

## Summary of Key Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw Changes

CPS2021-0740  
ATTACHMENT 2

Scope Item	Key Changes	Rationale
Vicious Dogs and Dog Aggression	Part 5: Chief Bylaw Officer can designate an animal as a Nuisance and can place conditions on how the owner must keep that animal	Conditions can be placed on the animal designed to support the rehabilitation of the animal and curb escalation of aggression, animal owner still retains rights to appeal designation and/or conditions. Nuisance designations can also be put in place for animal behavior that is not aggressive but poses other nuisances such as animals not in control in an off-leash area or repeated complaints of barking. Engagement results stated that there was a desire to ensure public safety for dogs and to retrain these animals where possible.
	Part 6: Chief Bylaw Officer can designate an animal as Vicious and place conditions on how to keep that animal	Conditions to ensure public safety can be placed quicker than a designation through Provincial Courts, while the animal owner still retains right to appeal designation and/or conditions. Engagement results stated that there was a desire to ensure public safety for Vicious dogs and to retrain these animals where possible.
	Section 48 & 60: Appeals to Vicious and Nuisance Designations can be heard by the Licence and Community Standards Appeal Board	Through CPS2021-0739 Administration is proposing that the scope and membership of the Licence and Community Standards Appeal Board be expanded to hear appeals to Vicious and Nuisance animal designations. Expanded membership will include one veterinarian and one certified professional dog trainer. Engagement results state that there was general support of a tribunal system, provided there were representatives in the tribunal with animal behaviour and behaviour rehabilitation expertise.
	Schedule C & D: Increase fines for aggressive behaviours	A municipal scan showed that our aggressive behaviour fines were lower than many comparable municipalities. Increased fines may further incentivize animal owners to ensure their animal is interacting with the community safely. There was public support for an increase of fines in instances of dog aggression. Details on the new fine amounts can be found on page 4 of this document.
	Section 82: Fines can be raised by \$100 if the animal is unaltered for charges such as being at large or showing aggression	Aggression is linked to unaltered animals, and unaltered animals have a higher potential to reproduce while at large unsupervised or otherwise not under control.

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Cats at Large	Section 76: Formally acknowledge trap, neuter, release programs in Calgary that control the cat population	Allows these programs to operate lawfully in Calgary. Engagement respondents communicated support for trap, spay/neuter, release programs for cats. Best practice information shows this is the best way to manage feral cat populations.
	Communicate benefits of keeping cats indoors and keeping a current licence	Increased public awareness should influence cat owners to not let cats outdoors off their property, and current licensing information enables animal reunification. Research and engagement showed a lack of awareness in this area.
Urban Agriculture	Part 4: Licensing program for beekeeping	Beekeeping is a growing hobby in Alberta, establishing a licensing system in Calgary allows beekeeping to continue with increased ability to address community nuisance or safety issues. Calgarians generally support beekeeping but want to ensure that hives are properly set up and beekeepers receive appropriate training to maintain public safety.
	Part 4: Licensing program for pigeon keeping	Licensing pigeon keeping allows formal expectations to be set to eliminate community nuisance, which aligns with public expectations expressed in engagement findings.
	Part 4: Licensing program for urban hens and temporary livestock	A licensing program allows people to lawfully keep urban hens while setting expectations that ensure neighbours are not disturbed and that hens do not attract predators, similar to the requirements already established by the Livestock Emotional Support Animal program. Temporary livestock licences can allow short term stays of certain livestock when in the public interest. There was general support for an urban hen program and a licence to allow other livestock on a temporary basis in Calgary in both engagement and research as long as provisions are included to ensure that community nuisance is avoided and owners follow generally accepted keeping practices.
Licensing	Work collaboratively with rescue organizations to create a governance model	A common governance model can support community safety when adopting out rescue pets. A collaborative approach to determining governance ensures all parties' concerns are heard and parties are endorsing proposed terms.

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	Mitigating risk of imported animals to Calgary	While Administration would not be able to reasonably enforce Calgary-specific importation restrictions, Administration can work with rescue agencies to support safe importation practices and educate the public.
Wildlife	Section 25(5): Prohibit feeding wildlife except for songbirds.	Feeding wildlife can attract further wildlife, including predators into residential areas which can increase conflicts between humans and wildlife. The Parks and Pathways Bylaw 11M2019 currently prohibits feeding all wildlife in parks spaces.
Administration/Regulatory Effectiveness	Improve process for addressing dog barking complaints	While no bylaw changes are contemplated, the process for reporting dog barking complaints will be improved to make it easier to enforce barking complaints as well as address root causes of excessive barking.
	Section 11(7): Limit the number of dogs a person can have off-leash in an off-leash park to six	Meant to mitigate safety concerns of bringing more dogs to an off-leash park than can reasonably be monitored by one person. Engagement results tell us Calgarians are concerned about inappropriate behaviours in off-leash parks.
	Section 9: Limiting the number of cats and dogs per household to six dogs and six cats	With a high number of animals in a household it can be increasingly challenging to control noise and smell concerns. While there was widespread support for this pet limit in engagement, there were some concerns for breeders and animal foster homes. This was mitigated by creating an excess animal permit program. Households that exceed the animal limit at time of Council bylaw approval will be allowed to keep existing animals for the lifetime of the animals.

### Changes to Fines Related to Animal Aggression

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Section	Offence	Current Specified Penalty	Proposed Specified Penalty
22(2)	Chase or threaten a Person	\$200.00	\$250.00
22(3)	Cause damage to property or other Animal	\$250.00	\$300.00
22(5)	Animal Bite a Person	\$350.00	\$500.00
22(6)	Animal Attack a Person	\$750.00	\$1,000.00
22(7)	Animal Attack another Animal causing Severe Injury	n/a	\$1,000.00
22(8)	Cause death to Animal	\$1,000.00	\$1,750.00
22(9)	Animal Attack a Person causing Severe Injury	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00
54(3)	Failure to disclose Vicious Animal designation when selling, giving away or transferring Animal	n/a	\$1,000.00
54(4)	Failure to disclose Vicious Animal designation to Person providing temporary care	n/a	\$1,000.00
57(1)(a), (b), (c), (d)	Fail to abide by Vicious Animal condition	n/a	\$1,000.00
59(1)(a)	Vicious Animal – Chase	\$2,000.00	\$1,500.00
59(1)(b)	Vicious Animal – Injure	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
59(1)(c)	Vicious Animal – Bite	\$2,000.00	\$2,500.00
59(1)(d)	Vicious Animal – Attack	\$2,000.00	\$3,000.00