot.com They do not have much time - in fact, Mom will probably be marked for euthanasia on Friday. The kittens will not be marked, as they are deemed easily adoptable. [REDACTED]

Process of Rescuing: This needs to be improved.

Someone from the City of Hamilton needs to be hired to deal directly with rescues or public adoptions in an unbiased manner, have normal business hours and specific procedures to follow. This process needs to be transparent and accessible, even for people without computer access. If the city of Hamilton refuses to open their doors to public adoptions, then at least make it accessible to rescues.

In this email, we are told only rescues can save the cats and the person involved in organizing it is going away for 10 days! And, when something got confusing with emails, the solution from this person was to give up and not deal with it. Aren't animal lives at stake? The City of Hamilton must make this position a city employed position with a set mandate and office hours.

----- Original Message -----

From: <[REDACTED]>

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, January 28, 2011 10:30 AM

Subject: Re: Hamilton shelter(

>

> Yes, qualified rescue groups only. They want to insure that the cats
> are going to be cared for and not hurt, tortured, or sold for research.
> There are things worse than euthanasia at the shelter!

>

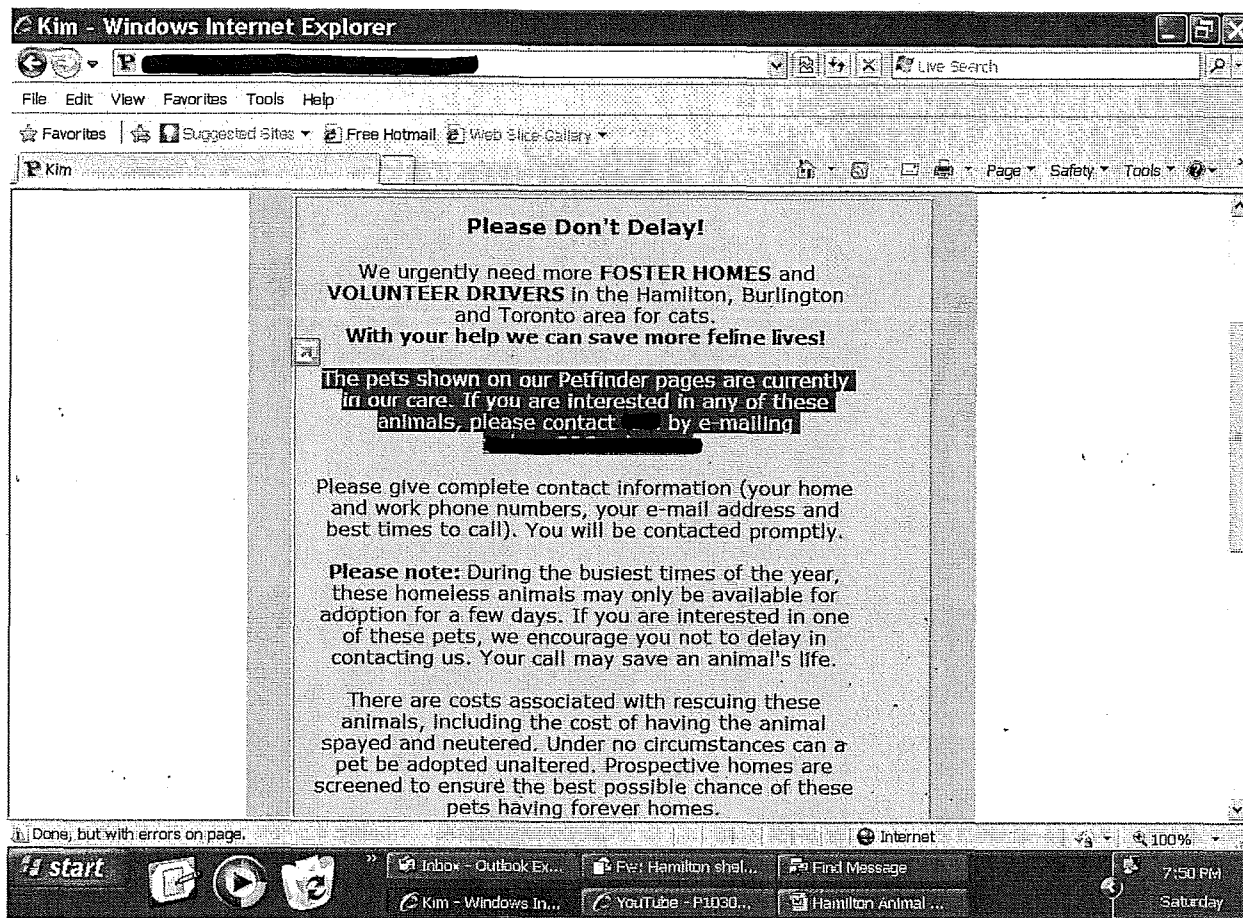
> It's easy to be an approved rescue organization and rescue from the
> shelter... [REDACTED] is the one that organizes that. [REDACTED] is leaving for
> holidays on Thursday and getting married - she'll be gone for 10 days.

>

> I know you are trying to help, but soooooo many emails. You were
> soliciting for cats that were already being rescued by another group.
> That was the problem yesterday and one of the problems with so many
> emails going around. Nobody had a clue what was going on. These kind of
> email lists often become a feeding frenzy and very confusing. I finally
> gave up making sense of it all.

Confusion on how to rescue and misinformation

Now, one of the reasons this confusion started was because this person Kim mentioned in the above email, has a webpage that states she is available for helping the public rescue from this shelter.



But when you email her about adopting a cat, you get this as a response.

On 2011-05-05, at 7:42 PM, [redacted] <[redacted]> wrote:

Can you meet with Jennifer this weekend? She wants to adopt. Here are her answer to questions asked.

And the response:

----- Original Message -----

From: [redacted]

To: [redacted]

Sent: Thursday, May 05, 2011 9:19 PM

Subject: Re: Reply to your "Please Help: Kittens at Hamilton Shelter-Times running out" Ad on Kijiji

I do not screen people. This would have

To go through a rescue group

So, the person responsible for all rescues at this shelter has a webpage asking for help but responds she will not deal with the public and does not even give an option of what rescue groups to go too. Again, if someone is asking to help, a City of Hamilton employee would have a list of all rescues that are approved through the shelter and be able to fax, email or give in writing a copy of these agencies so no one is turned away. How many animals die because of this? I know that anything that is run by a city would have literature and information available and would not turn people away without giving options.

Threatening email publically saying not to call the OSPCA when an animal is posted in distress

This is a response we got from this person in charge of the rescue's at Hamilton Animal Control and illustrates how unprofessional and inappropriate this individual is in this position. If it was a City employee, then the "threat of calling the OSPCA" would be of no concern as they would have nothing to hide. There would not send threatening emails to rescue's about it as noted in this email.

From: [REDACTED]

I find that when you post URGENTS it is causing to much chaos and trouble for me. We have FRANTIC people calling the shelter and the staff who answer the phones have no idea what these people are talking about.

Now, when I post a "rough" looking cat on the site.....someone is copying that picture from the site and calling our SPCA filing a cruelty complaint. Then the SPCA has to come over and investigate! SUCH BS!

I don't think they realize they are causing so much trouble for my petfinder site.

If the OSPCA is in the same building and there is a sick cat that is suffering and not being treated by Hamilton Animal Control, why shouldn't they step in and help? This would stop the cruelty and mean that animal would get treatment or be euthanized appropriately not left to suffer, dying in a cage for days like Tigger-Two or Nayla.

There is also some disturbing information being blogged about Hamilton Animal Control that needs to be investigated.

Please investigate this blog about 'heartstick' being used at the shelter. The concern is that the vet does not have to sedate the animal before being put down in order to save costs.

House of the Discarded - Windows Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

☆ Favorites | ☆ Suggested Sites | Free Hotmail | Web Slice Gallery

House of the Discarded

sad look. How could they not look that way?

As more cats come into the shelter within the 15 minutes that I was there, I realized that we've definitely hit that shitty part of summer where irresponsible people are dumping their pets or having kittens. Take a peek on Craigslist and you'll see the number of "Urgent requests" to rehome their pets because they're moving. Shit, I hate that excuse.

They were still cleaning the cat cages while I was choosing a kitten or two to rescue. There was blood on the floor nearby where the cats had been giving a "heart stick" injection to kill them. Sometimes when the needle is removed the artery drips a lot of blood.

I put away my camera. My enthusiasm was gone and I felt defeated. I left with one sweet kitten. I guess it's when I'm not angry anymore and numb to it all is when I have to worry.

But it's only June. God help me (and the cats) when it's August.

POSTED BY HOUSE OF THE DISCARDED AT 2:20 PM 7 COMMENTS

THURSDAY, JUNE 02, 2011

OLDER BLOG POSTS

- ▼ 2011 (94)
 - ▼ June (2)
 - Defeated and Angry
 - The Meaty Part of the Summer
 - May (20)
 - April (18)
 - March (19)
 - February (17)
 - January (18)
- 2010 (235)
- 2009 (184)
- 2008 (107)

Error on page. Internet 100%

start

Inbox - Outlook Ex... Ora AnimalRescu... Facebook (47) - ...

House of the Disc... Facebook (47) - ... b1 - Paint

7:10 AM Saturday

This page is about a kitten at the shelter that was sick and not being treated. Clearly, this kitten needed vet care and I would like it investigated to see what care she received while at Hamilton Animal Control

The screenshot shows a Windows Internet Explorer browser window. The title bar reads "House of the Discarded - Windows Internet Explorer". The address bar contains a URL starting with "http://www.houseofthedisarded.com". The menu bar includes "File", "Edit", "View", "Favorites", "Tools", and "Help". The toolbar shows "Favorites", "Suggested Sites", "Free Hotmail", and "Web Site Gallery". The page content includes the following text:

Gabby is only about 16 weeks old and she was sick at the shelter. Because I'm a new rescue, I have a duty to insure I have enough money to care for our current foster cats in our care. I felt pretty confident the shelter would euthanize her tomorrow. My heart was breaking. I sat on the floor with her trying to figure out if I could knowingly take on a sick cat. While I was doing the mental math an email came in that I had a donation! There's no such thing as a coincidence. I had goosebumps...

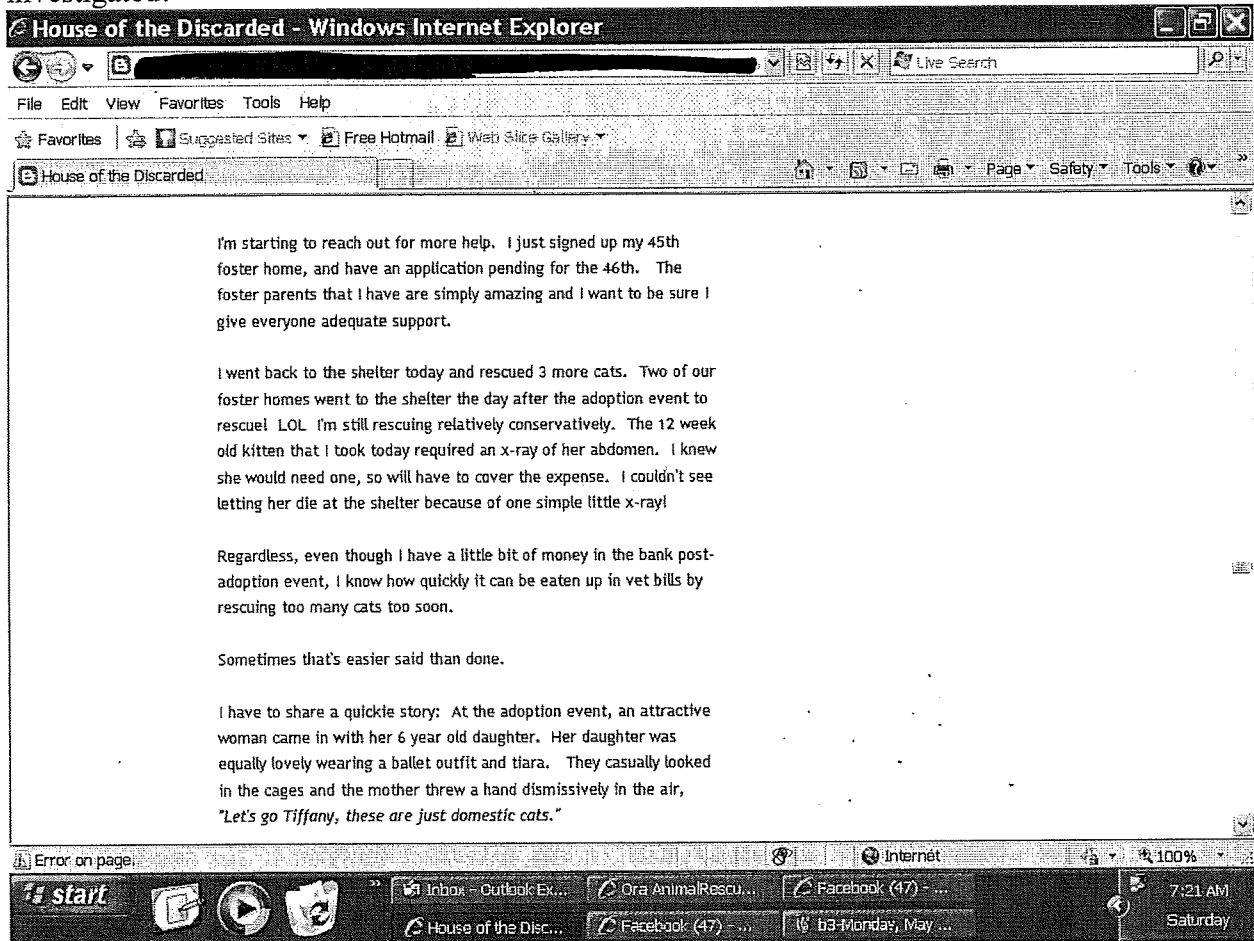
Little "Gabby" was rescued, taken to the vets, given medication, fluids and currently at the House of Turner. You'd never know she was sick:

Below the text is a video player showing a black and white image of a kitten. A play button is overlaid on the image.

At the bottom of the browser window, the status bar shows "Error on page:", "Internet", and "100%". The Windows taskbar is visible at the very bottom, showing the Start button, several application icons, and the system tray with the time "7:19 AM Saturday" and date "63-Monday, May ...".

More information showing the vet treatment of a kitten rescued from Hamilton Animal Control.

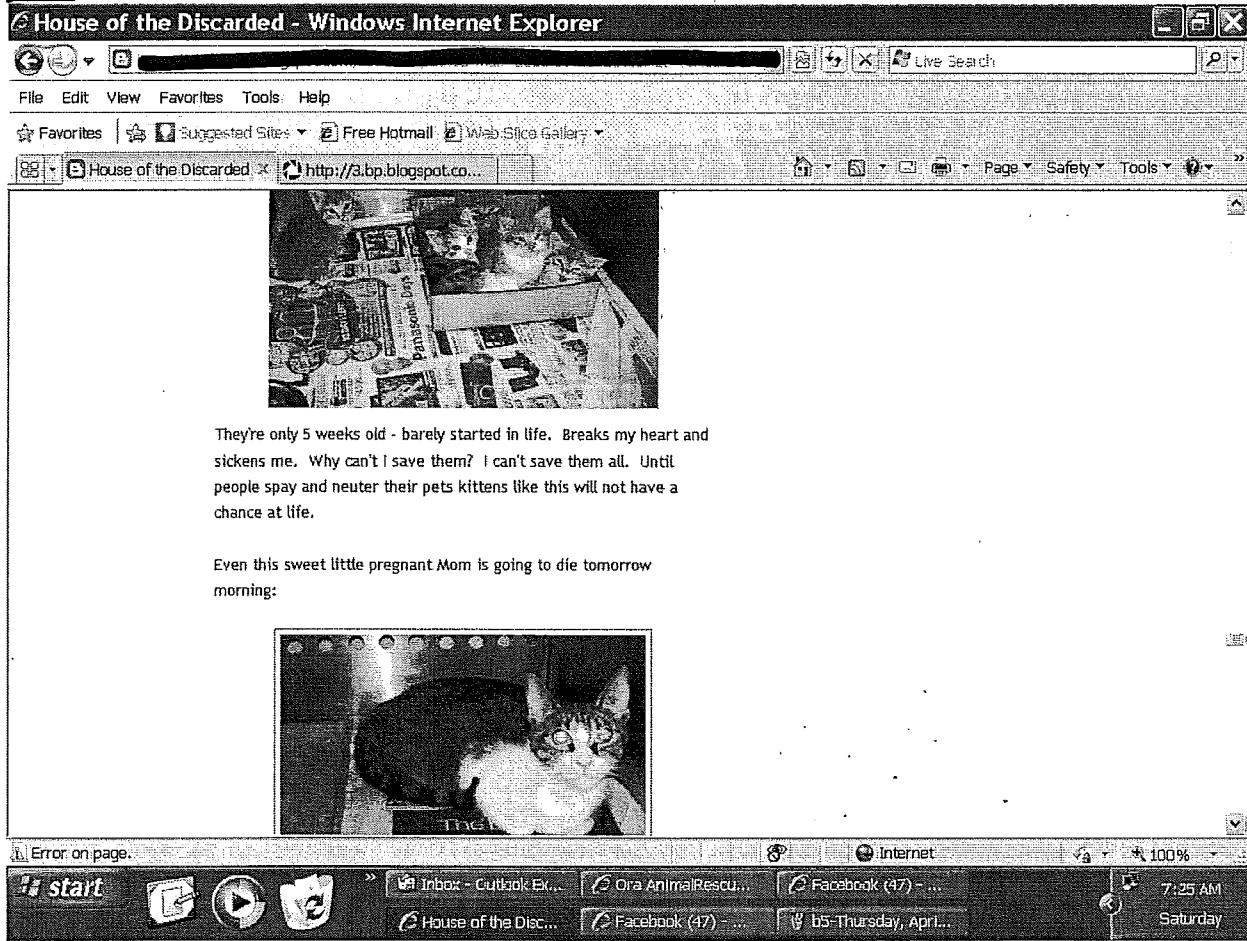
So far, the City of Hamilton's solution is to euthanize and not vet treat any animals that are brought into the shelter. One animal is too many to be left to suffer. This is cruel and needs to be investigated!



The faces of the animals killed at the shelter.

Here are pictures of kittens and a pregnant mom that were set for euthanasia at the shelter. Please also look at this YouTube video of healthy animals being euthanized.

<http://www.youtube.com/user/HouseOfTheDiscarded#p/u/57/A1Q2VA-iZuU>



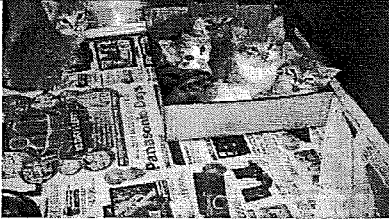
The screenshot shows a Windows Internet Explorer browser window. The title bar reads "House of the Discarded - Windows Internet Explorer". The address bar shows "http://3.bp.blogspot.co...". The page content includes two images of kittens and a pregnant cat, with accompanying text. The text reads: "They're only 5 weeks old - barely started in life. Breaks my heart and sickens me. Why can't I save them? I can't save them all. Until people spay and neuter their pets kittens like this will not have a chance at life." Below this, it says "Even this sweet little pregnant Mom is going to die tomorrow morning:". The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button, several open applications (Inbox - Outlook Express, Ora AnimalRescu..., Facebook (47) - ...), and the system tray with the date and time: "7:25 AM Saturday".

House of the Discarded - Windows Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

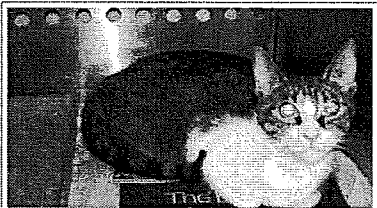
☆ Favorites | Suggested Sites | Free Hotmail | Web Slice Gallery

House of the Discarded | http://3.bp.blogspot.co...



They're only 5 weeks old - barely started in life. Breaks my heart and sickens me. Why can't I save them? I can't save them all. Until people spay and neuter their pets kittens like this will not have a chance at life.

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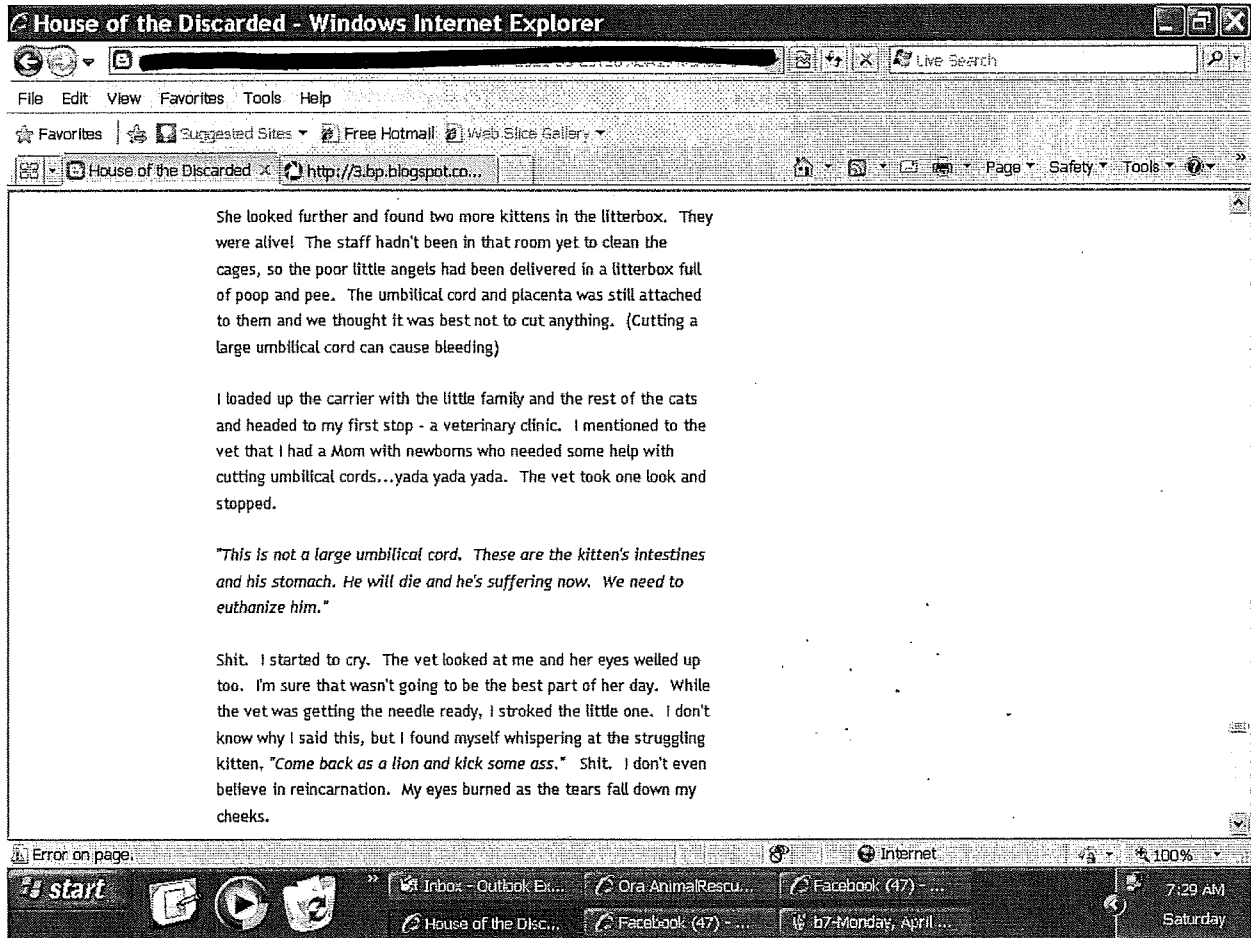
Error on page. Internet 100%

start | Inbox - Outlook Ex... | Ora AnimalRescu... | Facebook (47) - ... | 7:25 AM Saturday

House of the Disc... | Facebook (47) - ... | b5-Thursday, AprL...

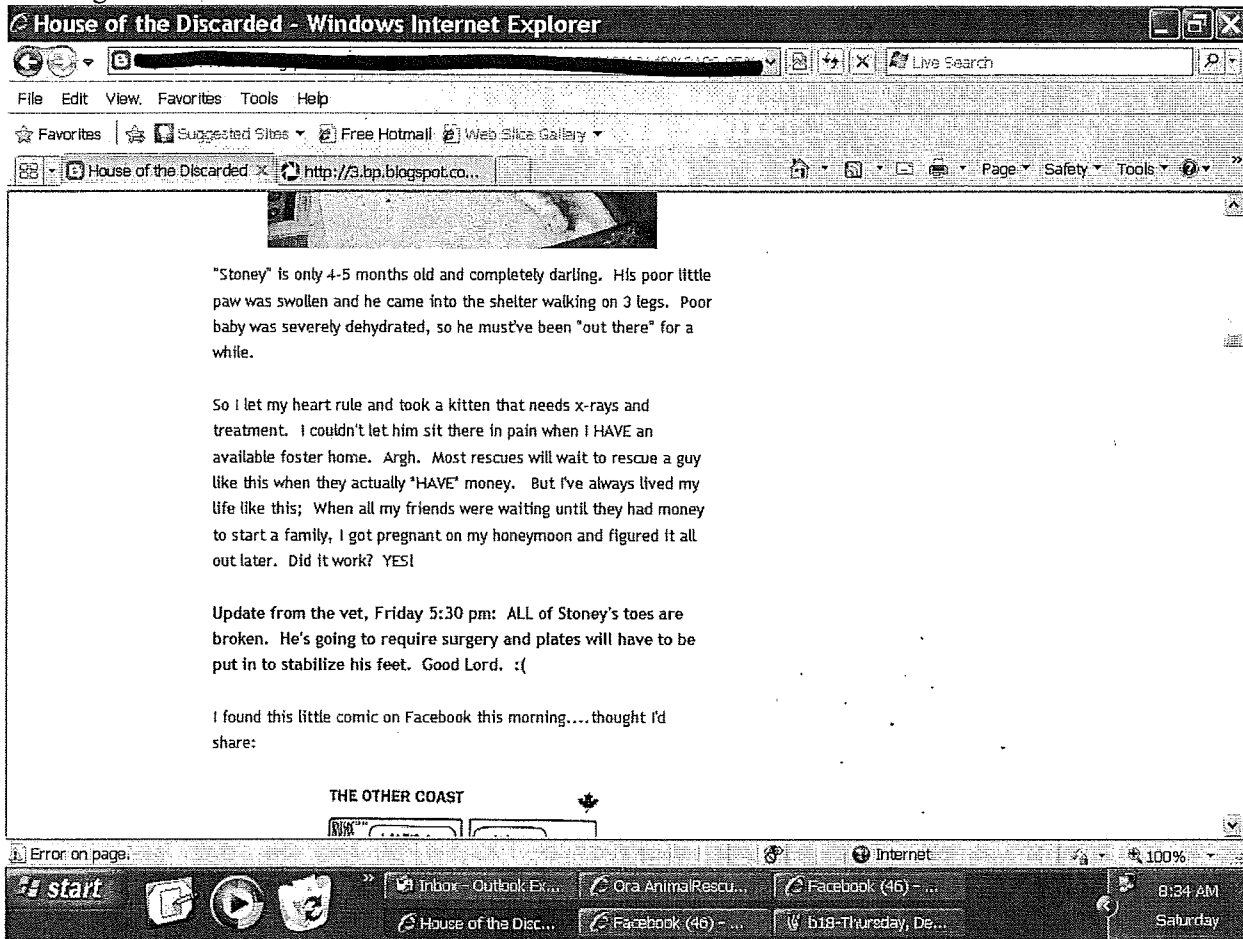
Further documentation of the suffering and cruelty at this shelter.

In this blog, a litter of kittens are born in a litter box full of feces and one is already dead. Another kitten born with his intestines outside his body had to be rescued and then taken to a vet to be euthanized. This needs to be investigated how Hamilton Animal Control allowed this cruelty to occur while an animal was in its care.



Stoney: Another blog with documentation of an animal that had to be “rescued” before receiving vet treatment.

This is cruel that this animal had to suffer with a broken foot while at the shelter before given the dignity of vetting. Was this boy given any treatment while in the care of Hamilton Animal Control? Was he given pain killers? Please investigate



The screenshot shows a Windows Internet Explorer browser window titled "House of the Discarded - Windows Internet Explorer". The address bar shows the URL "http://3.bp.blogspot.co...". The page content includes a small image of a kitten's paw, followed by text describing the kitten's condition and the author's rescue efforts. The text reads: "Stoney" is only 4-5 months old and completely darling. His poor little paw was swollen and he came into the shelter walking on 3 legs. Poor baby was severely dehydrated, so he must've been "out there" for a while. So I let my heart rule and took a kitten that needs x-rays and treatment. I couldn't let him sit there in pain when I HAVE an available foster home. Argh. Most rescues will wait to rescue a guy like this when they actually "HAVE" money. But I've always lived my life like this; When all my friends were waiting until they had money to start a family, I got pregnant on my honeymoon and figured it all out later. Did it work? YES! Update from the vet, Friday 5:30 pm: ALL of Stoney's toes are broken. He's going to require surgery and plates will have to be put in to stabilize his feet. Good Lord. :(I found this little comic on Facebook this morning....thought I'd share: THE OTHER COAST

The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications: "start", "Inbox - Outlook Ex...", "Ora AnimalRescu...", "Facebook (46) - ...", "House of the Disc...", "Facebook (46) - ...", and "b13-Tuesday, De...". The system tray on the right shows the time as 8:34 AM on Saturday.

Inhumane reasons for euthanasia-Investigation needed

Information saying that animals are set for euthanasia because employees at the shelter do not want to clean their cages. I also have this email showing that an investigation needs to be made into how the animals are chosen for euthanasia. Is this a trained individual or vet that picks the animals or is it an employee of the city who just doesn't want the extra work. I have also been told but not sure how to find out if the vet puts animals down at this shelter even when they are not full. Please investigate!

From: [REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED]

This is NOT the tech's fault at all why we are FORCED to euthanize cats. It simply comes down to space issues (or sickness).

She (Penny) will not change her routine on when she marks cats for euth for the following morning. Its hard enough to choose who goes.....

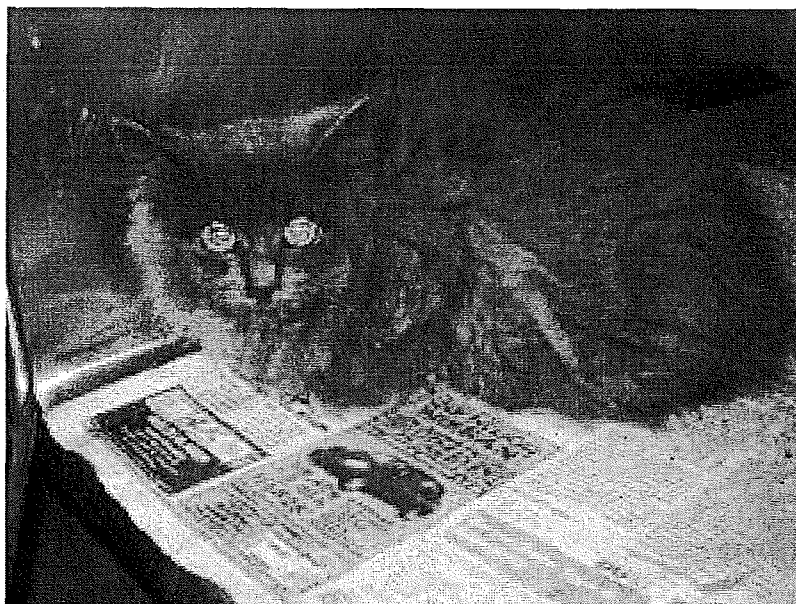
All we can do...is keep posting cats.....and once they leave, she will see there are empty cages and not have to mark as many as she would have.

The screenshot shows a Windows Internet Explorer browser window. The title bar reads "House of the Discarded - Windows Internet Explorer". The address bar contains "House of the Discarded". The page content is dated "MONDAY, JULY 05, 2010" and has the title "Too Angry to Come Up With a Good Title". The text of the post reads: "This is an angry post. I should be fist pumping with excitement over the seven cats that I rescued today. Instead, I walked into the shelter this morning to find that a nameless ~~dimwit~~ employee at the shelter went to management to complain about 2 pairs of brothers (4 cats) that hadn't been rescued yet and she asked that they be killed the next time the vet arrives on Wednesday. In other words....she didn't want to clean their cages any longer and felt that they had been at the shelter "long enough". These cats aren't hurting anybody. They're in the dog area so that they can remain together. Unless they can be rescued, they will remain together in death. They don't have names, but they do need to be rescued in pairs." Below the text is a small, dark image labeled "Brothers A". The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button, several open applications including "Inbox - Outlook Ex...", "Ora AnimaRescu...", "Facebook (45) - ...", "House of the Disc...", and "Facebook (45) - ...", and the system tray showing the time as "9:22 AM Saturday" and the date as "b29-Tuesday, July...".

Obie-Recent kitten euthanized but not marked urgent

On November 3, 2011, I noticed that the cutest little long-haired kitten was euthanized without being marked urgent. This needs to be reviewed and policies put in place to have a mandatory timeframe for animals marked urgent before euthanasia. This kitten would have been rescued by numerous rescue groups if only they had known he was set for euthanasia.

Also, I received a threatening email from an employee at Hamilton Animal Control as a result of a post I did about this poor boy being killed.



----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED] **To:** [REDACTED] **Cc:** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, November 03, 2011 9:16 PM

Subject: Re: [Hamilton Animal Control - Stop the Killings] RIP sweet Obie. You are one of many but what a...

He did have a chance but no one emailed me about him for

Over a week! What do you suggest we do if no one shows interest in him??? Please, suggestions from anyone! These emails must stop about RIP cats!

Can any one of you maybe help Randy or Travis who have been sitting there since august?? I guess it's ok to keep them

In cages for as long as it takes as long as we don't euthanize them?? I dont think so!

I'm tired of all this! STOP!

www.petfinder.com

These practices of killing unmarked animals needs to be regulated and the public should not feel threatened when bringing attention to these cruel practices. Someone needs to be held accountable and this needs to be reviewed.

Jeffery-Sibling left to die even though rescue was willing to foster

On October 27, 2011, I received an email about a number of kittens rescued from Hamilton Animal Control. I noticed that one of the kittens Jessica, was not with her sibling Jeffery. When I asked the rescue why she did not rescue the brother, she responded that she was not told Jessica had a sibling. When the rescue contacted the shelter she was advised Jeffery was marked for euthanasia. Luckily, because I noticed this and pointed it out, Jeffery was saved. This is unacceptable that lives are being treated so inhumanely and the City of Hamilton needs to hire an employee that is accountable for their actions and has some compassion. This oversight MUST never happen again.



----- Forwarded Message -----

From: [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2011 10:14:47 PM

Subject: RE: today's rescue

Hi Everyone,

Sorry for the delay. No worries, I totally understand it is very overwhelming. Especially when it is not the best environment for the cats to shine, which is not fair. But I figured I want to make sure everything is smooth on your end and the kids enjoy spending time with the new fosters. Plus you will continue to rescue from HAC.

I accidently took one too many, thankfully Fiona was on both your list.

Kittens Y

Sawyer

Faye

Fiona - who seems scared, but friendly which is what all the shelter staff I talked to said.

Nicola's:

Fergie - Shelter favourite - been there a long time - Urgent

Jessica -Very Friendly - Been there a long time - Urgent

Topaz - Very Friendly

All three were getting along together at the kennels. So even though it was a very hard choice and I know I drove Kim(another HAC employee) crazy, Nicola I think you should be happy with my choices. Please let me know.

Monday morning rescue:

[REDACTED] - I will be at the kennels to pick up my crew at 8.

[REDACTED] - I will meet you at 9 at our usual spot.

[REDACTED] - Thank you for letting me bug you on your day off with all my phone calls.

I will respond to any emails when I get home Sunday night.

Thank you everyone for saving these kitties,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, October 28, 2011 2:44:59 PM

Subject: But if you got jessica what about jeffery?

5-6months old. Jessica has a brother named Jeffrey. is he left alone now?

----- Original Message ----- *

From: [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, October 28, 2011 4:24 PM.

Subject: Re: But if you got jessica what about jeffery?

Hi Lilly, I didn't know there was a brother, in the picture she is alone ?

Not sure what happened, Kim will know more.

From: [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

Sent: Saturday, October 29, 2011 9:19:40 AM

Subject:

Just heard from [REDACTED], Jeffrey is still there, he didn't get pts. Can anyone take him? I told [REDACTED] to hold him. I think [REDACTED] was going to take him then put him back so he must have been so disappointed.

Animals need to be treated proactively for URI and vaccinated when entering the shelter

One of the most alarming concerns about Hamilton Animal Control is the lack of ventilation in the facility and the fact that animals are not treated proactively for URI or other viruses. There is no room just for kittens so animals that enter into this shelter are all sick. This is an added cost to rescues and prevents other shelters from helping take in any overflow Hamilton Animal Control may have. Burlington Humane Society and other shelters have said they would love to help but the animals would need to be treated first. So many people could help so many more animals if only the animals were healthy.

Someone needs to investigate why this shelter has allowed viruses like upper respiratory infection to run rampant for years. Why are there no notices when animals have distemper or warnings to rescues when this occurs? Here is an email received about a recent distemper outbreak that was not told to any rescues until 3 weeks after.

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, November 02, 2011 10:51 AM

Subject: FYI: added note on distemper outbreak at HAC!

FYI: [REDACTED] mentioned on her blog that there was a potential distemper outbreak and I asked Kim at HAC to clarify this. [REDACTED] said on Oct 28th: It was never confirmed and that was 3 weeks ago.....

[REDACTED]

Crystal's Story

Please, look at this video and see what pain these animals go through as a result of being in the custody of Hamilton Animal Control. Please, treat the animals proactively so that they can open up for public adoptions. Please, do not let Crystal's babies death's to be in vain.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jRSzpYLNA20&feature=mfu_in_order&list=UL



Video's of some of the animals that were at Hamilton Animal Control

<http://www.youtube.com/user/HouseOfTheDiscarded#p/u/57/A1Q2VA-jZuU> Video of healthy cats being euthanized along with the sick ones.

http://www.youtube.com/user/HouseOfTheDiscarded#p/u/70/0UBd_pgzpmM Marked cats

<http://www.youtube.com/user/HouseOfTheDiscarded#p/u/76/huuJ9ogdJho>

And

<http://www.youtube.com/user/HouseOfTheDiscarded#p/u/78/49bfpf2w3kg> Highly adoptable kittens. Why shouldn't the shelter open for public adoptions?

<http://www.youtube.com/user/HouseOfTheDiscarded#p/u/41/xILNfFVu-Vs> Bloody kitten because he is so traumatized from being in shelter.

<http://www.youtube.com/user/HouseOfTheDiscarded#p/u/45/Ud276237RbI> Traumatized 5 month old kitten

Robicheau, Vanessa

From: Brenda Power
Sent: November 14, 2011 5:29 AM
To: Robicheau, Vanessa
Cc:
Subject: Special Meeting of the Planning Committee - Responsible Animal Ownership By-law - Written submissions for inclusion in the meeting agenda
Attachments: comments about the Responsible Animal Ownership By-Law (3).docx

Ms. Robicheau

I am writing to express my concerns to the Planning Committee with respect to provisions of the new Responsible Animal Ownership By-law. My name is Brenda Power Ahmad, a resident of Hamilton, and I request respectfully that these written submissions be included in the meeting agenda. These comments represent my view and my husband's views as homeowners.

My concerns are specifically about the following provisions in the new Responsible Animal Ownership By-law:

1. The lack of limits on the number of pets which was established under By-Law 84-191 "The Keeping of Animals"; and
2. Provision 7.2 under Part 7 Poop and Scoop for Animals.

I request that Council not pass the proposed Responsible Animal Ownership By-Law on the basis that (1) proposed By-Law removes the existing protection to homeowners and does not provide new protection to homeowners against the potential nuisances such as odour and noise from unlimited animals – especially in tight urban areas where a lack of limits on the number of pets can be devastating to the quality of the neighbourhood experience and quality of life, and certainly property values; and, (2) that Provision 7.2 directly conflicts with other City By-Laws and creates a number of unenforceable situations that do not protect homeowners, pet owners, and pets.

Concern 1 – Lack of Limits

Background: The staff report before you states that the limits under the previous By-Laws are arbitrary and therefore should be eliminated. The Staff report recommends that no-limits be permitted on the number of animals or pets as demonstrated by Calgary. Problems relating to negative impacts from too many pets, the report states, may be dealt with through the implementation of other nuisance By-Laws.

Concern: The proposed By-law in Appendix 'A' does in fact impose limits on the number of animals such as pigeons limiting these to 40. If the intent of the new By-law is not to limit the number of household "PETS" then there is a need in the By-law to define what a Pet is. Many owners of pigeons own these animals as pets since these animals serve no work purpose. Pigeons are pets. My concern is that the previous limits on animals, especially pet dogs, which the previous By-law 84-191 limited to 2 should continue and should not be eliminated. This By-law cannot limit the number of one type of pet and not another. There is ample empirical evidence that the number of pet dogs should be limited, especially in urban centres where intensification is occurring and where backyards and amenity spaces are getting smaller. Yes, on farms where dogs perform work, or homes with large acreage, the accommodation of more than 2 pet dogs may occur. However, in tight urban centres on small lots and condos, the number of dogs per unit should be limited to 2 dogs. 2 dogs is in my opinion an ample

number for a typical family or household. Neighbours of those with large numbers of animals should not have to endure first a nuisance such as the noise and smell from neighbour's pets - which inevitably causes friction between the neighbours, in order to trigger other By-laws. The proposed By-law should protect homeowners rights and their property values and should shield against the potential of nuisances by establishing and imposing a reasonable limit on the number of animals as done by the previous By-Law 84-191. In fact the proposed By-Law would remove existing protections to homeowners with respect to their neighbours want to house unlimited or undefined numbers of pets or animals.

Summary of Concern 1:

- The By-law must properly define what a "Pet" is.
- Impose limits on the number of animals as per the previous By-Law 84-191 especially with respect to dogs to the existing limit of 2 dogs per unit. Or special provisions for urban areas be created to limit the numbers of animals as per By-law 84-191.
- The proposed By-Law removes the existing protections to homeowners with respect to a neighbour's want to house an unlimited number of animals. This puts one homeowner's desire for unlimited number of animals above that of their neighbouring homeowner – this is not fair.
- The By-law does not protect homeowners' rights and their property values. It is evident that the proposed By-law expects homeowners to first endure nuisances from neighbours pets then these nuisances are identified and dealt with through other By-laws.

Concern 2: Part 7 Poop and Scoop for Animals – Item 7.2

Background: The following proposed item of the new Responsible Animal Ownership By-Law states:

"7.2 Every owner of an animal shall, in a timely manner, remove and dispose of any feces left by the animal on premises owned or occupied by the owner."

This item is concerned with the removal and disposal of any feces left by an animal on the premises occupied by the owner. The item instructs homeowners to remove feces in a "timely manner". This increment of time is not defined by the By-Law. How long is a "time manner"? Is this 1 hour, 1 day, 1 week? If then a property owner has no limit to the number of pets they are keeping, as permitted under this proposed By-Law, when is the homeowner expected to maintain the property by removing and disposing of feces. This issue is of major concern to me as well as many residents who live in tight urban centres on properties with small back yards. It is understandable that on a farm or on large acreage the impacts of animal feces may be small, but in urban areas where domestic amenity areas and backyards are limited and small the impacts can be quite significant and negative impacting the rights of neighbours and their property values.

The existing Yard Maintenance By-Law 10-118 defines feces as "waste" and provides the following provision:

- "4 (5) Every owner or occupant of property shall ensure that all waste which accumulates on their property is:*
- (a) when not placed out for collection in accordance with applicable City by-laws, in containers:*
 - (i) made of rigid, watertight construction;*
 - (ii) provided with a tight-fitting cover, which may be removed only when the container is empty or is being actively loaded;*
 - (iii) maintained in good condition without holes or spillage; and*
 - (iv) closed, or emptied, rinsed and cleaned when not in use, to prevent the escape of offensive odour or waste; and*
 - (v) kept in a rear yard located against a building, structure, fence or retaining wall and arranged in an orderly manner; and*

(b) not allowed to accumulate for longer than 10 days."

The existing Yard Maintenance By-Law 10-118 does not provide pet owners with leeway that allows them to remove waste or feces in a "timely manner". **NO.** The Yard Maintenance By-Law is specific and spells out exactly the method of disposal of waste. Why does the proposed By-Law encourage homeowners to let their animal's feces remain for a period of time where this waste can become a serious nuisance for neighbours? Neighbours cannot enjoy their backyards when bad odours and flies create a real nuisance for them. Flies for instance, are a public health issue, and flies can settle on feces and lay eggs within the feces minutes after the animal has defecated. Is that the purpose of residential backyards to be a place where multitudes of animals defecate or are backyards places of private amenity? I respect my property and endeavour to preserve and enhance its value by using my backyard as garden for my amenity space. I think residents in Hamilton should also see their backyards as amenity spaces not animal toilets.

By allowing an undefined leeway, "timely manner", the proposed new Responsible Animal Ownership By-law directly conflicts with the existing Yard Maintenance By-Law 10-118 which does not permit feces or other waste to remain undisposed of – which in essence the proposed By-Law would permit. I recommend to the members of the Planning Committee that the proposed By-Law which is titled "Responsible Animal Ownership" provide responsible provisions for pet owners to properly and immediately dispose of feces and other animal waste by removing the waste and storing the waste in rigid, covered, and watertight garbage containers where odour and flies cannot penetrate. That is the responsible method a pet owner should employ to keep their animals from creating a nuisance for neighbours. Homeowners that immediately clean after their pets are able to preserve their animals' dignity allowing the animals to defecating in a relatively clean backyard environment.

A By-Law such as the proposed Responsible Animal Ownership By-Law should be comprised only of provisions which are enforceable – or so called black and white. The provision to remove feces in a "timely manner" is not enforceable and must therefore be removed from the By-Law and the proposed By-Law revised to make disposal immediate in conformity with the Yard Maintenance By-Law 10-118.

Summary of Concern 2:

- The concept of 'timely manner' is undefined in the By-Law. How long is a timely manner?
- The concept of 'timely manner' is not enforceable.
- The concept of 'timely manner' directly conflicts with provisions in the existing Yard Maintenance By-Law 10-118 which do not provide any leeway or undefined increment of time for the disposal of "waste".
- The proposed By-Law would not protect homeowners from pet owners not keen on disposing of their animals' waste responsibly creating nuisances such as odour and flies. This can create negative impacts to a homeowner's piece of mind and certainly impacting property values.
- The proposed By-Law delivers no meaningful provisions and methods and no meaningful protections to pet owners for the responsible disposal of their animals' waste.
- The proposed By-Law does not protect pets by affording animals dignity with respect to defecating in a relatively clean backyard environment.
- The proposed By-law does not provide special provisions for urban dwelling units such as condos, apartments, townhouses, and houses on small lots.
- The proposed By-Law should be revised to regulate the responsible care of animals, protect homeowners, and protect pet owners, especially if no limits to the number of animals are being implemented. The proposed By-Law should seek to mitigate the potential for nuisances to occur and conflicts between neighbours rather than deflecting these issues to other By-Laws that are not specifically

focused on responsible animal ownership and pet care.

I wish for the Planning Committee to read and consider my comments and concerns with respect to the new Responsible Animal Ownership By-law and provide the necessary amendments or simply send the report back to staff to carefully study the issue of unlimited numbers of animals and issues related to waste and feces removal.

Yours Sincerely,
Brenda Power Ahmad
Hamilton Resident
Tel:

(aa)

Robicheau, Vanessa

From: Joe Stocco
Sent: November 14, 2011 10:46 AM
To: Robicheau, Vanessa
Cc: Edwards, Karen; joe_stocco@hotmail.com; Whitehead, Terry
Subject: Proposed Responsible Animal Ownership By-Law Comment Submission
Attachments: Comments Hamilton Proposed Responsible Animal Ownership By-Law Nov 14, 2011.pdf

Dear Ms. Robicheau,

Please find attached my comment submission (3 pages) regarding the proposed "Responsible Animal Ownership" By-Law for inclusion into the Planning Meeting Agenda scheduled for November 15, 2011 @ 9:30am.

If you would be so kind as to provide a reply to confirm receipt of this submission it would be much appreciated. If you have any issues with this transmission please contact me so that I may immediately resolve the problem. Thank you very much.

Kindest Regards, Joe Stocco

**Comments Regarding the Proposed Responsible Animal Ownership By-Law
(Report PED09303(b)) for the City of Hamilton**

Submitted to: Chair and Members of the Planning and Economic Development
Committee

Written submission for inclusion into the Public Delegations Planning
Committee meeting agenda – November 15, 2011 commencing 9:30am

Submitted by: Giuseppe (Joe) Stocco (Ward 8)

Date: November 14, 2011

Dear Planning Committee,

I would like to express my contentment that the City of Hamilton has recognized the traditional Art of Falconry (**Section 9.1 indicates that raptors can be retained within the city “as permitted under a provincial falconry licence”**) which is consistent with the findings of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) which has included falconry in it's list of *Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity*. The Falconry tradition is to be preserved and perpetuated for future generations. The City of Hamilton is a community of diversified cultures of which falconry has historically and is currently associated with – European, Asian, Middle East, and the Orient – the acknowledgement of falconry in the by-law is fulfilling the mandate of UNESCO's listing and addressing the interests of the City of Hamilton resident falconers. The number of people who will devote themselves to falconry is very small, approximately 120 falconers reside within Ontario (I'm aware of 6 falconers in the City of Hamilton who are licenced by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR)). Please realize that the art of falconry is a self-limiting in the sense that it is very time consuming and requires anyone embarking to become a licenced falconer to enter into an Apprenticeship with a OMNR authorized Sponsor. This Sponsor will provide the necessary tutelage to impart skills to train a raptor and adequately care for in regards to housing, health, and diet. Without maintaining these basic elements of raptor husbandry the practice of falconry could not successfully be enjoyed. Therefore the Provincial Apprenticeship program for licensing emphasizes competency and ultimately responsible ownership of a raptor.

Unfortunately, further reading the proposed By-Law I had become disheartened and baffled (as well as other Hamilton resident falconers), specifically in regards to the additional restrictions and in particular a section which would basically impose a prohibition on the practice of falconry within the City of Hamilton. It was previously communicated by a Planning and Economic Development Department representative (April 2011) that **“it is not our intent to prohibit activities that the Ministry of Natural Resources have already approved”**. But based upon the proposed by-law this was not the outcome. I could only attribute this to misconceptions and lack of clarity of facts regarding falconry and raptors. The contentious sections are as follows (underlined) and my comments are appended to each section.

1. *Section 9.1 Raptors*, indicates that raptors can be retained within the city “as permitted under a provincial falconry licence; and (b) located on rural or agricultural premises zoned under a City zoning by-law permitting such a use”. Sub-section (b) imposes an unsubstantiated restriction where raptors may be kept, i.e. only “Rural and Agricultural zoning”. This provision in the by-law would therefore exclude everyone in an urban setting within the City of Hamilton from participating in this fascinating art form as a falconer. Raptors are easily accommodated in an urban setting and not just in those designated by the proposed by-law. Raptors can be housed adequately in quarters that are very similar to the average unobtrusive small garden shed. The overall impact on the community, if any, is certainly less than the keeping of even a small dog or equivalent size bird (Parrot). I cannot determine a credible reason why this section had been included, the raptor poses no health risk to the community nor do they create any undue public disturbances or sanitary concerns. This can be promptly witnessed within Hamilton’s urban zones, where there is an abundance of raptors that we cohabit with on a daily basis, such raptors as the red-tailed hawk, coopers hawks, merlin, sharp-shinned hawk, etc. This is also obvious as seen annually where breeding Peregrine falcons are nesting basically across the street from Hamilton city hall without any impact to the public (maybe sore necks by the public who are enthralled with the peregrines). Nearby Kitchener/Waterloo permits the keeping of raptors with the only restriction being that those possessing a raptor are required to be a licensed falconer with the OMNR. The proposal cites the City of Calgary as the “best practice” model for Hamilton’s animal control by-law however Calgary has no restrictions pertaining to the keeping of raptors since the Province controls this activity.

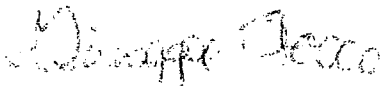
2. *Section 9.2* which reads, “Despite section 6.3, raptors permitted under this by-law shall not be at large when hunting” (as defined within the by-law “at large” means not on a leash and under the control of some person). This is not a practical or necessary restriction as it applies to the practice of falconry which involves hunting legal wild quarry with a trained raptor in flight. As can be appreciated, a raptor cannot hunt (i.e. fly) if tethered as currently described in the proposed bylaw. Therefore, the restrictiveness will impart unnecessary burden upon the raptor. In addition, by imposing a no “at large” restriction for raptors the city has prohibited a lawful form of hunting without just cause. This goes against the Fish and Wild-Life act which provides the privilege to hunt without obstruction if done so in a safe and legal manner. As described, the practice of falconry poses negligible health risk to the general public. It is an activity that is presently authorized and otherwise highly regulated by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. The raptor when flown (either for training or hunting purposes) is under the control of the falconer and is monitored continuously since it is always the center of attention. It is this cooperative (intimate) interaction between falconer and raptor that is the essence of falconry.

In summary, the keeping of raptors will have insignificant impact on the Hamilton community and the city resources (staffing and financial/budget implications). In fact falconers are more than willing to volunteer their services in situations that may arise that require someone with raptor experience. With OMNR regulations already licencing falconers and provincial animal welfare legislation in place, the public interest is more than adequately addressed.

Therefore I respectfully advise that the restrictions imposed by **Section 9.1 Raptors, (b) and located on rural or agricultural premises zoned under a City zoning by-law permitting such a use**, and **Section 9.2, "Despite section 6.3, raptors permitted under this by-law shall not be at large when hunting"**, be withdrawn from the proposed by-law. The only requirement for possession of a raptor in the City of Hamilton is the existing OMNR Falconry Licencing system which provides the necessary controls for this activity and establishes the falconer's competency in the husbandry and training of raptors. This would also be similar with the privilege granted to a Wildlife Custodian by the city, **Section 9.4 "Despite sections 9.1 and 9.3, a provincially authorized wildlife custodian may keep an animal prohibited under this By-law in accordance with the authorization"**, of course the difference would be the falconer would only be authorized to possess raptors, **Section 9.1 Raptors, "as permitted under a provincial falconry licence;**

Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide my comments and significant facts to assist in preparing a well balanced and comprehensive Responsible Animal Ownership By-Law.

Sincerely Yours,



Giuseppe (Joe) Stocco

- Falconer for the past 21 years of which 12 of those years I've been an Ontario licenced falconer since the inception of the Fish and Wildlife Act 1998.
- Member of the Ontario Hawking Club for 22 years
- Member of the North American Falconer's Association for 20 years
- 23 years as a resident and home owner within the City of Hamilton (**Ward 8**)

From: L.Tucker

Sent: November 14, 2011 11:53 AM

To: Robicheau, Vanessa

Subject: Revision of Hamilton Animal Control Bylaws, November 15, 2011 Public Meeting

Dear Mayor Bob Bratina and Ward Councillors Brian McHattie, Jason Farr, Bernie Morelli, Sam Merulla, Chad Collins, Tom Jackson, Scott Duvall, Terry Whitehead, Brad Clark, Maria Pearson, Brenda Johnson, Lloyd Ferguson, Russ Powers, Robert Pasuta, and Judi Partridge:

I read with interest the proposed amendments to Hamilton Animal Control's Bylaws including the "Comments from Public Consultation and Action" section in which it is stated that "Animal Services is working towards "No Kill" of healthy animals within the resources available." I previously wrote to you on July 12, 2011 and provided you with a number of resources detailing the essential steps for a shelter/community to implement to achieve a "No Kill" goal.

Today I would like to leave you with the following comments:

- 1) Hamilton Animal Control is losing significant annual revenue by not:
 - a) encouraging licensing of cats (Calgary built its No Cost Spay/Neuter facility strictly with cat licensing revenues)
 - b) facilitating public adoptions either on or off site (those revenues are going to rescue groups)
 - c) allowing volunteers to give thousands of hours a year of unpaid support to the shelter
- 2) Concerns with respect to animal control incurring liability by allowing members of the public into the shelter and volunteers into the shelter are unfounded and could easily be dealt with by requiring volunteers, foster parents, and adopters to sign waivers of liability, by training volunteers, and by having staff escort other members of the public while in the shelter (this is what Calgary does).
- 3) Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) is AN ESSENTIAL COMPONENT of any community reaching the "No Kill" goal. If animal control is not prepared/able to implement TNR then it should NOT be picking up healthy cats roaming in its neighbourhoods. I am also not aware of any provisions in the Animals For Research Act that would prevent animal control from registering and cataloging cat colonies and their caregivers/feeders to prevent those animals from being euthanized at the shelter. Calgary Animal Services has a partnership with a rescue organization to take all of its feral cats.
- 4) Hamilton should make it worth it's citizens' time and money to license their pets by borrowing Calgary's successful programs of:
 - a) "I Heart My Pet" rewards program which consists of over 60 businesses in the Calgary community that give discounts to citizens who license their pets.
 - b) Offering a 6 month free amnesty period to encourage people to start licensing their pets and then sending automated renewals thereafter.
 - c) Offering a 6 month free license to anyone who adopts from animal control.
- 5) Calgary Animal Services has made it one of their goals to "return to owner" as many animals as possible. They have demonstrated that "return to owner" rates parallel licensing rates. In 2010 Calgary licensed 55% of its cats and "returned to owner" 55% of the cats picked up. They licensed 90% of the dogs and "returned to owner" 87% (30% driven right home and didn't even enter the shelter). Hamilton should strive to do the same.

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation for the proposal that pet limits be removed from the by-laws and that animals be immunized and receive necessary lifesaving veterinary care during the redemption period.

Thank you very much for your time.

Regards,
Leanne Tucker

Robicheau, Vanessa

From: Bonnie Payton Gardhouse
Sent: November 14, 2011 11:54 AM
To: Robicheau, Vanessa
Subject: SUBMISSION RE: RESPONSIBLE ANIMAL OWNERSHIP BY-LAW (PED09303(b))

WRITTEN SUBMISSION TO COMMITTEE MEETING – NOVEMBER 15, 2011

RE: RESPONSIBLE ANIMAL OWNERSHIP BY-LAW (PED09303(b))

The aspiration of my submission is quite simple: to reduce the number cats that are killed annually by Hamilton Animal Services, which currently numbers in the thousands of cats.

Responsible pet ownership is the answer to this dilemma and I was hopeful that the title of the report "Responsible Animal Ownership By-law" would mean that the new by-law would incorporate education, services and solutions that would achieve this worthwhile goal of promoting responsible ownership. Unfortunately there is little in this bylaw that would achieve this goal and thereby reduce the number of cats killed by the City of Hamilton.

Ironically, the most significant deficiency of the by-law is the lack of education services regarding responsible pet ownership.

Responsible cat owners do not allow their cats to roam out of doors.

The unfortunate truth is that the majority of cat owners are not responsible in this regard and do allow their cats to have free access to the outdoors. This is a cultural phenomenon perpetuated by the belief that indoor cats are not happy cats. The new by-law needs to take this reality into account and stop picking up cats that are not causing a nuisance. It is stated in the executive summary that there are less than 100 calls made to Animal Control each year regarding nuisance animals. It is only these calls that should precipitate the pick up of a cat. This would greatly reduce the number of cats being captured and euthanized by the city. Citizens need to be educated on a grand and continuing basis the dangers of allowing their cats to roam free, including the greatest danger - being picked up by Animal Control.

Responsible cat owners spay and neuter their cats.

The unfortunate truth is that many owners do not spay/neuter their pets ON TIME. Pet overpopulation is a grave problem and calls for immediate public attention. Tax dollars that are currently being spent to collect, caring for and kill pets should be redirected to spay/neuter services and education regarding it's status as the only effect method of controlling pet populations.

The animal control bylaw adopted by the city of Calgary (often called the Calgary Model) is an excellent, proven and respected model for any city to adopt in an effort to reduced the killing of animals.

Other deficiencies of the new Hamilton by-law are:

- Lack of adoption services to re-home uncollected pets.

- Lack of micro-chipping services.
- A short, three day redemption period for claiming lost animals that is woefully inadequate.
- Rigid hours of operation that are not convenient for working citizens to claim their pets.
- No use of volunteers who are committed to animal welfare.

It is my request that those responsible for the new Hamilton bylaw educate themselves with regards to the Calgary Model and attempt to improve the fate of thousands of cats each year by adopting its proven and successful methods. . Education, as stated in the title of The new Hamilton bylaw is the key to achieving this goal.

Thank you.

Bonnie Gardhouse



COYOTE WATCH CANADA

www.coyotewatchcanada.com

coyotewatchcanada@gmail.com

Coyote hotline 905-931-2610

Coyote Watch Canada has developed a framework for communities working towards sustainable initiatives that foster coyote coexistence policies. Included are documents where you will find key strategies that have proven successful in minimizing negative interactions between urban wildlife, humans and their companion pets.

Living with wildlife and sharing the landscape is enriching and provides many benefits for citizens who enjoy observing nature and spending time outdoors. Coyotes in particular, can navigate throughout urban spaces without ever being observed by the public. Challenges arise when people feed wild animals. Every case involving coyotes that we have investigated in Ontario and other collaborative investigations conducted by wildlife organizations across North America demonstrates that the feeding of a coyote(s) was the number one precursor that escalated a situation into conflict status.

Prevention, education and enforcement are effective components that when put into action, provide the tools necessary to minimize coyote/human conflicts. Communities become engaged when wildlife education and safety measures are readily available and can be supported through by-laws. The enforcement of existing by-laws that address free-roaming pets and the licensing of pets in Hamilton are successful measures but fail to address the feeding of coyotes and other wildlife species.

The importance of implementing a feeding wildlife by-law goes hand in hand with any long term wildlife conservation, safety and public education plan. This is a great opportunity for the City of Hamilton to consider and join other communities that have included this type of preventative by-law enforcement.

Documents provided in this information package are as follows:

1. Investigative Report
2. Media release and spring alert
3. City of Niagara Falls coyote feeding by-law

CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS

By-law No. 2011 -37

A by-law to discourage the feeding of coyotes.

WHEREAS coyotes are wild animals native to the Niagara Region;

AND WHEREAS urban expansion is taking place in the Niagara Region, including the City of Niagara Falls, which is leading to increased interaction between humans, their pets and property, and coyotes;

AND WHEREAS interaction between wild coyotes and humans and their pets and property can lead to undesirable consequences for the humans, their pets, their property and for the coyotes;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the City of Niagara Falls wants to take steps to provide that interactions between humans, their pets and property, with coyotes are as positive for all concerned as is possible;

AND WHEREAS the Council has been advised by reputable experts on the behaviour of coyotes, that the feeding of wild coyotes is a leading cause of negative interaction between humans, their pets and property, and coyotes;

THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this by-law is to reduce the number of interactions between humans, their pets and property, and coyotes that result in injury or inconvenience to humans, their pets and property.

2. Interpretation

2.1 For the purposes of this by-law:

- (a) "coyote" is an animal that is, or appears to be, of the species *Canis latrans* and any animal that is a cross breed of a member of the species *Canis latrans* and a domestic dog. The singular of this word shall be deemed to include the plural with all necessary changes in detail;
- (b) "feed" includes any manner of providing or delivering, whether passive or active;
- (c) "food" includes any matter or thing that can be consumed by a coyote for sustenance;
- (d) managing food or an animal feeder in such a way as to attract animals which animals,

in turn, attract a coyote, is deemed to be managing food or an animal feeder in such a manner as to attract a coyote; and

- (e) without limiting the generality of the definition of food set out above in this by-law, managing food shall include the disposal of waste, garbage and refuse.

3. Regulations

- 3.1 No person shall feed a coyote.
- 3.2 No person shall place, expose or allow to be placed or exposed, food that is consumed by a coyote.
- 3.3 No person shall manage food or an animal feeder intended to attract or feed animals other than coyotes, in such a manner that the food or feeder attracts a coyote.

4. Offence and Penalty

- 4.1 Any person who contravenes any regulation of this by-law is guilty of an offence and, upon conviction, is liable to a fine of up to Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00).

5. General:

- 5.1 Each provision of this by-law is independent of all other provisions, and if any provision is declared invalid for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, all other provisions of this by-law remain valid and enforceable.
- 5.2 Nothing in this by-law relieves a person from complying with any provision of any federal or provincial law or regulation, other by-law, or any requirement of any lawful permit, order or license.
- 5.3 The short title of this by-law is the *Coyote Control By-law*.
- 5.4 This by-law shall come into force and effect on the day it is passed.

Passed this fourth day of April, 2011.

.....
DEAN IORFIDA, CITY CLERK

.....
JAMES M. DIODATI, MAYOR

First Reading: April 4, 2011.
Second Reading: April 4, 2011.
Third Reading: April 4, 2011.



For immediate release

Thursday, March 10, 2011

TO: Media

FROM: Coyote Watch Canada

Celebrating Niagara's Wildlife– SPRING ALERT

As the season's change, it's of vital importance to keep residents up to date on wildlife behaviour. The more background we have, the better able we are to protect wildlife, their habitat and keep our families safe and in the know. In particular, this update is focused on coyote awareness at this time of year.

Coyote's are very active during the Spring. Choosing a mate, hunting, locating a den site and establishing a territory are just some of the activities that keep coyotes on the move. Because of their natural course of activities, reports of coyote sightings increase during specific times of the year, including Spring and Fall. There are precautions we can take that minimize conflict with wildlife and still celebrate their presence in our landscapes.

Coyotes are highly sociable and curious. They are diligent and devoted parents. A coyote parent will consider a domestic dog a threat to their young pups if a family dog is allowed to chase, harass or disturb a coyote or den area. Respect coyote dens and never interfere with parents and their pups. A lone pup usually has a parent close by.

Keeping the community safe and wildlife protected is a collective undertaking and many partners are involved. Residents have a responsibility as well. Mayor Jim Diodati urges residents to keep informed about coyote behaviour. "It's important that we follow the municipal by-laws set in place to keep our neighbourhoods safe. Read this information with your family to make sure we're all doing our best to respect and live in cooperation with the wildlife around us."

By taking responsibility for our own safety by following pet leash by-laws and not providing food attractants to coyotes, we are able to keep our community members and surrounding wildlife safe. Most of the time, a coyote will run away if a human is in the vicinity:

What to do if you see a coyote:

- Never run from a *coyote* or a *domestic dog*. This brings out the 'chase' instinct in wild and domestic dogs.
- Stop moving forward.
- Stand still.
- Shout and wave your arms.
- Slowly back away.
- Share the experience. Encouraging thoughtful dialogue about wildlife helps us all take a closer look at what happened, learning from our experiences.

Feeding coyotes can lead to conflicts between people and coyotes or a family pet being attacked. Quick tips for wildlife proofing your home or business:

- Ensure all decks, sheds and out buildings are properly sealed. This will eliminate these target areas for dens.
- Put garbage out after 6:00 am, not the night before (many species are nocturnal and forage for food at night).
- Secure composting containers by making them "animal proof."
- Clean grills and cook areas, leaving no food items behind.
- Remove unwanted rotting fruit beneath trees.
- Ensure all livestock and outdoor pets are in safe and in properly constructed enclosures.
- Deadstock is disposed of in a timely and appropriate manner.

- NEVER FEED COYOTES. Bird feeders, overflowing garbage bins and outdoor pet food bowls may attract coyotes to your yard. Overflowing birdfeeders attract smaller mammals which in turn are a food source for coyotes.

What else can you do?

We encourage the public to continue to report sightings in Niagara Falls online at the City of Niagara Falls website: www.niagarafalls.ca

If you see an injured animal please report your sighting to the "Coyote Response Team Niagara" through the Niagara Falls Humane Society [905.356.4404 or www.nfhs.ca] and/ or Coyote Watch Canada. The "Coyote Response Team Niagara" is also supported by the Niagara Parks Police and the City of Niagara Falls By-Law Department.

For further information, please contact:

Coyote Watch Canada

Lesley Sampson or Jim Brown

coyotewatchcanada@gmail.com



COYOTE WATCH CANADA

www.coyotewatchcanada.com Hotline 905-931-2610

Location: City of Niagara Falls, Father Hennepin School and the surrounding areas

Reason for the investigation: To investigate whether coyote sightings reported by the public are a result of human feeding. Coyote Watch Canada offered to complete a site investigation and report our findings to Niagara Falls Mayor Diodati and other community agencies involved in this process.

Dates of site observations- Friday January 7, 2011 4:30pm, Saturday January 8, 2011 11:43am, Sunday January 9, 2011 3:30pm, Monday 10, 2011 after an interview with CHCH TV at noon

Species Inventory- Completed a 'walk about' observation and analysis of tracks
Squirrels, various bird species in particular- crows, sparrows, cardinals, coyote, mice, domestic cats and dogs

NOTE: Confirmed- coyote presence based on tracks (two different sets seen on Friday night), subsequent visits revealed only one set of tracks

- No evidence of an established pack
- No evidence of coyote scat

Field Observations

Landscape: scrub, thorns, and mature trees on private property that back on to a large open field north and east of Father Hennepin School

- Minimal litter (pop can, plastic bag x 2, cardboard box, plastic toys x 3) in surrounding fields
- Established homes (single, townhouse, apartment) public access to large open field,

Human Activities

- Dog walking – six out of six dogs observed were off-leash, out of the six, three were on school property
- cyclist on designated pathway
- snowmobiling through school property and in the adjacent fields, streets

Confirmed coyote attractants

- clear evidence of feeding is taking place on the field side behind homes on Toby Crescent- a variety of animal tracks lead to a recent food site which included cat, birds and a single coyote
- also at the back of 5982 Dunn St. multi-residential complex which is north of the school, several recent food sites were found- animal tracks consisting of squirrel, coyotes, and rodents

Resident shared information with CWC regarding vocalizations

- A resident walking his large dog off-leash in the field in front of Father Hennepin School said he has heard coyotes yipping on two separate occasions
- He said he is not bothered by the presence of coyotes but that he does not take his dog in the field at night.
- We briefly discussed the issues of feeding wildlife and not allowing his dog to consume any food found in the fields
- Tips on what to do if he is approached by a coyote

Summary of findings for Father Hennepin School

During the first site visit Jim Brown and Lesley Sampson of Coyote Watch Canada followed a pair of coyote tracks travelling together. Their tracks went along the residential fence line at the back of the houses on Toby Crescent. There was minimal deviation to the tracks left by their movements meaning that they travelled in a direct line.

Due to the limited daylight our focus was directed back to the immediate areas around the school playground. There were no coyote tracks present. Numerous domestic dog tracks and a snowmobiler were found on the property which would be considered the playground. The playground has limited fencing. One section runs east-west, attached to a section running north-south. The playground area is open which would allow for all wildlife, domestic dogs and community members to pass through.

During the follow up visits, we identified two different locations where feeding is regularly taking place. The first area is behind Toby Crescent (TC) north of Collins Drive. The second area is at the south side of 5982 Dunn Street (D), directly across the northwest corner of the parking lot wall.

Photographs were taken of the remnants of human food such as bread, meat, an orange and seeds found at these feeding spots. In the middle of the field we also found a frozen cabbage head neatly wrapped in a plastic bag. We had concerns about this item of food due to the nature in which it was wrapped and because vigilante activities such as poisoning coyotes is not uncommon. Dogs walked on a leash would minimize the risk of poisoning however, all wildlife (birds included) or roaming cats would be at a greater risk of ingesting tainted or poisoned food.

NOTE: All food items that were found were taken off site and disposed of in a safe manner. All domestic dog feces was also bagged and removed.

We confirm that human feeding is drawing the coyote(s) from their natural habitat east of Ailanthus Avenue out into the field in front of the school. The travel patterns of the coyote lead directly to the two locations we identified. There does not seem to be a travel corridor for this coyote past the Dunn St. The coyote completes a loop along the perimeter of the large field before returning to the brush area east of Ailanthus Ave.

With the added advantage of the two snowfalls we can conclude that the feedings are taking place well before 10:00 o'clock in the morning. At no time did we see any coyote tracks in or around the school.

Long Term Solutions

- Education initiatives in the schools and the community including safety tips on what to do in case of a coyote or other wildlife encounter, coyote ecology, identifying a coyote
- Fencing for Father Hennepin School
- Wildlife signage for identified areas where wildlife such as coyotes have been sighted
- Take advantage of all forms of media- Press Releases- seasonal behavior announcements
- Municipal Website- Important public resource

*Create wildlife sections to include the following points:
Strategies, education, coyote ecology, safety tips- risks to free-roaming pets besides
coyotes, photographs of urban wildlife, **wildlife proofing home/business*

Short Term Solutions

Education and Investigation Initiatives

- School newsletter home to parents with wildlife safety facts
- Public service announcements
- Notices in the local media
- Coyote sighting investigations
- Local By-law reminders

Adverse Conditioning

- Duration of time to achieve desired results unpredictable
- Coyote behavior requires a period of adjustment
- Taking away the food incentive
- May result in a viable long term solution

SUGGESTIONS

- **Conflict Resolution-** develop a plan
- **Public Education Initiative-** preventative measures, partnerships, factual information
- **Wildlife section on the city website-** include photographs of urban wildlife
- **Create a city hotline for reporting coyote sightings-** school science projects, community involvement
- **Brochure-** Urban Wildlife Facts
- **Minimize attractants for coyotes-** Put out garbage and green boxes in the morning
- **Highlight current leash bylaws/Dog Owners Liability Act**
- **Consider a Feeding Wildlife By-Law**
- **Bi-Annual reminder in the press about coyote ecology--** spring/winter more sightings due to landscape and changes in pack dynamics
- **Positive wildlife appreciation begins with education**
- **COYOTE WATCH CANADA created and applies the 'PAWS APPROACH' (PREVENTION APPRECIATION WILDLIFE SAFETY)**

Jim Brown and Lesley Sampson of Coyote Watch Canada are willing to work with the City of Niagara Falls along with Mayor Diodati, council and staff on any future wildlife issues and education initiatives. Further to this report, we will also continue to monitor the site as needed.



November 14, 2011

To Whom it May Concern:

I am pleased to provide this letter of support and recommendation for Lesley Sampson and Coyote Watch Canada. This volunteer organization has been invaluable in assisting municipal staff in dealing with issues of coyotes in urban areas of the city.

Last year around Christmas time, the local media had stories of coyote sightings in the vicinity of a local school and residential area. Needless to say, these sightings caused some concern. In order to stave off any public hysteria, the City enlisted the efforts of Coyote Watch Canada, a non-profit organization which is dedicated to providing education and research about the Eastern Coyote.

Through a systematic public information program, which included passing an anti-feeding bylaw and website sighting form, staff was able to quell fears and educate the public. We would not have been able to do this without Coyote Watch Canada. Volunteers gathered information, identified sources through field observations, provided tips and strategies to the public and met with residents and community stakeholders. In almost every instance, it was the presence of feeding and food stuffs left by humans that lead to coyote issues.

I would be remiss if I did not make a special note of the efforts of Lesley Sampson. She has been a tireless advocate on this issue, responding to city staff requests on a moment's notice. She has been an invaluable resource to the City of Niagara Falls.

I encourage any other municipality that has issues with coyotes in urban areas to adopt the same strategies that the City of Niagara Falls undertook. These efforts would not have been possible without the valued assistance of Coyote Watch Canada.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dean Iorfida", written over a white background.

Dean Iorfida
City Clerk

Working Together to Serve Our Community

Clerks Department
Ext 4271 Fax 905-356-9083
diorfida@niagarafalls.ca

(ee)

Robicheau, Vanessa

From: Wendi McManus
Sent: November 14, 2011 12:34 PM
To: Robicheau, Vanessa
Subject: Re: Tuesday Meeting

Dear Ms. Robicheau: I am writing this email as I am unable to attend the scheduled meeting tomorrow morning in regards to animal control.

I am a full time working mother that, along with 3 of my friends are doing our best to control unwanted cats and kittens. We are trapping and spaying/neutering as many feral cats as we can with our own pocket money. It is very expensive to do this on a regular basis and also look after a colony of cats that have all been altered and are living out their lives in a shelter that we have provided for them.

If at all possible we have found homes for all the kittens we have rescued and any friendly cats, and during this time we have each acquired several cats of our own. We love them like our children and could not imagine having them taken away. Our cats are mostly indoor cats but we do have the odd few that just have to go outside since that has been their live style in the past.

I am so happy that you are going to vote to remove the 2 pet limit. My home is clean and well cared for and my cats have not become a hoarding issue.

Secondly, I feel that you should definitely have a longer hold period for cats that have been picked up my HAC. I would be devastated to loose one of my cats that way and sometimes people will wait a couple of days to see if their cat returns. In the city...**sometimes people take in friendly cats and therefore it can be a few days before they return home. PLEASE...extend the hold time on cats that are going to be put down!!!! Don't take away a lovingly cared for family cat!!!** I think that it is wrong to pick up every single cat that HAC sees. In an area that is heavily populated...those cats surely have loving homes. **This whole process only gets rid of family cats...feral and homeless cats will not allow you to pick them up!!!!**

I also feel that there should **be a low cost spay/neuter program provided to the public.** I have owned pets my whole live and am **shocked at the cost** of this procedure these days. It is ridiculous. People with lower incomes..and people like ourselves who are trying to reduce the amount of unwanted, disposed of cats and kittens love animals as much as everyone else and should have a place to get them altered at a very reasonable rate. This is a world that caters to the rich!

I also would like to ask that some type of **TNR program be set up so that people, like myself can do our part to reduce the amount of feral cats without having to turn some away because we just don't have the money readily available at the time.** These cats are feral because somewhere along the way the owner didn't spend the money to get them a cat fixed and it continued to reproduce these poor unwanted little kitties. Now those same kittens are feral and they too are reproducing. Lets do what we can to stop this without hurting these poor animals. They should be altered and allowed to live out their little, short lives if they have animal loving people to care for them.

If we all join together we can make a huge difference but we need to stand together. We can stop all this unnecessary killing!!!

I hope that my email will reach your desk so that you can understand what our feelings are on this subject!!! PLEASE>>>>THESE POOR ANIMALS CAN'T HELP THEMSELVES....THEY NEED US!

Thank you,

Regards,
Wendi McManus

14/11/2011

From: trish omeara [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: November 14, 2011 7:51 PM
To: Robicheau, Vanessa
Subject: RE: Urban chickens

Hi Vanessa,

It would seem that time has gotten away and I am hoping I am not too later for this simple submission. if not here are my ideas in regards to urban chickens.

Following the city of Guelph's example, Hamilton could adopt similar restrictions to it bylaw:

BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED by the Council of The Corporation of the City

of Guelph as follows:

1. No person shall keep ducks, geese, poultry or pigeons within the limits of The City of Guelph unless kept in pens, with floors kept free from standing water, and regularly cleaned and disinfected, and that such pens be a distance of at least 50' from any school, church or dwelling house not including the owners dwelling house.

2. It shall be an offence to contravene any section of this By-law. Any person convicted of an offence hereunder shall be liable to a fine not less than \$23 and not more than \$500.

I would also propose that the city could develop a licencing system similar to that of obtaining a burn permit. This could include an annual \$10 fee and one would be required to post the permit on the coup showing that they have complied with the city's regulations.

Adopting a similar policy to that of Guelph would preclude many from housing chickens within the city limits due to lack of space. But for those of us who do have the required space it would allow us to responsibly house chickens for the purpose of food.

It seems to me in a time when we are attempting to diminish our negative footprint on the earth that housing urban chicken for the purpose of food, no differently that growing vegetables for the same purpose, should be encouraged where possible. It has been successfully done in Guelph and elsewhere across North America without complication for many years.

I hope you receive this before the meeting tomorrow morning and I look forward to attending and hearing the outcome.

Thank you,

Trish O'Meara

Jerseyville, Ontario

Robicheau, Vanessa

From: Jaymz Kay [REDACTED]
Sent: November 15, 2011 8:06 AM
To: Robicheau, Vanessa
Subject: Special Meeting of the Planning Committee - Responsible Animal Ownership By-law

Hello Vanessa.

My name is Jaymz Kay and I would like to make a presentation on November 15 on the Updated Animal By-Law for the Entire City of Hamilton. My field of expertise is herpetology and herpetoculture (the study, care and keeping of reptiles) and I would be speaking on behalf of the reptile keeping hobby.

After reviewing the revised proposal, it looks like we are about half way to something great. What I will propose is the next step and fine tuning. To ensure that we are not only following other cities by-laws, but to ensure that the City of Hamilton becomes the next standard that everybody else models themselves after.

To give you a little background on my experience, I've been active in herpetoculture for over 20 years and have done field research all over the world. I am involved with the recovery of critically endangered species and have volunteered my time physically and financially worldwide to the support of these programs. I have lectured and mentored the general public through presentations at schools and programs, as well as at my daily job. I have successfully bred over 80 species of reptiles, snakes and turtles and I own and operate one of the largest reptile breeding facilities in Canada.

My goal is to be directly involved with the final creation of the new Hamilton by-laws both for the fairness to the hobby, and to make public understanding of these by-laws as well as enforcement easy and fool-proof.

You can reach me on my cell at (REDACTED) anytime, or e-mail me at (REDACTED). I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

Regards,
Jaymz Kay

(hh)

Robicheau, Vanessa

From: Carolyn McCann |
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2011 9:44 AM
To: Robicheau, Vanessa; Edwards, Karen; Sue.O'Swyer@hamilton.ca
Cc: Powers, Russ; Morelli, Bernie; Office of the Mayor
Subject: Special Meeting of the Planning Committee - Responsible Animal Ownership By-law
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

I am sorry that due to a vacation, I missed the opportunity to submit my comments to this meeting. I hope that they can be considered at the next discussion.

I own three chihuahuas and have owned dogs since the 1960's. My pets have never walked on public property- not a sidewalk, a street, a park, a parking lot, a playground. They have always been restricted to inside the house or the family backyards. They are carried into vets and groomers. And I pay for licenses without complaint. Meanwhile cats roam free. There are at least three in my immediate neighbourhood who are very happy to visit my front and back yard and leave their messes, get into the garbage or drag garbage into my back yard and they break my plants. Several of them prefer to sleep on my front porch as I am on the sunny side of the street. Meanwhile my licensed dogs look out the window and go crazy with barking because the cats remain in view. And then there are the all too frequent mating seasons when the cat howls drive both myself and the dogs crazy. These are not all feral cats. Two of them are family pets. And yet the family takes no responsibility for keeping them inside and they don't have to license them or be responsible for any of the ongoing work of Animal Control through license fees. I feel that this is absolutely unfair! Further Hamilton has a problem with feral cats not feral dogs!

Despite the reality that my dogs never step on public property, they have always been licensed. I have always known that the money from dog licenses is used as well for Animal Control work with cats and have always felt that cat owners should also be responsible. All animal licenses should be minimal cost and all pet owners should contribute equally. If owners have more than one animal, perhaps there could be a sliding discount scale for the extras. I strongly feel that if you can afford a pet, you can also afford to support Animal Control through license fees. They do their best to return both cats and dogs pets to owners. All pet owners benefit from their service and all should contribute through license fees.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my opinion. I hope this can be shared by the committee despite my lateness in expressing my views.

CAROLYN MCCANN

Hamilton L8L 6K8

From: fshields [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2011 1:57 AM
To: O'Dwyer, Sue; Edwards, Karen
Subject: I'm not really understanding what

the new animal by-laws are trying to achieve.

One portion of the proposed by-laws say that in order to achieve 'harmonization', the number of animals per household would be limited to a number that is:

- 1) The same as it is now for Hamilton, 2 animals per house hold in areas deemed 'urban'?
- 2) Or is a new pet limit number to be achieved at a later date?
- 3) Or, a no pet limit strategy with all areas rural or urban of the GHA?

Which is correct?

The proposals also state that: 'There would be no limits on pets with the GHA', but at the same time, it draws boundaries between rural & urban areas? What is the purpose of differentiating between urban & rural areas? Is this just for animals considered to be livestock, or will this be a situation where the old limits of 2 (pet) animals will be applied to "urban' pet owners, & rural residents will have more leeway ?

Will a more lenient attitude to rural areas make it easier for puppy/kitten 'millers to operate? This is how they operate now, in secluded rural areas.

Could it also make it easier for people to raise & export horses & ponies for meat to Quebec & abroad? I hope not! Could City Council add something to the proposed by-laws about prohibiting equines for slaughter in the GHA or for export to slaughter in other places?

I think that Calgary has the best by-laws re Animal Regulation, but i do have a problem with cats being required to wear collars & tags. If they escape from the house, they may strangle themselves on trees & fences, or just rip off the now standard tear-away cat collars. I've had an experience with an indoor cat nearly strangling on a kitchen chair because she was wearing a collar with tags. I think micro-chipping works best, however this might mean that Animal Control people might have to carry chip readers with them, if the Calgary model is followed in returning the animal to it's owner & not taking it to the Pound.

I'm sorry I could not be at the Meeting. I did not get notice until it was too late to make arrangements to do so, or to snail mail in a submission. I was also not aware that I could submit an email response.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter,

Your truly,
Doris Shields

(jj)

Robicheau, Vanessa

From: James Holland
Sent: Monday, January 09, 2012 3:59 PM
To: Edwards, Karen
Subject: Update on Responsible Animal Ownership By-law - Report PED09303(c)

Hello Karen. It's Jaymz Kay from Big Al's.

I just wanted to let you know that I received your email and I have reviewed it. Things look very progressive and I am pretty satisfied with the outcome. There are a couple minor things that I wanted to direct your attention to;

On page 16, Article 9.1 on Crocodylians - The proper spelling is "Caiman", and not "Cayman". One is an alligator species, the other is a tropical group of islands.

Article 9.2 on poisonous/venomous animal prohibitions. Could we see an exemption for all amphibians? As all frogs, toads, newts and salamanders secrete harmless poisons to assist in keeping their skin moist.

On the next section of the Special Planning Committee page 20 of 25 - instead of my quote stating that the new regulations should only "allow" 7 species of snakes and 4 species of lizards, it should state that the new regulations only "restrict" 7 species of snakes and 4 species of lizards.

As for those restrictions, is there any hope still that the restricted species are going to be listed in the by-law by their scientific names?

Is there any hope for the Green Iguana (*Iguana iguana*) being taken off the restricted species listing? My arguments for this are as follows;

- Green Iguanas are no longer the reptile pet of choice like they were in the 80's and 90's
- Many pet stores self regulate their sale (if they sell them at all)
- The reptile hobby has made huge strides in proper husbandry and products for their care
- How many unwanted Green Iguanas do you actually see come to shelters?
- If there is a prohibition on this species, how will you place unwanted pets or adopt them out?
- If we say "yes" now, we can see how it goes over the next couple years. If it indeed an unsolvable problem, it is always easier to ban it at that time than to try and open it up in the future.

My last question is about pet stores themselves. How long will we have to dissolve and animals on the prohibited species list (tarantulas for example)? Would pet stores be allowed to keep restricted species for display or educational purposes? Would this be classified as "temporary display"? I know that we had discussed how as the by-law stands today that some loophole allowed us to sell reptiles while residents of Hamilton couldn't own them. How has this changed?

Thanks for your time.
Jaymz

(kk)

From: Sandy MacLennan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 09, 2012 5:57 PM
To: Edwards, Karen
Subject: Re: Update on Responsible Animal Ownership By-law - Report PED09303(c)

Karen - I'm just wondering if the many neighbours who have cats will be contacting me, and other neighbours to ask if we have any problem with their cats in our yards, defecating, chasing birds, etc. In the 9 years since we moved in, we've been invaded daily. Our dogs have always been on a leash, as have most of the dogs in the neighbourhood. I do not understand why they aren't required to pay for a licence as well. Is it just too difficult to hunt them down? We used to feed summer birds, and I chased cats away almost daily! Why should I pay for a licence so I can walk my dog on a leash 3 times a day, pick up her droppings, and keep her fenced in, in our yard the rest of the time? What is fair about that!? Please come down to the Melville/Witherspoon neighbourhood in mid summer (especially in the evening) and visit the cat population! You mention diseases that chickens have - what about the ones that unlicensed cats (who love to get into kids' sandboxes where they can bury their "business") have? Until he died this past December, my husband and I walked down to Sydenham and back every night (when it wasn't raining) in the spring, summer & fall, and I can tell you - the only domestic animals we saw that were unleashed were cats. You plan to "regulate owned cats the same as dogs" - how are you planning to do that? It looks like a plan, but I'm at a loss as to how you intend to enforce it. Sandy.

From: Encarni Escobar [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 09, 2012 9:37 PM
To: Edwards, Karen
Subject: Re: Update on Responsible Animal Ownership By-law - Report PED09303(c)

Good day,

From the link, quote:

- non-venomous snakes (not including anacondas, boa constrictors and pythons) that do not exceed three metres in length from nose to tip of tail at maturity; and
- non-venomous lizards (not including iguanas) that do not exceed two metres in length from nose to tip of tail at maturity.

Clearly, the insanity continues with Hamilton By-Laws written by people who clearly have no idea whatsoever what they are dealing with. A Kenyan Sand boa does not exceed 1 meter. A Ball aka Royal python does not exceed 1.5m. There are about a dozen dwarf boas and pythons which max out at less than 2m. Not only that, if one were to escape and enter another residents home, these snakes are far less likely to be hostile and bite than the snakes that Hamilton condones. Most ratsnake and milksnake species are far more likely to strike than a ball python, or a kenyan sand boa. Also the risk of ferral population establishment is non existant with any tropical or neotropical species, many of which Hamilton is banning via this bylaw. Yet Hamilton condones the keeping of, for example, non indigenous species of Garter snake from the northern US which could easily establish a foothold in Hamilton's climate.

I don't even live in Hamilton. I've only been crusading against your idiotic, draconian bylaw pursuits because a threat to sanity and people's dignity anywhere is a theat there to everywhere. Once one idiot takes the first step, ten idiots will follow.

Your bylaw is written by idiots. Plain and simple. Idiots, basing idiotic decisions on idiotic misunderstandings and archaic misconceptions. You ban venomous reptiles and any snake over 5m. Any sane person who knows anything about reptiles will tell you that's the thing to do. Ban the green anaconda, the reticulated python, the rock python, and the burmese python, and venemous snakes and lizards. Anything else is an exercise in idiocy.

From: Encarni Escobar [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 09, 2012 9:40 PM
To: Edwards, Karen
Subject: Re: Update on Responsible Animal Ownership By-law - Report PED09303(c)

As per the notion that a large snake (ie, 4 meters) poses a threat to a neighbors cat or small dog. Sure. So does a stupid teenager or an angry German Sheppard. Why don't we just lock every living thing in Hamilton in a cage and make a no touching no talking rule. How far will this stupidity go?

(mm)

From: I Rosen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 09, 2012 10:23 PM
To: Edwards, Karen
Subject: Re: Update on Responsible Animal Ownership By-law - Report PED09303(c)

Hi Karen

the link provided did not seem to work.

I have to tell you I am still very confused as to why cats are not required a license it makes no sense to me.

Ira Rosen
First Vice President
AWWCA

(nn)

-----Original Message-----

From: McMaster People for Animal Welfare Society

[REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2012 10:28 AM

To: Edwards, Karen

Subject: Re: Update on Responsible Animal Ownership By-law - Report
PED09303(c)

Hi, thank you for letting me know about the new report. However, I was wondering where the comments from our delegation in regards to restrictions of sales on cats and dogs in pet stores would be located on the report. I have been unable to find any reference to that issue.

Thank you for your time,

Sincerely,

Justine Schultes

From: Steve and Linda Walsh [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2012 12:16 PM
To: Edwards, Karen
Cc: Joseph Erwin
Subject: Responsible Animal Ownership By-law

Good Morning Karen

I called and left you a voice mail to introduce myself. My name is Steve Walsh and I am a member of the Board of Directors for the Canadian Racing Pigeon Union (CRPU). Part of my responsibilities is to work with communities and their by-law committee's to address issues before they become problems.

I understand in Hamilton's case you had a by-law that allowed the keeping of racing pigeons in Hamilton. The City of Hamilton decided to review this by-law and in the re-write they were going to allow an owner to keep 40 birds.

I further understand we did not make an appearance at the November 15th public consultation because the local club agreed with the proposed changes.

I understand the latest draft does not allow for the keeping of Racing Pigeons in the City of Hamilton. Is that correct?

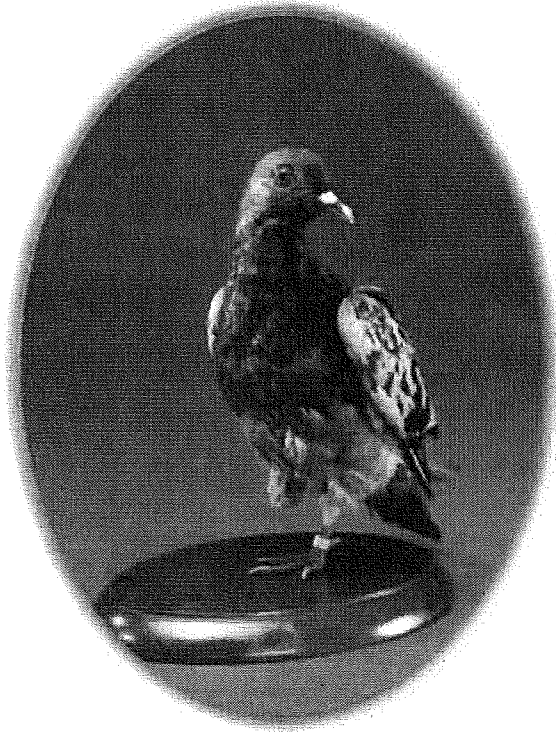
Attached is information that I ask the by-law committee have the opportunity to view. Naturally, I would prefer to address the committee personally to allow questions. If this cannot be arranged/allowed perhaps we can agree on some amendments to the by-law that would prevent a later challenge, if a by-law is passed prohibiting the keeping of racing pigeons in the City of Hamilton.

One of the attachments relates to the Town of Ajax. We helped Ajax prepare this by-law. I think you will agree it allows the City of Hamilton some control as it relates to responsible racing pigeon ownership.

I look forward to talking to you soon.

Respectfully,

Steve Walsh
Secretary
Canadian Racing Pigeon Union



“Cher Ami”

NURP, 615, Black Check Cock

WAR RECORD *of a racing pigeon owned by* **UNITED STATES ARMY**

Recipient of
HALL OF FAME AWARD

for meritorious service during
WORLD WAR I

Delivered twelve official messages under fire. On October 2, 1918, this bird accompanied a re-enforced battalion of the 77th Division consisting of six companies of the 306th Infantry, one company of the 307th Infantry, and two machine gun companies of the 305th Infantry, commanded by Major Charles S. Whittlesey. This unit reached its objective late in the afternoon of that day, consolidating its position during the night of October 2-3. On the morning of October 3, it was discovered that units on both flanks had failed to maintain contact, leaving the battalion exposed to enemy counter attacks. Strong counter attacks during October 3rd, completely isolated the battalion from its supporting troops; repeated efforts to regain contact were unsuccessful. On October 5, the battalion; its strength greatly reduced by casualties, without food, water or ammunition, was in a hopeless situation. The commander himself wounded, decided to make a final effort to avoid surrender by establishing communication with the Division. One pigeon, “Cher Ami” remained; at 2:35 P.M. he was liberated, bearing a message giving the location of the battalion, followed by a desperate appeal for help. Twenty-five minutes later, “Cher Ami” little more than a blood stained fluff of feathers dropped on the roof of the loft at Rampont, one leg was shot away and a hole torn through the breastbone by the same bullet. But the message holder still hung to the torn ligaments of the shattered leg. A few hours later the 194 survivors of the “Lost Battalion” were safe behind the American lines - but “Cher Ami” had made his last flight. “Cher Ami” died in Fort Monmouth, New Jersey on June 13, 1919.

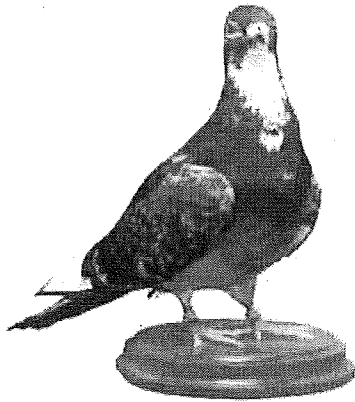
Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C.

Commando



Commando was a pigeon used in service with the British Armed Forces during the Second World War to carry crucial intelligence. The pigeon carried out more than ninety missions during the war, and received the Dickin Medal (the animal equivalent of the Victoria Cross) for three particularly notable missions in 1942. The

medal was later sold at an auction for £9,200. Commando, a red chequer bird, was bred in Haywards Heath, Sussex in the United Kingdom by Sid Moon. Moon was a pigeon fancier who had served with the Army Pigeon Service during the First World War. With the outbreak of the Second World War, Moon offered the service of his pigeons to the war effort in 1939. Commando was one of the pigeons taken into military service. He was noted for three particular missions carried out in 1942—one in June, another in August, and the third in September—in which he carried crucial intelligence to Britain from agents in France. This vital information included the location of German troops, industrial sites and injured British soldiers.



"G.I. JOE"

"G.I. JOE" is the most outstanding military pigeon in history and is credited with saving the lives of at least 1000 British allies during World War II.

The British 56th Brigade was scheduled to attack the city of Colvi Vecchia, Italy, at 10 a.m., October 18, 1943. The U.S. Air Support Command was scheduled to bomb the city to soften the entrance for the British Brigade. The Germans retreated leaving only a small rear guard and as a result the British troops entered the city with little resistance and occupied it ahead of schedule.

All attempts to cancel the bombings of the city, made by radio and other means of communication, had failed. Little "G.I. JOE" was released with the important message to cancel the bombing. He flew 20 miles back to the U.S. Air Support Command base in 20 minutes and arrived just as our planes were warming up to take off. If he had arrived a few minutes later, it might have been a different story.

Gen. Mark Clark, Commanding the U.S. Fifth Army, estimated that "G.I. JOE" saved the lives of at least 1000 of our British allies.

In November 1946, "G.I. JOE" was shipped from Fort Monmouth, N.J. to London, England, where he was cited and awarded the Dickin Medal for gallantry by the Lord Mayor of London. "G.I. JOE" is the only bird or animal in the United States to receive this high award.

"G.I. JOE," a dark checker pied white flight cock, was hatched March 24, 1943, at the Pigeon Section in Algiers, Algeria, North Africa. Later he was taken to the Tunisian front, then to Bizerte, and from there to the Italian front. After World War II, "G.I. JOE" was housed in the Churchill Loft, U.S. Army's "Hall of Fame" at Ft. Monmouth, N.J., along with 24 other pigeon heroes.

In March of 1957, the remaining pigeon heroes were placed with different zoological gardens throughout the U.S.A. "G.I. JOE" was placed with the Detroit Zoological Gardens where he died June 3, 1961, at the age of 18. "G.I. JOE" was returned, mounted, and placed in the Historical Center, Meyer Hall, at Fort Monmouth, N.J.

Otto Meyer, U.S. Army (Ret'd.)
(Former Commander of the U.S. Army Pigeon Service)



1. KEEPING OF PIGEONS IN AJAX ONTARIO

- 4.1 Every owner of a domestic pigeon in the Town shall;
- a) keep no more than eighty (80) pigeons at any time;
 - b) be a member of a recognized pigeon club which is affiliated with a national organization;
 - c) ensure each pigeon wear a metal or plastic leg band that shall identify the owner of the bird, and shall register these numbers with a recognized pigeon club which is affiliated with a national organization;
 - d) ensure all pigeons are not kept in, upon, or under any building used for human habitation;
 - e) keep all pigeons in a bird enclosure of sufficient size to house all birds; which shall provide a minimum space of 1.0 square metre of loft space for every 10 birds, and shall be constructed as to prevent escape of pigeons;
 - f) ensure the bird enclosure is located no less than seven (7) metres from any dwelling, shop or apartment building, and no less than three (3) metres from any adjoining property line;
 - g) ensure the pigeons do not stray, perch, roost, nest or rest upon any premises other than on premises of the owner;
 - h) keep the pigeons in a building, structure, loft, pen, coop or run which is maintained by regular painting or permanent siding;
 - i) lime wash, paint or disinfect the inside walls and ceilings of all buildings, structures, lofts, pens, coops and runs used for the keeping of pigeons other than outside runs enclosed solely with wire, at least four times per calendar year;
 - j) remove and dispose of in a sanitary manner, at least twice each week, all pigeon droppings and refuse within or adjacent to all buildings, structures, lofts, pens, coops and runs used for the keeping of pigeons, it being understood that this requirement shall not apply when below freezing temperatures prevent waste removal and disposal;
 - k) store all pigeon feed in rodent-proof containers;
 - l) keep all equipment associated with the keeping of pigeons under cover; and

- m) keep the pigeons enclosed at all times, except to allow a maximum of two daily, two hour, flight periods during which no more than fifty percent of the total number of pigeons being kept shall be permitted to be at large during any particular flight period, it being understood that this restriction shall not apply to members of a racing pigeon club when the members are participating in a bona fide flight conducted by the club.

From: rockton worlds fair [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2012 12:22 PM
To: Edwards, Karen
Cc: Pasuta, Robert; Partridge, Judi; Johnson, Brenda
Subject: Re: Update on Responsible Animal Ownership By-law - Report PED09303(c)

Hello Karen, thanks for stepping me through the website, I have now been able to access the proposed changes to the By-Law.

I see under item (b) about the proposed change referencing the Agricultural Fairs held by Agricultural Societies and the specific exemption in Section 3.2 (j).

I want it to be made clear in the section that it is **not just for fairs but all animal events held by or on Agricultural Society properties**, such as monthly horse shows, cattle shows, dog shows, RCMP Musical Ride etc. I realize that Subsection (k) may refer to it as a temporary display, but it is not clear for shows and competitions.

I think either Councillor Partridge or Councillor Johnson made it clear in their response, that it should read "**Agricultural Society Events or Shows**".

Hopefully, this gets clarified.

Thanks
Bob Campbell
General Manager, Rockton Agricultural Society.

(qq)

Robicheau, Vanessa

From: Don Intini
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2012 11:19 PM
To: Pasuta, Robert; Pasuta, Robert; Robicheau, Vanessa
Cc: Cecchetti, Lynne; Edwards, Karen
Subject: Animal By-law 2

Robert and Vanessa,

At our Flamborough Fur and Feather Fanciers meeting tonight another concern arose
This has to do with Part 5.3 (c) It was wondered whether the 12 metres should have been 1.2 meters or if it was
to mean 12 metres from a building on another propety. Aparantly The cambridge by-law reads 3 ft from a
property line and 70 ft from an adjacent dwelling unit.

Thank you for your consideration
Don Intini FFFF secretary

----- Original Message -----

From: Don Intini

To: Robert Pasuta ; vanessa.robicheau@hamilton.ca

Cc: animalcontrol@hamilton.ca

Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2012 4:55 PM

Subject: animal control new by-law

Robert, and Vanessa,

Re. proposed Responsible Animal Ownership By-law (PEDo9303(c))
committee date January 12 2012

I have a concern with the new animal control by-law. re: part 9.0 Prohibited animals. In that section in several places it appears That in addition to meeting the definition of a rural or agricultural premises a property would also have to be **zoned under the city zoning bylaw permitting such use.**

The definition was revised after the Nov 15th public planning meeting to include rural settlement area premises of 1/4 hectare or more which is quite reasonable, but if the zoning requirement is still there then it appears to negate the revision, and it appears it will not allow small /hobby animal operation such as my own and those of many others.

My .68 acre property is zoned R2 in Flamborough. and permits only a single family dwelling. even an agricultural zone appears to require 2 acres.

This seems to go against the feeling I had at the November meeting and my discussions with staff since that meeting.

I expect that this is just a case of a confusion in such a complicated by-law. but it should be clarified before going on.

It seems illogical that I could have several large pet dogs but not pet birds.

Thank you for your consideration
Don Intini [REDACTED]