

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GEORGINA

COUNCIL ADDENDUM 1

Wednesday, November 30, 2016
7:00 PM

9. DELEGATIONS/PETITIONS

- (2) Trina West, P.A.W.S. of Georgina, and Eva McDowell, Georgina Feral Cat Committee, concerning the spay/neuter return program for feral cats

Additional supporting documents provided by delegate:

Pages 1-2

- Cheryl Simpson, Founder, Feline Friends Network of Stratford

Pages 3-9

- Agreement between the City of Stratford and Feline Friends Network of Stratford

Pages 10-24

- By-law 195-2002 of the City of Stratford to prohibit, regulate, restrict Animals and to require the registration and identification of animals

Pages 25-26

- Kristi Mallinson Vogel, President and Founder, Port Colborne

Page 27

- Lori Krivoshein, Superior Street Cats, Thunder Bay

Pages 28-35

- City of Thunder Bay Report re 'Pilot Project for a Trap, Neuter and Return Program for Feral Cats'

Pages 36-37

- Monica Seto, Manager, Shelter Health and Wellness, Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA)

Additional Correspondence in support:

Page 38

- Mr. and Mrs. J. Clark

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- Radmila Bota

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- Nancy Gandhi

Page 41

- Alison Macpherson

Pages 42-52

- Liz White, Director, Animal Alliance of Canada

In support of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR)**October 27, 2016****To Whom it May Concern:**

I am writing as the founder of Feline Friends Network (FFN) of Stratford in support of Georgina Feral Cat Committee's request for the Town of Georgina to make Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) the official policy for community cats.

Feline Friends Network is a registered charity with the mission to end cat homelessness and overpopulation in Perth County through the running of various spay/neuter programs as well as education.

Trap/Neuter/Return for feral colony cats, is a cornerstone program, and since starting it in 2007 in a very small way, we have TNR'd approximately 900 cats, While we do not keep a detailed record of colonies TNR'd in the outlying areas (most are in barns), we do keep a database of 'community cat' colonies TNR'd in the City of Stratford (population 32,000) because Feline Friends Network has an agreement with the City to manage these colonies. Our Stratford database shows that, out of the 180 cats TNR'd in Stratford since 2007, only 61 cats remain. One wonders how many cats would currently be in those colonies if we had done nothing ?

Because TNR is the humane alternative to the problem , it is also the least expensive alternative, because committed animal-loving volunteers – such as the Georgina Cat Committee -- will most certainly come on board to help make it happen. And this is a “good news story”...Who wants to read how many cats were trapped and killed as a solution ? Or how many kittens suffered and died trying to survive outside ? Rather the TNR story is about a caring community working together to humanely solve a problem.

In order for TNR to be a success, however, the colonies targeted must continue to be “managed” - ie. Their welfare overseen by volunteer caregivers who make sure there is shelter, food and water, and – very importantly – make sure that any “outside” cats joining the colony are TNR'd as soon as possible.

Finally, we will not get a handle on successfully curbing the cat overpopulation problem until people stop abandoning cats. Abandoned cats are a big reason

why other cats may try to join an already established managed colony or indeed why colonies exist in the first place. Therefore, we at Feline Friends Network believe it is important to not only educate the community about the importance of spaying and neutering, but also to help those in financial difficulty to afford timely spay/neuter surgery for their cat(s). And so, FFN's second cornerstone spay/neuter program is free spay/neuter for cats owned by people in need. With the help of social service agencies, and participating veterinary clinics, Feline Friends takes on the cost of such surgeries using a free spay/neuter voucher program. We have subsidized something in the area of 800 such surgeries in Perth County since 2006.

In conclusion, let me say that, once the “good news story” of TNR is understood in your community, peoples' attitudes toward stray cats will start to change. We see this every day. Nine years ago I would regularly hear comments from residents like “I just want them gone”. We very rarely hear such comments anymore. Through good works, good education, and good results, the community has come on board, and in general citizens are overwhelmingly supportive and wanting to help the cats.

I do hope your community joins ours in making the right choice of Trap/Neuter/Return to solve your cat overpopulation problem.

Very sincerely yours,

Cheryl Simpson
Founder,
Feline Friends Network of Stratford
www.felinefriends.ca

This Agreement made this 28th day of July, 2014

Between

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF STRATFORD
(the "City")

and

FELINE FRIENDS NETWORK OF STRATFORD
(“Feline Friends”)

WHEREAS Feline Friends Network of Stratford (“Feline Friends”) is a registered not-for-profit charity incorporated in the Province of Ontario in 2009;

AND WHEREAS Feline Friends operates a Trap | Neuter | Return (TNR) program that humanely reduces the feral cat population and benefits both the cats and the community;

AND WHEREAS Feline Friends approached the City seeking Council’s endorsement of the implementation of a TNR program in Stratford;

AND WHEREAS the Council of The Corporation of the City of Stratford endorsed in principle, the implementation of a long-term community-wide, TNR model that have been proven to be a fiscally responsible and effective means of managing feral and homeless cats;

AND WHEREAS City Council deems it necessary to enter into an Agreement with Feline Friends to set out the terms and conditions for the implementation and operation of a TNR Program in Stratford;

NOW THEREFORE the Parties hereto agree as follows:

Interpretation

1. The capitalized terms in this Agreement shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the lettered paragraphs of this section. Where a word is used without a capital letter, its regularly understood meaning shall apply:

“**Agreement**” means this Agreement that may be amended from time to time;

“**Animal Control By-laws**” means a by-law or by-laws of the City as amended from time to time by Council of the City, with respect to animals;

“**Animal Control Officer**” means The Stratford Perth Humane Society and any successor thereto, including its officers, employees and agents, a police officer, municipal by-law enforcement officer or any other authorized agent of the City;

“**Caretaker**” means any person who regularly provides food and water to a Feral Cat Colony within the geographical limits of Stratford;

“**City**” means The Corporation of the City of Stratford and where the context so applies, includes its employees, members of Council and authorized agents;

"Eartip" or "Eartipping" means a mark identifying a feral or stray cat as having been sterilized, specifically the removal of a quarter inch off the tip of the cat's left ear in a straight line cut while the cat is anaesthetized;

"Feral Cat" means a male or female Cat of any age that is undomesticated, that in general, receives little human contact or care and lives outdoors or unconfined at all times;

"Feral Cat Colony" and "Colony" mean a group of Feral Cats that congregate, more or less, together as a unit and share a common food source;

"Foster Home" means a household in which a cat or kitten is temporarily placed for the purpose of providing indoor shelter, care and, if necessary, socialization before permanent placement in an adoptive home;

"Registered Colony" means a Feral Cat Colony that is Registered as part of the TNR Program;

"Registered" or "Registration" means the identification by the Caretaker of each Feral Cat Colony as set out in section 9 of this Agreement;

"TNR Program" shall mean the capture by the Sponsor or Caretaker of a Feral Cat by trapping, the spaying or neutering, vaccination against rabies, Eartipping of the captured Feral Cat and the return of the captured Feral Cat at the point of capture, where permitted under City By-law;

"Sponsor" means the Feline Friends Network of Stratford;

2. The Recitals and Schedules to the Agreement form an integral part of this Agreement.
3. This Agreement shall be interpreted according to the laws of the Province of Ontario. In the event that any provision of the Agreement is deemed or determined to be in violation of any law, or held to be invalid or unenforceable by any court or tribunal of competent jurisdiction, the violation and invalidity of any particular provision shall not affect any other provision of the Agreement. The Agreement shall afterward be interpreted as though the offending provision is not contained in the Agreement.
4. Any obligation or acknowledgement set out in the Agreement shall be construed as a covenant upon Feline Friends.

Endorsement of TNR

5. The City endorses the implementation of a TNR Program in Stratford by Feline Friends Network, subject to the terms and conditions set out in the Agreement.

Sponsor of TNR

6. Feline Friends Network of Stratford agrees to act as a Sponsor of the TNR Program and to abide by the terms and conditions in this Agreement and as further provided or clarified by the City from time to time during the term of this Agreement.

Sponsorship Requirements

7. It shall be the duty of a Sponsor to:
- a) register all Feral Cat Colonies managed by Caretakers pursuant to the requirements of Section 9;
 - b) ensure the ongoing compliance of Caretakers of Registered Colonies with the requirements of Section 8 ;
 - c) maintain records provided by Caretakers on the size and location of Registered Colonies;
 - d) help to resolve any complaints over the conduct of Caretakers of Registered Colonies or of Feral Cats belonging to Registered Colonies;
 - e) report annually to the City on the following:
 - i) number of Colonies in the City that are Registered with the Sponsor;
 - ii) total number of Feral Cats in Colonies in the City that are Registered with the Sponsor;
 - iii) number of Feral Cats sterilized and vaccinated pursuant to the TNR Program in the past year; and
 - iv) number of Feral Cats and kittens removed from the Colony for the purposes of adoption in the past year.

Caretaker Requirements

8. It shall be the responsibility of a Caretaker to:
- a) submit all Colonies managed by the Caretaker for Registration with the Sponsor pursuant to the requirements of section 9;
 - b) make reasonable efforts to trap all Feral Cats in a Registered Colony and have all trapped Feral Cats sterilized and vaccinated against rabies and Eartipped by a veterinarian licensed to practice in Ontario;
 - c) provide or arrange for the provision of adequate food and water on a regular basis to the Colony and make reasonable efforts to ensure adequate shelter for the Colony;
 - d) make reasonable efforts to trap and obtain proper medical attention from a veterinarian licensed to practice in Ontario, for any Feral Cat in a Colony that appears to require it;
 - e) make reasonable efforts to work with the Sponsor to resolve any complaints over the conduct of the Caretaker or of a Colony managed by the Caretaker;
 - f) report annually in writing to the Sponsor on the status of the Caretaker's Colony, including:
 - i) Total number of Feral Cats in the Colony and total number of Feral Cats in the Colony that are sterilized;
 - ii) number of Feral Cats in the Colony sterilized and vaccinated pursuant to the TNR Program in the past year;

- iii) number of Feral Cats in the Colony that have died or otherwise ceased to be a part of the Colony in the past year;
- iv) number of kittens born to the Colony in the past year and their disposition; and
- v) number of Feral Cats and kittens removed for purposes of Foster or adoptive placement in the past year.

Feral Cat Colony Registration

9. Upon Registration of a Colony, the Caretaker shall provide his or her Sponsor with:
 - a) Address, telephone number and if applicable, electronic mailing address of the Caretaker;
 - b) Location of the Registered Colony;
 - c) Total number of Feral Cats in the Registered Colony;
 - d) Total number of Feral Cats in the Registered Colony that are sterilized and vaccinated against rabies.

Withdrawal of Caretaker or Sponsor

10. In the event that a Caretaker of a Registered Colony is unable or unwilling to continue in that role, he or she shall notify his or her Sponsor in writing and shall make reasonable efforts to secure a replacement Caretaker.
11. In the event that a Sponsor is unable or unwilling to continue to perform his or her role, he or she shall provide sixty (60) days written notice to the Animal Control Officer and the City and the Sponsor shall make reasonable efforts to secure a replacement Sponsor within sixty (60) days of giving notice herein.

Disposition of Colony Cats

12. An Animal Control Officer that has trapped or received an Ear-tipped cat within the City shall take reasonable steps to notify the Sponsor of the description and sex of the Feral Cat and of the address of location where the Feral Cat was captured. The Sponsor shall have up to five (5) business days after notification to arrange for the Feral Cat to be retrieved. If the Feral Cat is retrieved by arrangement with the Sponsor and the Caretaker of the Colony from which the Feral Cat was removed can be located with reasonable efforts, the Feral Cat shall be returned to the Caretaker.

By-law Enforcement

13. Nothing in this Agreement shall interfere with the right of the City or an Animal-Control Officer to:
 - a) Investigate any complaint allegedly caused by a Feral or stray cat or Registered Colony;
 - i) If it is found that a Feral Cat or stray cat or Colony within the geographical limits of Stratford is causing a disturbance in contravention of an Animal Control By-law, the Animal Control Officer or City shall provide the Sponsor with written notice delineating the disturbance and

- location of the Feral Cat or stray cat or Colony and if warranted, provide the Sponsor a reasonable amount of time to cure the disturbance.
- ii) If the Sponsor fails to cure the disturbance to the Animal Control Officer's or the City's reasonable satisfaction within a reasonable period of time, or if the Animal Control Officer or the City, acting reasonably, deems the complaint requires immediate response, an Animal Control Officer or City may take appropriate action within the Animal Control By-law to cure the disturbance.
- b) Reassign sponsorship of a Sponsor's Registered Colony(ies) if the Sponsor regularly fails to comply with the requirements of this Agreement and the Sponsor does not correct the situation within thirty (30) days of being given written notice by the City delineating its failures with specificity.

Grace Period

- 14. If an Animal Control Officer or the City locates or otherwise becomes knowledgeable about an unregistered Feral Cat Colony reasonable efforts shall be made by the Animal Control Officer or City to provide written notice to the Sponsor or Caretaker of the Colony of the Registration requirements of this Agreement.
- 15. Upon receipt of written notice as set forth in Section 14, a Caretaker or Sponsor of an unregistered Feral Cat Colony shall have thirty (30) days to comply with Section 9 of this Agreement. During the thirty (30) day period, no cat from the Colony shall be removed by an Animal Control Officer or the City for reason of causing a disturbance.

Term

- 16. The term of this Agreement shall be for a period of three (3) years, commencing on July 1, 2014 and, unless terminated earlier in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, ending on June 30, 2017.
- 17. The Term may be extended by mutual agreement of both Parties for additional terms of three (3) years each, upon the written request of Feline Friends provided that any request for renewal shall be provided to the City no later than six months prior to the expiry of the Term or any renewal thereof.

Termination

- 18. This Agreement may be terminated at the absolute and sole discretion of the City at any time, including when Feline Friends is in default under this Agreement and such default is not remedied to the satisfaction of the City within 30 days written notice to Feline Friends of such default.
- 19. In the event this Agreement is terminated, Feline Friends shall advise the Animal Control Officer and the City of the actions taken by Feline Friends to cease operation of a TNR Program in the City.

Acknowledgements by Feline Friends

20. Feline Friends acknowledges and agrees that the City has the jurisdiction to impose the terms and conditions contained in the Agreement on Feline Friends.

Providing Notice

21. Any notice required to be given by this Agreement shall be in writing and delivered personally or by facsimile transmission or by email addresses to the other Party at the following addresses or fax numbers or email addresses:

to the City at: City of Stratford
 1 Wellington Street, P.O. Box 818
 Stratford ON N5A 6W1
 Attention: City Clerk
 Fax: 519-273-5041
 Email: clerks@stratfordcanada.ca

to Feline Friends at: Feline Friends Network of Stratford
 47 Britannia Street
 Stratford ON N5A 5Y8
 Attention: President
 Email: info@felinefriends.ca

Facsimile and email notices shall be permitted. Notice shall be deemed to have been delivered on the date of personal delivery or confirmed facsimile or email transmission.

Agreement is the Entire Agreement and is Binding

22. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties and cannot be modified except by written instrument duly executed by both Parties.
23. Feline Friends shall not assign this Agreement or any part of it without first obtaining the written consent of the City, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.
24. This Agreement shall enure to the benefit of and be binding upon the parties hereto and their respective administrators, successors and assigns.

[this section intentionally left blank]



**BY-LAW NUMBER 195-2002
OF
THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF STRATFORD**

BEING a By-law to prohibit, regulate, restrict Animals and to require the registration and identification of Animals in the City of Stratford and to repeal By-laws 216-2001 and 44-2002.

WHEREAS the *Municipal Act, R.S.O. 1990 chapter M.45* authorizes a municipality to pass by-laws respecting animals and prohibiting, regulating, restricting and requiring the licencing of animals and further authorizes a municipality to pass by-laws prohibiting and abating public nuisances;

AND WHEREAS the *Pounds Act, R.S.O. 1990 chapter P.17* authorizes a municipality to impound animals found to be running At Large;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED by Council of The Corporation of the City of Stratford as follows:

1.0 DEFINITIONS:

- 1.1 "Altered" used as an adjective to refer to an Animal, means that the Animal has been sterilized by a licenced veterinarian. The term is applied to either a male Animal that has been castrated or a female Animal that has been operated on to prevent conception;
- 1.2 "Animal" means any member of the animal kingdom, other than a human;
- 1.3 "Animal Control Officer" means The Stratford Perth Humane Society and any successors thereto, including its officers, employees and agents, a Police Officer or other duly appointed municipal by-law enforcement officer;
- 1.4 "Animal Sound" means any sound emitted from an Animal which is audible at Property occupied by persons other than the Owner of the Animal emitting the sound. Without limitation, this term shall include barking, whimpering, whining, howling, yowling and yelping, meowing, crying;
- 1.5 "At Large" means where an Animal is found in a place other than the Property of the Owner of the Animal and not under the Control of the Owner of the Animal or his/her authorized representative, except where the Owner of the Property permits the Animal to be on his/her Property;
- 1.6 "Caretaker" means any person who regularly provides food and water to a colony;
- 1.7 "Cat" means a male or female Cat (*Felis Catus*) of any age and includes a Feral Cat;
- 1.8 "Cattery" means an establishment for the breeding or boarding of Pure-bred domestic Cats;
- 1.9 "City" means The Corporation of the City of Stratford;
- 1.10 "Control" includes care and custody;
- 1.11 "Council" means the Council of The Corporation of the City of Stratford;
- 1.12 "Dog" means a canine of the species *Canis familiaris*;
- 1.13 "Eartip" means a mark identifying a Feral Cat or stray cat as having been sterilized, specifically the removal of a quarter inch off the tip of the Feral Cat's or stray cat's left ear in a straight line cut while the Cat is anaesthetized;
- 1.14 "Feral Cat" means a male or female Cat of any age that is undomesticated, that in general, receives little human contact or care and lives outdoors or unconfined at all times;

- 1.15 **"Feral Cat Colony"** means a group of Feral Cats that congregate, more or less, together as a unit and share a common food source;
- 1.16 **"Foster Home"** means a household in which a Cat or kitten is temporarily placed for the purpose of providing indoor shelter, care and, if necessary, socialization before permanent placement in an adoptive home;
- 1.17 **"Impounded"** means lodgement of an Animal at a designated Pound within the City;
- 1.18 **"Kennel"** means an establishment for the breeding or boarding of Pure-bred Dogs;
- 1.19 **"Lot"** means a parcel of land which can be legally conveyed pursuant to the *Planning Act*;
- 1.20 **"Microchip"** means an approved Canadian standard encoded identification device implanted into an Animal that contains a unique code that permits or facilitates access to Owner information, including the name and address of the Owner which is stored in a central database accessible to the Animal Control Officer;
- 1.21 **"Owner"** means a person who:
- a) has the care, charge, custody or Control of an Animal;
 - b) owns or who claims proprietary interest in an Animal;
 - c) harbours, suffers or permits an Animal to be present on any Property owned, occupied or leased by him/her or which is otherwise under his/her Control;
 - d) claims and receives an Animal from the custody of the Animal shelter or an Animal Control Officer; or
 - e) a person to whom an identification tag was issued for an Animal in accordance with this by-law.
- For the purposes of this by-law, an Animal may have only one (1) Owner. Where an Owner is a minor, the person responsible for the custody of the minor is deemed to be the Owner.
- 1.22 **"Pound"** means premises that are used for the detention, maintenance or disposition of Animals that have been Impounded pursuant to this by-law, or any predecessor of this by-law, but does not include any Property, or part thereof, that are not used by any person or body of persons, including the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA) or any society affiliated therewith, for the detention, maintenance or disposal of Animals so Impounded.
- 1.23 **"Property"** means any interest, present or future, vested or contingent, in real or personal property.
- 1.24 **"Pure-bred Cat"** means a breed of Cat registered or eligible for registration in the Register of the Canadian Cat Association;
- 1.25 **"Pure-bred Dog"** means a breed of Dog registered or eligible for registration in the Register of the Canadian Kennel Club Incorporated;
- 1.26 **"Sponsor"** means an organization recognized by the Animal Control Officer or the City, that promotes and actively participates in the welfare of Animals and that operates a TNR program;
- 1.27 **"TNR Program"** means a program recognized by the Animal Control Officer or the City that involves the capture of a Feral Cat by trapping, the spaying or neutering, vaccination against rabies, Eartipping of the captured Feral Cat and the return of the Feral Cat at the point of capture, where permitted under this By-law;
- 1.28 **"Wild Animal"** means an Animal of wild, untamed, uncultivated, feral or brutal nature or disposition, but excludes a Feral Cat. An Animal that was once a domesticated Animal can become a Wild Animal;
- 1.29 **"Zoning By-law"** means any by-law administered by the City passed pursuant to Section 34 of the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990 c.P13* or a predecessor or successor thereof, as may be amended from time to time;

2.0 **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

2.1 This By-law pertains to Animals being housed, harboured, kept or owned by a person for domestic purposes in the City of Stratford.

2.2 A **Permitted** Animal means:

- a) mammals which are commonly known as the following:
 - Cats
 - chinchillas
 - degus
 - Dogs
 - domesticated pot bellied pigs
 - ferrets
 - gerbils
 - guinea pigs
 - hamsters
 - hedgehogs
 - mice
 - rabbits
 - rats
 - sugar gliders
- b) all birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish and invertebrates which are not restricted or prohibited Animals;

2.3 A **Restricted** Animal means:

- a) a venomous or poisonous Animal which is being held in captivity;
- b) a lizard which will grow to more than 65 centimetres in length from snout to vent;
- c) a snake which will grow to more than 2 metres in length;
- d) an Animal deemed restricted by Council.

2.4 A **Prohibited** Animal means:

- a) an Animal which is wild-caught;
- b) an Animal whose parent is a prohibited Animal;
- c) a mammal which is not a permitted Animal;
- d) birds which are members of the following orders:
 - i) Order Anseriformes, for example, but not limited to, ducks, geese and swans;
 - ii) Order Casuariiformes, for example, but not limited to, cassowaries and emus;
 - iii) Order Galliformes, for example, but not limited to, grouse and pheasants, except for non-indigenous quail species which have been captive-bred for more than six generations;
 - iv) Order Rheiformes, for example, but not limited to, rheas;
 - v) Order Struthioniformes, for example, but not limited to, ostriches;
- e) reptiles which are members of the following orders:
 - i) Order Crocodylia, for example, but not limited to, crocodiles;
 - ii) Order Sphenodontida, for example, but not limited to, tuatara;
- f) amphibians which are members of the Order Gymnophobia or Apoda commonly known as legless amphibians.
- g) Animals generally recognized as livestock and/or used for agricultural purposes, but not limited to cattle, horses, ponies, donkeys, mules, swine, mink, foxes, sheep, goats, llamas, chicken, ducks, geese, buffalo, deer but excludes honeybees.

- 2.5 No person shall keep or harbour or permit to be kept or harboured on a temporary or permanent basis, any Prohibited Animal in the City of Stratford. This provision does not apply to a Department of the City of Stratford or to lands owned by the City of Stratford and zoned as parkland under the City's Zoning By-law;
- 2.6 The provisions of 2.4 d) and g) do not apply to lands zoned as agriculture under the Zoning By-law and lawfully used for agricultural purposes.
- 2.7 Notwithstanding Section 2.5, the Owner of a Prohibited Animal may keep the Animal, but not its offspring, for the remainder of the life of the Animal provided that the Prohibited Animal was owned prior to this by-law coming into effect, and provided that the Owner of the Prohibited Animal registers the Animal in accordance with this By-law.
- 2.8 No person shall keep or harbour or permit to be kept or harboured on a temporary or permanent basis, any Restricted Animal in the City of Stratford, except in accordance with this by-law.
- 2.9 No owner of an animal shall permit or allow his or her animal to be at large, except that this provision does not apply to honeybees lawfully kept in accordance with the *Bees Act* and any successor legislation thereto.
- 2.10 Subject to Section 2.11 below, Section 2.9 does not apply to a Cat bearing a current identification tag or valid Microchip or has been identified as a Feral Cat in accordance with this By-law.
- 2.11 Notwithstanding Section 2.10, where a Property Owner or tenant makes a complaint to the Animal Control Officer that a Cat is causing damage to the said Owner's or tenant's Property or otherwise creating a disturbance on that Property, or is on the Owner's or tenant's Property without permission, the Animal Control Officer may, with the consent of the said Property Owner or tenant, enter onto private Property and into the structures thereon, to investigate such complaint in accordance with section 2.15 of this By-law.
- 2.12 Notwithstanding Section 2.9, a Restricted Animal shall be deemed to be At Large in a public place, including highways, sidewalks and parks and on private Property without the consent of the Owner of that Property, when being carried on the person of an individual having apparent care and Control thereof.
- 2.13 Every person having care or Control of an Animal, including a person or persons responsible for the temporary boarding of an Animal at the request of the Owner, upon realizing that the Animal is missing or has escaped, shall immediately notify the Animal Control Officer.
- 2.14 An Animal Control Officer may enter on:
- a) public Property at any time for the purpose of taking possession of an Animal that is in violation of the provisions of this By-law;
 - b) private Property where Animals are kept, with the consent of the Owner or tenant, for the purpose of investigating complaints and ensuring compliance with the provisions of this By-law;
 - c) private Property where Animals are kept, with the consent of the Owner or tenant of the private Property for the purpose of taking possession of an Animal that is At Large and in violation of the provisions of this By-law.
- 2.15 Where an Animal is in violation of the provisions of this By-law or is causing damage or creating a disturbance, or is on the Owner's or tenant's Property without permission, the Owner or tenant of the Property on which the Animal is in violation, may make a complaint to the Animal Control Officer. The Animal Control Officer shall investigate such complaint and shall make all reasonable efforts to contact the Owner of the Animal (or alternate contact) and may take all steps necessary to ensure compliance with this By-law, which may include taking possession of the Animal and impounding same.
- 2.16 No Owner shall permit or allow his or her Animal to defecate on public or private Property in the City, other than on Property of the Owner unless the Owner immediately and without delay removes the excrement and provides for its sanitary disposal.
- 2.17 No Owner shall permit his or her Animal:
- a) to bite, attack, threaten, harass, chase, kill or injure any person including, but not limited to when such person is on a bicycle, walking or running;
 - b) to fight with or attack any domestic Animal or domestic bird.

- 2.18 No person shall cause, permit or allow the trapping of an Animal, except a Wild Animal, on Property in the City of Stratford. This provision does not apply to the Animal Control Officer, the Stratford Perth Humane Society or its authorized agents, the City or a Caretaker.
- 2.19 No person shall:
- a) tease, torment, annoy, or abuse any Animal,
 - b) untie, loosen or otherwise free an Animal which is not in distress unless such person has the authorization of the Owner,
 - c) at any time use any Property, including a house, dwelling unit or any building or structure, or any part thereof, or any land abutting same, as a place for slaughtering Animals, except in an area that is zoned properly in accordance with the City's Zoning By-law.
- 2.20 No Owner shall cause, permit or allow the Animal to emit Animal Sounds or other noise for an extended or frequent period of time.
- 2.21 No person shall interfere with, hinder or impede an Animal Control Officer in the performance of any duty authorized by this By-law.
- 2.22 Every person required to register an Animal in accordance with this By-law shall supply the following information to the City or the Stratford Perth Humane Society or its authorized agents at the time of registration:
- a) name of Owner, current address and telephone number(s) of the Owner;
 - b) species of Animal to be registered, breed, colour, sex, whether or not the Animal has been Altered and name of Animal;
 - c) alternate contact person's name and telephone number(s), at the discretion of the Owner.
 - d) subject to prior arrangements having been made in writing with the veterinarian, the Owner may provide the name and telephone number of a veterinarian as an emergency contact person.
- 2.23 The fees referred to in this By-law shall be as prescribed in Schedule "A" attached hereto and forming part of this By-law and are subject to change by Council from time to time.

3.0 RESTRICTED AND PROHIBITED ANIMALS

- 3.1 The Owner of a restricted Animal shall comply with the following requirements:
- a) to register the Restricted Animal within seven (7) working days of the passage of this By-law, or becoming the Owner of a Restricted Animal, by providing the Animal Control Officer with his or her name, current address and current telephone number and a description of the Restricted Animal and alternate contact person's name and telephone number.
 - b) to keep the Restricted Animal, when it is on the lands and premises of the Owner, confined and under effective Control, as approved by the Animal Control Officer.
 - c) to keep the Restricted Animal under the effective Control of an adult person and under leash or otherwise contained at all times as approved by the Animal Control Officer when it is not confined in accordance with clause b);
 - d) to provide the Animal Control Officer with the new address and telephone number of the Owner within seven (7) working days of moving the Restricted Animal;
 - e) to provide the Animal Control Officer with the name, address and telephone number of the new Owner within seven (7) working days of selling or giving away the Restricted Animal;
 - f) to advise the Animal Control Officer within seven (7) working days of the death of the Restricted Animal; and
 - g) to advise the Animal Control Officer forthwith if the Restricted Animal is running At Large or has bitten or attacked any person or Animal,.

- h) a Restricted Animal is to be identified with a micro-chip, unless in the opinion of a veterinarian licenced to practice in Ontario, doing so would cause harm to the said Animal;
- 3.2 Section 3.1 of this By-law shall not apply to:
- a) an Animal hospital or clinic lawfully operated and supervised by a veterinarian licenced to practice in Ontario;
 - b) an Animal shelter operated by the Stratford Perth Humane Society;
 - c) premises registered as a research facility in accordance with the *Animals for Research Act*;
 - d) the lawful operation of a circus, carnival, performance, exhibition, or zoo;
 - e) subject to the approval of the Stratford Perth Humane Society:
 - i) premises where Animals are being kept for the purposes of rehabilitating the individual Animal;
 - ii) when under the auspices of the federal or provincial government or an organization or facility with appropriate expertise, premises where Animals are being kept for the purpose of preserving the individual Animal or the Animal species, provided that the premises meet Canadian Association of Zoos and Aquaria standards;
- 3.3 The Animal Control Officer or a resident of the City may request in writing that the Protection to Persons and Property Sub-committee of Council conduct a hearing as to whether:
- a) a species of Animal should be added to the Restricted Animal section or Prohibited Animal section of this by-law;
 - b) a species of bird, reptile, amphibian, fish or invertebrate should be added to the Restricted Animal section or the Prohibited Animal section of this by-law.
 - c) a specific Animal should be added to the Restricted Animal section of this by-law.
- 3.4 A resident of the City who is a licenced custodian in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Natural Resources may request in writing that the Protection to Persons and Property Sub-committee of Council conduct a hearing as to whether:
- a) a specific Animal should be added to the Restricted Animal section on a temporary basis, while such Animal is in the care and custody of a licenced custodian.
- 3.5 The Protection of Persons and Property Sub-committee of Council may recommend to Council that:
- a) the mammal species be added to this By-law as a Permitted or Restricted Animal if:
 - i) the mammal species has been captive-bred for at least 10 generations;
 - ii) the general public is capable of providing a level of care for the Animal species which protects it from suffering at all stages of its life, considering the Animal's physical and psychological or behavioural well-being;
 - iii) the danger the Animal species may present to public health or safety is minimal;
 - iv) the danger the Animal species may present to the local ecosystem should it escape or be released is minimal;
 - b) a bird species be added to this By-law as a Restricted or Prohibited Animal if:
 - i) the bird species has been captive-bred for less than six generations;
 - ii) the general public is not capable of providing a level of care for the Animal species which protects it from suffering at all stages of its life, considering the Animal's physical and psychological or behavioural well-being;
 - iii) the danger the Animal species may present to public health or safety is not minimal; or

- iv) the danger the Animal species may present to the local ecosystem should it escape or be released is not minimal.
 - c) a reptile, amphibian, fish or invertebrate species be added to this By-law as a restricted or prohibited Animal if:
 - i) the general public is not capable of providing a level of care for the Animal species which protects it from suffering at all stages of its life, considering the Animal's physical and psychological or behavioural well-being;
 - ii) the danger the Animal species may present to public health or safety is not minimal; or
 - iii) the danger the Animal species may present to the local ecosystem should it escape or be released is not minimal.
 - d) a specific Animal be added to this by-law as a Restricted Animal, and Council shall determine the conditions, length of time and other provisions that shall regulate the keeping of such Restricted Animal in the City while under the care and custody of the licenced custodian on a temporary basis.
- 3.6 For the purposes of Section 3.5, the Protection to Persons and Property Sub-committee may hold a hearing, and shall give notice in writing to an Owner of such hearing and permit any person to make representation respecting the matter. Following a hearing, the Protection to Persons and Property Sub-committee shall report to Council and shall provide a written summary of the evidence obtained or representations made, and the Sub-committee's recommendations to Council as soon as reasonably possible after the hearing.

4.0 CARE OF ANIMALS

- 4.1 Any person who keeps an Animal within the City shall provide the Animal with adequate and appropriate care, food, water, shelter, exercise, attention and veterinary care as may be required to meet the need of the species.
- 4.2 If an Animal is customarily kept out of doors, the person having the custody or Control of the Animal shall provide for the Animal's use, a structurally sound, weather-proofed and insulated enclosure of appropriate size and dimension.
- 4.3 Any person who has tethered an Animal shall ensure at all times that the Animal has unrestricted movement within the range of the tether and that the Animal cannot suffer injury resulting from the tethering.
- 4.4 Any person keeping an Animal within the City shall do so under sanitary conditions.
- 4.5 For the purposes of Section 4.4 herein, an Animal is kept in an unsanitary condition where the keeping of the Animal results in an accumulation of fecal matter, an odour, insect infestation or rodent attractants which endanger the health of any person or Animal, or which disturbs or is likely to disturb the enjoyment, comfort or convenience of any person.
- 4.6 No person shall cause, permit or allow an Animal to be confined in a vehicle without appropriate ventilation and at an appropriate temperature to ensure the Animal is not in distress while in the vehicle.

5.0 PIGEONS AND RABBITS

- 5.1 No person keeping pigeons shall permit the pigeons to stray, perch, roost or rest upon lands, premises or buildings of any person or upon any public place in the City, except on the Property of the person keeping the pigeons.
- 5.2 No person shall keep or permit to be kept pigeons or rabbits in other than an enclosure that:
 - a) where it is not a cage, has its inside walls and ceiling lime washed or painted at least annually;
 - b) is screened to the maximum extent possible from adjacent premises and streets by hedges, shrubs, fences or other suitable screening.
 - c) in the opinion of the Animal Control Officer, provides adequate space, lighting and ventilation having regard to the number of pigeons and rabbits kept therein;

- d) in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, does not house pigeons or rabbits in such a manner or in such number as to constitute an actual or potential threat or hazard to human health;
 - e) is maintained in such a manner as to prevent the emission of noxious odours therefrom;
 - f) is readily maintained in a clean and sanitary condition;
 - g) is constructed and maintained in compliance with the provisions of any applicable Act or Regulation and any other municipal by-law including, without restricting the generality of the foregoing, the *Health Protection and Promotion Act and Regulations*, the *Ontario Building Code Act and Regulations*, the *Fire Prevention and Protection Act and Regulations* and the Zoning By-law.
 - h) is constructed in such a manner as to prevent the escape from the enclosure of any pigeon or rabbit kept therein;
 - i) is located to the rear of the Property and situated 40 metres from any school, church, dwelling unit or other premises used for human habitation or occupancy, other than the premises occupied exclusively by the Owner.
- 5.3 An enclosure in existence prior to the passage of this by-law shall be deemed to be an enclosure within the meaning of Section 5.2 i) provided that it complies with all other provisions of Section 5.2 and provided it cannot be relocated to comply with Section 5.2 i).
- 5.4 Any person keeping pigeons or rabbits in an enclosure shall:
- a) remove and dispose of in a sanitary manner at least three times each week all droppings, refuse or offal, and any dropped or scattered feed within or adjacent to any enclosure. No material so removed may be burned or stored on or within the lands and premises from which it is removed; and
 - b) store all feed in rodent-proof containers.
- 5.5 No person shall keep or permit to be kept more than 50 pigeons or more than 50 rabbits on any Property within the City, subject to the provisions of this by-law and the Zoning By-law.
- 5.6 Section 5.5 does not apply to Property located within an area zoned agricultural by the Zoning By-law and used for agricultural purposes.
- 5.7 When requested, any person shall provide to the Animal Control Officer a statement in writing as to the number of pigeons or rabbits owned by him or her that are kept on Property of the Owner.
- 5.8 In the event the Owner of pigeons or rabbits suspects they are infected with a communicable disease, the Owner shall immediately consult a veterinarian licenced to practice in Ontario to diagnose the condition. If the diagnosis confirms that the pigeons or rabbits are infected with a communicable disease, the Owner shall immediately notify the Medical Officer of Health and comply with any direction which may be issued by the Medical Officer of Health in this regard.

6.0 LICENCING AND IDENTIFICATION OF DOGS

The following additional provisions shall apply to Dogs.

- 6.1 Every Owner of a Dog shall register the Dog with the City or the Stratford Perth Humane Society or its authorized agents.
- 6.2 No person shall keep or harbour or permit to be kept or harboured more than three (3) unaltered Dogs on Property in the City of Stratford.
- 6.3 An Owner shall, when requested to do so, provide to the Animal Control Officer a statement in writing as to the number of Dogs owned by him or her that are kept on the Property of the Dog Owner.
- 6.4 An Owner shall keep his or her Dog secured on a leash with a maximum length of 3 metres when on Property other than that of the Owner of the Dog.
- 6.5 The provisions of Section 6.4 do not apply to the following:
 - a) police work Dogs while engaged in law enforcement activity, or
 - b) Dogs in an area that has been designated in Schedule "B," provided that:

- i) the appropriate signs have been installed; and
- ii) the Owner or handler is in the area signed to permit Dogs to be At Large and within sight of the Dog at all times.

6.6 An Owner of a Dog shall:

- a) each year, register the Dog with the City or the Stratford Perth Humane Society or its authorized agent,
- b) pay the prescribed licence fee in Schedule "A" and
- c) obtain an identification tag for the Dog; or,
- d) until ceasing to be the Owner of the Dog, obtain a new identification tag for the Dog prior to the expiration of the identification tag issued for the Dog.

6.7 An Owner shall ensure that his or her Dog is identified with an identification tag pursuant to Section 6.6 indicating current registration that:

- a) is securely fastened to a choke chain, collar or harness worn by the Dog; and,
- b) is worn by the Dog at all times when the Dog is anywhere other than on the Owner's Lot or Property occupied by the Owner pursuant to a lease or other arrangement.

6.8 An Owner may obtain a replacement identification tag for any identification tag lost or destroyed upon payment of the fee as set out in Schedule "A".

6.9 An identification tag issued by the City shall not be transferable to another Animal by the Owner of the Dog for which the identification tag was issued.

6.10 An Owner of a Dog shall display the identification tag upon the Animal to which the identification tag is registered.

6.11 An Owner of a Dog shall register and obtain an identification tag for the Dog within seven (7) working days of becoming the Owner of a Dog.

6.12 An Owner of a Dog shall register and obtain an identification tag for the Dog within seven (7) working days from the date the Owner took up residence in the City of Stratford.

6.13 An Owner shall notify the Animal Control Officer of any address change within seven (7) working days of such change occurring including a change in alternate contact person name or contact telephone number.

6.14 Notwithstanding Section 6.6 herein, an Owner of a Kennel shall obtain a Kennel licence each year provided that all Dogs are Pure-bred Dogs by paying the Kennel licence fee as prescribed in Schedule "A". When a Kennel licence has been issued in accordance with this By-law, the Owner shall not be liable to pay any additional annual licence fee for the Kennel of Pure-bred Dogs.

6.15 An identification tag shall be issued at no charge to any Owner of a specialized needs Dog, such as a seeing eye Dog, or a hearing ear Dog or other specialized needs Dog or with respect to any Dog trained for and actually engaged in law enforcement by any federal, provincial or municipal government agency.

6.16 Every annual identification tag issued for a Dog in accordance with this By-law shall expire on December 31st in the year shown or marked on the identification tag.

7.0 REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION OF CATS

The following additional provisions shall apply to Cats:

7.1 Every Owner of a Cat shall register the Cat with the City or the Stratford Perth Humane Society or its authorized agents.

7.2 No person shall keep or harbour or permit to be kept or harboured, more than three (3) unaltered Cats on Property in the City of Stratford.

7.3 When requested to do so, an Owner shall provide the Animal Control Officer a statement in writing as to the number of Cats owned by him or her that are kept on the Property of the Cat Owner.

- 7.4 An Owner of a Cat shall:
- a) each year, register each Cat with the City or the Stratford Perth Humane Society or its authorized agent,
 - b) pay the prescribed registration fee in Schedule "A" and
 - c) obtain an identification tag for the Cat; or,
 - d) until ceasing to be Owner of the Cat, obtain a new identification tag for the Cat prior to the expiration of the identification tag issued for the Cat.
- If the Cat(s) has been identified as a Feral Cat by Eartipping, than a) and b) of this provision do not apply to the Feral Cat.
- 7.5 An Owner shall ensure that his or her Cat is identified with a City identification tag indicating current registration that:
- a) is securely fastened to a collar or harness worn by the Cat; and,
 - b) is worn by the Cat at all times when the Cat is anywhere other than on the Owner's Lot or Property occupied by the Owner pursuant to a lease or other arrangement.
 - c) If a Cat is identified in the current city Animal registry by means of a valid Microchip, then a) and b) do not apply with respect to the wearing of an identification tag.
- 7.6 An Owner may obtain a replacement identification tag for any identification tag lost or destroyed upon payment of the fee as set out in Schedule "A".
- 7.7 An Owner of a Cat shall register and obtain an identification tag for the Cat within seven (7) working days of becoming the Owner of the Cat.
- 7.8 An Owner of a Cat shall register and obtain an identification tag for each Cat that he or she owns within seven (7) working days from the date the Owner took up residence in the City.
- 7.9 An Owner shall notify the Animal Control Officer of any address change within seven (7) working days of such change occurring, including a change in alternate contact person name or contact telephone number.
- 7.10 An Owner of a Cat shall display the identification tag upon the Cat to which the identification tag is registered or ensure that the Cat is identified with a valid Microchip.
- 7.11 Notwithstanding Section 7.4 herein, an Owner of a Cattery shall register the Cattery each year and pay the Cattery registration fee as prescribed in Schedule "A". When a Cattery has been registered each year in accordance with this By-law, the Owner shall not be liable to pay any additional registration fee for the Cattery of Pure-bred Cats.
- 7.12 An identification tag issued by the City for a Cat shall not be transferable to another Cat by the Owner of the Cat for which the identification was issued.
- 7.13 Every annual identification tag issued for a Cat in accordance with this By-law shall expire on December 31st in the year shown or marked on the annual identification tag.

8.0 TRANSITION

- 8.1 A Cat Owner who previously acquired a City Cat licence for the 2002 calendar year, and paid the applicable licence fee pursuant to Schedule "A" of By-law 216-2001 as it read prior to the enactment of amending By-law 44-2002, shall have the licence tag automatically transferred to an identification tag and the licence fee credited to the registration fee pursuant to Schedule "A" to By-law 216-2001 as amended by By-law 44-2002, and the Cat shall be recognized as having been registered and the Owner as having obtained an identification tag for the calendar year 2002.
- 8.2 A Cat or Dog Owner who previously acquired a one-time licence or registration and paid the applicable one-time fee pursuant to Schedule "A" of By-law 216-2001 as amended by By-law 44-2002, shall have the one-time registration honoured for the life-time of the Cat or Dog provided that the Owner continues to register the Cat or Dog and obtain a current identification tag on an annual basis and provides proof of current rabies vaccination. In such cases, the Owner shall not be required to pay the annual licence fee for a Dog tag or a registration fee for a Cat tag.

9.0 KENNEL AND CATTERY

- 9.1 No person shall keep or permit a Dog or Dogs to be kept in a Kennel, or a Cat or Cats to be kept in a Cattery, outside of the premises of the Owner on the Lot in a Kennel or Cattery that is not:
- a) screened to the maximum extent possible from adjacent premises and streets by hedges, shrubs, fences or other suitable screening;
 - b) in the opinion of the Animal Control Officer provides adequate space, lighting and ventilation having regard to the number of Dogs or Cats kept therein;
 - c) maintained in such a manner as to prevent the emission of noxious odours therefrom;
 - d) readily maintained in a clean and sanitary condition;
 - e) constructed and maintained in compliance with the provisions of any applicable Act or Regulation and any other municipal by-law including, without restricting the generality of the foregoing, the *Health Protection and Promotion Act and Regulations*, the *Ontario Building Code Act and Regulations*, the *Fire Prevention and Protection Act and Regulations* and the City's Zoning By-law.
 - f) constructed in such a manner as to prevent the escape from the enclosure of any Dog or Cat kept therein;
 - g) located to the rear of the Property and situated 40 metres from any school, church, dwelling unit or other premises used for human habitation or occupancy, other than the premises occupied exclusively by the Owner.
- 9.2 All Kennels and Catteries must be open for inspection by an Inspector between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. daily.

10.0 SEIZING, IMPOUNDING AND DISPOSITION OF ANIMALS

- 10.1 The Animal Control Officer is authorized by the City to Impound Animals for the purposes of enforcing this By-law.
- 10.2 The Animal Control Officer shall keep a record of every Animal Impounded or seized, including the date upon which it was Impounded, a description of the Animal, any identification or registration tag number if it wore a tag, the date of disposition and the disposition made.
- 10.3 The Animal Control Officer may take possession of any Cat or Dog, regardless of its identification being evident:
- a) that in the opinion of the Animal Control Officer is interfering with public health or safety; or,
 - b) that is in contravention of this By-law; or
 - c) that is injured or in distress.
- 10.4 Any Cat or Dog found in contravention of this By-law, but with a current identification or registration tag or identified with a valid Microchip, such Cat or Dog shall be returned to its Owner at no charge where the Cat or Dog has not been in possession of the Animal Control Officer within the current calendar year.
- 10.5 Where a Cat or Dog with a current identification or registration tag or identified with a valid Microchip is Impounded and has not been returned to the Owner under Section 10.4, the Animal Control Officer shall make all reasonable effort to inform the Owner or alternate contact person in accordance with the policies or practices of the Stratford Perth Humane Society for notifying Owners that a Cat or Dog has been Impounded and to advise of any conditions or requirements upon which the Owner may regain custody of the Cat or Dog.
- 10.6 Any Cat or Dog seized and Impounded which is not wearing an identification tag or registration tag issued for the current year, or identified with a valid Microchip, shall be released to its Owner upon the payment of the applicable fees in Schedule "A" attached hereto. The Owner shall be required to purchase a current City registration or identification tag or valid Microchip as required by this By-law if the Cat or Dog has not been registered for the current year.
- 10.7 In addition to any other provisions of this By-law, where the Animal Control Officer has received a complaint from a Property Owner or tenant that a Cat or Dog or other Animal:

- a) is diseased or injured, or
- b) has bitten a person or inflicted an open wound, or
- c) has exhibited characteristics of a Wild Animal in the presence of the Animal Control Officer,

the Animal Control Officer may enter onto private Property with the consent of the Property Owner or tenant and take possession of the Cat or Dog or other Animal for the purpose of impoundment.

- 10.8 Possession of an Impounded Animal may be restored to the Owner if the Owner claims the Animal within 72 hours or the time frame established by the Stratford Perth Humane Society for the keeping of an Impounded Animal, whichever is greater, exclusive of statutory holidays and Sundays, where the Ownership of the Animal can be established. Prior to the Animal Control Officer releasing an Impounded Animal to its Owner under this provision, the Owner shall be liable for the pound and maintenance fees prescribed by The Stratford Perth Humane Society and shall pay all fees on demand to the Animal Control Officer.
- 10.9 An Animal that is Impounded and has not been restored to the Owner in accordance with section 10.8 above,
- a) may be put up for adoption and the proceeds from the sale of any Animal so adopted shall belong to the Stratford Perth Humane Society and no damages or compensation shall be recovered by a person on account of any disposition made thereunder; or,
 - b) may be euthanized by lethal injection.
- 10.10 Where an Animal that has a current identification or registration tag or valid Microchip has been Impounded and is injured or should be destroyed for humane reasons and in the opinion of the Animal Control Officer, imminent death of the Animal is inevitable, the Animal Control Officer shall make reasonable efforts to contact the Owner, or alternate contact person before the Animal is destroyed, provided that the time involved in making reasonable effort to contact the Owner or alternate contact person does not cause the Animal to suffer unduly. If the Owner has made prior arrangements in writing with a veterinarian and has provided that information to the Animal Control Officer at the time of registration of the Animal, then the Animal Control Officer shall make all reasonable efforts to contact the veterinarian before the Animal is euthanized.
- 10.11 The Animal Control Officer may seize and impound any Prohibited Animal and shall not be required to return the Prohibited Animal to the Owner if the Prohibited Animal at the time of impounding is a Prohibited Animal under this By-law and no exemption has been granted by Council.
- 10.12 The Stratford Perth Humane Society policies and practices mentioned in this By-law are available for review by the public at the Stratford Perth Humane Society.

11.0 COST RECOVERY

- 11.1 The cost of taking possession of and impounding any Animal, and the return of any Animal found to be At Large shall be the sole responsibility of the Owner of the Animal.

12.0 SCHEDULES

- 12.1 Schedule "A" and Schedule "B" attached hereto form part of this By-law.

13.0 ENFORCEMENT

- 13.1 Every Owner who contravenes any provision of this By-law is guilty of an offence and is liable, upon conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 exclusive of costs for each offence, recoverable under the *Provincial Offences Act*.

14.0 SEVERABILITY

- 14.1 Each and every of the provisions of this By-law is severable and if any provisions of this By-law should for any reason be declared invalid by any court, it is the intention and desire of this Council that each and every of the remaining provisions hereof shall remain in full force and effect.

15.0 EFFECTIVE DATE

- 15.1 This By-law shall come into force and take effect upon final passage.

16.0 REPEAL

- 16.1 Upon this By-law coming into effect, By-laws 216-2001 and 44-2002 are hereby repealed.

17.0 TITLE

- 17.1 This By-law may be referred to as the "Animal Control By-law" of The Corporation of the City of Stratford.

Read a FIRST, SECOND and THIRD time and

FINALLY PASSED this 28th day of October, 2002.

"Karen Haslam"
MAYOR – Karen Haslam

"Joan Thomson"
CLERK – Joan Thomson

**This is Schedule "A" to
Animal Control By-law 195-2002, as amended**

SERVICE	FEE FOR SERVICE	
	Impound Fee for a Cat or Dog	\$35.00 Cat
Maintenance Fee per day or part thereof that the Animal was Impounded	A reasonable amount set by the Stratford-Perth Humane Society	
DOG LICENSING FEES	If paid on or before March 1st	If paid after March 1st
For an Altered Dog:	\$20.00	\$30.00
For an unaltered Dog (no more than 3 unaltered Dogs per household):	\$50.00	\$60.00
For a Specialized Needs Dog	No fee	No fee
For a Kennel Licence	\$550.00	\$550.00
Replacement Tag for Dog	\$10.00	\$10.00
For a Dog less than 1 year of age:	\$20.00	\$20.00
New resident – exchange current tag for Stratford current tag (one time)	No charge	No charge
Seniors discount (persons 65 years of age or older)	15 % off licence fees for Altered and unaltered Dogs, replacement tags, and Dogs under 1 year	
CAT REGISTRATION FEES	If paid on or before March 1st	If paid after March 1st
For an Altered Cat:	\$20.00	\$30.00
For an unaltered Cat (no more than 3 unaltered Cats per household)	\$50.00	\$60.00
For a Cattery Registration	\$550.00	\$550.00
Replacement Tag for Cat	\$10.00	\$10.00
For a Cat less than 1 year of age:	\$20.00	\$20.00
New Resident – exchange current tag for Stratford current tag (one time)	No charge	No charge
Seniors discount (persons 65 years of age or older)	15 % off registration fees for Altered and unaltered Cats, replacement tag, and Cats under 1 year	

THIS IS SCHEDULE "B"
Animal Control By-law 195-2002, as amended

The following areas of the City of Stratford are hereby designated as areas where Dogs may be At Large to exercise without being on leashes in accordance with the Animal Control By-law, once the appropriate signs have been installed:

Temporary Area

1. Westerly section of the Packham Sport Complex.



Eva McDowell <georginaferals@gmail.com>

Port Colborne's community-wide Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return program

1 message

PC Feline Initiative <pcfelines@live.ca>

Tue, Nov 22, 2016 at 12:03 PM

To: "rcronsberry@georgina.ca" <rcronsberry@georgina.ca>

Cc: Eva McDowell <georginaferals@gmail.com>, PC Feline Initiative <pcfelines@live.ca>, "barbarabutters@portcolborne.ca" <barbarabutters@portcolborne.ca>, Ian and Jackie Crow <icrow@cogeco.ca>, Kristi Mallinson Vogel <kristimv@outlook.com>

Hello Ryan. We would like to take this opportunity to commend you and your colleagues at the town of Georgina for considering the many benefits that a well-managed TNVR program offers, both to the residents and the city alike. I have taken the liberty of including Barb Butters, a PC city councillor, in this email. Barb was instrumental in working with us to get our program up and running in June 2009 and can speak to the success of our work.

Port Colborne Feline Initiative is a small, all-volunteer organization providing community spay/neuter programs throughout the municipality of Port Colborne in order to address the complex issues of cat population in a humane and fiscally responsible manner.

We started with TNVR and then incorporated other spay/neuter programs as resources allowed. We now have a program to assist low income cat owners with the cost of having their pet sterilized as their offspring can and do contribute to the free-roaming, unowned cat population. We also are able to enroll young kittens and friendly stray adults in our KitKat foster program. Being able to take these cats off the street, coupled with the immediate cease in reproduction results in dramatic changes in a neighbourhood. We partner with Welland and District Humane Society and once ready for adoption, the kittens/cats are transferred to their Cat Adoption centre located in a large mall.

For us it's been all about developing partnerships with all the stakeholders in the community. It is a great way to engage everyone and allows for many teachable moments as to why this is the right course of action to take on so many different levels.

"Catch and kill", the method still being used by many cities and towns right across North America and beyond, simply does not work. If it did we would not be dealing with the issues today.

Killing healthy cats with tax payer dollars will not make the problem go away, nor address the root cause of the issue. In our opinion it is unethical and a fiscally irresponsible use of tax dollars.

Our municipality had a problem as well and used to view catch and kill as the solution. Our organization has put programs in place that are changing the minds of city councilors, city staff, the local Humane Society and many of the major community stakeholders.

In fact, the city of Port Colborne fully endorses our community-wide Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return program and has provided nominal funding over the past few years.

The live release rates at the local shelter were a dismal 19% prior to our programs. They are now at about 88% and climbing, in part as a direct result of our programs.

The process itself is simple enough and utilizes volunteers that are typically already built in. Many in the community are already feeding and caring for these unowned, free-roaming cats. They just don't have the money to sterilize them. They are afraid to take them to the shelter or animal control for fear they will be destroyed. We tapped into that volunteer pool and found people eager to get on board. Since starting operations in June 2009 we have enrolled over 1500 cats. The magnitude of this number of cats no longer reproducing on the streets is significant. It also reduces the stress on the local shelter with reduced intake numbers to deal with.

We would invite you to speak to us and members of Port Colborne city council in an effort to provide a picture of a model community-based program that gets results. It's not only humane and ethical, it's a responsible use of tax payer dollars.

The best part is it actually gets to the root cause of the on-going problem: the endless cycle of free-roaming, unowned cats being born on the streets. Whether one likes cats or not, it's truly a win-win.

11/24/2016

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Gmail - Port Colborne's community-wide Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return program

Thanks again Ryan for being open to this concept. If you require any further detail please don't hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,

Kristi Mallinson Vogel
President and Founder

November 19, 2016.

Eva McDowell
Georgina Feral Cat Committee

I would like to offer our support to your on- going TNR program.
Research proves TNR is the only effective and humane way to reduce the feral cat population.
The old method of trapping and removing simply does not work.

Scientific evidence indicates that removing feral cat populations only opens up the habitat to an influx of new cats, either from neighboring territories or born from survivors.

Each time cats are removed, the population will rebound through a natural phenomenon known as

The “vacuum effect” drawing the community into a costly, endless cycle of trapping and killing.

Trap, neuter and return works because the cats hold their territory, there is no more kittens and the homeless cat population stabilizes and decreases over time through attrition.

Nuisance behaviours such as mating, howling, fighting and spraying are drastically reduced once the cats are sterilized.

Our TNR project began in September 2015 as a six month pilot project that was very successful. From September 2015 to March 2016 we were able to humanely trap, sterilize and vaccinate 103 community street cats.

During this six month period, intake and euthanasia at Animal Services reached record low numbers,

with a 36% reduction in intake and a 48% reduction in euthanasia over the previous year.

With the approval of City Council to extend our program indefinitely, we have gone on to TNR an additional 75 cats, giving us a total to date of 178 cats.

TNR has proven successful in other cities throughout Ontario and worldwide. It is so important to continue this work to move forward by saving cat’s lives and saving tax dollars.

We wish you continued success with your program.

Yours truly,

Lori Krivoshein
Superior Street Cats

superiorstreetcats@hotmail.com



Corporate Report

DEPARTMENT/ DIVISION	Development & Emergency Services - Licensing & Enforcement	REPORT NO.	R 120/2015
DATE PREPARED	07/08/2015	FILE NO.	
MEETING DATE	08/24/2015 (mm/dd/yyyy)		
SUBJECT	Pilot Project for a Trap, Neuter and Return Program for Feral Cats		

RECOMMENDATION

With respect to Report No. R120/2015 (Licensing & Enforcement), we recommend that a Trap, Neuter and Return Program be established as a Pilot Project for six months;

AND THAT Animal Services report back after that time to advise Council on the success of this pilot initiative;

AND THAT the Pilot Project be funded from the Animal Services Donation Reserve Fund at a cost of \$8,000;

AND THAT Animal Services apply for a \$5,000 grant through PetSmart Charities of Canada and if successful, Council authorize the Manager of Licensing & Enforcement to enter into an agreement with PetSmart Charities of Canada to accept the grant on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Manager of Licensing & Enforcement and in a form and content satisfactory to the City Solicitor;

AND THAT amendments to Chapter 237 of the Municipal Code be enacted to permit a Trap, Neuter and Return Pilot Program in Thunder Bay;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents a recommended proposal from Animal Services to establish a six month pilot project to Trap, Neuter and Return feral cats within the City of Thunder Bay. It is a nationally accepted method to humanely and effectively manage feral cat colonies. The primary goal is to reduce both the number of free roaming cats in our community and the number of cats impounded and euthanized by Animal Services. It is estimated that there are approximately 8,000 free roaming cats in Thunder Bay. It is also recommended that the proposed amendments to Chapter 237 of the City of Thunder Bay Municipal Code be approved, as set out in the Report.

DISCUSSION

Cats are popular in Canada – one in three Canadians owns a cat and more than a third of households include an average of 1.9 cats. Unfortunately, their level of care is not always matched by their popularity. Cats are less likely than dogs to receive veterinary care, have permanent identification, to be reunited with their owner, or adopted to a new family if lost or abandoned (Perrin, 2009). Furthermore, cats are twice as likely to be surrendered to shelters and more likely to be euthanized due to long stays and illness. Unsterilized free-roaming cats contribute to about 80 percent of the kittens born each year and are the most significant source of cat overpopulation, according to a 2004 article in the *Journal of American Veterinary Medical Association*.

In 2014, 1330 cats were impounded by Animal Services. Only 7% of these cats were claimed by their owners; 31% were adopted and 62% were euthanized.

In 1993, the City of Thunder Bay established the Animal Control Donation Reserve Fund. The purpose of this fund is to allow people the opportunity to make monetary donations to the City of Thunder Bay Animal Services Centre. Expenditures, recommended by Administration and approved by City Council, are used solely to benefit the health and care of animals in Thunder Bay.

Current Method to Deal with Stray Cat Population

Currently traps are made available free of charge to members of the public who are having problems with nuisance cats. Cats are then live-trapped and either returned to Animal Services by the customer or picked up by an Animal Services Officer, where they are held for a minimum of five working days to allow the owner a chance to claim them. As mentioned above, most of these cats are never claimed and end up being euthanized because they are not adoptable or due to a lack of space at the Animal Services Centre. Traditional strategies such as trapping and euthanizing cats are widely recognized as being ineffective, short-term and costly solutions that do not address the larger community animal issue. This method is particularly ineffective when practiced sporadically and in random locations. Scientific research has shown that when only a portion of a cat colony are trapped and removed from their home range, sooner or later the empty habitat attracts other cats from neighbouring areas that move in to take advantage of the same resources (food and shelter), creating a “vacuum effect.” Euthanizing or removing the original population does nothing to eliminate these resources; it only creates a “vacuum” that will inevitably draw in other animals living nearby. Euthanasia alone won’t rid an area of cats, and euthanizing cats to control their numbers is increasingly unpopular with the general public. The only result of trap and euthanize programs is turnover; new feline faces in the community, but not fewer. The number of cat complaints and cat intake stays constant or continues to rise.

What is Trap-Neuter-Return?

Trap, Neuter and Return, commonly known as “TNR”, is a non-lethal method for humanely and effectively managing free roaming community cats and reducing euthanasia. The process involves trapping cats in a colony, having them spayed or neutered, vaccinated, marked to

identify them as sterile, and returned to their colony to live the remainder of their lives, receiving ongoing care in the outdoors. Cat colonies are areas where free roaming cats congregate, initially attracted by an available food source and shelter. These cats, also referred to as “community” cats, may have been born into the wild or may be lost or abandoned pet cats. They are usually wild, unsocialized and for the most part, not adoptable. Just like the squirrels and chipmunks we see every day, their home is outdoors. Once these cats are sterilized and returned to their colony, volunteer caretakers provide regular food and shelter and continue to monitor the colony over time. The cats’ reproductive capacity is eliminated; leading to a gradual decline in the number of cats and nuisance behavior is substantially reduced. Cats from the colony will eventually “age out” and once this happens, the food source would be adjusted to meet the demands of the remaining cats. Unlike any other method known, Trap, Neuter and Return holds out the realistic possibility of a permanent, long-term solution to feral and stray cat overpopulation.

Benefits of TNR

With TNR, the cat colony population is immediately stabilized because the breeding cycle stops and no more kittens are born. Annoying behaviors such as: roaming, spraying, fighting and yowling are diminished and the number of complaints coming into Animal Services is reduced. Fewer cats and kittens are brought into the shelter, resulting in reduced euthanasia rates and shelter costs.

TNR is a community-based program which relies on volunteers to trap, feed, care for and monitor these cats. Animal shelters that choose to support TNR programs instead of euthanizing cats improve their public image, which leads to more volunteers and more people coming to municipal shelters to adopt animals.

Proposed TNR Pilot Project

The proposed TNR Pilot Project would focus on three (3) target areas within the City of Thunder Bay. Target areas will be determined based on areas identified as having a high volume of stray cats (based on statistics from Animal Services). The areas will be kept discrete from the general public to discourage abandonment of additional stray cats. Cats are not returned to their trapped location in high impact situations, such as hoarding or dangerous conditions.

Utilizing community volunteers, the cats will be trapped and taken to a veterinarian clinic where they will be spayed or neutered, vaccinated and ear-tipped. Once they have recovered from surgery, they will be returned to their colony where caretakers will continue to provide them with food, water and shelter and monitor their progress.

The program involves collaboration with community volunteers, rescue groups and local veterinarians. Community volunteers will be trained in TNR techniques including the trapping, feeding and monitoring and will provide the workforce. Food and shelter supplies will be funded by donations, whenever possible. Local veterinarians will perform the spay/neuter surgeries for reduced fees.

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Traditional media such as website posts, newspaper ads and social media will be used at the outset of the project to recruit volunteers and provide community awareness. This public awareness will help generate more data on where there might be issues in other parts of the city. If required, residents in the immediate area of a colony will be notified by distributing door hangers that explain what TNR is, make it clear the program is in place and inform anyone with questions who to contact for further information.

With Council's approval, Animal Services would be responsible for the following key aspects of the TNR program, including:

- Assisting with the development of curriculum for training;
- Maintaining a website listing all TNR resources in the community;
- Serving as the primary contact for inquiries from the public about TNR;
- Identifying gaps in services;
- Reuniting ear tipped cats turned into shelters with their caretakers and colonies;
- Assisting with grant applications and other funding mechanisms to carry out TNR;
- Liaising with veterinarian community;
- Providing guidance to help TNR program participants remain in compliance with local By-laws;
- Procure necessary equipment for TNR (cat traps);
- Share available education materials on feral cats and TNR approach;
- Evaluate the success of the TNR program through statistical analysis;
- Community outreach – educating neighbors and addressing their concerns.

Superior Street Cats would be responsible for:

- Providing caretakers with training and coaching designed to teach the steps required to manage a cat colony including: trapping, feeding, sheltering, transporting cats to veterinary clinics and working with neighbours to resolve cat-related complaints.
- Collecting data such as colony locations and caretaker identities;
- Be the source of research and advice on best practices and how other municipalities are approaching cat-related issues;
- Recruiting volunteers;
- Preparing grant applications and other funding mechanisms to carry out TNR;
- Working with neighbours to resolve cat-related complaints;
- Provide education resources, and direct the public to appropriate TNR resources;
- Manage Colony Caretakers;
- Coordinate the spay/neuter surgeries, vaccination and ear tipping with veterinarians;
- Maintaining Facebook page.

The following statistics will be measured to track the impact that TNR is having in Thunder Bay. It's important to note that TNR is a long term solution and usually takes two years to see results.

- The number of cat-related complaints;

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- The specific location of the cats in the community;
- The number of cats impounded into Animal Services;
- The number of cats adopted/rescued out;
- The number of cats euthanized;
- The number of cats spayed or neutered and returned to their outdoor colonies;
- The number of Trap-Neuter-Return volunteers

The proposed Pilot Project will allow us to evaluate the costs, savings, number of cats coming in, number of cats euthanized, etc. and will be valuable in assisting us develop a long-term management strategy, should we decide to pursue that option.

Examples of Municipalities Practicing TNR

TNR has been practiced for over twenty (20) years in the UK, South Africa and Denmark. After one to three years of TNR, colony sizes decrease by 16-32% (Natoli 2006). TNR is an effective long term strategy to stabilize or modestly reduce the size of feral cat colonies as well as improve the health of these cats (Levy, 2003). Many cities in the U.S. have implemented strategic TNR programs and the trend is now growing in Canada.

San Francisco

In San Francisco, beginning in 1993, the San Francisco SPCA combined with San Francisco Animal Control introduced a comprehensive city-wide TNR program, one that combined no cost spay/neuter with educational initiatives and incentives for getting feral cats altered. From 1993 through 1999, cat impounds dropped by 28%, euthanasia rates for feral cats dropped by 73%, and euthanasia rates for all cats fell by 71%.

City of Ottawa

The Parliamentary Cats were a colony of approximately 30 stray cats living on Parliament Hill in Ottawa. The care and maintenance of the colony was carried out by volunteers, and the effort was funded by donations. The cats were spayed or neutered and the population slowly dropped off. By late 2012, only four cats remained and by January 2013 volunteers had adopted them. The colony no longer exists.

City of Toronto

In 2010 a coalition of municipal animal control, humane organizations, and rescue groups, was formed to work collectively to improve the lives of feral cats through strategic and coordinated TNR programs. Toronto Animal Services also re-aligned their cat intake policy to manage stray cats. Animal Services no longer picks up stray cats unless they are injured and/or in distress. In four years, the Coalition sterilized over 6000 feral cats. At Toronto Animal Services between 2010 and 2013, euthanasia of feral cats dropped by 88% and stray intake by 45%.

City of London

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In 2008, the City of London implemented a Trap Neuter Return (TNR) Program to address the growing feral cat population. The feral cats are humanely trapped, transported to licensed veterinarians for sterilization, vaccination and ear-tipping. The program is a community-based initiative involving the City's Animal Services, volunteers and community partners. Over 800 cats have been spayed and neutered as a result of the program and the number of cats euthanized at their municipal shelter has declined.

City of Windsor

In 2012, the Windsor Humane Society established a targeted TNR program whereby they provide resources (spay/neuter vouchers) to caregivers to spay or neuter feral cats. One thousand vouchers were offered in the first year and eight hundred in the second year for both feral cats and low income residents to spay/neuter their own cats. The cat intake dropped by more than one thousand cats in 2012 and more than six hundred cats in the following year.

City of Markham

In March of 2015, the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA) collaborated with the City of Markham to launch a feral cat trap-neuter-return (TNR) project. The goal of this project is to trap cats from known colonies in the Markham area and have them spayed and neutered, ear-tipped, vaccinated and microchipped and then released back to their colonies. Because the program is relatively new, there are currently no statistics to report.

Challenges with Current By-law

Chapter 237 of the Municipal Code regulates the owners of animals. This chapter should be amended to allow for the operation of a Trap, Neuter and Return (TNR) Pilot Program in Thunder Bay. The proposed amendments should address the following:

- Exemptions from stray hold requirements for community cats trapped by an authorized community cat caregiver in conjunction with the approved TNR Program;
- Licensing exemptions for a community cat, if such cat is spayed or neutered, vaccinated, ear tipped and/or cared for pursuant to the provisions of the approved TNR Program;
- Exemptions from feeding bans for an authorized community cat caregiver maintaining a permitted feral cat colony in accordance with the standards prescribed by the approved TNR Program;
- Permitting an authorized community cat caregiver who provides care to or has temporary custody of a feral cat in accordance with the approved TNR program to return feral cats after required sterilization, vaccinations and ear tipping, without being deemed to have deserted or abandoned the animal;
- Exemptions from provisions regarding running at large for community cats under the care of a registered feral cat caregiver;
- An authorized community cat caregiver providing care and sustenance to a permitted community cat colony for any period of time shall not be deemed the guardian of such animals;

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- Trapping of registered community cat caregivers of feral cats shall be for the purpose of the approved TNR program;
- Inclusion of appropriate definitions for “feral cat” or “community cat” and “cat colony”.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

It is estimated that the costs for a TNR Pilot Program is \$13,000 with the primary sources of funding coming from the Animal Services Donation Reserve Fund (\$8,000) and a PetSmart Charity grant (\$5,000).

Controlling the cat population through TNR is more effective than trapping and euthanizing free roaming cats. While it generally costs \$100-\$105 to shelter and euthanize a cat, TNR costs roughly \$80 for the entire process. TNR is an investment in cats’ lives and health and allows Animal Services to realign its resources from housing cats to dealing with various aspects of a TNR program. Cost savings fluctuate based on the type of TNR program implemented, the extent of animal service involvement, the volunteer base available and the community’s support of TNR programs. Over time, through attrition and sterilization efforts, fewer cats will be breeding and contributing to the population growth which means fewer cats will be entering the shelter, decreasing the demand on taxpayer dollars.

The recommendations contained in this report will not impact the Animal Services Operating Budget and may lead to cost savings through reduced intake and euthanasia rates.

CONCLUSION

It is concluded that the proposed Trap, Neuter and Return Program be established as a pilot project for six months and that Animal Services report back after that time to advise Council on the success of this pilot initiative. It is further concluded that the project be partially funded from the Animal Services Donation Reserve Fund at a cost of \$8,000 and that Animal Services apply for a \$5,000 grant through Pet Smart Charities of Canada and if successful, enter into an agreement to accept the grant on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Manager of Licensing & Enforcement and in a form and content satisfactory to the City Solicitor. It is also concluded that amendments to Chapter 237 of the Municipal Code be enacted to permit the trapping, neutering and return of community cats and that any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

BACKGROUND

Superior Street Cats is comprised of a group of stakeholders in the animal care field. The group was formed to look at the feasibility of establishing a Trap, Neuter and Return Program in Thunder Bay to reduce both the number of free roaming cats and the number of cats euthanized by Animal Services.

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The City's Animal Services Centre continues to look for effective ways to manage pet overpopulation and minimize euthanasia. Trap, Neuter and Return Programs can decrease euthanasia rates and shelter costs and are an effective way to manage capacity at shelters.

REFERENCE MATERIAL ATTACHED

X

PREPARED BY:

THIS REPORT SIGNED AND VERIFIED BY: (NAME OF GENERAL MANAGER) X	DATE: X
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ONTARIO SPCA
AND HUMANE SOCIETY · PROTECTING ANIMALS SINCE 1873

October 27th, 2016

Town of Georgina
Clerk's Division, Caroline Lance
26557 Civic Centre Road, RR 2
Keswick, ON L4P 3G1

Dear Mayor Margaret Quirk and Members of Council,

Re: Support for Delegate Presentation Related to Changes to BY-LAW NUMBER 2015-0034 (REG-1), as amended, and any other applicable bylaws, as amended

Thank you so much for taking the time to review the current Bylaw #2015-0034 (REG-1) to include provisions for a comprehensive trap-neuter-return (TNR) program for the Town of Georgina.

The Ontario SPCA is a member of the Toronto Feral Cat Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) Coalition, comprised of municipal animal control operations, humane organizations, rescue groups and concerned individuals, working collectively to improve the lives of community cats through strategic TNR programs. These programs were established to address the number of cats living on the streets of Toronto and to reduce the number of cats admitted to Toronto's animal shelters.

Coalition members have advised rescue groups and municipal councils on TNR in provinces such as Newfoundland and Manitoba, and in municipalities including Clarington, Owen Sound, Markham, Richmond Hill, Ajax, Brantford, Hamilton, Windsor, Mississauga and Kitchener.

More specifically, the Ontario SPCA supports community cat management in a variety of different ways. We operate a no-cost Feral Cat Trap Depot, where community members who have taken the "TNR: How to Manage a Feral Cat Colony" Workshop (run by Community Cats Toronto, formerly known as the Toronto Feral Cat Project) are able to borrow traps from us free of charge, allowing them to safely transport the cats to and from lower-cost spay/neuter clinics for surgery and vaccination. We also operate a no-cost Feral Cat Food Bank, where colony caretakers can receive free donated cat food to help alleviate the out-of-pocket expenses for feeding these cats. More recently, we have collaborated with MARS Canada in order to build a large number of feral cat shelters, which provides warm shelter for those colony cats during our winter months. These shelters often mean the difference between life and death.

It is important to note that addressing community cat issues collaboratively will, in a short time, deliver several positive results. A successful TNR program will:

- Reduce nuisance behaviour since most of these behaviours stem from breeding and the continued arrival of new kittens
- Improve the health of the cats by providing immunization from infectious diseases, including rabies and stopping the constant cycle of reproduction

- Reduce human interaction thereby reducing complaints from residents living close to colonies, since sterilized cats wander less and again discontinue to display the behaviours associated with breeding
- Decrease shelter intake, euthanasia and associated costs since these cats would have been alternate option to shelter impoundment
- Start to stabilize the population of cats living in the community (studies have shown that trap-euthanize a.k.a. low level culling increases the population size at levels from 75 – 211%)

The concept of Trap-Euthanize to deal with community cats is expensive, ineffective and inhumane, not only to the cats but to the shelter staff who are tasked with carrying out this management strategy. Partnerships with community stakeholders will likely increase volunteerism, increase adoptions (saving lives) and increase community goodwill and communication, where previously there may have been only animosity as many citizens do not support trap-euthanize as an acceptable management practice. All of these lead to a more animal-humane Town of Georgina.

We encourage you as the Town Council to review the benefits of a Trap-Neuter-Return program and also a low cost spay/neuter program as a method of reducing the number of community cats in Georgina.

Again, thank you for considering our recommendations to change the management strategy for cats in your community. If you have any questions, please contact me directly at 905-898-7122 ext. 383

Sincerely,

Monica Seto
Manager, Shelter Health and Wellness
Ontario SPCA

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GEORGINA

COUNCIL ADDENDUM 1

Wednesday, November 30, 2016
7:00 PM

9. DELEGATIONS/PETITIONS

- (2) Trina West, P.A.W.S. of Georgina, and Eva McDowell, Georgina Feral Cat Committee, concerning the spay/neuter return program for feral cats

Additional supporting documents provided by delegate:

Pages 1-2

- Cheryl Simpson, Founder, Feline Friends Network of Stratford

Pages 3-9

- Agreement between the City of Stratford and Feline Friends Network of Stratford

Pages 10-24

- By-law 195-2002 of the City of Stratford to prohibit, regulate, restrict Animals and to require the registration and identification of animals

Pages 25-26

- Kristi Mallinson Vogel, President and Founder, Port Colborne

Page 27

- Lori Krivoshein, Superior Street Cats, Thunder Bay

Pages 28-35

- City of Thunder Bay Report re 'Pilot Project for a Trap, Neuter and Return Program for Feral Cats'

Pages 36-37

- Monica Seto, Manager, Shelter Health and Wellness, Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA)

Additional Correspondence in support:

Page 38

- Mr. and Mrs. J. Clark

Page 39

- Radmila Bota

Page 40

- Nancy Gandhi

Page 41

- Alison Macpherson

Pages 42-52

- Liz White, Director, Animal Alliance of Canada

In support of Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR)**October 27, 2016****To Whom it May Concern:**

I am writing as the founder of Feline Friends Network (FFN) of Stratford in support of Georgina Feral Cat Committee's request for the Town of Georgina to make Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) the official policy for community cats.

Feline Friends Network is a registered charity with the mission to end cat homelessness and overpopulation in Perth County through the running of various spay/neuter programs as well as education.

Trap/Neuter/Return for feral colony cats, is a cornerstone program, and since starting it in 2007 in a very small way, we have TNR'd approximately 900 cats, While we do not keep a detailed record of colonies TNR'd in the outlying areas (most are in barns), we do keep a database of 'community cat' colonies TNR'd in the City of Stratford (population 32,000) because Feline Friends Network has an agreement with the City to manage these colonies. Our Stratford database shows that, out of the 180 cats TNR'd in Stratford since 2007, only 61 cats remain. One wonders how many cats would currently be in those colonies if we had done nothing ?

Because TNR is the humane alternative to the problem , it is also the least expensive alternative, because committed animal-loving volunteers – such as the Georgina Cat Committee -- will most certainly come on board to help make it happen. And this is a “good news story”...Who wants to read how many cats were trapped and killed as a solution ? Or how many kittens suffered and died trying to survive outside ? Rather the TNR story is about a caring community working together to humanely solve a problem.

In order for TNR to be a success, however, the colonies targeted must continue to be “managed” - ie. Their welfare overseen by volunteer caregivers who make sure there is shelter, food and water, and – very importantly – make sure that any “outside” cats joining the colony are TNR'd as soon as possible.

Finally, we will not get a handle on successfully curbing the cat overpopulation problem until people stop abandoning cats. Abandoned cats are a big reason

why other cats may try to join an already established managed colony or indeed why colonies exist in the first place. Therefore, we at Feline Friends Network believe it is important to not only educate the community about the importance of spaying and neutering, but also to help those in financial difficulty to afford timely spay/neuter surgery for their cat(s). And so, FFN's second cornerstone spay/neuter program is free spay/neuter for cats owned by people in need. With the help of social service agencies, and participating veterinary clinics, Feline Friends takes on the cost of such surgeries using a free spay/neuter voucher program. We have subsidized something in the area of 800 such surgeries in Perth County since 2006.

In conclusion, let me say that, once the “good news story” of TNR is understood in your community, peoples' attitudes toward stray cats will start to change. We see this every day. Nine years ago I would regularly hear comments from residents like “I just want them gone”. We very rarely hear such comments anymore. Through good works, good education, and good results, the community has come on board, and in general citizens are overwhelmingly supportive and wanting to help the cats.

I do hope your community joins ours in making the right choice of Trap/Neuter/Return to solve your cat overpopulation problem.

Very sincerely yours,

Cheryl Simpson
Founder,
Feline Friends Network of Stratford
www.felinefriends.ca

This Agreement made this 28th day of July, 2014

Between

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF STRATFORD
(the "City")

and

FELINE FRIENDS NETWORK OF STRATFORD
(“Feline Friends”)

WHEREAS Feline Friends Network of Stratford (“Feline Friends”) is a registered not-for-profit charity incorporated in the Province of Ontario in 2009;

AND WHEREAS Feline Friends operates a Trap | Neuter | Return (TNR) program that humanely reduces the feral cat population and benefits both the cats and the community;

AND WHEREAS Feline Friends approached the City seeking Council’s endorsement of the implementation of a TNR program in Stratford;

AND WHEREAS the Council of The Corporation of the City of Stratford endorsed in principle, the implementation of a long-term community-wide, TNR model that have been proven to be a fiscally responsible and effective means of managing feral and homeless cats;

AND WHEREAS City Council deems it necessary to enter into an Agreement with Feline Friends to set out the terms and conditions for the implementation and operation of a TNR Program in Stratford;

NOW THEREFORE the Parties hereto agree as follows:

Interpretation

1. The capitalized terms in this Agreement shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the lettered paragraphs of this section. Where a word is used without a capital letter, its regularly understood meaning shall apply:

“Agreement” means this Agreement that may be amended from time to time;

“Animal Control By-laws” means a by-law or by-laws of the City as amended from time to time by Council of the City, with respect to animals;

“Animal Control Officer” means The Stratford Perth Humane Society and any successor thereto, including its officers, employees and agents, a police officer, municipal by-law enforcement officer or any other authorized agent of the City;

“Caretaker” means any person who regularly provides food and water to a Feral Cat Colony within the geographical limits of Stratford;

“City” means The Corporation of the City of Stratford and where the context so applies, includes its employees, members of Council and authorized agents;

"Eartip" or "Eartipping" means a mark identifying a feral or stray cat as having been sterilized, specifically the removal of a quarter inch off the tip of the cat's left ear in a straight line cut while the cat is anaesthetized;

"Feral Cat" means a male or female Cat of any age that is undomesticated, that in general, receives little human contact or care and lives outdoors or unconfined at all times;

"Feral Cat Colony" and "Colony" mean a group of Feral Cats that congregate, more or less, together as a unit and share a common food source;

"Foster Home" means a household in which a cat or kitten is temporarily placed for the purpose of providing indoor shelter, care and, if necessary, socialization before permanent placement in an adoptive home;

"Registered Colony" means a Feral Cat Colony that is Registered as part of the TNR Program;

"Registered" or "Registration" means the identification by the Caretaker of each Feral Cat Colony as set out in section 9 of this Agreement;

"TNR Program" shall mean the capture by the Sponsor or Caretaker of a Feral Cat by trapping, the spaying or neutering, vaccination against rabies, Eartipping of the captured Feral Cat and the return of the captured Feral Cat at the point of capture, where permitted under City By-law;

"Sponsor" means the Feline Friends Network of Stratford;

2. The Recitals and Schedules to the Agreement form an integral part of this Agreement.
3. This Agreement shall be interpreted according to the laws of the Province of Ontario. In the event that any provision of the Agreement is deemed or determined to be in violation of any law, or held to be invalid or unenforceable by any court or tribunal of competent jurisdiction, the violation and invalidity of any particular provision shall not affect any other provision of the Agreement. The Agreement shall afterward be interpreted as though the offending provision is not contained in the Agreement.
4. Any obligation or acknowledgement set out in the Agreement shall be construed as a covenant upon Feline Friends.

Endorsement of TNR

5. The City endorses the implementation of a TNR Program in Stratford by Feline Friends Network, subject to the terms and conditions set out in the Agreement.

Sponsor of TNR

6. Feline Friends Network of Stratford agrees to act as a Sponsor of the TNR Program and to abide by the terms and conditions in this Agreement and as further provided or clarified by the City from time to time during the term of this Agreement.

Sponsorship Requirements

7. It shall be the duty of a Sponsor to:
- a) register all Feral Cat Colonies managed by Caretakers pursuant to the requirements of Section 9;
 - b) ensure the ongoing compliance of Caretakers of Registered Colonies with the requirements of Section 8 ;
 - c) maintain records provided by Caretakers on the size and location of Registered Colonies;
 - d) help to resolve any complaints over the conduct of Caretakers of Registered Colonies or of Feral Cats belonging to Registered Colonies;
 - e) report annually to the City on the following:
 - i) number of Colonies in the City that are Registered with the Sponsor;
 - ii) total number of Feral Cats in Colonies in the City that are Registered with the Sponsor;
 - iii) number of Feral Cats sterilized and vaccinated pursuant to the TNR Program in the past year; and
 - iv) number of Feral Cats and kittens removed from the Colony for the purposes of adoption in the past year.

Caretaker Requirements

8. It shall be the responsibility of a Caretaker to:
- a) submit all Colonies managed by the Caretaker for Registration with the Sponsor pursuant to the requirements of section 9;
 - b) make reasonable efforts to trap all Feral Cats in a Registered Colony and have all trapped Feral Cats sterilized and vaccinated against rabies and Eartipped by a veterinarian licensed to practice in Ontario;
 - c) provide or arrange for the provision of adequate food and water on a regular basis to the Colony and make reasonable efforts to ensure adequate shelter for the Colony;
 - d) make reasonable efforts to trap and obtain proper medical attention from a veterinarian licensed to practice in Ontario, for any Feral Cat in a Colony that appears to require it;
 - e) make reasonable efforts to work with the Sponsor to resolve any complaints over the conduct of the Caretaker or of a Colony managed by the Caretaker;
 - f) report annually in writing to the Sponsor on the status of the Caretaker's Colony, including:
 - i) Total number of Feral Cats in the Colony and total number of Feral Cats in the Colony that are sterilized;
 - ii) number of Feral Cats in the Colony sterilized and vaccinated pursuant to the TNR Program in the past year;

- iii) number of Feral Cats in the Colony that have died or otherwise ceased to be a part of the Colony in the past year;
- iv) number of kittens born to the Colony in the past year and their disposition; and
- v) number of Feral Cats and kittens removed for purposes of Foster or adoptive placement in the past year.

Feral Cat Colony Registration

9. Upon Registration of a Colony, the Caretaker shall provide his or her Sponsor with:
 - a) Address, telephone number and if applicable, electronic mailing address of the Caretaker;
 - b) Location of the Registered Colony;
 - c) Total number of Feral Cats in the Registered Colony;
 - d) Total number of Feral Cats in the Registered Colony that are sterilized and vaccinated against rabies.

Withdrawal of Caretaker or Sponsor

10. In the event that a Caretaker of a Registered Colony is unable or unwilling to continue in that role, he or she shall notify his or her Sponsor in writing and shall make reasonable efforts to secure a replacement Caretaker.
11. In the event that a Sponsor is unable or unwilling to continue to perform his or her role, he or she shall provide sixty (60) days written notice to the Animal Control Officer and the City and the Sponsor shall make reasonable efforts to secure a replacement Sponsor within sixty (60) days of giving notice herein.

Disposition of Colony Cats

12. An Animal Control Officer that has trapped or received an Ear-tipped cat within the City shall take reasonable steps to notify the Sponsor of the description and sex of the Feral Cat and of the address of location where the Feral Cat was captured. The Sponsor shall have up to five (5) business days after notification to arrange for the Feral Cat to be retrieved. If the Feral Cat is retrieved by arrangement with the Sponsor and the Caretaker of the Colony from which the Feral Cat was removed can be located with reasonable efforts, the Feral Cat shall be returned to the Caretaker.

By-law Enforcement

13. Nothing in this Agreement shall interfere with the right of the City or an Animal-Control Officer to:
 - a) Investigate any complaint allegedly caused by a Feral or stray cat or Registered Colony;
 - i) If it is found that a Feral Cat or stray cat or Colony within the geographical limits of Stratford is causing a disturbance in contravention of an Animal Control By-law, the Animal Control Officer or City shall provide the Sponsor with written notice delineating the disturbance and

- location of the Feral Cat or stray cat or Colony and if warranted, provide the Sponsor a reasonable amount of time to cure the disturbance.
- ii) If the Sponsor fails to cure the disturbance to the Animal Control Officer's or the City's reasonable satisfaction within a reasonable period of time, or if the Animal Control Officer or the City, acting reasonably, deems the complaint requires immediate response, an Animal Control Officer or City may take appropriate action within the Animal Control By-law to cure the disturbance.
- b) Reassign sponsorship of a Sponsor's Registered Colony(ies) if the Sponsor regularly fails to comply with the requirements of this Agreement and the Sponsor does not correct the situation within thirty (30) days of being given written notice by the City delineating its failures with specificity.

Grace Period

- 14. If an Animal Control Officer or the City locates or otherwise becomes knowledgeable about an unregistered Feral Cat Colony reasonable efforts shall be made by the Animal Control Officer or City to provide written notice to the Sponsor or Caretaker of the Colony of the Registration requirements of this Agreement.
- 15. Upon receipt of written notice as set forth in Section 14, a Caretaker or Sponsor of an unregistered Feral Cat Colony shall have thirty (30) days to comply with Section 9 of this Agreement. During the thirty (30) day period, no cat from the Colony shall be removed by an Animal Control Officer or the City for reason of causing a disturbance.

Term

- 16. The term of this Agreement shall be for a period of three (3) years, commencing on July 1, 2014 and, unless terminated earlier in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, ending on June 30, 2017.
- 17. The Term may be extended by mutual agreement of both Parties for additional terms of three (3) years each, upon the written request of Feline Friends provided that any request for renewal shall be provided to the City no later than six months prior to the expiry of the Term or any renewal thereof.

Termination

- 18. This Agreement may be terminated at the absolute and sole discretion of the City at any time, including when Feline Friends is in default under this Agreement and such default is not remedied to the satisfaction of the City within 30 days written notice to Feline Friends of such default.
- 19. In the event this Agreement is terminated, Feline Friends shall advise the Animal Control Officer and the City of the actions taken by Feline Friends to cease operation of a TNR Program in the City.

Acknowledgements by Feline Friends

20. Feline Friends acknowledges and agrees that the City has the jurisdiction to impose the terms and conditions contained in the Agreement on Feline Friends.

Providing Notice

21. Any notice required to be given by this Agreement shall be in writing and delivered personally or by facsimile transmission or by email addresses to the other Party at the following addresses or fax numbers or email addresses:

to the City at: City of Stratford
 1 Wellington Street, P.O. Box 818
 Stratford ON N5A 6W1
 Attention: City Clerk
 Fax: 519-273-5041
 Email: clerks@stratfordcanada.ca

to Feline Friends at: Feline Friends Network of Stratford
 47 Britannia Street
 Stratford ON N5A 5Y8
 Attention: President
 Email: info@felinefriends.ca

Facsimile and email notices shall be permitted. Notice shall be deemed to have been delivered on the date of personal delivery or confirmed facsimile or email transmission.

Agreement is the Entire Agreement and is Binding

22. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties and cannot be modified except by written instrument duly executed by both Parties.
23. Feline Friends shall not assign this Agreement or any part of it without first obtaining the written consent of the City, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.
24. This Agreement shall enure to the benefit of and be binding upon the parties hereto and their respective administrators, successors and assigns.

[this section intentionally left blank]



**BY-LAW NUMBER 195-2002
OF
THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF STRATFORD**

BEING a By-law to prohibit, regulate, restrict Animals and to require the registration and identification of Animals in the City of Stratford and to repeal By-laws 216-2001 and 44-2002.

WHEREAS the *Municipal Act, R.S.O. 1990 chapter M.45* authorizes a municipality to pass by-laws respecting animals and prohibiting, regulating, restricting and requiring the licencing of animals and further authorizes a municipality to pass by-laws prohibiting and abating public nuisances;

AND WHEREAS the *Pounds Act, R.S.O. 1990 chapter P.17* authorizes a municipality to impound animals found to be running At Large;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED by Council of The Corporation of the City of Stratford as follows:

1.0 DEFINITIONS:

- 1.1 "Altered" used as an adjective to refer to an Animal, means that the Animal has been sterilized by a licenced veterinarian. The term is applied to either a male Animal that has been castrated or a female Animal that has been operated on to prevent conception;
- 1.2 "Animal" means any member of the animal kingdom, other than a human;
- 1.3 "Animal Control Officer" means The Stratford Perth Humane Society and any successors thereto, including its officers, employees and agents, a Police Officer or other duly appointed municipal by-law enforcement officer;
- 1.4 "Animal Sound" means any sound emitted from an Animal which is audible at Property occupied by persons other than the Owner of the Animal emitting the sound. Without limitation, this term shall include barking, whimpering, whining, howling, yowling and yelping, meowing, crying;
- 1.5 "At Large" means where an Animal is found in a place other than the Property of the Owner of the Animal and not under the Control of the Owner of the Animal or his/her authorized representative, except where the Owner of the Property permits the Animal to be on his/her Property;
- 1.6 "Caretaker" means any person who regularly provides food and water to a colony;
- 1.7 "Cat" means a male or female Cat (*Felis Catus*) of any age and includes a Feral Cat;
- 1.8 "Cattery" means an establishment for the breeding or boarding of Pure-bred domestic Cats;
- 1.9 "City" means The Corporation of the City of Stratford;
- 1.10 "Control" includes care and custody;
- 1.11 "Council" means the Council of The Corporation of the City of Stratford;
- 1.12 "Dog" means a canine of the species *Canis familiaris*;
- 1.13 "Eartip" means a mark identifying a Feral Cat or stray cat as having been sterilized, specifically the removal of a quarter inch off the tip of the Feral Cat's or stray cat's left ear in a straight line cut while the Cat is anaesthetized;
- 1.14 "Feral Cat" means a male or female Cat of any age that is undomesticated, that in general, receives little human contact or care and lives outdoors or unconfined at all times;

- 1.15 **"Feral Cat Colony"** means a group of Feral Cats that congregate, more or less, together as a unit and share a common food source;
- 1.16 **"Foster Home"** means a household in which a Cat or kitten is temporarily placed for the purpose of providing indoor shelter, care and, if necessary, socialization before permanent placement in an adoptive home;
- 1.17 **"Impounded"** means lodgement of an Animal at a designated Pound within the City;
- 1.18 **"Kennel"** means an establishment for the breeding or boarding of Pure-bred Dogs;
- 1.19 **"Lot"** means a parcel of land which can be legally conveyed pursuant to the *Planning Act*;
- 1.20 **"Microchip"** means an approved Canadian standard encoded identification device implanted into an Animal that contains a unique code that permits or facilitates access to Owner information, including the name and address of the Owner which is stored in a central database accessible to the Animal Control Officer;
- 1.21 **"Owner"** means a person who:
- a) has the care, charge, custody or Control of an Animal;
 - b) owns or who claims proprietary interest in an Animal;
 - c) harbours, suffers or permits an Animal to be present on any Property owned, occupied or leased by him/her or which is otherwise under his/her Control;
 - d) claims and receives an Animal from the custody of the Animal shelter or an Animal Control Officer; or
 - e) a person to whom an identification tag was issued for an Animal in accordance with this by-law.
- For the purposes of this by-law, an Animal may have only one (1) Owner. Where an Owner is a minor, the person responsible for the custody of the minor is deemed to be the Owner.
- 1.22 **"Pound"** means premises that are used for the detention, maintenance or disposition of Animals that have been Impounded pursuant to this by-law, or any predecessor of this by-law, but does not include any Property, or part thereof, that are not used by any person or body of persons, including the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA) or any society affiliated therewith, for the detention, maintenance or disposal of Animals so Impounded.
- 1.23 **"Property"** means any interest, present or future, vested or contingent, in real or personal property.
- 1.24 **"Pure-bred Cat"** means a breed of Cat registered or eligible for registration in the Register of the Canadian Cat Association;
- 1.25 **"Pure-bred Dog"** means a breed of Dog registered or eligible for registration in the Register of the Canadian Kennel Club Incorporated;
- 1.26 **"Sponsor"** means an organization recognized by the Animal Control Officer or the City, that promotes and actively participates in the welfare of Animals and that operates a TNR program;
- 1.27 **"TNR Program"** means a program recognized by the Animal Control Officer or the City that involves the capture of a Feral Cat by trapping, the spaying or neutering, vaccination against rabies, Eartipping of the captured Feral Cat and the return of the Feral Cat at the point of capture, where permitted under this By-law;
- 1.28 **"Wild Animal"** means an Animal of wild, untamed, uncultivated, feral or brutal nature or disposition, but excludes a Feral Cat. An Animal that was once a domesticated Animal can become a Wild Animal;
- 1.29 **"Zoning By-law"** means any by-law administered by the City passed pursuant to Section 34 of the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990 c.P13* or a predecessor or successor thereof, as may be amended from time to time;

2.0 **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

2.1 This By-law pertains to Animals being housed, harboured, kept or owned by a person for domestic purposes in the City of Stratford.

2.2 A **Permitted** Animal means:

- a) mammals which are commonly known as the following:
 - Cats
 - chinchillas
 - degus
 - Dogs
 - domesticated pot bellied pigs
 - ferrets
 - gerbils
 - guinea pigs
 - hamsters
 - hedgehogs
 - mice
 - rabbits
 - rats
 - sugar gliders
- b) all birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish and invertebrates which are not restricted or prohibited Animals;

2.3 A **Restricted** Animal means:

- a) a venomous or poisonous Animal which is being held in captivity;
- b) a lizard which will grow to more than 65 centimetres in length from snout to vent;
- c) a snake which will grow to more than 2 metres in length;
- d) an Animal deemed restricted by Council.

2.4 A **Prohibited** Animal means:

- a) an Animal which is wild-caught;
- b) an Animal whose parent is a prohibited Animal;
- c) a mammal which is not a permitted Animal;
- d) birds which are members of the following orders:
 - i) Order Anseriformes, for example, but not limited to, ducks, geese and swans;
 - ii) Order Casuariiformes, for example, but not limited to, cassowaries and emus;
 - iii) Order Galliformes, for example, but not limited to, grouse and pheasants, except for non-indigenous quail species which have been captive-bred for more than six generations;
 - iv) Order Rheiformes, for example, but not limited to, rheas;
 - v) Order Struthioniformes, for example, but not limited to, ostriches;
- e) reptiles which are members of the following orders:
 - i) Order Crocodylia, for example, but not limited to, crocodiles;
 - ii) Order Sphenodontida, for example, but not limited to, tuatara;
- f) amphibians which are members of the Order Gymnophobia or Apoda commonly known as legless amphibians.
- g) Animals generally recognized as livestock and/or used for agricultural purposes, but not limited to cattle, horses, ponies, donkeys, mules, swine, mink, foxes, sheep, goats, llamas, chicken, ducks, geese, buffalo, deer but excludes honeybees.

- 2.5 No person shall keep or harbour or permit to be kept or harboured on a temporary or permanent basis, any Prohibited Animal in the City of Stratford. This provision does not apply to a Department of the City of Stratford or to lands owned by the City of Stratford and zoned as parkland under the City's Zoning By-law;
- 2.6 The provisions of 2.4 d) and g) do not apply to lands zoned as agriculture under the Zoning By-law and lawfully used for agricultural purposes.
- 2.7 Notwithstanding Section 2.5, the Owner of a Prohibited Animal may keep the Animal, but not its offspring, for the remainder of the life of the Animal provided that the Prohibited Animal was owned prior to this by-law coming into effect, and provided that the Owner of the Prohibited Animal registers the Animal in accordance with this By-law.
- 2.8 No person shall keep or harbour or permit to be kept or harboured on a temporary or permanent basis, any Restricted Animal in the City of Stratford, except in accordance with this by-law.
- 2.9 No owner of an animal shall permit or allow his or her animal to be at large, except that this provision does not apply to honeybees lawfully kept in accordance with the *Bees Act* and any successor legislation thereto.
- 2.10 Subject to Section 2.11 below, Section 2.9 does not apply to a Cat bearing a current identification tag or valid Microchip or has been identified as a Feral Cat in accordance with this By-law.
- 2.11 Notwithstanding Section 2.10, where a Property Owner or tenant makes a complaint to the Animal Control Officer that a Cat is causing damage to the said Owner's or tenant's Property or otherwise creating a disturbance on that Property, or is on the Owner's or tenant's Property without permission, the Animal Control Officer may, with the consent of the said Property Owner or tenant, enter onto private Property and into the structures thereon, to investigate such complaint in accordance with section 2.15 of this By-law.
- 2.12 Notwithstanding Section 2.9, a Restricted Animal shall be deemed to be At Large in a public place, including highways, sidewalks and parks and on private Property without the consent of the Owner of that Property, when being carried on the person of an individual having apparent care and Control thereof.
- 2.13 Every person having care or Control of an Animal, including a person or persons responsible for the temporary boarding of an Animal at the request of the Owner, upon realizing that the Animal is missing or has escaped, shall immediately notify the Animal Control Officer.
- 2.14 An Animal Control Officer may enter on:
- a) public Property at any time for the purpose of taking possession of an Animal that is in violation of the provisions of this By-law;
 - b) private Property where Animals are kept, with the consent of the Owner or tenant, for the purpose of investigating complaints and ensuring compliance with the provisions of this By-law;
 - c) private Property where Animals are kept, with the consent of the Owner or tenant of the private Property for the purpose of taking possession of an Animal that is At Large and in violation of the provisions of this By-law.
- 2.15 Where an Animal is in violation of the provisions of this By-law or is causing damage or creating a disturbance, or is on the Owner's or tenant's Property without permission, the Owner or tenant of the Property on which the Animal is in violation, may make a complaint to the Animal Control Officer. The Animal Control Officer shall investigate such complaint and shall make all reasonable efforts to contact the Owner of the Animal (or alternate contact) and may take all steps necessary to ensure compliance with this By-law, which may include taking possession of the Animal and impounding same.
- 2.16 No Owner shall permit or allow his or her Animal to defecate on public or private Property in the City, other than on Property of the Owner unless the Owner immediately and without delay removes the excrement and provides for its sanitary disposal.
- 2.17 No Owner shall permit his or her Animal:
- a) to bite, attack, threaten, harass, chase, kill or injure any person including, but not limited to when such person is on a bicycle, walking or running;
 - b) to fight with or attack any domestic Animal or domestic bird.

- 2.18 No person shall cause, permit or allow the trapping of an Animal, except a Wild Animal, on Property in the City of Stratford. This provision does not apply to the Animal Control Officer, the Stratford Perth Humane Society or its authorized agents, the City or a Caretaker.
- 2.19 No person shall:
- a) tease, torment, annoy, or abuse any Animal,
 - b) untie, loosen or otherwise free an Animal which is not in distress unless such person has the authorization of the Owner,
 - c) at any time use any Property, including a house, dwelling unit or any building or structure, or any part thereof, or any land abutting same, as a place for slaughtering Animals, except in an area that is zoned properly in accordance with the City's Zoning By-law.
- 2.20 No Owner shall cause, permit or allow the Animal to emit Animal Sounds or other noise for an extended or frequent period of time.
- 2.21 No person shall interfere with, hinder or impede an Animal Control Officer in the performance of any duty authorized by this By-law.
- 2.22 Every person required to register an Animal in accordance with this By-law shall supply the following information to the City or the Stratford Perth Humane Society or its authorized agents at the time of registration:
- a) name of Owner, current address and telephone number(s) of the Owner;
 - b) species of Animal to be registered, breed, colour, sex, whether or not the Animal has been Altered and name of Animal;
 - c) alternate contact person's name and telephone number(s), at the discretion of the Owner.
 - d) subject to prior arrangements having been made in writing with the veterinarian, the Owner may provide the name and telephone number of a veterinarian as an emergency contact person.
- 2.23 The fees referred to in this By-law shall be as prescribed in Schedule "A" attached hereto and forming part of this By-law and are subject to change by Council from time to time.

3.0 RESTRICTED AND PROHIBITED ANIMALS

- 3.1 The Owner of a restricted Animal shall comply with the following requirements:
- a) to register the Restricted Animal within seven (7) working days of the passage of this By-law, or becoming the Owner of a Restricted Animal, by providing the Animal Control Officer with his or her name, current address and current telephone number and a description of the Restricted Animal and alternate contact person's name and telephone number.
 - b) to keep the Restricted Animal, when it is on the lands and premises of the Owner, confined and under effective Control, as approved by the Animal Control Officer.
 - c) to keep the Restricted Animal under the effective Control of an adult person and under leash or otherwise contained at all times as approved by the Animal Control Officer when it is not confined in accordance with clause b);
 - d) to provide the Animal Control Officer with the new address and telephone number of the Owner within seven (7) working days of moving the Restricted Animal;
 - e) to provide the Animal Control Officer with the name, address and telephone number of the new Owner within seven (7) working days of selling or giving away the Restricted Animal;
 - f) to advise the Animal Control Officer within seven (7) working days of the death of the Restricted Animal; and
 - g) to advise the Animal Control Officer forthwith if the Restricted Animal is running At Large or has bitten or attacked any person or Animal,.

- h) a Restricted Animal is to be identified with a micro-chip, unless in the opinion of a veterinarian licenced to practice in Ontario, doing so would cause harm to the said Animal;
- 3.2 Section 3.1 of this By-law shall not apply to:
- a) an Animal hospital or clinic lawfully operated and supervised by a veterinarian licenced to practice in Ontario;
 - b) an Animal shelter operated by the Stratford Perth Humane Society;
 - c) premises registered as a research facility in accordance with the *Animals for Research Act*;
 - d) the lawful operation of a circus, carnival, performance, exhibition, or zoo;
 - e) subject to the approval of the Stratford Perth Humane Society:
 - i) premises where Animals are being kept for the purposes of rehabilitating the individual Animal;
 - ii) when under the auspices of the federal or provincial government or an organization or facility with appropriate expertise, premises where Animals are being kept for the purpose of preserving the individual Animal or the Animal species, provided that the premises meet Canadian Association of Zoos and Aquaria standards;
- 3.3 The Animal Control Officer or a resident of the City may request in writing that the Protection to Persons and Property Sub-committee of Council conduct a hearing as to whether:
- a) a species of Animal should be added to the Restricted Animal section or Prohibited Animal section of this by-law;
 - b) a species of bird, reptile, amphibian, fish or invertebrate should be added to the Restricted Animal section or the Prohibited Animal section of this by-law.
 - c) a specific Animal should be added to the Restricted Animal section of this by-law.
- 3.4 A resident of the City who is a licenced custodian in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Natural Resources may request in writing that the Protection to Persons and Property Sub-committee of Council conduct a hearing as to whether:
- a) a specific Animal should be added to the Restricted Animal section on a temporary basis, while such Animal is in the care and custody of a licenced custodian.
- 3.5 The Protection of Persons and Property Sub-committee of Council may recommend to Council that:
- a) the mammal species be added to this By-law as a Permitted or Restricted Animal if:
 - i) the mammal species has been captive-bred for at least 10 generations;
 - ii) the general public is capable of providing a level of care for the Animal species which protects it from suffering at all stages of its life, considering the Animal's physical and psychological or behavioural well-being;
 - iii) the danger the Animal species may present to public health or safety is minimal;
 - iv) the danger the Animal species may present to the local ecosystem should it escape or be released is minimal;
 - b) a bird species be added to this By-law as a Restricted or Prohibited Animal if:
 - i) the bird species has been captive-bred for less than six generations;
 - ii) the general public is not capable of providing a level of care for the Animal species which protects it from suffering at all stages of its life, considering the Animal's physical and psychological or behavioural well-being;
 - iii) the danger the Animal species may present to public health or safety is not minimal; or

- iv) the danger the Animal species may present to the local ecosystem should it escape or be released is not minimal.
 - c) a reptile, amphibian, fish or invertebrate species be added to this By-law as a restricted or prohibited Animal if:
 - i) the general public is not capable of providing a level of care for the Animal species which protects it from suffering at all stages of its life, considering the Animal's physical and psychological or behavioural well-being;
 - ii) the danger the Animal species may present to public health or safety is not minimal; or
 - iii) the danger the Animal species may present to the local ecosystem should it escape or be released is not minimal.
 - d) a specific Animal be added to this by-law as a Restricted Animal, and Council shall determine the conditions, length of time and other provisions that shall regulate the keeping of such Restricted Animal in the City while under the care and custody of the licenced custodian on a temporary basis.
- 3.6 For the purposes of Section 3.5, the Protection to Persons and Property Sub-committee may hold a hearing, and shall give notice in writing to an Owner of such hearing and permit any person to make representation respecting the matter. Following a hearing, the Protection to Persons and Property Sub-committee shall report to Council and shall provide a written summary of the evidence obtained or representations made, and the Sub-committee's recommendations to Council as soon as reasonably possible after the hearing.

4.0 CARE OF ANIMALS

- 4.1 Any person who keeps an Animal within the City shall provide the Animal with adequate and appropriate care, food, water, shelter, exercise, attention and veterinary care as may be required to meet the need of the species.
- 4.2 If an Animal is customarily kept out of doors, the person having the custody or Control of the Animal shall provide for the Animal's use, a structurally sound, weather-proofed and insulated enclosure of appropriate size and dimension.
- 4.3 Any person who has tethered an Animal shall ensure at all times that the Animal has unrestricted movement within the range of the tether and that the Animal cannot suffer injury resulting from the tethering.
- 4.4 Any person keeping an Animal within the City shall do so under sanitary conditions.
- 4.5 For the purposes of Section 4.4 herein, an Animal is kept in an unsanitary condition where the keeping of the Animal results in an accumulation of fecal matter, an odour, insect infestation or rodent attractants which endanger the health of any person or Animal, or which disturbs or is likely to disturb the enjoyment, comfort or convenience of any person.
- 4.6 No person shall cause, permit or allow an Animal to be confined in a vehicle without appropriate ventilation and at an appropriate temperature to ensure the Animal is not in distress while in the vehicle.

5.0 PIGEONS AND RABBITS

- 5.1 No person keeping pigeons shall permit the pigeons to stray, perch, roost or rest upon lands, premises or buildings of any person or upon any public place in the City, except on the Property of the person keeping the pigeons.
- 5.2 No person shall keep or permit to be kept pigeons or rabbits in other than an enclosure that:
 - a) where it is not a cage, has its inside walls and ceiling lime washed or painted at least annually;
 - b) is screened to the maximum extent possible from adjacent premises and streets by hedges, shrubs, fences or other suitable screening.
 - c) in the opinion of the Animal Control Officer, provides adequate space, lighting and ventilation having regard to the number of pigeons and rabbits kept therein;

- d) in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, does not house pigeons or rabbits in such a manner or in such number as to constitute an actual or potential threat or hazard to human health;
 - e) is maintained in such a manner as to prevent the emission of noxious odours therefrom;
 - f) is readily maintained in a clean and sanitary condition;
 - g) is constructed and maintained in compliance with the provisions of any applicable Act or Regulation and any other municipal by-law including, without restricting the generality of the foregoing, the *Health Protection and Promotion Act and Regulations*, the *Ontario Building Code Act and Regulations*, the *Fire Prevention and Protection Act and Regulations* and the Zoning By-law.
 - h) is constructed in such a manner as to prevent the escape from the enclosure of any pigeon or rabbit kept therein;
 - i) is located to the rear of the Property and situated 40 metres from any school, church, dwelling unit or other premises used for human habitation or occupancy, other than the premises occupied exclusively by the Owner.
- 5.3 An enclosure in existence prior to the passage of this by-law shall be deemed to be an enclosure within the meaning of Section 5.2 i) provided that it complies with all other provisions of Section 5.2 and provided it cannot be relocated to comply with Section 5.2 i).
- 5.4 Any person keeping pigeons or rabbits in an enclosure shall:
- a) remove and dispose of in a sanitary manner at least three times each week all droppings, refuse or offal, and any dropped or scattered feed within or adjacent to any enclosure. No material so removed may be burned or stored on or within the lands and premises from which it is removed; and
 - b) store all feed in rodent-proof containers.
- 5.5 No person shall keep or permit to be kept more than 50 pigeons or more than 50 rabbits on any Property within the City, subject to the provisions of this by-law and the Zoning By-law.
- 5.6 Section 5.5 does not apply to Property located within an area zoned agricultural by the Zoning By-law and used for agricultural purposes.
- 5.7 When requested, any person shall provide to the Animal Control Officer a statement in writing as to the number of pigeons or rabbits owned by him or her that are kept on Property of the Owner.
- 5.8 In the event the Owner of pigeons or rabbits suspects they are infected with a communicable disease, the Owner shall immediately consult a veterinarian licenced to practice in Ontario to diagnose the condition. If the diagnosis confirms that the pigeons or rabbits are infected with a communicable disease, the Owner shall immediately notify the Medical Officer of Health and comply with any direction which may be issued by the Medical Officer of Health in this regard.

6.0 LICENCING AND IDENTIFICATION OF DOGS

The following additional provisions shall apply to Dogs.

- 6.1 Every Owner of a Dog shall register the Dog with the City or the Stratford Perth Humane Society or its authorized agents.
- 6.2 No person shall keep or harbour or permit to be kept or harboured more than three (3) unaltered Dogs on Property in the City of Stratford.
- 6.3 An Owner shall, when requested to do so, provide to the Animal Control Officer a statement in writing as to the number of Dogs owned by him or her that are kept on the Property of the Dog Owner.
- 6.4 An Owner shall keep his or her Dog secured on a leash with a maximum length of 3 metres when on Property other than that of the Owner of the Dog.
- 6.5 The provisions of Section 6.4 do not apply to the following:
 - a) police work Dogs while engaged in law enforcement activity, or
 - b) Dogs in an area that has been designated in Schedule "B," provided that:

- i) the appropriate signs have been installed; and
- ii) the Owner or handler is in the area signed to permit Dogs to be At Large and within sight of the Dog at all times.

6.6 An Owner of a Dog shall:

- a) each year, register the Dog with the City or the Stratford Perth Humane Society or its authorized agent,
- b) pay the prescribed licence fee in Schedule "A" and
- c) obtain an identification tag for the Dog; or,
- d) until ceasing to be the Owner of the Dog, obtain a new identification tag for the Dog prior to the expiration of the identification tag issued for the Dog.

6.7 An Owner shall ensure that his or her Dog is identified with an identification tag pursuant to Section 6.6 indicating current registration that:

- a) is securely fastened to a choke chain, collar or harness worn by the Dog; and,
- b) is worn by the Dog at all times when the Dog is anywhere other than on the Owner's Lot or Property occupied by the Owner pursuant to a lease or other arrangement.

6.8 An Owner may obtain a replacement identification tag for any identification tag lost or destroyed upon payment of the fee as set out in Schedule "A".

6.9 An identification tag issued by the City shall not be transferable to another Animal by the Owner of the Dog for which the identification tag was issued.

6.10 An Owner of a Dog shall display the identification tag upon the Animal to which the identification tag is registered.

6.11 An Owner of a Dog shall register and obtain an identification tag for the Dog within seven (7) working days of becoming the Owner of a Dog.

6.12 An Owner of a Dog shall register and obtain an identification tag for the Dog within seven (7) working days from the date the Owner took up residence in the City of Stratford.

6.13 An Owner shall notify the Animal Control Officer of any address change within seven (7) working days of such change occurring including a change in alternate contact person name or contact telephone number.

6.14 Notwithstanding Section 6.6 herein, an Owner of a Kennel shall obtain a Kennel licence each year provided that all Dogs are Pure-bred Dogs by paying the Kennel licence fee as prescribed in Schedule "A". When a Kennel licence has been issued in accordance with this By-law, the Owner shall not be liable to pay any additional annual licence fee for the Kennel of Pure-bred Dogs.

6.15 An identification tag shall be issued at no charge to any Owner of a specialized needs Dog, such as a seeing eye Dog, or a hearing ear Dog or other specialized needs Dog or with respect to any Dog trained for and actually engaged in law enforcement by any federal, provincial or municipal government agency.

6.16 Every annual identification tag issued for a Dog in accordance with this By-law shall expire on December 31st in the year shown or marked on the identification tag.

7.0 REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION OF CATS

The following additional provisions shall apply to Cats:

7.1 Every Owner of a Cat shall register the Cat with the City or the Stratford Perth Humane Society or its authorized agents.

7.2 No person shall keep or harbour or permit to be kept or harboured, more than three (3) unaltered Cats on Property in the City of Stratford.

7.3 When requested to do so, an Owner shall provide the Animal Control Officer a statement in writing as to the number of Cats owned by him or her that are kept on the Property of the Cat Owner.

- 7.4 An Owner of a Cat shall:
- a) each year, register each Cat with the City or the Stratford Perth Humane Society or its authorized agent,
 - b) pay the prescribed registration fee in Schedule "A" and
 - c) obtain an identification tag for the Cat; or,
 - d) until ceasing to be Owner of the Cat, obtain a new identification tag for the Cat prior to the expiration of the identification tag issued for the Cat.
- If the Cat(s) has been identified as a Feral Cat by Eartipping, than a) and b) of this provision do not apply to the Feral Cat.
- 7.5 An Owner shall ensure that his or her Cat is identified with a City identification tag indicating current registration that:
- a) is securely fastened to a collar or harness worn by the Cat; and,
 - b) is worn by the Cat at all times when the Cat is anywhere other than on the Owner's Lot or Property occupied by the Owner pursuant to a lease or other arrangement.
 - c) If a Cat is identified in the current city Animal registry by means of a valid Microchip, then a) and b) do not apply with respect to the wearing of an identification tag.
- 7.6 An Owner may obtain a replacement identification tag for any identification tag lost or destroyed upon payment of the fee as set out in Schedule "A".
- 7.7 An Owner of a Cat shall register and obtain an identification tag for the Cat within seven (7) working days of becoming the Owner of the Cat.
- 7.8 An Owner of a Cat shall register and obtain an identification tag for each Cat that he or she owns within seven (7) working days from the date the Owner took up residence in the City.
- 7.9 An Owner shall notify the Animal Control Officer of any address change within seven (7) working days of such change occurring, including a change in alternate contact person name or contact telephone number.
- 7.10 An Owner of a Cat shall display the identification tag upon the Cat to which the identification tag is registered or ensure that the Cat is identified with a valid Microchip.
- 7.11 Notwithstanding Section 7.4 herein, an Owner of a Cattery shall register the Cattery each year and pay the Cattery registration fee as prescribed in Schedule "A". When a Cattery has been registered each year in accordance with this By-law, the Owner shall not be liable to pay any additional registration fee for the Cattery of Pure-bred Cats.
- 7.12 An identification tag issued by the City for a Cat shall not be transferable to another Cat by the Owner of the Cat for which the identification was issued.
- 7.13 Every annual identification tag issued for a Cat in accordance with this By-law shall expire on December 31st in the year shown or marked on the annual identification tag.

8.0 TRANSITION

- 8.1 A Cat Owner who previously acquired a City Cat licence for the 2002 calendar year, and paid the applicable licence fee pursuant to Schedule "A" of By-law 216-2001 as it read prior to the enactment of amending By-law 44-2002, shall have the licence tag automatically transferred to an identification tag and the licence fee credited to the registration fee pursuant to Schedule "A" to By-law 216-2001 as amended by By-law 44-2002, and the Cat shall be recognized as having been registered and the Owner as having obtained an identification tag for the calendar year 2002.
- 8.2 A Cat or Dog Owner who previously acquired a one-time licence or registration and paid the applicable one-time fee pursuant to Schedule "A" of By-law 216-2001 as amended by By-law 44-2002, shall have the one-time registration honoured for the life-time of the Cat or Dog provided that the Owner continues to register the Cat or Dog and obtain a current identification tag on an annual basis and provides proof of current rabies vaccination. In such cases, the Owner shall not be required to pay the annual licence fee for a Dog tag or a registration fee for a Cat tag.

9.0 KENNEL AND CATTERY

- 9.1 No person shall keep or permit a Dog or Dogs to be kept in a Kennel, or a Cat or Cats to be kept in a Cattery, outside of the premises of the Owner on the Lot in a Kennel or Cattery that is not:
- a) screened to the maximum extent possible from adjacent premises and streets by hedges, shrubs, fences or other suitable screening;
 - b) in the opinion of the Animal Control Officer provides adequate space, lighting and ventilation having regard to the number of Dogs or Cats kept therein;
 - c) maintained in such a manner as to prevent the emission of noxious odours therefrom;
 - d) readily maintained in a clean and sanitary condition;
 - e) constructed and maintained in compliance with the provisions of any applicable Act or Regulation and any other municipal by-law including, without restricting the generality of the foregoing, the *Health Protection and Promotion Act and Regulations*, the *Ontario Building Code Act and Regulations*, the *Fire Prevention and Protection Act and Regulations* and the City's Zoning By-law.
 - f) constructed in such a manner as to prevent the escape from the enclosure of any Dog or Cat kept therein;
 - g) located to the rear of the Property and situated 40 metres from any school, church, dwelling unit or other premises used for human habitation or occupancy, other than the premises occupied exclusively by the Owner.
- 9.2 All Kennels and Catteries must be open for inspection by an Inspector between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. daily.

10.0 SEIZING, IMPOUNDING AND DISPOSITION OF ANIMALS

- 10.1 The Animal Control Officer is authorized by the City to Impound Animals for the purposes of enforcing this By-law.
- 10.2 The Animal Control Officer shall keep a record of every Animal Impounded or seized, including the date upon which it was Impounded, a description of the Animal, any identification or registration tag number if it wore a tag, the date of disposition and the disposition made.
- 10.3 The Animal Control Officer may take possession of any Cat or Dog, regardless of its identification being evident:
- a) that in the opinion of the Animal Control Officer is interfering with public health or safety; or,
 - b) that is in contravention of this By-law; or
 - c) that is injured or in distress.
- 10.4 Any Cat or Dog found in contravention of this By-law, but with a current identification or registration tag or identified with a valid Microchip, such Cat or Dog shall be returned to its Owner at no charge where the Cat or Dog has not been in possession of the Animal Control Officer within the current calendar year.
- 10.5 Where a Cat or Dog with a current identification or registration tag or identified with a valid Microchip is Impounded and has not been returned to the Owner under Section 10.4, the Animal Control Officer shall make all reasonable effort to inform the Owner or alternate contact person in accordance with the policies or practices of the Stratford Perth Humane Society for notifying Owners that a Cat or Dog has been Impounded and to advise of any conditions or requirements upon which the Owner may regain custody of the Cat or Dog.
- 10.6 Any Cat or Dog seized and Impounded which is not wearing an identification tag or registration tag issued for the current year, or identified with a valid Microchip, shall be released to its Owner upon the payment of the applicable fees in Schedule "A" attached hereto. The Owner shall be required to purchase a current City registration or identification tag or valid Microchip as required by this By-law if the Cat or Dog has not been registered for the current year.
- 10.7 In addition to any other provisions of this By-law, where the Animal Control Officer has received a complaint from a Property Owner or tenant that a Cat or Dog or other Animal:

- a) is diseased or injured, or
- b) has bitten a person or inflicted an open wound, or
- c) has exhibited characteristics of a Wild Animal in the presence of the Animal Control Officer,

the Animal Control Officer may enter onto private Property with the consent of the Property Owner or tenant and take possession of the Cat or Dog or other Animal for the purpose of impoundment.

- 10.8 Possession of an Impounded Animal may be restored to the Owner if the Owner claims the Animal within 72 hours or the time frame established by the Stratford Perth Humane Society for the keeping of an Impounded Animal, whichever is greater, exclusive of statutory holidays and Sundays, where the Ownership of the Animal can be established. Prior to the Animal Control Officer releasing an Impounded Animal to its Owner under this provision, the Owner shall be liable for the pound and maintenance fees prescribed by The Stratford Perth Humane Society and shall pay all fees on demand to the Animal Control Officer.
- 10.9 An Animal that is Impounded and has not been restored to the Owner in accordance with section 10.8 above,
- a) may be put up for adoption and the proceeds from the sale of any Animal so adopted shall belong to the Stratford Perth Humane Society and no damages or compensation shall be recovered by a person on account of any disposition made thereunder; or,
 - b) may be euthanized by lethal injection.
- 10.10 Where an Animal that has a current identification or registration tag or valid Microchip has been Impounded and is injured or should be destroyed for humane reasons and in the opinion of the Animal Control Officer, imminent death of the Animal is inevitable, the Animal Control Officer shall make reasonable efforts to contact the Owner, or alternate contact person before the Animal is destroyed, provided that the time involved in making reasonable effort to contact the Owner or alternate contact person does not cause the Animal to suffer unduly. If the Owner has made prior arrangements in writing with a veterinarian and has provided that information to the Animal Control Officer at the time of registration of the Animal, then the Animal Control Officer shall make all reasonable efforts to contact the veterinarian before the Animal is euthanized.
- 10.11 The Animal Control Officer may seize and impound any Prohibited Animal and shall not be required to return the Prohibited Animal to the Owner if the Prohibited Animal at the time of impounding is a Prohibited Animal under this By-law and no exemption has been granted by Council.
- 10.12 The Stratford Perth Humane Society policies and practices mentioned in this By-law are available for review by the public at the Stratford Perth Humane Society.

11.0 COST RECOVERY

- 11.1 The cost of taking possession of and impounding any Animal, and the return of any Animal found to be At Large shall be the sole responsibility of the Owner of the Animal.

12.0 SCHEDULES

- 12.1 Schedule "A" and Schedule "B" attached hereto form part of this By-law.

13.0 ENFORCEMENT

- 13.1 Every Owner who contravenes any provision of this By-law is guilty of an offence and is liable, upon conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 exclusive of costs for each offence, recoverable under the *Provincial Offences Act*.

14.0 SEVERABILITY

- 14.1 Each and every of the provisions of this By-law is severable and if any provisions of this By-law should for any reason be declared invalid by any court, it is the intention and desire of this Council that each and every of the remaining provisions hereof shall remain in full force and effect.

15.0 EFFECTIVE DATE

- 15.1 This By-law shall come into force and take effect upon final passage.

16.0 REPEAL

- 16.1 Upon this By-law coming into effect, By-laws 216-2001 and 44-2002 are hereby repealed.

17.0 TITLE

- 17.1 This By-law may be referred to as the "Animal Control By-law" of The Corporation of the City of Stratford.

Read a FIRST, SECOND and THIRD time and
FINALLY PASSED this 28th day of October, 2002.

"Karen Haslam"
MAYOR – Karen Haslam

"Joan Thomson"
CLERK – Joan Thomson

**This is Schedule "A" to
Animal Control By-law 195-2002, as amended**

SERVICE	FEE FOR SERVICE	
	Impound Fee for a Cat or Dog	\$35.00 Cat
Maintenance Fee per day or part thereof that the Animal was Impounded	A reasonable amount set by the Stratford-Perth Humane Society	
DOG LICENSING FEES	If paid on or before March 1st	If paid after March 1st
For an Altered Dog:	\$20.00	\$30.00
For an unaltered Dog (no more than 3 unaltered Dogs per household):	\$50.00	\$60.00
For a Specialized Needs Dog	No fee	No fee
For a Kennel Licence	\$550.00	\$550.00
Replacement Tag for Dog	\$10.00	\$10.00
For a Dog less than 1 year of age:	\$20.00	\$20.00
New resident – exchange current tag for Stratford current tag (one time)	No charge	No charge
Seniors discount (persons 65 years of age or older)	15 % off licence fees for Altered and unaltered Dogs, replacement tags, and Dogs under 1 year	
CAT REGISTRATION FEES	If paid on or before March 1st	If paid after March 1st
For an Altered Cat:	\$20.00	\$30.00
For an unaltered Cat (no more than 3 unaltered Cats per household)	\$50.00	\$60.00
For a Cattery Registration	\$550.00	\$550.00
Replacement Tag for Cat	\$10.00	\$10.00
For a Cat less than 1 year of age:	\$20.00	\$20.00
New Resident – exchange current tag for Stratford current tag (one time)	No charge	No charge
Seniors discount (persons 65 years of age or older)	15 % off registration fees for Altered and unaltered Cats, replacement tag, and Cats under 1 year	

THIS IS SCHEDULE "B"
Animal Control By-law 195-2002, as amended

The following areas of the City of Stratford are hereby designated as areas where Dogs may be At Large to exercise without being on leashes in accordance with the Animal Control By-law, once the appropriate signs have been installed:

Temporary Area

1. Westerly section of the Packham Sport Complex.



Eva McDowell <georginaferals@gmail.com>

Port Colborne's community-wide Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return program

1 message

PC Feline Initiative <pcfelines@live.ca>

Tue, Nov 22, 2016 at 12:03 PM

To: "rcronsberry@georgina.ca" <rcronsberry@georgina.ca>

Cc: Eva McDowell <georginaferals@gmail.com>, PC Feline Initiative <pcfelines@live.ca>, "barbarabutters@portcolborne.ca" <barbarabutters@portcolborne.ca>, Ian and Jackie Crow <icrow@cogeco.ca>, Kristi Mallinson Vogel <kristimv@outlook.com>

Hello Ryan. We would like to take this opportunity to commend you and your colleagues at the town of Georgina for considering the many benefits that a well-managed TNVR program offers, both to the residents and the city alike. I have taken the liberty of including Barb Butters, a PC city councillor, in this email. Barb was instrumental in working with us to get our program up and running in June 2009 and can speak to the success of our work.

Port Colborne Feline Initiative is a small, all-volunteer organization providing community spay/neuter programs throughout the municipality of Port Colborne in order to address the complex issues of cat population in a humane and fiscally responsible manner.

We started with TNVR and then incorporated other spay/neuter programs as resources allowed. We now have a program to assist low income cat owners with the cost of having their pet sterilized as their offspring can and do contribute to the free-roaming, unowned cat population. We also are able to enroll young kittens and friendly stray adults in our KitKat foster program. Being able to take these cats off the street, coupled with the immediate cease in reproduction results in dramatic changes in a neighbourhood. We partner with Welland and District Humane Society and once ready for adoption, the kittens/cats are transferred to their Cat Adoption centre located in a large mall.

For us it's been all about developing partnerships with all the stakeholders in the community. It is a great way to engage everyone and allows for many teachable moments as to why this is the right course of action to take on so many different levels.

"Catch and kill", the method still being used by many cities and towns right across North America and beyond, simply does not work. If it did we would not be dealing with the issues today.

Killing healthy cats with tax payer dollars will not make the problem go away, nor address the root cause of the issue. In our opinion it is unethical and a fiscally irresponsible use of tax dollars.

Our municipality had a problem as well and used to view catch and kill as the solution. Our organization has put programs in place that are changing the minds of city councilors, city staff, the local Humane Society and many of the major community stakeholders.

In fact, the city of Port Colborne fully endorses our community-wide Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return program and has provided nominal funding over the past few years.

The live release rates at the local shelter were a dismal 19% prior to our programs. They are now at about 88% and climbing, in part as a direct result of our programs.

The process itself is simple enough and utilizes volunteers that are typically already built in. Many in the community are already feeding and caring for these unowned, free-roaming cats. They just don't have the money to sterilize them. They are afraid to take them to the shelter or animal control for fear they will be destroyed. We tapped into that volunteer pool and found people eager to get on board. Since starting operations in June 2009 we have enrolled over 1500 cats. The magnitude of this number of cats no longer reproducing on the streets is significant. It also reduces the stress on the local shelter with reduced intake numbers to deal with.

We would invite you to speak to us and members of Port Colborne city council in an effort to provide a picture of a model community-based program that gets results. It's not only humane and ethical, it's a responsible use of tax payer dollars.

The best part is it actually gets to the root cause of the on-going problem: the endless cycle of free-roaming, unowned cats being born on the streets. Whether one likes cats or not, it's truly a win-win.

11/24/2016

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Gmail - Port Colborne's community-wide Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return program

Thanks again Ryan for being open to this concept. If you require any further detail please don't hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,

Kristi Mallinson Vogel
President and Founder

November 19, 2016.

Eva McDowell
Georgina Feral Cat Committee

I would like to offer our support to your on- going TNR program.
Research proves TNR is the only effective and humane way to reduce the feral cat population.
The old method of trapping and removing simply does not work.

Scientific evidence indicates that removing feral cat populations only opens up the habitat to an influx of new cats, either from neighboring territories or born from survivors.

Each time cats are removed, the population will rebound through a natural phenomenon known as

The "vacuum effect" drawing the community into a costly, endless cycle of trapping and killing.

Trap, neuter and return works because the cats hold their territory, there is no more kittens and the homeless cat population stabilizes and decreases over time through attrition.

Nuisance behaviours such as mating, howling, fighting and spraying are drastically reduced once the cats are sterilized.

Our TNR project began in September 2015 as a six month pilot project that was very successful.

From September 2015 to March 2016 we were able to humanely trap, sterilize and vaccinate 103 community street cats.

During this six month period, intake and euthanasia at Animal Services reached record low numbers,

with a 36% reduction in intake and a 48% reduction in euthanasia over the previous year.

With the approval of City Council to extend our program indefinitely, we have gone on to TNR an additional 75 cats, giving us a total to date of 178 cats.

TNR has proven successful in other cities throughout Ontario and worldwide. It is so important to continue this work to move forward by saving cat's lives and saving tax dollars.

We wish you continued success with your program.

Yours truly,

Lori Krivoshein
Superior Street Cats

superiorstreetcats@hotmail.com



Corporate Report

DEPARTMENT/ DIVISION	Development & Emergency Services - Licensing & Enforcement	REPORT NO.	R 120/2015
DATE PREPARED	07/08/2015	FILE NO.	
MEETING DATE	08/24/2015 (mm/dd/yyyy)		
SUBJECT	Pilot Project for a Trap, Neuter and Return Program for Feral Cats		

RECOMMENDATION

With respect to Report No. R120/2015 (Licensing & Enforcement), we recommend that a Trap, Neuter and Return Program be established as a Pilot Project for six months;

AND THAT Animal Services report back after that time to advise Council on the success of this pilot initiative;

AND THAT the Pilot Project be funded from the Animal Services Donation Reserve Fund at a cost of \$8,000;

AND THAT Animal Services apply for a \$5,000 grant through PetSmart Charities of Canada and if successful, Council authorize the Manager of Licensing & Enforcement to enter into an agreement with PetSmart Charities of Canada to accept the grant on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Manager of Licensing & Enforcement and in a form and content satisfactory to the City Solicitor;

AND THAT amendments to Chapter 237 of the Municipal Code be enacted to permit a Trap, Neuter and Return Pilot Program in Thunder Bay;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents a recommended proposal from Animal Services to establish a six month pilot project to Trap, Neuter and Return feral cats within the City of Thunder Bay. It is a nationally accepted method to humanely and effectively manage feral cat colonies. The primary goal is to reduce both the number of free roaming cats in our community and the number of cats impounded and euthanized by Animal Services. It is estimated that there are approximately 8,000 free roaming cats in Thunder Bay. It is also recommended that the proposed amendments to Chapter 237 of the City of Thunder Bay Municipal Code be approved, as set out in the Report.

DISCUSSION

Cats are popular in Canada – one in three Canadians owns a cat and more than a third of households include an average of 1.9 cats. Unfortunately, their level of care is not always matched by their popularity. Cats are less likely than dogs to receive veterinary care, have permanent identification, to be reunited with their owner, or adopted to a new family if lost or abandoned (Perrin, 2009). Furthermore, cats are twice as likely to be surrendered to shelters and more likely to be euthanized due to long stays and illness. Unsterilized free-roaming cats contribute to about 80 percent of the kittens born each year and are the most significant source of cat overpopulation, according to a 2004 article in the *Journal of American Veterinary Medical Association*.

In 2014, 1330 cats were impounded by Animal Services. Only 7% of these cats were claimed by their owners; 31% were adopted and 62% were euthanized.

In 1993, the City of Thunder Bay established the Animal Control Donation Reserve Fund. The purpose of this fund is to allow people the opportunity to make monetary donations to the City of Thunder Bay Animal Services Centre. Expenditures, recommended by Administration and approved by City Council, are used solely to benefit the health and care of animals in Thunder Bay.

Current Method to Deal with Stray Cat Population

Currently traps are made available free of charge to members of the public who are having problems with nuisance cats. Cats are then live-trapped and either returned to Animal Services by the customer or picked up by an Animal Services Officer, where they are held for a minimum of five working days to allow the owner a chance to claim them. As mentioned above, most of these cats are never claimed and end up being euthanized because they are not adoptable or due to a lack of space at the Animal Services Centre. Traditional strategies such as trapping and euthanizing cats are widely recognized as being ineffective, short-term and costly solutions that do not address the larger community animal issue. This method is particularly ineffective when practiced sporadically and in random locations. Scientific research has shown that when only a portion of a cat colony are trapped and removed from their home range, sooner or later the empty habitat attracts other cats from neighbouring areas that move in to take advantage of the same resources (food and shelter), creating a “vacuum effect.” Euthanizing or removing the original population does nothing to eliminate these resources; it only creates a “vacuum” that will inevitably draw in other animals living nearby. Euthanasia alone won’t rid an area of cats, and euthanizing cats to control their numbers is increasingly unpopular with the general public. The only result of trap and euthanize programs is turnover; new feline faces in the community, but not fewer. The number of cat complaints and cat intake stays constant or continues to rise.

What is Trap-Neuter-Return?

Trap, Neuter and Return, commonly known as “TNR”, is a non-lethal method for humanely and effectively managing free roaming community cats and reducing euthanasia. The process involves trapping cats in a colony, having them spayed or neutered, vaccinated, marked to

identify them as sterile, and returned to their colony to live the remainder of their lives, receiving ongoing care in the outdoors. Cat colonies are areas where free roaming cats congregate, initially attracted by an available food source and shelter. These cats, also referred to as “community” cats, may have been born into the wild or may be lost or abandoned pet cats. They are usually wild, unsocialized and for the most part, not adoptable. Just like the squirrels and chipmunks we see every day, their home is outdoors. Once these cats are sterilized and returned to their colony, volunteer caretakers provide regular food and shelter and continue to monitor the colony over time. The cats’ reproductive capacity is eliminated; leading to a gradual decline in the number of cats and nuisance behavior is substantially reduced. Cats from the colony will eventually “age out” and once this happens, the food source would be adjusted to meet the demands of the remaining cats. Unlike any other method known, Trap, Neuter and Return holds out the realistic possibility of a permanent, long-term solution to feral and stray cat overpopulation.

Benefits of TNR

With TNR, the cat colony population is immediately stabilized because the breeding cycle stops and no more kittens are born. Annoying behaviors such as: roaming, spraying, fighting and yowling are diminished and the number of complaints coming into Animal Services is reduced. Fewer cats and kittens are brought into the shelter, resulting in reduced euthanasia rates and shelter costs.

TNR is a community-based program which relies on volunteers to trap, feed, care for and monitor these cats. Animal shelters that choose to support TNR programs instead of euthanizing cats improve their public image, which leads to more volunteers and more people coming to municipal shelters to adopt animals.

Proposed TNR Pilot Project

The proposed TNR Pilot Project would focus on three (3) target areas within the City of Thunder Bay. Target areas will be determined based on areas identified as having a high volume of stray cats (based on statistics from Animal Services). The areas will be kept discrete from the general public to discourage abandonment of additional stray cats. Cats are not returned to their trapped location in high impact situations, such as hoarding or dangerous conditions.

Utilizing community volunteers, the cats will be trapped and taken to a veterinarian clinic where they will be spayed or neutered, vaccinated and ear-tipped. Once they have recovered from surgery, they will be returned to their colony where caretakers will continue to provide them with food, water and shelter and monitor their progress.

The program involves collaboration with community volunteers, rescue groups and local veterinarians. Community volunteers will be trained in TNR techniques including the trapping, feeding and monitoring and will provide the workforce. Food and shelter supplies will be funded by donations, whenever possible. Local veterinarians will perform the spay/neuter surgeries for reduced fees.

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Traditional media such as website posts, newspaper ads and social media will be used at the outset of the project to recruit volunteers and provide community awareness. This public awareness will help generate more data on where there might be issues in other parts of the city. If required, residents in the immediate area of a colony will be notified by distributing door hangers that explain what TNR is, make it clear the program is in place and inform anyone with questions who to contact for further information.

With Council's approval, Animal Services would be responsible for the following key aspects of the TNR program, including:

- Assisting with the development of curriculum for training;
- Maintaining a website listing all TNR resources in the community;
- Serving as the primary contact for inquiries from the public about TNR;
- Identifying gaps in services;
- Reuniting ear tipped cats turned into shelters with their caretakers and colonies;
- Assisting with grant applications and other funding mechanisms to carry out TNR;
- Liaising with veterinarian community;
- Providing guidance to help TNR program participants remain in compliance with local By-laws;
- Procure necessary equipment for TNR (cat traps);
- Share available education materials on feral cats and TNR approach;
- Evaluate the success of the TNR program through statistical analysis;
- Community outreach – educating neighbors and addressing their concerns.

Superior Street Cats would be responsible for:

- Providing caretakers with training and coaching designed to teach the steps required to manage a cat colony including: trapping, feeding, sheltering, transporting cats to veterinary clinics and working with neighbours to resolve cat-related complaints.
- Collecting data such as colony locations and caretaker identities;
- Be the source of research and advice on best practices and how other municipalities are approaching cat-related issues;
- Recruiting volunteers;
- Preparing grant applications and other funding mechanisms to carry out TNR;
- Working with neighbours to resolve cat-related complaints;
- Provide education resources, and direct the public to appropriate TNR resources;
- Manage Colony Caretakers;
- Coordinate the spay/neuter surgeries, vaccination and ear tipping with veterinarians;
- Maintaining Facebook page.

The following statistics will be measured to track the impact that TNR is having in Thunder Bay. It's important to note that TNR is a long term solution and usually takes two years to see results.

- The number of cat-related complaints;

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- The specific location of the cats in the community;
- The number of cats impounded into Animal Services;
- The number of cats adopted/rescued out;
- The number of cats euthanized;
- The number of cats spayed or neutered and returned to their outdoor colonies;
- The number of Trap-Neuter-Return volunteers

The proposed Pilot Project will allow us to evaluate the costs, savings, number of cats coming in, number of cats euthanized, etc. and will be valuable in assisting us develop a long-term management strategy, should we decide to pursue that option.

Examples of Municipalities Practicing TNR

TNR has been practiced for over twenty (20) years in the UK, South Africa and Denmark. After one to three years of TNR, colony sizes decrease by 16-32% (Natoli 2006). TNR is an effective long term strategy to stabilize or modestly reduce the size of feral cat colonies as well as improve the health of these cats (Levy, 2003). Many cities in the U.S. have implemented strategic TNR programs and the trend is now growing in Canada.

San Francisco

In San Francisco, beginning in 1993, the San Francisco SPCA combined with San Francisco Animal Control introduced a comprehensive city-wide TNR program, one that combined no cost spay/neuter with educational initiatives and incentives for getting feral cats altered. From 1993 through 1999, cat impounds dropped by 28%, euthanasia rates for feral cats dropped by 73%, and euthanasia rates for all cats fell by 71%.

City of Ottawa

The Parliamentary Cats were a colony of approximately 30 stray cats living on Parliament Hill in Ottawa. The care and maintenance of the colony was carried out by volunteers, and the effort was funded by donations. The cats were spayed or neutered and the population slowly dropped off. By late 2012, only four cats remained and by January 2013 volunteers had adopted them. The colony no longer exists.

City of Toronto

In 2010 a coalition of municipal animal control, humane organizations, and rescue groups, was formed to work collectively to improve the lives of feral cats through strategic and coordinated TNR programs. Toronto Animal Services also re-aligned their cat intake policy to manage stray cats. Animal Services no longer picks up stray cats unless they are injured and/or in distress. In four years, the Coalition sterilized over 6000 feral cats. At Toronto Animal Services between 2010 and 2013, euthanasia of feral cats dropped by 88% and stray intake by 45%.

City of London

Corporate Report No.

In 2008, the City of London implemented a Trap Neuter Return (TNR) Program to address the growing feral cat population. The feral cats are humanely trapped, transported to licensed veterinarians for sterilization, vaccination and ear-tipping. The program is a community-based initiative involving the City's Animal Services, volunteers and community partners. Over 800 cats have been spayed and neutered as a result of the program and the number of cats euthanized at their municipal shelter has declined.

City of Windsor

In 2012, the Windsor Humane Society established a targeted TNR program whereby they provide resources (spay/neuter vouchers) to caregivers to spay or neuter feral cats. One thousand vouchers were offered in the first year and eight hundred in the second year for both feral cats and low income residents to spay/neuter their own cats. The cat intake dropped by more than one thousand cats in 2012 and more than six hundred cats in the following year.

City of Markham

In March of 2015, the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA) collaborated with the City of Markham to launch a feral cat trap-neuter-return (TNR) project. The goal of this project is to trap cats from known colonies in the Markham area and have them spayed and neutered, ear-tipped, vaccinated and microchipped and then released back to their colonies. Because the program is relatively new, there are currently no statistics to report.

Challenges with Current By-law

Chapter 237 of the Municipal Code regulates the owners of animals. This chapter should be amended to allow for the operation of a Trap, Neuter and Return (TNR) Pilot Program in Thunder Bay. The proposed amendments should address the following:

- Exemptions from stray hold requirements for community cats trapped by an authorized community cat caregiver in conjunction with the approved TNR Program;
- Licensing exemptions for a community cat, if such cat is spayed or neutered, vaccinated, ear tipped and/or cared for pursuant to the provisions of the approved TNR Program;
- Exemptions from feeding bans for an authorized community cat caregiver maintaining a permitted feral cat colony in accordance with the standards prescribed by the approved TNR Program;
- Permitting an authorized community cat caregiver who provides care to or has temporary custody of a feral cat in accordance with the approved TNR program to return feral cats after required sterilization, vaccinations and ear tipping, without being deemed to have deserted or abandoned the animal;
- Exemptions from provisions regarding running at large for community cats under the care of a registered feral cat caregiver;
- An authorized community cat caregiver providing care and sustenance to a permitted community cat colony for any period of time shall not be deemed the guardian of such animals;

Corporate Report No.

- Trapping of registered community cat caregivers of feral cats shall be for the purpose of the approved TNR program;
- Inclusion of appropriate definitions for “feral cat” or “community cat” and “cat colony”.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

It is estimated that the costs for a TNR Pilot Program is \$13,000 with the primary sources of funding coming from the Animal Services Donation Reserve Fund (\$8,000) and a PetSmart Charity grant (\$5,000).

Controlling the cat population through TNR is more effective than trapping and euthanizing free roaming cats. While it generally costs \$100-\$105 to shelter and euthanize a cat, TNR costs roughly \$80 for the entire process. TNR is an investment in cats’ lives and health and allows Animal Services to realign its resources from housing cats to dealing with various aspects of a TNR program. Cost savings fluctuate based on the type of TNR program implemented, the extent of animal service involvement, the volunteer base available and the community’s support of TNR programs. Over time, through attrition and sterilization efforts, fewer cats will be breeding and contributing to the population growth which means fewer cats will be entering the shelter, decreasing the demand on taxpayer dollars.

The recommendations contained in this report will not impact the Animal Services Operating Budget and may lead to cost savings through reduced intake and euthanasia rates.

CONCLUSION

It is concluded that the proposed Trap, Neuter and Return Program be established as a pilot project for six months and that Animal Services report back after that time to advise Council on the success of this pilot initiative. It is further concluded that the project be partially funded from the Animal Services Donation Reserve Fund at a cost of \$8,000 and that Animal Services apply for a \$5,000 grant through Pet Smart Charities of Canada and if successful, enter into an agreement to accept the grant on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Manager of Licensing & Enforcement and in a form and content satisfactory to the City Solicitor. It is also concluded that amendments to Chapter 237 of the Municipal Code be enacted to permit the trapping, neutering and return of community cats and that any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

BACKGROUND

Superior Street Cats is comprised of a group of stakeholders in the animal care field. The group was formed to look at the feasibility of establishing a Trap, Neuter and Return Program in Thunder Bay to reduce both the number of free roaming cats and the number of cats euthanized by Animal Services.

Corporate Report No.

The City's Animal Services Centre continues to look for effective ways to manage pet overpopulation and minimize euthanasia. Trap, Neuter and Return Programs can decrease euthanasia rates and shelter costs and are an effective way to manage capacity at shelters.

REFERENCE MATERIAL ATTACHED

X

PREPARED BY:

THIS REPORT SIGNED AND VERIFIED BY: (NAME OF GENERAL MANAGER) X	DATE: X
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ONTARIO SPCA
AND HUMANE SOCIETY · PROTECTING ANIMALS SINCE 1873

October 27th, 2016

Town of Georgina
Clerk's Division, Caroline Lance
26557 Civic Centre Road, RR 2
Keswick, ON L4P 3G1

Dear Mayor Margaret Quirk and Members of Council,

Re: Support for Delegate Presentation Related to Changes to BY-LAW NUMBER 2015-0034 (REG-1), as amended, and any other applicable bylaws, as amended

Thank you so much for taking the time to review the current Bylaw #2015-0034 (REG-1) to include provisions for a comprehensive trap-neuter-return (TNR) program for the Town of Georgina.

The Ontario SPCA is a member of the Toronto Feral Cat Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) Coalition, comprised of municipal animal control operations, humane organizations, rescue groups and concerned individuals, working collectively to improve the lives of community cats through strategic TNR programs. These programs were established to address the number of cats living on the streets of Toronto and to reduce the number of cats admitted to Toronto's animal shelters.

Coalition members have advised rescue groups and municipal councils on TNR in provinces such as Newfoundland and Manitoba, and in municipalities including Clarington, Owen Sound, Markham, Richmond Hill, Ajax, Brantford, Hamilton, Windsor, Mississauga and Kitchener.

More specifically, the Ontario SPCA supports community cat management in a variety of different ways. We operate a no-cost Feral Cat Trap Depot, where community members who have taken the "TNR: How to Manage a Feral Cat Colony" Workshop (run by Community Cats Toronto, formerly known as the Toronto Feral Cat Project) are able to borrow traps from us free of charge, allowing them to safely transport the cats to and from lower-cost spay/neuter clinics for surgery and vaccination. We also operate a no-cost Feral Cat Food Bank, where colony caretakers can receive free donated cat food to help alleviate the out-of-pocket expenses for feeding these cats. More recently, we have collaborated with MARS Canada in order to build a large number of feral cat shelters, which provides warm shelter for those colony cats during our winter months. These shelters often mean the difference between life and death.

It is important to note that addressing community cat issues collaboratively will, in a short time, deliver several positive results. A successful TNR program will:

- Reduce nuisance behaviour since most of these behaviours stem from breeding and the continued arrival of new kittens
- Improve the health of the cats by providing immunization from infectious diseases, including rabies and stopping the constant cycle of reproduction

- Reduce human interaction thereby reducing complaints from residents living close to colonies, since sterilized cats wander less and again discontinue to display the behaviours associated with breeding
- Decrease shelter intake, euthanasia and associated costs since these cats would have been alternate option to shelter impoundment
- Start to stabilize the population of cats living in the community (studies have shown that trap-euthanize a.k.a. low level culling increases the population size at levels from 75 – 211%)

The concept of Trap-Euthanize to deal with community cats is expensive, ineffective and inhumane, not only to the cats but to the shelter staff who are tasked with carrying out this management strategy. Partnerships with community stakeholders will likely increase volunteerism, increase adoptions (saving lives) and increase community goodwill and communication, where previously there may have been only animosity as many citizens do not support trap-euthanize as an acceptable management practice. All of these lead to a more animal-humane Town of Georgina.

We encourage you as the Town Council to review the benefits of a Trap-Neuter-Return program and also a low cost spay/neuter program as a method of reducing the number of community cats in Georgina.

Again, thank you for considering our recommendations to change the management strategy for cats in your community. If you have any questions, please contact me directly at 905-898-7122 ext. 383

Sincerely,

Monica Seto
Manager, Shelter Health and Wellness
Ontario SPCA

Carolyn Lance

From: i>
Sent: November-25-16 3:46 PM
To: Carolyn Lance
Cc: marfield66@hotmail.com
Subject: Feral Cat TNRM Program

Good afternoon all,

As animal lovers and residents of Georgina for many decades, we are writing to add our full support for an established TNRM Program to be implemented by our town council as soon as possible. The TNRM Program is proven to be the most humane and most cost-effective method of controlling AND reducing the population of feral cats in every community.

We encourage our council to work together and support the groups and individuals already working tirelessly towards this goal to help our ferals and our town.

Thank you for listening and caring,
Mr and Mrs J. Clark

Carolyn Lance

From: Mila B
Sent: November-24-16 11:26 AM
To: Carolyn Lance
Cc: gillian@podia.ca
Subject: TNR(M) program

Caroline Lance

Please accept my correspondence in support of the Town establishing a TNR(M) program for community cats. Would you please forward to councillors and staff.

Thank you,

TOWN OF GEORGINA
 Clerk's Division, Caroline Lance
 26557 Civic Centre Road, RR 2
 Keswick, ON L4P 3G1

Mayor Margaret Quirk and Members of Council,

I am writing to you to convey my personal support in having the town establish a full TNR(M) program that will manage feral cats now and for the future.

Other cities that have already established full TNR(M) programs include; The City of Toronto, London, Kingston, Markham, and Clarington Township.

These programs have been proven to be successful. These communities work with the TNR(M) community groups within their municipalities.

Every one of these municipalities and towns has successful and humane protocols that provide cost effective and sustainable solutions.

I encourage council to amend By-law number 2015-0034 (REG-1), as amended and, any other applicable bylaws, as amended and, to implement policy changes to accommodate a TNR(M) program.

I am confident the Town of Georgina would greatly benefit from establishing such a community volunteer-driven program.

Sincerely,
 Radmila (Mila) Bota

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

The information transmitted is intended only for the addressee and may contain confidential, proprietary and/or privileged material. Any unauthorized review, distribution or other use of or the taking of any action in reliance upon this information is prohibited. If you receive this in error, please contact the sender and delete or destroy this message and any copies.

Carolyn Lance

From: Nancy Gandhi
Sent: November-23-16 8:31 PM
To: Carolyn Lance
Cc: gillian@podia.ca; marfield66@hotmail.com
Subject: TNR(M) Program for Community Cats

Caroline Lance

Please accept my correspondence in support of the Town establishing a TNR(M) program for community cats. Would you please forward to councillors and staff.

Thank you,

TOWN OF GEORGINA
 Clerk's Division, Caroline Lance
 26557 Civic Centre Road, RR 2
 Keswick, ON L4P 3G1

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I am confident the Town of Georgina would greatly benefit from establishing such a community volunteer-driven program.

Yours Sincerely,
 Nancy Gandhi

Carolyn Lance

From: Alsn
Sent: November-25-16 10:57 AM
To: Carolyn Lance
Cc: Gillian Lauder
Subject: Support town for cats

Carolyn Lance

Please accept my correspondence in support of the Town establishing a TNR(M) program for community cats. Would you please forward to councillors and staff.

Thank you,

TOWN OF GEORGINA
Clerk's Division, Carolyn Lance
26557 Civic Centre Road, RR 2
Keswick, ON L4P 3G1

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I am confident the Town of Georgina would greatly benefit from establishing such a community volunteer-driven program.

With thanks

Alison Macpherson



**ANIMAL
ALLIANCE
OF CANADA**

*Animal
Protection
through
Education &
Advocacy*

November 24, 2016.

Mayor Quirk and Members of Council,
Corporation of the Town of Georgina
26557 Civic Centre Rd, RR 2
Keswick, ON
L4P 3G1

T: 905-476-4301 / 705-437-2210
F: 905-476-8100
info@georgina.ca

Dear Mayor Quirk and Members of Council:

**Regarding support for a Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR)
programme for feral and stray cats in the Town of Georgina:**

I am writing in support of a request that will be presented to your council, likely on November 30, 2016, seeking your support for a Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) programme for feral, stray and abandoned cats in Georgina.

I urge you to consider this request, and to provide support for TNR programming, and hope that the information we provide will assist in your decision.

TNR is critical to reducing the homeless cat population, to engaging residents in a community resolution, and to promoting responsible pet ownership.

We know, through our communications with groups across Canada, that feral, stray and/or abandoned cats exist in all communities, both rural and urban.

Our work has also taught us that contrary to what is commonly believed, cats who are abandoned in rural and urban areas usually do not fare well. Such cats endure great hardship, yet will frequently breed litters of other cats during their short, difficult lives. In this way, the endless cycle of stray and/or feral cats persists. We find that barn-owners frequently do not need or want additional cats so we cannot assume that 'un-owned' cats in rural areas will be taken care of by barn-owners. As well, even if abandoned or lost cats find shelter in area barns, unless they

221 Broadview Ave.
Suite 101, Toronto
Ontario, Canada
M4M 2G3

Phone:
(416) 462-9541
Facsimile:
(416) 462-9647

E-mail:
Contact@animalalliance.ca

Website:
www.AnimalAlliance.ca



receive intervention from TNR programming that provides spay or neuter surgeries, they will continue to breed, resulting in their offspring roaming, and breeding more unwanted and un-owned cats.

TNR involves trapping, sterilizing, vaccinating, ear tipping and returning cats to their colonies. Caretakers feed and monitor the colonies daily. Kittens and socialized cats are, when possible, removed from the colony and adopted. Because such cats are fed daily, predation of birds is greatly reduced. Nuisance behaviours are also reduced once the cats have been sterilized, making the presence of such cats less problematic.

TNR does not result in more roaming cats. TNR results in far fewer roaming cats, a result that has been demonstrated in numerous communities that support TNR.

In Toronto the estimated feral cat population is 100,000. In 2010 a coalition of municipal animal services, humane organizations, and rescue groups, was formed to work collectively to improve the lives of feral cats through strategic and coordinated TNR programs. In the past five years, the Coalition has sterilized an estimated 8,200 feral cats.

At Toronto Animal Services only 120 feral cats were euthanized in 2015, down from 228 in 2013 and significantly below previous years. With Toronto's implementation of additional progressive policies and additional partnerships, these numbers continue to drop.

As Toronto has demonstrated, a successful TNR program addresses key issues such as: reducing nuisance behavior and improving the health of the cats; reducing human interaction thereby reducing complaints from residents living close to colonies; and decreasing shelter intake and euthanasia and associated costs.

A collaborative approach involving partnerships with community stakeholders will increase volunteerism, increase adoptions thereby saving lives and increase community goodwill, where previously there may have been only animosity.

Adding provisions for feral cats, their caretakers and TNR will only strengthen the animal care and control foundation as the community continues to grow and change. We are not aware of any community where the animal services personnel were able to provide these services. TNR is labor-intensive, so the cost of relying on animal service employees to provide such programming would be extremely expensive.

The community-minded citizens who donate their TNR services at no cost to their communities provide a valuable service in the most cost-effective way possible.

You might find our 2015 feral cat booklet helpful (see attached). It is also available through the Toronto Library system and Toronto Animal Service shelters.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter and I urge you to empower and assist local volunteers who provide this compassionate service to the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Liz White".

Liz White, Director
Animal Alliance of Canada

HELP TORONTO'S FERAL CATS TODAY



AnimalAlliance.ca

HELP TORONTO'S FERAL CATS TODAY



AnimalAlliance.ca

Animal Alliance of Canada
is a member of the Toronto
Feral Cat Coalition, a coalition
of municipal services, animal welfare
groups, humane organizations and
rescue groups working collectively
to address and improve the lives
of homeless and feral cats.



What is a feral cat?

A feral cat is just like a house cat but it has been born outside and has had little to no human contact. Ferals tend to be fearful of people and keep their distance unless they have come to know and trust whomever cares for them. Feral cats originate from fertile domestic cats who are either lost, abandoned or free roaming.

Our Coalition also addresses homeless cats or street cats – these are cats who may have once lived in a home but are now lost or abandoned to live on the streets and may **“act feral”** because they are afraid.

Most cats living on their own are feral and live in groups called “colonies”. The cats in a colony share territory and a common food source. They may or may not be related.



Volunteers make free TNR clinics possible.
If you'd like to volunteer, visit
TorontoFeralCatCoalition.ca
for more information.

2

What is TNR (Trap/Neuter/Return)?

TNR is the only humane and effective way to reduce the homeless cat population. TNR involves trapping, sterilizing, vaccinating, and returning cats to their colony where a caretaker feeds and monitors the colony daily. For these cats, a small part of the left ear is removed when the cat is under anesthetic (known as **"ear tipping"**), which is the international symbol for a feral cat who has been sterilized.

TNR is supported by almost all major animal welfare organizations, which is why so many local animal rescue groups are currently promoting and actively implementing TNR in Toronto and the GTA.



3



The City of Toronto saves tax dollars thanks to volunteers who sterilize and care for stray and feral cat colonies.

Why is TNR so important?

There are an estimated 100,000 homeless cats in Toronto and potentially hundreds of kittens are born outside every day during the spring and summer.

Cats are very efficient at reproduction. Kittens as young as 5 months old can become pregnant. They can have multiple litters each year and can become pregnant again almost immediately after giving birth.

Shelters and rescue groups can become quickly overwhelmed.

It doesn't have to be this way. Stray and feral cat populations will decrease, but only through the implementation of TNR and responsible pet ownership. Feeding bans and a trap/euthanize approach simply will not work and are not socially acceptable policies in a city like Toronto.

There are resources available to help Toronto residents have cats spayed or neutered. Please do not hesitate to contact any of the groups in the Coalition if you need help.

TNR includes the following benefits:

- 1.** No more kittens and a gradually decreasing population.
- 2.** Caretakers will notice new cats and can get them sterilized right away.
- 3.** Fewer complaints to animal services (as a result of less nuisance behaviour and roaming).
- 4.** Lower shelter intake and euthanasia rates.
- 5.** Cats are vaccinated and their physical health improves.

Recovery Centre

As part of Toronto's TNR initiative, the Coalition operates a Feral Cat Recovery Centre. Here, volunteers from Toronto Cat Rescue provide a safe and healthy space for feral/stray cats to recover from their spay/neuter surgery before being returned to their colony.

Volunteers are needed to transport cats to and from spay/neuter clinics, to help clean the traps, provide food and water, monitor the cat's post-op health, and to keep the Recovery Centre clean. Training is provided.

The Recovery Centre has an ongoing need for donated supplies. Please visit our website for more information about our services, how to volunteer or how to donate.

FeralCatRecoveryCentre.com



Shelters

In harsh Toronto winters, shelter can be just as important as food for feral cats. In spite of their thickened winter coat, without adequate, warm shelter, exposure to the frigid temperatures can mean death for these animals. With a little ingenuity, caretakers can construct homemade shelters to save lives.

Toronto Street Cats volunteers meet (at the Toronto Humane Society) bi-monthly throughout the fall and winter months, to build inexpensive warm shelters for homeless cats. These shelters are made available to colony caretakers, who maintain them for colonies in need.

Since 2010 volunteers have built thousands of shelters for homeless cats.

Shelters are made from plastic tote bins, lined with Durofoam, and filled with straw for extra warmth. They have a tunnel entrance that prevents wind, snow, and large predators from entering.

TorontoStreetCats.com

Becoming Lost

A common misconception is that domestic cats – like their wild big cat cousins – need to roam freely in the outdoors. In truth, unlike lions or leopards, domestic cats are poorly equipped to navigate the minefield of outdoor risks that exist.

Cats may not always be able to find their way home, or they may be mistaken as strays and end up at an animal shelter. Lost and “stray” cats risk being euthanized by animal shelters struggling with limited resources to care for the continuous flood of animals arriving at their doors. Far too often, cats simply don’t return home one day, and the owners never find out what really happened.

Source: www.ontariospca.ca



MYTH

“The cats are in our neighbourhood because someone is feeding them. If they didn’t feed the cats they would go away.”

FACT

The cats were already in the neighbourhood as a result of lost or abandoned unaltered cats reproducing. The caretaker feeding the cats is providing an important community service by keeping the cats healthy and implementing TNR to prevent further reproduction.



What you can do:

The formation of the Coalition has meant that caretakers receive the assistance they need to trap, neuter and return cats to their colonies.

To better support our community of caretakers, the Coalition is seeking volunteers. Training and mentorship is provided for new volunteers.

You can help by sterilizing, licensing and micro-chipping your pets and supporting your neighbourhood Colony Caretakers in their efforts to manage and TNR the colony.

Volunteers are needed to:

1. Trap feral cats

Training and mentorship will be provided for those interested in learning to trap feral cats. The ultimate goal is to place you on a list where the Coalition could contact you to help with trapping colony cats.

2. Educate the community

Enjoy talking to people? Help us educate the public on TNR by joining our Community Relations Task Force!

Working closely with volunteer trappers, we need volunteers to help go door to door to notify residents that trapping is going to take place in their area. This way owned cats can be kept inside (and not accidentally trapped). As well as educating and talking to people about TNR in general, there will be times where neighbours are in conflict with each other and volunteers are needed to try to resolve concerns. Again, training and printed materials will be provided.

To submit a
volunteer registration form visit:
TorontoFeralCatCoalition.ca

3. Foster cats and kittens

If you have a spare room or bathroom that you can share with a homeless kitty, please consider hosting a four-legged house guest.

If you're an experienced cat-person, please consider fostering a frightened cat or kitten who needs to be socialized, or re-socialized, after a rough time. Remember that YOU can make all the difference in a homeless kitty's life!

And if you have no previous cat experience, you'll be matched with a low-maintenance feline friend and provided with all the information you'll need.

Visit Annex Cat Rescue, Toronto Cat Rescue, Toronto Animal Services and the Toronto Humane Society websites today to learn more.

**With
your donation**

**we will help feral cats,
resolve community conflicts,
and educate the public, the media,
and government.**

Visit
AnimalAlliance.ca

and donate today!

**We thank you,
on behalf of the feral cats.**



*Dr. Jo Coote & Dr. Hanna Booth,
Toronto Street Cats*