



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

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- ✓ I have read and understand that my name and comments will be made publicly available in the Council agenda. My email address will not be included in the public record.

First name (required)	Marla
Last name (required)	Evans
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – Continuing Beekeeping in Calgary, Regular
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am in full support of urban beekeeping and of this bylaw. Urban beekeeping is important to Calgary for many reasons including:

- Beekeeping produces food within the City while bringing family, friends and community together.
- It is an opportunity to share knowledge about nature and the importance of bees in our food system.
- Beekeeping is an opportunity to educate the public about the difference between honey bees and wasps. Honey bees are quite docile and can easily coexist in an urban environment.
- Bees are often mistaken for wasps which are more aggressive. It is more likely that you will be stung by bumble bees or wasps that nest on your property than a honeybee whose hive is located on the beekeeper's property.
- Beekeeping gets people outside and engaged in producing food.
- It is a key part of The City's Food Action Plan - Calgary Eats! with the goal for every Calgarian to have access to local, healthy and environmentally friendly food.
- It allows beekeepers to continue keeping our bees, pollinating our gardens and producing that honey everyone loves.
- Foraging bees rarely sting as they are looking for nectar, pollen and water, and don't bother with people.

With the world is in a steady steep decline in honey bee population, this is needed

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Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

more than ever.

My ask of you is to support beekeeping and hence why I am making a submission to council.

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First name (required)	Andrei
Last name (required)	Botezatu
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – Continuing Beekeeping in Calgary, Regular
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	the bees are very important to maintain the urban ecosystem. the bees are gentle, don't produce noise, mess, smell or other public disturbance



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First name (required)	Hans
Last name (required)	Wissner
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Public Hearing Item: Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw –Beekeeping, Regular M
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	<p>As an urban beekeeper in Calgary for the last 5 years i wish to voice my support for continuing to allow for keeping Honeybees in the City of Calgary. In our case the community response has been 100% supportive. The interest in our bees amongst our neighbours has been very positive with many asking for more information and seeking the opportunity to expose their families to what we are doing. Calgary leverages the "livability" of our city a great deal and the contribution that a diverse ecosystem makes to this liveability is considerable. We should be proud that our city is able to support such a driving resource where many other parts to the world are seeing a dramatic decline in bee populations resulting in a compromised ecosystem.</p> <p>Thank you. Hans Wissner</p>

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First name (required)	Jordan
Last name (required)	Primeau
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership-Continuing Beekeeping-Council Meeting
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

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Beekeeping produces food within the City while bringing family, friends and community together.
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Bees are often mistaken for wasps which are more aggressive. It is more likely that you will be stung by bumble bees or wasps that nest on your property than a honeybee whose hive is located on the beekeeper's property.
Beekeeping gets people outside and engaged in producing food.
It is a key part of The City's Food Action Plan - Calgary Eats! with the goal for every Calgarian to have access to local, healthy and environmentally friendly food.
It allows beekeepers to continue keeping our bees, pollinating our gardens and producing honey.
Foraging bees rarely sting as they are looking for nectar, pollen and water, and don't bother with people.

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With the world in a steady steep decline in honey bee population, this is needed more than ever.

My ask of you is to support beekeeping and hence why I am making a submission to council.



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First name (required)	Heather
Last name (required)	Davidson
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Beekeeping
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Hi, I would just like to say how amazing being a Calgary backyard beekeeper has been for me for the last 10 years. I'm okay with a bit of regulation but please keep it legal and free. We need free hobbies. The hobby already costs us in other aspects, and we already pay the city tax's on our land. Please allow us to keep 4 hives, or make a number based on proper square footage. A blanket number for everyone might not be fair. Also rooftop bees downtown will need to allow for bigger numbers of hives! Please don't just got blanket number based on an address. Thankyou.

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First name (required)	Cindy
Last name (required)	Risi
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Urban beekeeping in Calgary
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I support urban beekeeping in Calgary. Bees are the most necessary animals on the planet. Any way to preserve and propagate the species is welcome, particularly since it is difficult to replenish the hives this year with imported bees from the US.

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First name (required)	Lisa
Last name (required)	Jarrett
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Urban beekeeping
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am writing in support of backyard beekeeping for the bylaw meeting on May 31. I have never kept bees but I am interested in doing so in the future. This would be for my own personal enjoyment and use, not for entrepreneurial purposes. My mother keeps bees in her small backyard in Victoria, BC and has had no problems with either the neighbours or grandkids playing in the yard.
Thank you for your time.

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First name (required)	Amanda
Last name (required)	Jacques
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – Continuing Beekeeping in Calgary, Standin
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I support beekeeping in Calgary and believe that this is vital to the bee population and the health of our ecosystem. Responsible beekeeping is important.

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First name (required)	Karen
Last name (required)	Yee
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	"Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – Continuing Beekeeping in Calgary, Regula
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Please do not eliminate beekeeping all together. It is vital to keep our pollinators doing their work. However, I do support a bylaw that places some restriction so it doesn't interfere with quality of life for neighbours who don't necessarily love the idea of bee hives being an eye sore in their communities, plus concerns for those that have allergies to bee stings.



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First name (required)	william
Last name (required)	Evans
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – Continuing Beekeeping, Regular Council
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am in full support of urban beekeeping and of this bylaw. Urban beekeeping is important to Calgary for many reasons including:

- Beekeeping produces food within the City while bringing family, friends and community together.
- It is an opportunity to share knowledge about nature and the importance of bees in our food system.
- Beekeeping is an opportunity to educate the public about the difference between honey bees and wasps. Honey bees are quite docile and can easily coexist in an urban environment.
- Bees are often mistaken for wasps which are more aggressive. It is more likely that you will be stung by bumble bees or wasps that nest on your property than a honeybee whose hive is located on the beekeeper's property.
- Beekeeping gets people outside and engaged in producing food.
- It is a key part of The City's Food Action Plan - Calgary Eats! with the goal for every Calgarian to have access to local, healthy and environmentally friendly food.
- It allows beekeepers to continue keeping our bees, pollinating our gardens and producing honey.
- Foraging bees rarely sting as they are looking for nectar, pollen and water, and don't bother with people.

With the world in a steady steep decline in honey bee population, this is needed more

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than ever.

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First name (required)	Amanda
Last name (required)	Kohut
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership - Continuing Bee Keeping-Council Meeting
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	<p>I am in full support of urban beekeeping and of this bylaw. Urban beekeeping is important to Calgary for many reasons including: Beekeeping produces food within the City while bringing family, friends and community together. It is an opportunity to share knowledge about nature and the importance of bees in our food system. Beekeeping is an opportunity to educate the public about the difference between honey bees and wasps. Honey bees are quite docile and can easily coexist in an urban environment. Bees are often mistaken for wasps which are more aggressive. It is more likely that you will be stung by bumble bees or wasps that nest on your property than a honeybee whose hive is located on the beekeeper's property. Beekeeping gets people outside and engaged in producing food. It is a key part of The City's Food Action Plan - Calgary Eats! with the goal for every Calgarian to have access to local, healthy and environmentally friendly food. It allows beekeepers to continue keeping our bees, pollinating our gardens and producing honey. Foraging bees rarely sting as they are looking for nectar, pollen and water, and don't bother with people. With the world in a steady, steep decline in honeybee population this is needed more than ever.</p>
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First name (required)	Mary Alice
Last name (required)	Barnes
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Bee keeping in the City of Calgary
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I support this 100%. Having lived next door to a beekeeper in the inner city (Shag-inappi) my garden flowers have never looked better. The bees never were a bother. The bees would drink out of the birdbath....AND even allowed the dog to drink out of the birdbath along side with them.



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First name (required)	Richard
Last name (required)	Campbell
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership-Continuing Beekeeping-Council Meeting"
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

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First name (required)	Heather
Last name (required)	Dagenais
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership-Continuing Beekeeping-Council Meeting
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

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It is a key part of The City's Food Action Plan - Calgary Eats! with the goal for every Calgarian to have access to local, healthy and environmentally friendly food.
It allows beekeepers to continue keeping our bees, pollinating our gardens and producing honey.
Foraging bees rarely sting as they are looking for nectar, pollen and water, and don't bother with people.
And, with the world in a steady steep decline in honey bee population, this is needed

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Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

ore than ever.



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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- I have read and understand that my name and comments will be made publicly available in the Council agenda. My email address will not be included in the public record.

First name (required)	Sandra
Last name (required)	Dadvidson
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	"Responsible Pet Ownership-Continuing Beekeeping-Council Meeting"
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am in full support of urban beekeeping and of this bylaw. Urban beekeeping is important to Calgary for many reasons including:
Beekeeping produces food within the City while bringing family, friends and community together.
It is an opportunity to share knowledge about nature and the importance of bees in our food system.
Beekeeping is an opportunity to educate the public about the difference between honey bees and wasps. Honey bees are quite docile and can easily coexist in an urban environment.
Bees are often mistaken for wasps which are more aggressive. It is more likely that you will be stung by bumble bees or wasps that nest on your property than a honeybee whose hive is located on the beekeeper's property.
Beekeeping gets people outside and engaged in producing food.
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Foraging bees rarely sting as they are looking for nectar, pollen and water, and don't bother with people.

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Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

With the world in a steady steep decline in honey bee population, this is needed more than ever.



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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First name (required)	Khal
Last name (required)	Umar
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Bee keeping
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I support beekeeping in the city of Calgary.



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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First name (required)	Marnelle
Last name (required)	Perras
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Beekeeping in Calgary
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I support beekeeping in Calgary



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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First name (required)	Zeke
Last name (required)	Grinevitch
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible pet ownership - continuing beekeeping - council meeting
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am in full support of urban beekeeping and of this bylaw. Urban beekeeping is important to Calgary for many reasons including:
 Beekeeping produces food within the City while bringing family, friends and community together.
 It is an opportunity to share knowledge about nature and the importance of bees in our food system.
 Beekeeping is an opportunity to educate the public about the difference between honey bees and wasps. Honey bees are quite docile and can easily coexist in an urban environment.
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Public Submission

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First name (required)	Allison
Last name (required)	Kwantes
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw - Beekeeping
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

From my perspective as a University of Calgary Faculty of Veterinary Medicine student, I would like to comment on Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw which includes beekeeping. I am in full support of urban beekeeping in the city of Calgary for many reasons. One reason that maintaining urban beekeeping is extremely important for the future success of beekeeping is that it allows current veterinary students to gain knowledge and hands on practical experience with beekeeping. The importance of this has been highlighted since the 2018 CFIA mandate that use of medically important antimicrobials in beekeeping requires veterinary prescription. The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Calgary has a student-run Honey Bee Health Club that maintains hives, and from these hives we are able to deliver valuable education to students regarding bee health, the honey bee industry, and their prospective role in support of the industry as veterinarians. Urban beekeeping is important not only for the future success of the industry as it relates to training of veterinarians, but also in that it offers important opportunities to educate community members about honey bees, how they differ from wasps, and how they are integral to maintaining the natural ecosystem and food production. Beekeeping education provides valuable opportunities to teach citizens of the importance of bees, while also providing connections and building community. Beekeeping provides a relaxing activity that can be stress-relieving, while also enticing people to get outside and in nature (thereby enhancing mental wellness). The critical role that bees play in maintenance of natural systems within the environment has been well established, to say nothing about the importance of bees in agriculture.

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Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

By supporting urban beekeeping, we indirectly not only support our agriculture sector and food production, but also support the maintenance of our ecosystems. Canadian honeybee populations and their role in pollination is critical in Alberta, and urban beekeeping can play an integral part in supporting that, as well as promoting continued community building (bees exemplify community!), and helping to ensure the future survival of our beekeeping industry.



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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First name (required)	Vanessa
Last name (required)	Oliver
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw Review - Continuing Beekeeping
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I would like to express my support to have the city of Calgary continue beekeeping. Bees bring wonderful benefits to our communities by increasing plant biodiversity and food security through pollination, as well as educating the public on where our food comes from. As an urban beekeeper, I have carefully managed my bees to minimize disturbance and nuisance situations in my inner city neighbourhood. I support the city having a bylaw and promoting positive beekeeping practices within the city.

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Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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First name (required)	Liz
Last name (required)	Gahan
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Procedure bylaw 35M2017
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Please do not ban inner city bee keeping

important to Calgary for many reasons including:
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Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

With the world in a steady steep decline in honey bee population, this is needed more than ever.



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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First name (required) Thomas

Last name (required) Sloan

What do you want to do? (required) Submit a comment

Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters) Responsible Pet Bylaw (including keeping honeybees)

Date of meeting May 31, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

My friend has bee hives in his yard. Last summer we spent a lot of time hanging out in the yard and you would have never known the hives were there. The honey bees were busy doing their thing and didn't bother with us at all. In the fall I even got to participate in the honey harvest. I learned so much about the bees. Over the winter I've taken a few bee keeping webinars and read about bee keeping as a hobby. This year I will be getting my own bee hive. So grateful my friend taught me about bees and all the good they do for the world. I support the Responsible Pet Bylaw and keeping honeybees in the City.

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Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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First name (required)	Liann
Last name (required)	Truong
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership-Continuing Beekeeping-Council Meeting
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am in full support of urban beekeeping and of this bylaw. Urban beekeeping is important to Calgary for many reasons including:

- Beekeeping produces food within the City while bringing family, friends and community together.
- It is an opportunity to share knowledge about nature and the importance of bees in our food system.
- Beekeeping is an opportunity to educate the public about the difference between honey bees and wasps. Honey bees are quite docile and can easily coexist in an urban environment.
- Bees are often mistaken for wasps which are more aggressive. It is more likely that you will be stung by bumble bees or wasps that nest on your property than a honeybee whose hive is located on the beekeeper's property.
- Beekeeping gets people outside and engaged in producing food.
- It is a key part of The City's Food Action Plan - Calgary Eats! with the goal for every Calgarian to have access to local, healthy and environmentally friendly food.
- It allows beekeepers to continue keeping our bees, pollinating our gardens and producing honey.
- Foraging bees rarely sting as they are looking for nectar, pollen and water, and don't bother with people.

With the world in a steady steep decline in honey bee population, this is needed more

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Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

than ever.

My ask of you is to support beekeeping and hence why I am making a submission to council.



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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First name (required)	Hayley
Last name (required)	Boggs
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – Beekeeping Regular Meeting of Council
Date of meeting	May 12, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Please see attached as the document is slightly larger than 2500 characters.

Why beekeeping within inner city Calgary is necessary to continue:

Honey bees could certainly be called the gateway bug. Curiosity starting with these amazing domesticated creatures can breed desire for further learning, about the complex ecological world around us. Including solitary bees, bumble bees, butterflies, lady bugs, and ground beetles. A lot of people do not realize just how important every type of bug is out there. For example, there would be no tomatoes without bumblebees, or how lady bugs often keep aphid populations in check. All of nature around us is in balance and working together, and it is easy for us all living our everyday lives to forget about how wonderful these interconnections really are.

Honey bees like many other domesticated creatures can be bred for favourable traits. Therefore, honey bees with gentle genetics are a fantastic learning tool for children. They behave predictably and with some proper gear kids can be taught about the inner workings of colonies in a hands-on experience. Honey bees are an easy means to draw youths in because they can produce such useful substances, they can truly become interested with the tangible results and the sweet rewards. A woman named Giselle, teaches regular classes to children. Over the summer I am intending to bring this up with a colleague of mine who teaches special needs kids. Her school may be interested in introducing nature to her group of students via honey bees. Every opportunity to enrich the lives of our special needs children to help them integrate into our world and find new and varied interests is incredibly valuable. They may find a desire in connecting with and preserving nature in the process, while getting kids outside doing healthy activities and teaching them a constructive outlet in a busy western culture.

Where that interest often starts is in an arena that is easy to approach, that being apiary care. There is a lot to learn going into honey bee husbandry, though the basics are simple and even logical. It is very important for more people to know how delicate insects really are, and what we can do to protect them. If neighbours learn, that spraying their in-bloom dandelions kills off some of the local foraging honey bees, they may become more cognisant of their actions and can change them; for example, performing this task around dusk. This will spill over to help keep native bumble and solitary bee populations hail and whole. With the added benefit that the vegetable gardeners in the neighbourhood can enjoy their potatoes and peppers.

Honey harvesting can provide valuable supplementary income for those who may have little options available to them, with a minimal cash investment and little economical education. Interestingly enough, honey farmed within urban settings on average as compared to rural honey has less pesticides and fertilizers within it. Which will increase opportunities to sell to health markets for a markup, on top of normal direct sales at local farmers markets. These small businesses with good management have the opportunity to expand into full fledged commercial operations hiring at key times of the year, adding to our overall economy. A good example of this is Chinook Honey Co.

Currently the beekeeping I do is for work on the very edge of the city. City bylaw changes may alter our ability to continue keeping bees at the golf course. As well, there are other golf courses who keep bees in a non-commercial format, much like us due to our Audubon certification (Environmental initiative for wildlife habitat management).

In the future when I have children of my own, I would very much want to share in this experience with them and start keeping honey bees in our own backyard. It is important to me that we keep wonderful

organizations like the CDBA going and that we responsibly care for our bees, so generations to come can enjoy their buzz and sweet treats.

Sincerely Hayley Boggs

Marlborough NE Calgary.



Public Submission

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First name (required)	Kaylee
Last name (required)	Inkpen
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Pet bylaw
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I have a friend who has pet bees in inner city calgary. She cares for the bees and ensures that they are maintained and contained. I disagree that bees cannot be pets in Calgary

**Public Submission**

City Clerk's Office

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First name (required)	Kaylee
Last name (required)	Inkpen
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Bylaw - Beekeeping
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I am writing to council in support of urban beekeeping. I believe that Calgarians can care for bees in an urban environment responsibly. A friend of mine has bees and always ensures they are well taken care of. They do not pose a risk to neighbours or the community.



Public Submission

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First name (required)	Patricia
Last name (required)	Reilly
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Public Hearing Item: Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – legalizing backyard
Date of meeting	May 13, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	<p>What we should have learned because of the pandemic, is it's very important to be able to provide food for a family. Many families, including myself, are now growing their own fruit and vegetables ... supplementing with grocery stores and farmers markets. Not only do Hens produce food for the family but they can help reduce food waste. Hen manure can be used in the garden to make the soil healthier and provide nutrition to help grow food. Additionally, it's not practical for most of us to move to the country in order to have hens.</p> <p>Lastly, Hens are fun and they make great pets.</p>



Public Submission

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- I have read and understand that my name and comments will be made publicly available in the Council agenda. My email address will not be included in the public record.

First name (required)	Marie J
Last name (required)	Walsh
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Marie J Walsh
Date of meeting	

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am in full support of urban beekeeping and of this bylaw. Urban beekeeping is important to Calgary for many reasons including:
Beekeeping produces food within the City while bringing family, friends and community together.
It is an opportunity to share knowledge about nature and the importance of bees in our food system.
Beekeeping is an opportunity to educate the public about the difference between honey bees and wasps. Honey bees are quite docile and can easily coexist in an urban environment.
Bees are often mistaken for wasps which are more aggressive. It is more likely that you will be stung by bumble bees or wasps that nest on your property than a honeybee whose hive is located on the beekeeper's property.
Beekeeping gets people outside and engaged in producing food.
It is a key part of The City's Food Action Plan - Calgary Eats! with the goal for every Calgarian to have access to local, healthy and environmentally friendly food.
It allows beekeepers to continue keeping our bees, pollinating our gardens and producing honey.
Foraging bees rarely sting as they are looking for nectar, pollen and water, and don't bother with people.

With the world in a steady steep decline in honey bee population, this is needed more

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Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

than ever.

My ask of you is to support beekeeping and hence why I am making a submission to council.



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- I have read and understand that my name and comments will be made publicly available in the Council agenda. My email address will not be included in the public record.

First name (required)	Sarah
Last name (required)	Crew
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership - Urban Beekeeping
Date of meeting	May 13, 2021

Hi City of Calgary!

I'm a first year beekeeper in Calgary, and I'd like to emphasize that I have had nothing but positive reactions from my immediate neighbour's and in our community. Both neighbour's are in favor as I provided them warning and placed the where they will be nothing but beneficial to our community. The kids on one side are so interested they have been sneaking across our driveway to check on them each morning.

I chose to add bees to our household to enhance the local pollination cycle and plants of every kind in Calgary. They can do nothing but good for our city. Our city needs healthy plant, greenery can only make us better. Bees get it done.

When framing any decision about bees, we have to consider Calgary's place in a larger world. We are smack in the middle of a province that relies on agriculture. One only has to look at the news to catch stories about farmers in California in desperate situations as a result of lack of bees. Ask any farmer if bees are harmful.

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500)

Lastly, I want to point out how ill conceived the idea of allowing a few people—who are fearful or squeamish around bees, or simply annoyed by their presence—impose their agenda over others, and at the expense of the greater good.

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characters)

I can acknowledge that fear, and anaphylactic allergies are very real and concerning, to those they affect. However, they are not as widely problematic as these groups people would have you believe. Calgarians also have to keep in mind that some people are that allergic and fearful of dogs (or cats, or any other animal...), but we do not legislate dog ownership. It's a really poor president to set.

Beekeepers are as protective of their bees as people are of their dogs. We don't place them where we know they will be bothersome or are accessible to interlopers, the same way a dog owner wouldn't risk putting a pet who is known to nip in defense with access to neighbours or kids.

People need to take responsibility for themselves and their own families. If they don't want a serious situation, practice restraint, and please do not approach my hive.

If anyone would like to discuss my perspective on urban beekeeping, please feel free to contact me at 493 616-9983.

Sarah Crew



Public Submission

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First name (required)	Elise
Last name (required)	Walsh
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership-Continuing Beekeeping-Council Meeting
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am in full support of urban beekeeping and of this bylaw. Urban beekeeping is important to Calgary for many reasons including:
Beekeeping produces food within the City while bringing family, friends and community together.
It is an opportunity to share knowledge about nature and the importance of bees in our food system.
Beekeeping is an opportunity to educate the public about the difference between honey bees and wasps. Honey bees are quite docile and can easily coexist in an urban environment.
Bees are often mistaken for wasps which are more aggressive. It is more likely that you will be stung by bumble bees or wasps that nest on your property than a honeybee whose hive is located on the beekeeper's property.
Beekeeping gets people outside and engaged in producing food.
It is a key part of The City's Food Action Plan - Calgary Eats! with the goal for every Calgarian to have access to local, healthy and environmentally friendly food.
It allows beekeepers to continue keeping our bees, pollinating our gardens and producing honey.
Foraging bees rarely sting as they are looking for nectar, pollen and water, and don't bother with people.

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With the world in a steady steep decline in honey bee population, this is needed more than ever.

My ask of you is to support beekeeping and hence why I am making a submission to council



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- ✓ I have read and understand that my name and comments will be made publicly available in the Council agenda. My email address will not be included in the public record.

First name (required)	Denise
Last name (required)	Brown
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership-Continuing Beekeeping-Council Meeting
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Responsible bee keeping is a very important activity in residential Calgary. The Calgary District Beekeeping Association carefully and responsibly oversees residential beekeeping, and conducts important educational outreach. Bees are an integral part of our ecosystem, and are threatened. Honey is an excellent food additive with medicinal properties. My friends who are beekeepers participate widely in educational activities relating to bees and beekeeping. They took my two granddaughters on an excursion to their backyard hives which was very beneficial and educational (see photo). We should encourage responsible beekeeping. Please approve the bylaw to protect this important activity.



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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- I have read and understand that my name and comments will be made publicly available in the Council agenda. My email address will not be included in the public record.

First name (required)	Denise
Last name (required)	Brown
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership-Continuing Beekeeping-Council Meeting
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Responsible bee keeping is a very important activity in residential Calgary. The Calgary District Beekeeping Association carefully and responsibly oversees residential beekeeping, and conducts important educational outreach. Bees are an integral part of our ecosystem, and are threatened. Honey is an excellent food additive with medicinal properties. My friends who are beekeepers participate widely in educational activities relating to bees and beekeeping. They took my two granddaughters on an excursion to their backyard hives which was very beneficial and educational (see photo). We should encourage responsible beekeeping. Please approve the bylaw to protect this important activity.

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Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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- I have read and understand that my name and comments will be made publicly available in the Council agenda. My email address will not be included in the public record.

First name (required)	Olga
Last name (required)	Solomon
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Proposed changes to the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw, to be discussed at
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

My name is Olga Solomon, PhD, I am Research Scientist at Children's Hospital Los Angeles and a social scientist with a substantial record of research in human-canine interaction in the context of socio-economic disadvantage and racial / ethnic discrimination. I have been an international co-investigator for Dr. Melanie Rock's SSHRC grant to examine 'the Calgary model.' It is my professional opinion based on substantial existing literature, including the attached article by Dr. Rock's team, that the proposed changes in by-laws will dis-proportionally and negatively affect the socio-economically disadvantaged, racially and ethnically diverse, and elderly residents of Calgary. Writing from Los Angeles where "dangerous dog" statutes have been adopted to catastrophic outcomes for the communities of color, I strongly oppose the suggested changes to Calgary's Bylaws that have been an international model of good policy, common sense, and social justice.

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Short Communication

‘When the dog bites’: What can we learn about health geography from newspaper coverage in a ‘model city’ for dog-bite prevention?

M. Mouton^{a,*}, A. Boulton^b, O. Solomon^{c,d}, M.J. Rock^{a,b}^a Department of Community Health Sciences, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary, Canada^b Faculty of Social Work, University of Calgary, Canada^c University of Southern California University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities at Children's Hospital Los Angeles, USA^d Department of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California, USA

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ABSTRACT

Despite calls for the adoption of ‘One-Health’ approaches, dog-bite injuries remain neglected in healthcare and public health, and our study may help to understand why. Media coverage can influence policy directions, including policies that address dogs. We collected articles ($n = 65$) published in two local newspapers, 2012–2017, then carried out an ethnographically-informed discourse analysis of the dog-bite reports. The newspapers portrayed dog-bites mainly as matters of public disorder, as opposed to priorities for healthcare and public health. Even as our study took place in a city that has shown dog-bite reductions without recourse to ‘breed bans’ or restrictions (i.e., breed-specific legislation), journalists still tended to emphasize dog breed as a narrative element in explaining dog-bite incidents. Nonetheless, the news coverage did not reproduce a ‘nature versus nurture’ dichotomy. Rather, the journalists presented dog breed, and presumably associated aggressive behaviour, as entanglements with social, economic, and cultural contexts. Meanwhile, the news stories reduced contextual complexity to geographic locations, as codes for community reputation, in attributing causality and morality.

1. Introduction

Interest continues to grow in ‘One Health’ approaches (Friese and Nuyts, 2017) that address “global and inter-species sharing of health concerns and interests” and that “join up areas of expertise and practice, which have for too long existed in separate silos” (Hinchliffe and Craddock, 2015: 1). Dog-bite injuries offer a good opportunity to operationalise this research agenda because they involve a plurality of actors – both human and non-human (Rock et al., 2007). In addition, dog-bite injuries straddle policing and public health (Timmermans and Gabe, 2002). Nonetheless, public health researchers and healthcare providers have tended to ignore this issue (Duperrex et al., 2009; Ozanne-Smith et al., 2001), as well as the negative impacts that aggressive dogs can have on physical activity and social well-being in communities (Toohey and Rock, 2011). In this article, we approach the question of dog-bite injuries from the standpoint of media reports, given the potential for journalists to influence policy agendas and to frame the terms of political debates (Kingdon, 1984; Krcatovich and Reese, 2017).

Consequently, our qualitative analysis focuses on *how* journalists portray dog-bite incidents, whereas previous research has mined media coverage for epidemiological insights regarding dog-bite injuries and fatalities (e.g., Podberscek, 1994; Raghavan, 2008). Conceptually speaking, we analyse these ‘human interest’ stories (Hughes, 1937) as discursive events (Foucault, 1969), whose form and content are matters of power (Foucault, 1971). Operationally, we mobilised framing theory (Altheide, 1987; Baker et al., 2008; Entman, 1993; Wodak and Meyer, 2009), while also paying attention to the conditions of production of local news (Altheide, 1987; Bourdieu, 1994). Our goal was to understand ideas in public circulation about dog-bite causes, culpability, and responsibility. Little attention has been paid to how journalists describe dog-bite incidents, and that is what we do. Understanding the interpretive frames in media coverage could be helpful for public health actors to reshape public debates and, ultimately, to promote health through better-tailored and more effective policies for dog-bite prevention.

Overall, we found that the journalists in our setting portrayed dog-bites as social deviance. They ‘made do’ with limited information,

* Corresponding author. Department of Community Health Sciences, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary, 3E13 - Teaching, Research and Wellness Building, 3280 Hospital Drive NW, Calgary, AB, T2N 4Z6, Canada.

E-mail address: morgan.mouton@ucalgary.ca (M. Mouton).

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which usually included dog breed and the location where dog-bite incidents occurred. Using these elements, journalists wrote stories that portrayed dog-bite problems as social in nature, even while referring to dog breed. The reports tended to be brief, only a few paragraphs in length, and few incidents were subject to follow-up reporting. Of note, the geographic location of dog-bite incidents received emphasis in our corpus. Given that the journalists did not raise questions about the role of social inequalities in dog-bite injuries, we suggest that this emphasis on physical and social geography perpetuates negative reputations of disadvantaged communities.

2. Methodology

This study is part of a larger project that focuses on dog-related policy in Calgary, Alberta. This city is well known, in Canada and internationally (Rock et al., 2014; Parliament of Victoria, 2016), for reducing dog-bite injuries and dog-aggression incidents without recourse to breed-specific legislation (BSL). BSL takes various forms, but always entails banning or imposing restrictions based on the ancestry or appearance of dogs (e.g., pitbulls). This type of policy has been evaluated in several places, with mixed results (Clarke and Fraser, 2013; Cornelissen and Hopster, 2010; MacNeil-Allcock et al., 2011; Ott et al., 2008; Raghavan, 2008; Súilleabháin, 2015). In light of this policy debate, we were interested in the journalistic treatment of breed in the coverage of dog-bite incidents.

We collected items on dog-bites from two local newspapers, *The Calgary Herald* and *The Calgary Sun*, published between 1 January 2012 and 31 December 2017. This time-frame reflected the availability of full-text articles in a digital format. We located these items via the Factiva[®] database with the following search terms: dog bite* OR dog attack* OR canine bite* OR canine attack* OR dog maul* OR dog aggress*. MM and AB removed items that did not focus on dog-bites before saving the articles within NVivo[®], where they were sorted, read several times, and coded to help in identifying thematic and discursive properties (Green and Thorogood, 2018 [2004]).

Our analysis was refined during a two-day intensive meeting where MM and AB discussed the emergent analysis with OS and MJR. As part of the analysis, we used NVivo[®] to produce a word-cloud of the 25 most-frequently used words in our corpus (see Fig. 1). To eliminate words offering little interpretative potential for our study (e.g., “one” and “two” were displayed initially), we limited the word-frequency query to words comprising four or more letters. We also homogenized the spelling of “pit-bull” and “pit bull” as “pitbull”.

Meanwhile, MM and AB informally interviewed two former journalists about the conditions of production for local news. Several weeks

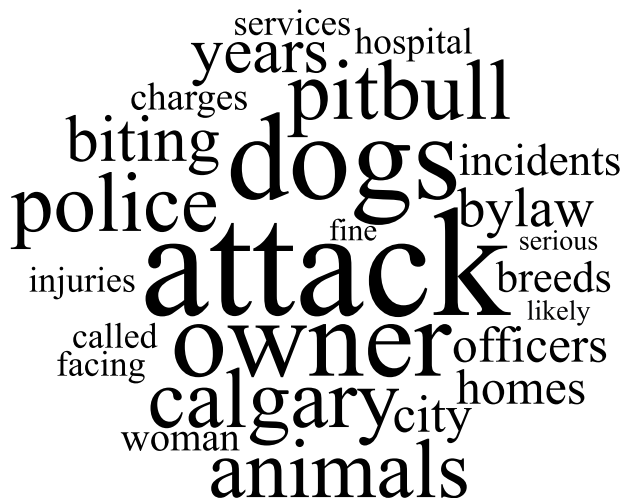


Fig. 1. The 25 most-frequently used words in the corpus.

Table 1
Overview of the corpus.

	News Reports	Columns and Editorials	Letters to the Editor and Op-Eds	Total
Calgary Sun	71	8	1	80
Calgary Herald	51	2	1	54
				134

later, MM and AB conducted a follow-up interview with one of the former journalists. This follow-up interview was recorded digitally, transcribed by AB, and reviewed by MM. This dialogue helped to contextualise the media reports in our corpus, and also helped us understand the viewpoint of journalists.

Overall, our approach has been ethnographic in nature (Altheide, 1987; Katz, 2006), in that our analysis has drawn on careful readings of policy documents; previous research involving participant-observation and recorded interviews with animal-control officers; informal interactions with such officers, their managers, and healthcare providers; and everyday experience with dogs in the research setting and elsewhere. Our understanding also evolved as we prepared and presented a poster at professional conferences (attended by animal-control officers [MM and AB] and by paramedics [MJR], respectively), and as we drafted this article [MM, OS, MJR].

3. Results and discussion

In all, we found 133 items that met our inclusion criteria (Table 1). The majority appeared in *The Calgary Sun* (n = 78), and the remainder in *The Calgary Herald* (n = 55). While they belong to the same holding corporation, and currently share a newsroom, these newspapers differ in terms of readership: *The Calgary Sun* is a ‘tabloid’, whereas *The Calgary Herald* is a ‘broadsheet’.

Our argument revolves around elements that are visible in Fig. 1, and which we will present sequentially: the actors, the plot, and the stage.

3.1. Public order vs. public health

Dog-bite incidents were consistently framed as a socially deviant and disorderly occurrence, and as a policing issue, rather than as a public health problem. Consider the words that appeared most frequently in the news articles (see Fig. 1): the semantic field pertaining to policing (‘police’, ‘officers’, ‘bylaw’, ‘charges’, ‘fine’, ‘facing’) is much more prominent than that of health (‘hospital’, ‘injuries’). In addition, descriptions of the dog-bite victims’ injuries are often primarily presented in order to outline the severity of the incident, and the nature of consequences faced by aggressive dogs and their owners. *The Calgary Sun* article published under the headline, ‘Charging pitbull mauls woman,’ on 17 April 2014 illustrates these points:

A passerby called 911 and [the victim] was taken to hospital, where she underwent surgery. At home Wednesday, she said she is unable to walk and can't see out of her right eye. She's been forced to take at least three weeks off of work. The attack is categorized as a Level 5 [on the Dunbar scale, which the local council uses for administrative statistics and enforcement], just below the most severe type – Level 6 – which results in death, said [a bylaw officer]. He said the dog's owner was clearly shaken up after seeing the photos of [the victim]'s injuries and voluntarily signed the dog over for euthanasia.

3.2. Journalistic treatment of breed in a city that does not endorse BSL

Even as The City of Calgary has explicitly rejected BSL (Rock et al., 2014), and as animal-control officers deliberately minimise the role of

breed in their public relations communications (Parliament of Victoria, 2016),¹ every single article in our corpus mentioned breed. And within the treatment of dog breeds, ‘pitbulls’ were most prominent (see Fig. 1). Nonetheless, pitbulls accounted for 14% of dog-bite complaints to the City between 2012 and 2014 (City of Calgary, 2016, p.4).

Animal control officers who had been interviewed by journalists provided us with insight into this disparity.¹ They said that journalists sometimes “discard” stories involving dog-breeds with positive reputations (e.g., poodles, huskies), focusing rather on the deeds of more “sensational” cases (e.g., pitbulls).

This observation resonates with a political critique authored by Kim (2015, p. 272), who contends that ‘the pitbull is now raced Black in the American imagination.’ Her argument is twofold. First, she makes a parallel between the way pitbulls are seen and African-Americans’ experience of racism in the United States of America:

Like Blacks, pitbulls have been constructed as a group of beings whose behavior is biologically determined as violent, ruthless, and dangerous. [...] Like Blacks, they are objects of public loathing and fear whose very presence provokes a strongly disciplinary (if not murderous) response. (2015, p. 272).

In our corpus, 22 of 133 articles mentioned dog breed in the title itself – and in 20 of these 22 occurrences, the journalists described the dog as a pitbull. At the same time, the journalists demonstrated reflexivity about reducing dog-bite causation to breed, particularly in three opinion pieces. Put another way, our corpus displays more nuance than what Kim (2015) describes: dog breed was only one of several background narrative elements that reporters assembled in order to construct a story. The supposedly ‘violent nature’ of certain breeds is hinted at in conjunction with other background elements, notably the socio-economic status of dog-owners and communities.

The second part of Kim’s (2015) argument is that the prejudices suffered by pitbulls and ethno-racial minorities can reinforce each other. This point applies to our corpus, and is best conveyed by an incident featured in 17 articles. Both newspapers in our study followed this story, from the dog-bite injury through to the sentencing of its main character. The story unfolded as follows:

- In August of 2012, a woman with ‘severe injuries’ was taken to hospital. Allegedly during an argument, a friend had ordered her two pitbulls to attack;
- Upon arrival, the police shot one of the pitbulls on sight, while the other was euthanized after being taken into custody;
- Meanwhile, the dog-owner fled and spent several days in hiding before her arrest. She was eventually convicted for aggravated assault and criminal negligence.

While none of the articles in our corpus directly mentioned ethno-racial identity, this information was conveyed through photographs, which revealed that the dog-owner was Black. The fact that her two dogs were both pitbulls amplified the sensationalist tone of the story. Journalists used evocative language to describe the ‘deliberate savagery’ that characterised this ‘vicious attack,’ but they did not apply these adjectives to the dogs or their owner specifically. In other words, the journalists played on ambiguity to offer several possible interpretations when it comes to attributing blame. Hence, descriptions of the human and non-human actors in this story tended to reinforce each other, to produce gripping accounts of the dog-bite incident and its consequences. Our findings point to the need for a systematic assessment of the congruence of representations ascribed to ethno-racial identities and dog-breeds in media reports.

Another element is striking as we analyse this story. In the articles

¹ Round-table in connection with the Alberta Municipal Enforcement Association Conference (May 8-11, 2017, Red Deer, AB).

we read, the scenery is set with the mention of the incident’s location: a “Sundre trailer park.” This example illustrates the prominent role of location in dog-bite coverage. In our corpus, we observe a frequent mention of the Northeast quadrant of Calgary (27 articles, as opposed to a cumulated amount of 47 articles for the three other quadrants). A high proportion of immigrants, especially from South and Southeast Asia, live in this quadrant, where the median income is substantially lower than the rest of the city (Townshend et al., 2018). Journalists tend to emphasize the location of dog-bite incidents that occurred in the Northeast quadrant, by mentioning it in the lead paragraph (13 out of 27 articles, as opposed to 14 out of 47 articles for the three other quadrants), for instance, or by stating it twice (9 out of 27 articles, as opposed to 6 out of 47 articles for the three other quadrants). For instance, the journalist might mention the community name, and later refer to a dog-owner or victim “in her Northeast home.”

3.3. Geographies of dog-bite coverage

Our analysis reveals that breed is very much at the centre of newspaper portrayals of dog-bites, but in a subtler way than Kim’s (2015) example suggests. The idea of ‘inherently dangerous’ breeds is present in journalists’ depictions of the incidents they report on, but is used in conjunction with socio-economic status and sometimes ethno-racial elements, rather than as a single factor of explanation. Such a strategy puts the location of dog-bite incidents in a prominent position within the narratives, since it is an indirect, yet effective, way of disseminating information on the socio-economic background of the actors involved. As a consequence, we argue that dog-bite coverage relies on, but also contributes to, a negative reputation for some disadvantaged communities. The role of local newspapers in engendering community reputation has been well documented (Kearns et al., 2013; McLaren et al., 2005). The present article connects this phenomenon to previous scholarship (Derges et al., 2012; Tissot, 2011) that points to a role of dogs in shaping a neighbourhood’s image.

4. Conclusion

By weaving together statements about the breed of the dog, photographs of the protagonists, and notes on the location of dog-bite incidents, journalists seem to engage in a ‘blame game.’ With few exceptions, the circumstances surrounding dog-bite injuries received little attention or follow-up in the newspapers that we studied. These results point to the need for researchers to question dog-bite causation, and to interrogate any assumptions about links between socio-economic status and an inability or unwillingness to control a dog.

Our study sets the stage for future research comparing media coverage with policy decision-making on dog-bites. As with media coverage in general, dog-related stories may influence public policies, and vice versa (Instone and Sweeney, 2014; Toohey and Rock, 2015). Despite calls for such research nearly twenty-five years ago (Podberscek, 1994), the interplay between media coverage and dog-bite policies remains opaque. Meanwhile, health researchers could elevate public understanding of dog-bites through media outreach. To do so, we recommend partnering with healthcare organisations (e.g., hospitals), animal welfare organisations, and local governments. Given that media coverage can assist with public education and awareness, cooperation between health researchers with stakeholders and journalists could provide an important perspective on policies and programs to reduce dog-bites and their negative impacts.

Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank their research participants, who provided invaluable insights on the production of local news. We also benefitted extensively from discussions with Doug Anderson, at The City of Calgary, as well as other bylaw officers present at the Alberta

Municipal Enforcement Association annual conference, where we first presented our results. Our paper also benefited from discussions at the inaugural Research Day for Alberta Emergency Services and the Alberta College of Paramedics. This research has built on previous research by our colleagues Niamh Caffrey, Sylvia Checkley, Dawn Rault, and Oliva Schmidt, and we also benefited from consultations with Lorraine Toews in her capacity as liaison librarian for veterinary medicine at the University of Calgary. The main funder is the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) through an Insight Development Grant (#430-2016-00078 to Rock and Solomon). In addition, this project benefitted from postdoctoral awards to Mouton from the University of Calgary's O'Brien Institute of Public Health and Cumming School of Medicine. This study received approval from the Conjoint Health Research Ethics Board at the University of Calgary.

Appendix A. Supplementary data

Supplementary data to this article can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.healthplace.2019.03.001>.

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- I have read and understand that my name and comments will be made publicly available in the Council agenda. My email address will not be included in the public record.

First name (required)	Janet
Last name (required)	Bates
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Public Hearing Item: Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – legalizing backyard
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

We would love the opportunity to have back yard hens. It would provide eggs for our family, which we eat a lot of.

They would make great pets for our children to observe, learn about and have responsibilities to care for.

It also reduces waste because we can feed many kitchen scraps to them.

Hens are also great at controlling pests like slugs and mice, which can, and have ruined our garden and lawn. Plus if the mice can't get very far in our yard, they can't get into our house either!

Thank you for consideration on this matter. We do really hope you will change this bylaw.



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First name (required)	Heather
Last name (required)	Ramshaw
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Public Hearing Item: Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – legalizing backyard
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Dear Council,
 Thank you for your consideration on the legalization of urban hens. As a food justice advocate and community development practitioner, I recognize urban hens as a way for families and individuals to safeguard their own food security, and an essential piece of a resilient local community. As a community member and consumer, urban hens would allow me to provide for my family and connect with my neighbours in new ways. The City of Calgary has made great strides in recent years in regards to the local food strategy and the legalization of urban hens would continue to push this journey forward. We live in a big city with a small town feel, rooted in agriculture and resources- please vote to celebrate and honour this with an integrated food system where agriculture can be seen, felt, and championed by responsible, subsistence urban gardeners.
 Thank you,
 Heather Ramshaw



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First name (required)	Teri
Last name (required)	Broome
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Backyard chickens
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I am in favour of legalizing backyard chickens for the following reasons 1. Hens would produce food for my family and reduce food waste. 2. Hens are fun and they make great pets. 3. Backyard hens are a great way for kids to learn about where their food comes from, and the responsibilities of caring for a pet.

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- ✓ I have read and understand that my name and comments will be made publicly available in the Council agenda. My email address will not be included in the public record.

First name (required)	Joanna
Last name (required)	Card
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Legalization of backyard hens
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021
Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	<p>why you support legalization (even if you don't want your own chickens). For eggample:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hens produce food for the family and reduce food waste. 2. Hens make great pets. 3. Backyard hens are a great way for kids to learn about where their food comes from, and the responsibilities of caring for a pet.



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- I have read and understand that my name and comments will be made publicly available in the Council agenda. My email address will not be included in the public record.

First name (required)	Dawn
Last name (required)	Rault
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	11.4.1-Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw Review
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

My name is Dr. Dawn Rault and I am writing today regarding the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw revisions. My research for the last 10 years has focused on the enforcement of animal laws. I would like to share some thoughts that are in addition to comments that I presented at the SPC on Community and Protective services meeting on May 12th.

Definitions and Interpretation: Language in the revised bylaw is vague, subjective and contains errors. This will set the city up for significant litigation.

Powers Granted to the Chief Bylaw Officer-Administration is proposing sweeping changes that would grant significant powers to the Chief Bylaw Officer. For example, the Chief could deem an animal vicious, which may violate the principles of procedural fairness and due process. The Chief Bylaw Officer cannot be a neutral and impartial decision maker as they supervise and work with the officers who are seeking the vicious designation. Furthermore, the dog owner does not have any legal rights during this process, which is very concerning.

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Limits to Pet Ownership-The revised RPO is proposing a limit to the number of cats and dogs one owner possesses. There is no data to indicate that limiting pet ownership is effective and may dissuade owners from licensing their pets and seeking veterinary care. We should focus on quality of care as a measure so not to penalize respon-

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sible pet owners.

Composition of the Licence and Community Standards Appeal Board Membership-In addition to seeking members who have animal behavior expertise, this appeal board should include experts from the animal welfare community and social scientists/social-legal scholars and public health experts who can provide expertise from their respective disciplines.

Community Engagement Process-Although the City contracted Leger to conduct market research, the feedback from many local experts (animal welfare, veterinarians, epidemiologists, legal experts etc.) was not meaningfully incorporated.

Respectfully, I hope that these points will be considered when Council votes on revisions to the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw.



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- I have read and understand that my name and comments will be made publicly available in the Council agenda. My email address will not be included in the public record.

First name (required)	Brad
Last name (required)	Nichols
What do you want to do? (required)	Request to speak
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Part 1 of 2 from Calgary Humane Society. We are appreciative of the opportunity to review and provide comment on a previous version of the RPO. There are some outstanding items that we would like considered by council.

1. Under pet limits, breeders are eligible for excess animal permits. With Puppies under 3 months already exempt, this only serves to allow more adult breeding stock, opening the doors to urban puppy mills. Recommend removing breeders from Sec 20(1).
2. Under unattended animals, recommend 16 (4)(b) be eliminated. There is no suitable ventilation that makes leaving an animal in a hot vehicle safe. The only possible exception is air conditioning, which can fail. Would like some alignment between the Animal Protection response and the bylaw.
3. Regarding pigeons, section 28(f) requires permit holders to be in good standing with the pigeon fancier's society and pigeons to be banded. Tracing bands is extremely difficult through that organization. Recommend making the City the central band tracing hub. Seems more appropriate to be ensuring 'in good standing' with Animal Protection (CHS) than a fancier's club.
4. Under Authority of Animal Services Centre, section 61(8) is at odds with the Animal Protection Act regarding 'must not euthanize'. If an animal is in such distress that the distress cannot be rectified without undue suffering, euthanasia may be authorized by a peace officer prior to the hold expiry.

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Full review document attached, indicating implemented and rejected input (based on version 3 for section numbers).



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- ✓ I have read and understand that my name and comments will be made publicly available in the Council agenda. My email address will not be included in the public record.

First name (required)	Carrie
Last name (required)	Fritz
What do you want to do? (required)	Request to speak
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Part 2 of 2 from Calgary Humane Society. We are appreciative of the opportunity to review and provide comment on a previous version of the RPO. There are some outstanding items that we would like considered by council.

- 1,. Under pet limits, CHS opposes a limit since it is a significant departure from the 'quality of care' model that Calgary has been known for, historically. Further, the 6 dogs and 6 cats seems high to meet the objectives of a limit. By omission, citizens can have an unlimited amount of exotic animals (rabbits, birds, reptiles). These types of pets require some attention from a responsible pet ownership bylaw.
2. Under Threatening Behaviors, specifically Sec 22(1), barking at passing cars etc should be omitted as it is natural behavior. While the nuisance of excessive barking belongs in the Bylaw, the natural communicative behaviors of dogs ought not to be considered threatening as a blanket statement.
3. The exclusion, entirely, of rabbits concerned CHS as there is a significant urban semi feral stray issue in the City.

CHS Input on Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw Draft to Protective Services Committee

Green = Adopted Recommendation

Red = Recommendation Not Incorporated

Part 1: Definitions and Interpretation

2(d) Pain is subjective. Consider utilizing a bite scale or broken skin/puncture.

2(m) Leash is defined as a chain, inferring that as the preferred material. Consider "A line for leading or restraining an animal".

2(n)(i) For the layperson, consider Donkey in place of Ass.

2(n)(v) "Animals of the avian species" would include budgies/parrots etc as livestock but conflicts with the "other domestic pets" exemption.

2(o) Muzzle definition should be specific enough to avoid tape/tying. Possibly including the word 'humanely'. "Sufficient strength" may be unnecessary wording.

2(p) Refers to Part 7 of the bylaw but should be Part 6.

2 (ee) Urban livestock and LESA are intermingled in this bylaw. The lay person may have difficulty differentiating.

2(ff)(i) chasing an animal or person in general being deemed vicious is a stretch. Could be in play and would apply to natural off leash behavior. Seems like a better fit for the nuisance section with a more narrow definition potentially including tangible harm.

2(ff)(ii) damage or destroy public or private property. Nuisance section may be more appropriate for property damage excluding damage to another animal. A dog peeing on grass or eating a plant could deem vicious as written.

2 (ff) (iii) Include 'License and Community Standards Appeal Board' in definitions.

2 (hh) Keep ungulates to account for moose/elk. Consider adding other common wildlife (ie birds, bobcats, cougars etc).

Part 2: Licensing Requirements

6(d) Should be 'applying for an altered license'. Currently worded unaltered (intact).

6(e) Section should start with the word "provide" in order to read correctly.

8(2)(c) Says an owner must obtain a license on the first day that Animal Services is open. Consider a minor grace period mimicking that of vehicle registration.

9 (1) and (2) 6 dogs and 6 cats (and unlimited, by omission, exotics) seems high for a limit. While CHS does not support limits, opting for quality of care as a measure, it would be difficult to manage/control 12+ animals in a home. Are nuisance behaviors mitigated at the proposed number?

9 (3) Is this meant to be a grandfathering clause? An excess permit with the proposed limits ought to be relatively rare.

10(a) Puppies under the age of 3 months are already exempted. Consider removing the breeder section as it would only serve to allow a higher number of breeding adults. Further, consider a licensing permit for breeding in general tied to good standing with CCS and CHS Animal Protection.

10(b) Litters are already exempted by age. Fostering limits should be in line with ownership limits.

Part 3: Owner Responsible For Behavior of Animal

11(7) Keeping control of 6 off leash dogs is virtually impossible. Understandably tied to the ownership limit, but consider lowering this by half or requiring additional handlers (ie a handler per 2 dogs).

13 (1)(a) This reads as dogs prohibited from being walked on pathways. Unclear on purpose of restricting such a broad and commonly used thoroughfare. This would significantly hamper Calgary's standing as a dog friendly city.

13(5) Similar comment as 13(1)(a). As written, CHS would not be allowed to run their annual Dog jog fundraiser.

13(6) Are these days specified due to congregation of crowds or fireworks? If the latter, consider adding Global Fest and Calgary Stampede.

15(3) Enforceable under the MGA? Is 1.5M meant to be a buffer?

15(4)(b) The only suitable ventilation for an unattended animal in a vehicle (in hot weather) is running AC. As written, a cracked window could be perceived as curative when in fact, it is not.

15(5) Temperatures are a bit arbitrary. Preference for under -10C and over 10C to encompass education opportunities before distress is caused.

17(d) Consider eliminating this section and requiring containment. Tethering does not account for weather, road debris or fear.

18(1) The section title is misleading when only referring to rabies. Opens the door to other communicable diseases (ie distemper/parvo). Medical Officer of Health (MOH) should be added to notification list.

18(3) Consider adding 'humanely' to confinement to ensure balance between animal's quality of life and human safety.

22(1) – Barking is canine communication/body language and should not be considered threatening as a blanket statement. A dog barking at a car passing by cannot be perceived as a threat.

22(3) Damage to property ought to be tied to tangible loss.

Part 4: Urban Livestock

25 (2) Add an exemption for designated Humane Societies to account for relinquishments and seizures by law enforcement.

25(3) Species too narrow. Should at least encompass those animals allowable as LESA in addition.

27 (f) Why does a pigeon owner need to be affiliated with a pigeon club/association? The requirement to be in good standing with such an association spurs the question: why not require that animal owners be in good standing with Animal Protection (CHS) for a multitude of RPO sections?

31(d) Committed offenses may be too broad as not all offenses are charged or convicted. Consider 'convicted of offenses'.

31 and 33 Add a section for individuals convicted of Animal Protection Act offences and/or not in good standing with Animal Protection (CHS)

34(b) Consider defining unruly behavior. Swarming of the species of bees to be hived in the RPO would be natural behavior tied to the inadequacy of the maintained hive. May achieve the same end.

36 Consider separating LESA and Urban livestock for clarity. Consider a clause for reporting to a welfare insufficiency to CHS (or APA mandated agency) upon inspection and awareness.

39 Are hens noted specifically because they are the only species in need of grandfathering?

Part 5: Livestock Emotional Support Animals

40(7) Sections 2 and 3 are missing. What is the License and Community Standards Appeal Board and who sits on it? Consider defining in Part 1.

Part 6: Nuisance Animals

42(1)(a) This seems to belong in the vicious dog section instead of nuisance.

42(1)(c) Consider adding the word 'excessively' to quantify the nuisance.

44(2)(b) A muzzled animal should be monitored and ensure normal breathing and drinking is possible. Muzzles are not a barking control. The word humanely ought to be considered.

Part 7: Vicious Animals

54(1)(b) certified pet dog trainer is a broad credential. Consider requiring a positive reinforcement trainer with aggression specific credentials.

Part 8: Animal Control Operations

63(1)(d) Trap Neuter Release is at odds with the running at large section of this very bylaw and, absent a diligent caretaker providing daily care, the Animal Protection Act. CHS does not support TNR due to these legal conflicts and the suffering associated with Canadian winters.

65(3)(c) Consider specifying positive reinforcement for CPDT requirement

65 (b)(i) Consider adding 'on reasonable and probable grounds' to an alleged bite.

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73(3) 'must not euthanize' is too broad. An animal may be euthanized with peace officer approval if its distress cannot be rectified without undue suffering under the Animal Protection Act. As written, this section leaves the door open to continued distress until a holding period is satisfied.

Schedule B

No penalty listed for exceeding maximum animals.

Additional Notes -Rabbits

The community issue of feral domestic rabbits is critical and cannot be left to one non-profit to handle. CHS prioritized, in initial feedback on the RPO Bylaw, addressing these large and growing urban populations of feral/semi feral rabbits. CHS is bombarded by 'stray' rabbits in absence of an animal control authority prepared to accept exotics. CHS would have liked to see some rabbit specific content in the new RPO Bylaw. Perhaps defining these animals as an extension of urban wildlife. Same could be said for feral cats.

CHS Input on Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw Draft to Protective Services Committee

Green = Adopted Recommendation

Red = Recommendation Not Incorporated

Part 1: Definitions and Interpretation

2(d) Pain is subjective. Consider utilizing a bite scale or broken skin/puncture.

2(m) Leash is defined as a chain, inferring that as the preferred material. Consider “A line for leading or restraining an animal”.

2(n)(i) For the layperson, consider Donkey in place of Ass.

2(n)(v) “Animals of the avian species” would include budgies/parrots etc as livestock but conflicts with the “other domestic pets” exemption.

2(o) Muzzle definition should be specific enough to avoid tape/tying. Possibly including the word ‘humanely’. “Sufficient strength” may be unnecessary wording.

2(p) Refers to Part 7 of the bylaw but should be Part 6.

2 (ee) Urban livestock and LESA are intermingled in this bylaw. The lay person may have difficulty differentiating.

2(ff)(i) chasing an animal or person in general being deemed vicious is a stretch. Could be in play and would apply to natural off leash behavior. Seems like a better fit for the nuisance section with a more narrow definition potentially including tangible harm.

2(ff)(ii) damage or destroy public or private property. Nuisance section may be more appropriate for property damage excluding damage to another animal. A dog peeing on grass or eating a plant could deem vicious as written.

2 (ff) (iii) Include ‘License and Community Standards Appeal Board’ in definitions.

2 (hh) Keep ungulates to account for moose/elk. Consider adding other common wildlife (ie birds, bobcats, cougars etc).

Part 2: Licensing Requirements

6(d) Should be ‘applying for an altered license’. Currently worded unaltered (intact).

6(e) Section should start with the word “provide” in order to read correctly.

8(2)(c) Says an owner must obtain a license on the first day that Animal Services is open. Consider a minor grace period mimicking that of vehicle registration.

9 (1) and (2) 6 dogs and 6 cats (and unlimited, by omission, exotics) seems high for a limit. While CHS does not support limits, opting for quality of care as a measure, it would be difficult to manage/control 12+ animals in a home. Are nuisance behaviors mitigated at the proposed number?

9 (3) Is this meant to be a grandfathering clause? An excess permit with the proposed limits ought to be relatively rare.

10(a) Puppies under the age of 3 months are already exempted. Consider removing the breeder section as it would only serve to allow a higher number of breeding adults. Further, consider a licensing permit for breeding in general tied to good standing with CCS and CHS Animal Protection.

10(b) Litters are already exempted by age. Fostering limits should be in line with ownership limits.

Part 3: Owner Responsible For Behavior of Animal

11(7) Keeping control of 6 off leash dogs is virtually impossible. Understandably tied to the ownership limit, but consider lowering this by half or requiring additional handlers (ie a handler per 2 dogs).

13 (1)(a) This reads as dogs prohibited from being walked on pathways. Unclear on purpose of restricting such a broad and commonly used thoroughfare. This would significantly hamper Calgary's standing as a dog friendly city.

13(5) Similar comment as 13(1)(a). As written, CHS would not be allowed to run their annual Dog jog fundraiser.

13(6) Are these days specified due to congregation of crowds or fireworks? If the latter, consider adding Global Fest and Calgary Stampede.

15(3) Enforceable under the MGA? Is 1.5M meant to be a buffer?

15(4)(b) The only suitable ventilation for an unattended animal in a vehicle (in hot weather) is running AC. As written, a cracked window could be perceived as curative when in fact, it is not.

15(5) Temperatures are a bit arbitrary. Preference for under -10C and over 10C to encompass education opportunities before distress is caused.

17(d) Consider eliminating this section and requiring containment. Tethering does not account for weather, road debris or fear.

18(1) The section title is misleading when only referring to rabies. Opens the door to other communicable diseases (ie distemper/parvo). Medical Officer of Health (MOH) should be added to notification list.

18(3) Consider adding 'humanely' to confinement to ensure balance between animal's quality of life and human safety.

22(1) – Barking is canine communication/body language and should not be considered threatening as a blanket statement. A dog barking at a car passing by cannot be perceived as a threat.

22(3) Damage to property ought to be tied to tangible loss.

Part 4: Urban Livestock

25 (2) Add an exemption for designated Humane Societies to account for relinquishments and seizures by law enforcement.

25(3) Species too narrow. Should at least encompass those animals allowable as LESA in addition.

27 (f) Why does a pigeon owner need to be affiliated with a pigeon club/association? The requirement to be in good standing with such an association spurs the question: why not require that animal owners be in good standing with Animal Protection (CHS) for a multitude of RPO sections?

31(d) Committed offenses may be too broad as not all offenses are charged or convicted. Consider 'convicted of offenses'.

31 and 33 Add a section for individuals convicted of Animal Protection Act offences and/or not in good standing with Animal Protection (CHS)

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Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

In accordance with sections 43 through 45 of Procedure Bylaw 35M2017, the information provided may be included in the written record for Council and Council Committee meetings which are publicly available through www.calgary.ca/ph. Comments that are disrespectful or do not contain required information may not be included.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

Personal information provided in submissions relating to matters before Council or Council Committees is collected under the authority of Bylaw 35M2017 and Section 33(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act of Alberta, and/or the Municipal Government Act (MGA) Section 230 and 636, for the purpose of receiving public participation in municipal decision-making. Your name and comments will be made publicly available in the Council agenda. If you have questions regarding the collection and use of your personal information, please contact City Clerk's Legislative Coordinator at 403-268-5861, or City Clerk's Office, 700 Macleod Trail S.E., P.O. Box 2100, Postal Station 'M' 8007, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2M5.

- I have read and understand that my name and comments will be made publicly available in the Council agenda. My email address will not be included in the public record.

First name (required)	Melanie
Last name (required)	Rock
What do you want to do? (required)	Submit a comment
Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters)	Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw
Date of meeting	May 31, 2021

My name is Dr. Melanie Rock, and I live in Ward 7 in Calgary. Despite engaging with Administration's review of the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw for more than a year, I must publicly criticize the proposal before Council.

By way of background, I grew up in rural Alberta, and after studying overseas and elsewhere in Canada, I returned to Alberta in 2003 to take up a position in University of Calgary's medical school. For more than 10 years, I have led a multi-disciplinary team in studying 'the Calgary model.' Across Canada and internationally, 'the Calgary model' has an enviable reputation for simultaneously promoting the health of people with pets, people without pets of their own, the pets themselves, and wildlife – and for doing so in a cost-effective and judicious manner. My research team has amplified the reach of 'the Calgary model' through media coverage, presentations, and publications.

Administration has proposed 2 main changes for dogs and their owners:

1. Grant authority to the Chief Bylaw Officer to designate dogs as "vicious" rather than the Provincial Court
2. Expand the existing "nuisance" designation to allow conditions to be placed on an animal that are meant to mitigate concerns and rehabilitate the animal
Given the space constraints, I will focus on the "nuisance" designation and restrictions.
 - 1) Professional dog training could become a legal requirement for dogs to stay with their families, once the Chief Bylaw Officer deems a dog to be "nuisance animal,

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

ISC:

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Unrestricted

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Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

"yet people in disadvantaged neighbourhoods are LESS likely to have the resources needed to benefit from professional help with dog-training (e.g., money, time, English language skills).

2) People in disadvantaged neighbourhoods may be less likely to complain to The City about "nuisance" behaviours, so "problem dogs" and "problem owners" would be LESS likely to receive pro-active attention in disadvantaged neighbourhoods.

3) The proposed changes undermine the value proposition of licensing, so licensing compliance could decline, which would reduce the funds available for public education and humane sheltering. Licensing fees for dogs already present a barrier for lower-income families.

4) City staff would be less likely than now to locate dogs, in a timely manner, following complaints about aggressive and threatening behaviour because locating dogs and educating owners depends on the City's database for dog licenses.

PERSPECTIVES

Policies on pets for healthy cities: a conceptual framework

MELANIE J. ROCK^{1,2,3*}, CINDY L. ADAMS^{1,3,4}, CHRIS DEGELING⁵,
ALESSANDRO MASSOLO^{2,3} and GAVIN R. McCORMACK^{1,3}

¹Community Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, ²Ecosystem and Public Health, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, ³Institute for Public Health, University of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, ⁴Department of Veterinary Clinical and Diagnostic Sciences, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada and ⁵Centre for Values, Ethics and the Law in Medicine, School of Public Health, University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia
*Corresponding author. E-mail: mrock@ucalgary.ca

SUMMARY

Drawing on the One Health concept, and integrating a dual focus on public policy and practices of caring from the Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion, we outline a conceptual framework to help guide the development and assessment of local governments' policies on pets. This framework emphasizes well-being in human populations, while recognizing that these outcomes relate to the well-being of non-human animals. Five intersecting spheres of activity, each associated with local governments' jurisdiction over pets, are presented: (i) preventing threats and nuisances from pets, (ii)

meeting pets' emotional and physical needs, (iii) procuring pets ethically, (iv) providing pets with veterinary services and (v) licensing and identifying pets. This conceptual framework acknowledges the tenets of previous health promotion frameworks, including overlapping and intersecting influences. At the same time, this framework proposes to advance our understanding of health promotion and, more broadly, population health by underscoring interdependence between people and pets as well as the dynamism of urbanized ecologies.

Key words: health promotion; animal welfare; environmental policy; urban health

INTRODUCTION

Within health promotion, the conceptualization of socio-ecological systems would benefit from refinement. The popularity of the socio-ecological model in health promotion is indebted to a visual metaphor of 'a series of concentric or nested circles', such that each circle 'represents a level of influence on [human] behavior' [(McLaren and Hawe, 2005) p. 9]. This metaphor is consistent with conceptualizing health and illness as 'the consequence of reciprocal causation unfolding at multiple individual and environmental levels of influence' [(Richard *et al.*, 2011) p. 309]. We agree with the tenets of overlapping and intersecting influences in socio-ecological systems.

Researchers in health promotion, however, have tended to portray socio-ecological systems as though they were essentially inert and stable, except for people. Notwithstanding theoretical divergences (Dooris and Heritage, 2011; Rydin *et al.*, 2012), the literature on healthy cities is a prime example of this tendency.

Recent developments in veterinary medicine and public health, meanwhile, emphasize dynamic interdependence between and among humans, non-human animals and ecosystems under the banner of 'One Health' (Zinsstag *et al.*, 2006; FAO-OIE-WHO Collaboration, 2010). One Health is a concept that is based on recognition that without due consideration for how humans relate to non-human animals and to shared environments,

locally and globally, opportunities will be missed to reclaim and enhance well-being for sentient inhabitants of the planet. Social scientists and practitioners aligned to health promotion are well positioned to contribute to these developments (Rock *et al.*, 2009; Masuda *et al.*, 2010; Zinsstag *et al.*, 2011; Green, 2012). But first, health promotion itself must be reconceived to acknowledge the fundamental interdependence of humans with non-human animals. As a step in this direction, we introduce a conceptual framework for promoting healthy cities via people's pets.

Our position, following on from Hinchliffe and Whatmore (Hinchliffe and Whatmore, 2006), is that healthy cities comprise multispecies collectivities. A reconceptualization of healthy cities as entailing multispecies collectivities is needed because—increasingly and worldwide—people, domesticated animals and wildlife live in urbanized societies. Increased population densities and living in close quarters with pet animals, whether as pet owners or non-pet owners, create challenges for policy-makers, and these challenges can become especially acute for local governments (Coleman *et al.*, 2010; Walsh, 2011). Policies that allow people to keep pets within cities, subject to some limits, are important for health promotion to an extent that has yet to be investigated thoroughly (Cutt *et al.*, 2007; Toohey and Rock, 2011; Rock, 2013; Rock and Degeling, 2013).

First, without a legitimate presence for pets in cities, societal benefits from pets will be limited. Policies on pets confer legitimacy. In other words, policies buttress the positive associations that have reported between human well-being and contact with pets in urbanized societies. These positive associations encompass *direct effects* from human–pet interactions as well as *indirect effects* arising from interactions that pets facilitate among people (Beck and Meyers, 1986; McNicholas *et al.*, 2005; Cutt *et al.*, 2007; Toohey and Rock, 2011; Christian *et al.*, 2013). Both direct and indirect benefits are relevant to public health, due to the ubiquity of pets in urbanized societies. In Western countries, pets tend to be regarded as family members and live in approximately half of all households (McNicholas *et al.*, 2005). Pet ownership has also become popular in some non-Western countries, including Japan and China (Headey *et al.*, 2007; Oka and Shibata, 2009). Most of the existing literature on benefits to human well-being arising from the presence of pets has little to say about policies. Nevertheless,

as dramatically illustrated by China, where pet-keeping was prohibited in cities under Communism until 1992 (Headey *et al.*, 2007), policies allowing people to keep pets should not be taken for granted in health promotion.

Second, policies on pets pertain to health promotion because they can assist in mitigating the potential for pets to harm, intimidate, or annoy others beyond any single pet-human dyad or pet-owning household. Again, due to the widespread presence of pets in cities, these problems concern millions of people. Problems in public health that policies on pets can attenuate include dog bites and exposure to infectious pathogens (Duperrex *et al.*, 2009; Day, 2010). Policies on pets can also reduce the potential for pets to catalyze conflict or exacerbate tensions, to the extent that dog-related threats and nuisances in parks may deter physical activity among dog owners and non-dog owners (McCormack *et al.*, 2010). Such negative influences, furthermore, appear to be concentrated in disadvantaged subpopulations (Toohey and Rock, 2011). In fact, pet-related problems can symbolize powerlessness and mistrust of neighbors as well as of local governments (Derges *et al.*, 2012). Policy measures exist to tackle pet-related problems such as these. To the extent that policies promote health by enabling people to enhance and exert control over their lives (WHO, 1986), policies to diminish nuisances and threats from pets in the settings of daily life are as relevant to health promotion as are policies that enable people to share in benefits from pets.

In keeping with settings-based approaches to health promotion (Dooris, 2009), Christian *née* Cutt (Cutt *et al.*, 2008b) led the development of an elaborate model acknowledging that, in urbanized environments, pet-specific policies may foster well-being and reduce disease and injury. This model embeds the theory of planned behavior (Ajzen, 1991) within a socio-ecological framework, and the focus is on supporting physical activity through dog-walking. For instance, their model identifies on-leash and off-leash areas as environmental features that could encourage dog-walking. In turn, while not stated explicitly, the existence and quality of such areas are policy issues. And whereas this model acknowledges that dog aggression and dog waste may deter physical activity in urbanized environments (Cutt *et al.*, 2008b), within health promotion, interest is nascent in leveraging governmental jurisdiction over pet animals within cities so as to minimize

harms and to maximize benefits (Cutt *et al.*, 2007; Rock, 2013).

Below, we introduce a conceptual framework on pets in urban areas that has been informed by the literatures on socio-ecological systems, healthy cities and anthrozoology (i.e. interactions between humans and non-human animals in diverse settings and contexts). Ultimately, our purpose is to assist with developing, refining, implementing and evaluating policies on pets in urban settings. Our conceptual framework focuses on local governments (also known as municipal governments and local councils) because a higher level of government typically vests local governments with some authority over pets. Consistent with long-standing recognition in health promotion of the importance of local governments for healthy cities (Hancock, 1993), our conceptual framework links local governments' authority to adopt policies on pets with the objectives and orientation of health promotion. In other words, we are interested in how the wording and implementation of local governments' policies on pets could minimize the potential for harm while maximizing the benefits of pets in cities (Rock and Degeling, 2013). As a contribution to public health, our principal focus is on human well-being (WHO, 1948, 1986). Nevertheless, we are also concerned with the well-being of non-human animals, and with how the well-being of non-human animals could reciprocally impact upon people. In line with veterinary applications (Zinsstag *et al.*, 2011) of Nobel Laureate Ostrom's (Ostrom, 2009) conceptualization of socio-ecological systems, we contend that pet-related policies can be worded and implemented to promote health in both animal and human populations.

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK: LOCAL POLICIES ON PETS FOR HEALTHY CITIES

According to the *Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion*, health is 'a resource for living, not the objective of living', 'lived by people within the settings of their everyday life' and 'created by caring for oneself and others' (WHO, 1986). Within health promotion, the 'others' in question have been interpreted to mean human beings, exclusively. Yet for millions of people, pets are deeply implicated on a daily basis in caring for the self and others. In fact, pets themselves

are often regarded as 'significant others'. Furthermore, keeping pets in urban areas generates 'ripple effects' (Wood *et al.*, 2007). Such 'ripple effects' can impact positively or negatively on neighbors, acquaintances and utter strangers (Toohey and Rock, 2011; Derges *et al.*, 2012).

Caring for a pet in an urban environment thus entails consideration for other people and other animals. Insofar as caring for pets may overlap with caring for oneself, other people and other animals in complex socio-ecological systems, the concept of One Health takes on renewed importance for promoting health in human and animal populations in urban areas. This concept evolved from the concept of 'One Medicine', which stressed commonalities between medical science for people and veterinary science with animals, but One Health is broader in scope (Zinsstag *et al.*, 2011). Whereas research and practice in One Health have emphasized zoonotic infections (e.g. SARS, H1N1, brucellosis, rabies), food safety, water safety and environmental toxins, 'One Health' is highly relevant to non-communicable diseases and to non-clinical influences on population health, too (Rock *et al.*, 2009; Green, 2012). Furthermore, to the extent that non-communicable diseases and non-clinical influences on human health increasingly implicate pet animals (Degeling *et al.*, 2013), the concept of One Health and the tenets of health promotion apply to pets as well as to people.

Our conceptual framework builds on the premise, embedded in the *Ottawa Charter*, that health is 'created by caring for oneself and others' (WHO, 1986). We also follow the *Ottawa Charter* in positing that the realm of public policy is crucially important. We explicitly acknowledge, however, that health can be promoted via caring relationships with non-humans and via policies on pets. Specifically, we point to five overlapping spheres of activity, all of which can be mandated, reinforced or both via local governments' policies on pets. These spheres of activity are (i) preventing threats and nuisances from pets, (ii) meeting pets' emotional and physical needs, (iii) procuring pets ethically, (iv) providing pets with veterinary services and (v) licensing and identifying pets (see Figure 1). Below, we consider each of these spheres of activity in turn.

Preventing threats and nuisances from pets

Even in settings where dogs tend to be leashed and closely supervised, dog bites remain a leading

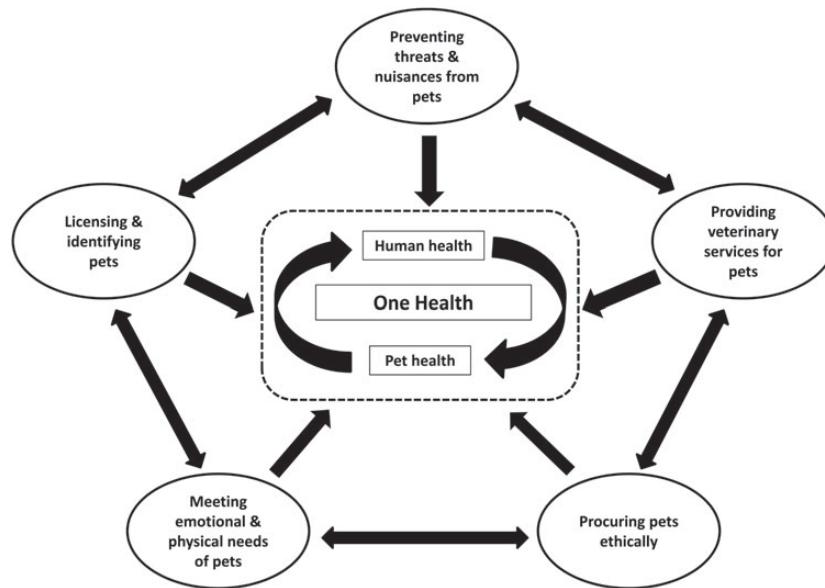


Fig. 1: Policies on pets in urban areas and ‘One Health’.

cause of injury among children, and educational programming alone may be insufficient to curb incidence (Duperrex *et al.*, 2009). Fears of being bitten or chased by dogs, furthermore, are health concerns in their own right; and such fears can negatively impact on levels of physical activity by deterring people from entering parks where dogs may be present (Cutt *et al.*, 2007; McCormack *et al.*, 2010; Toohey *et al.*, 2013). The potential also exists for dog-walkers to avoid parks and other public spaces based on concern that canine companions could be harassed, bitten or exposed to infectious diseases (Cutt *et al.*, 2007; Westgarth *et al.*, 2008; Wang *et al.*, 2012; Degeling and Rock, 2013). Also, the negative symbolism of dog feces is beginning to be recognized as relevant to health promotion (e.g. Derges *et al.*, 2012), yet little is known about how to intervene effectively with policies or programming (Atenstaedta and Jones, 2011). Meanwhile, the potential for cat-related threats and nuisances to fuel social conflict remains unaddressed in health promotion. The overall impact of policies on threats and nuisances associated with dogs and pets of other species ultimately hinges on systems for implementation, but such systems have yet to be investigated in-depth (Borthwick, 2009; Rock, 2013).

Future research projects could include in-depth and spatial analyses of dog aggression along with socio-demographic characteristics of

owners, complainants, and victims. Many jurisdictions have adopted policies intended to prevent dog aggression by banning certain breeds, but such policies have not been shown to reduce the incidence of dog bites and, given similar care, dogs of commonly banned breeds appear no more likely than dogs of a similar size to exhibit aggression (MacNeil-Allcock *et al.*, 2011). Further research is warranted on policies to reduce the negative impact of ill-controlled dogs and of dog feces (McCormack *et al.*, 2010; Atenstaedta and Jones, 2011; Toohey and Rock, 2011). Research is also warranted on the investigation and settlement of complaints about pet-related threats and nuisances that are recognized in policies, including qualitative analyses of the kinds of evidence and claims that appear to be persuasive. In doing so, the potential for inequity to be perpetuated through local governments’ investigations and quasi-judicial processes should be investigated, as previous research has uncovered insidious forms of prejudice in the implementation of such policies (Valverde, 2012).

Meeting pets’ emotional and physical needs

Animal welfare tends to be regarded as ancillary to health promotion, even though animal welfare appears to be linked systematically to physical, mental and social well-being in human

populations (Rock *et al.*, 2009). In fact, promising programs to promote health via physical activity seek to emphasize animal welfare concerns and to build on people's caring relationships with dogs (e.g. Johnson and Meadows, 2010; Rhodes *et al.*, 2012). These examples of evaluation research build upon a growing body of cross-sectional studies and some longitudinal research indicating positive associations between dog ownership and physical activity (Knight and Edwards, 2008; Peel *et al.*, 2010; Lail *et al.*, 2011; Temple *et al.*, 2011; Christian *et al.*, 2013; Degeling and Rock, 2013; Higgins *et al.*, 2013; Richards *et al.*, 2013; Toohey *et al.*, 2013). Such positive findings hinge on human–animal bonds, and thus on people's commitment to meet the physical and emotional needs of dogs. Environmental supports for the health benefits of dog-walking include policies legitimizing the presence of dogs on sidewalks and in parks, along with policies guiding the design of built environments more generally (Cutt *et al.*, 2007; Coleman *et al.*, 2008; Cutt *et al.*, 2008a; McCormack *et al.*, 2011; Christian *et al.*, 2013; Degeling and Rock, 2013; Richards *et al.*, 2013). Furthermore, dog-walking can benefit people's emotional health via positive impacts on canine well-being, positive interactions with fellow dog-walkers and a positive sense of belonging to a community, and these emotional benefits can help to sustain participation (Wood *et al.*, 2007; Knight and Edwards, 2008; Johnson and Meadows, 2010; Rhodes *et al.*, 2012; Toohey *et al.*, 2013). In addition, people do not have to own dogs personally to participate in dog-walking or to derive benefits (Johnson and Meadows 2010; Peel *et al.*, 2010; Toohey and Rock, 2011; Degeling and Rock, 2013).

In legal terms, welfare for pet animals is complicated, and multiple levels of government along with non-governmental organizations can become involved (Fox, 2010; Nowicki, 2011; Rock and Degeling, 2013). Local policies on the leashing of dogs in public space illustrate the relevance of local policies on pets to both animal welfare and human well-being. Whereas policies forbidding unattended dogs in urban areas date back to the 1800s in Western countries (Grier, 2006; Howell, 2012; Pemberton and Worboys 2013), policies requiring dogs to be leashed whenever off the owner's property have become commonplace since the 1970s (Borthwick, 2009; Walsh, 2011). Leashing can help to ensure the safety of these dogs, and may also help to safeguard other non-human animals in the vicinity as

well as people from threatening behavior and infectious diseases (Westgarth *et al.*, 2010). And when it comes to physical health and emotional well-being of people, leashing and the expectation of constant supervision are highly relevant to dog-walking and to sharing public spaces where other people's dogs are present (Cutt *et al.*, 2007; Toohey and Rock, 2011; Christian *et al.*, 2013). Nevertheless, designated off-leash areas are also important for animal welfare, and local governments' provision, design and management of off-leash areas can bolster physical activity among dog-owners (Cutt *et al.*, 2008a; Lee *et al.*, 2009; McCormack *et al.*, 2011).

Future research could delve deeper into how caring for pet dogs influences physical activity for owners and other people. Future research could also consider the extent to which meeting a pet's emotional and physical needs may contribute positively to a sense of self-efficacy (Bandura, 2004). For example, self-efficacy has been positively associated with dog-walking among dog-owners (Richards *et al.*, 2013). The potential for pet care to foster well-being via self-efficacy might apply to pets other than dogs, including cats and birds (Mahalski *et al.*, 1988; Anderson, 2003; Rock and Babinec 2010), among others (e.g. gerbils, rats, hamsters, fish, snakes, turtles).

Procure pets ethically

Competing claims to the same pet are relevant to health promotion because they arise from a disruption to human–animal bonds, which have been associated positively with human health (Beck and Meyers, 1986; Beck and Katcher, 2003; McNicholas *et al.*, 2005). Furthermore, such claims carry the potential to fuel conflict and mistrust. For example, if 'their dog' is spotted in a park with new owners, and the former owners learn that 'their dog' was rehomed through the local government, they could plausibly feel anger towards the new owners as well as the local government.

Local policies on pets could mitigate the potential for different people to claim the same pet animal as their own, while also increasing the likelihood of reuniting lost pets with their rightful owners. For example, when local governments commit to sheltering impounded animals in high-quality facilities, citizens may be more likely to turn in lost pets found on their property or in public places, as opposed to keeping such a pet for themselves or giving the pet to someone

within their own social network. Citizens may also be encouraged to turn in lost pets when local governments commit to sheltering these animals for a period of time prior to putting them up for adoption. In addition, as discussed in more detail below, local policies to encourage pet licensing and identification can assist with ensuring that lost pets are returned to owners while also enabling unclaimed pets to be adopted in timely fashion (Coleman *et al.*, 2010). Conversely, high rates of euthanasia and low rates of rehoming may discourage citizens from turning over lost pets to local authorities (Coleman *et al.*, 2010). These issues have yet to be researched in-depth.

The concern with ethical procurement of pets also encompasses the conditions under which animals are bred and raised for sale, as in ‘puppy mills’. ‘Puppy mills’ and other instances of pet maltreatment could obstruct health promotion, in several ways. In particular, maltreated animals may develop health and behavioral problems that could strain human–animal bonds (McMillan *et al.*, 2011). Furthermore, the maltreatment of pets has been linked to cruelty and abuse directed toward people, including women and children (Volant *et al.*, 2008). Policies on pets can be worded and resourced so that private homes and businesses can be inspected for maltreatment (Smith, 2012). First-hand observation, questionnaires and qualitative interviews could yield insights relevant to public awareness and case coordination on ‘puppy mills’, pet-related nuisances and pet-related threats as points of entry for health promotion. Research along these lines has not been conducted anywhere in the world, to the best of our knowledge.

Providing pets with veterinary services

Sterilization is the veterinary service that receives the most emphasis in many local governments’ policies on pets (Coleman *et al.*, 2010; Scarlett and Johnston, 2012). As an incentive for owners to have their pets sterilized, local governments increasingly charge less to license sterilized pets than for intact pets (Coleman *et al.*, 2010). Formal assessment of the extent to which linking licensing fees to sterilization status influences owners’ decisions, nuisance complaints or threatening behavior by pets has not been conducted, to the best of our knowledge (Coleman *et al.*, 2010).

As discussed further under ‘Licensing and Identifying Pets’, the revenue generated through

licensing of pets can be used to fund a variety of community services relevant to people, pets and other animals. These services include veterinary care. For example, local governments can subsidize sterilization operations for low-income owners. Formal assessments of such programs have reported mixed results on impounding and euthanasia rates (Scarlett and Johnston, 2012), yet have not yet considered the views and experiences of low-income owners.

Pet adoptions can also be subsidized through licensing fees. Previous studies have found significant increases in physical activity following the acquisition of a dog (Serpell, 1991; Cutt *et al.*, 2008c), and measurable improvements in some other health-related indicators following the acquisition of either a dog or a cat (Serpell, 1991). These studies, however, did not report on the health status of the pets. Nevertheless, providing adopted pets with a veterinary bill-of-health prior to rehoming is relevant to health promotion because veterinary professionals can often identify problems that may lead to nuisances, pose threats, or interfere with human-animal bonds. Local policies can be worded and implemented so that pets receive a veterinary assessment prior to being adopted. Such policies merit further consideration and formal evaluation should take into account the impact on both pet animals and people.

Licensing and identifying pets

Policies requiring dogs to be licensed within urban areas date to the mid-1800s (Grier, 2006; Pemberton and Worboys 2013), and some local governments require cats to be licensed, too (Coleman *et al.*, 2010; Rock, 2013). In addition, as a condition of licensure, pets must be micro-chipped or tattooed for the purposes of identification in some jurisdictions (Borthwick, 2009). Compliance with policies on pet licensing is variable (Coleman *et al.*, 2010), yet compliance as high as 90% for dogs has been reported (Rock, 2013). In cities with high rates of pet licensing, local governments gain access to substantial revenues, which can be used to finance community services (Coleman *et al.*, 2010; Rock, 2013). Examples include educational interventions with schoolchildren to prevent dog bites, sheltering lost pets until they can be reunited with their owners, rehoming unclaimed pets and subsidized sterilization of pets belonging to low-income owners (Coleman *et al.*, 2010; Rock, 2013).

Despite the long history of policies on pet licensing, resistance continues, in practice and on moral grounds. In fact, some academics and activists regard the very definition of non-human animals as property as a distortion of human–animal relations, properly conceived (Wadiwel, 2009; Francione and Garner, 2010). Whereas the legal and social status of pet animals is a complicated matter, our position is that legal ownership of pet animals can be defined and lived on a daily basis in ways that simultaneously protect animal welfare and promote human health (Rock and Degeling, 2013). Indeed, policies on pet licensing can be developed and encouraged in ways that are consistent with a strength-based perspective that recognizes and respects ‘caring for one’s self and others’ (WHO, 1986) as the basis for health promotion (Rock, 2013).

Through licensing, people establish a public claim to a particular animal. To the extent that such claims are respected in practice, local governments and fellow citizens are limited in what they can do to that animal. Local councils, for example, should not allow people’s pets to be adopted without first allowing time for reunification, and fellow citizens should not claim someone else’s pet as their own. Such policy measures are crucial for the sustenance of human–animal bonds and the mitigation of social conflict, and thus for associated health benefits, as well as for animal welfare. Furthermore, by tracing a pet animal back to a specific person, compliance with policies on pet licensing can assist in investigating pet-related threats and nuisances. Licensing may also be used to encourage desired behavior, such as providing pets with veterinary services, through financial incentives and related publicity (Coleman et al., 2010). Given the leverage that pet licensing provides on redressing threats and nuisances from pets, while also promoting well-being through animal-related community services, creative ways to encourage licensing merit consideration in both higher-income and lower-income settings. Use of revenue from pet licensing to fund animal-related community services may serve as an incentive for pet owners to purchase licenses, yet this approach has yet to be formally assessed in terms of health promotion.

DISCUSSION

The notion of healthy cities is deeply rooted in the history of public health, yet became

reinvigorated in conjunction with the *Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion* (Hancock, 1993). In the contemporary conceptualization of healthy cities, public policy at the local level has been emphasized (Dooris and Heritage, 2011). Yet Rydin and colleagues (Rydin et al., 2012) assert that a coherent conceptual framework is lacking for assessing the health impact of local-level policies, and by way of a solution, they endorse ‘complexity thinking’ as ‘an approach that looks at the interconnected elements of a system and how that system has properties not readily apparent from the properties of the individual elements’ [(Rydin et al., 2012), p. 3]. In response, de Leeuw (de Leeuw, 2012) contends that Rydin and colleagues (Rydin et al., 2012) pay insufficient attention to critical theory and politics. We are sympathetic to this criticism, and would add that people’s complicated connections with non-human animals have been conspicuously absent from discussions about promoting healthy cities. Indeed, Rydin and colleagues (Rydin et al., 2012), p. 9] only mention non-human animals in relation to ‘disease vectors and pests’.

In calling for more robust conceptualizations of complex socio-ecological systems in health promotion, we draw inspiration from critical theorists who acknowledge the participation of non-human animals, thereby unsettling the usual conflation of ‘social’ with ‘human’ (Rock et al., 2013). In this vein, and to take account of what they call the ‘politics of conviviality’, Hinchliffe and Whatmore (Hinchliffe and Whatmore, 2006) introduced the terminology of a ‘living city’. This terminology is meant to open up investigations of the ways in which ‘cities are inhabited with and against the grain of expert designs’, the extent to which human and non-human inhabitants are heterogeneous, and questions about ‘civic associations and attachments forged in and through more-than-human relations’ [(Hinchliffe and Whatmore, 2006), p. 124]. Whereas Hinchliffe and Whatmore [(Hinchliffe and Whatmore, 2006), p. 131] mention dog-walking, in the course of emphasizing that wildlife and plants are vital for urbanized ways of life, we foreground the perennial presence of pets.

Policies on pets reflect sociocultural norms. Thus, analysts must always ask whose values and aspirations are most reflected in written policies. At a minimum, local governments should share information and consult with citizens on proposed policy changes (Dooris and Heritage, 2011; Heritage and Dooris 2009). While the

wording of local governments' policies on pets is indicative of norms, the capacity of local governments to formulate and enforce pet-related policies will vary. Direct control by local governments over non-human animals is administratively costly and cumbersome, and is often viewed as undesirable by citizens and especially by advocates for animal welfare (Coleman *et al.*, 2010). Indirect control over pet animals via their owners is increasingly common (Borthwick, 2009). Furthermore, pet owners' duties can be interpreted as extending beyond their pets, to encompass consideration for other people, other people's pets, wildlife and shared ecosystems (Rock and Degeling, 2013). Yet people without pets of their own can also become implicated in implementing local governments' policies on pets, for example, by reporting incidents involving aggression and by directing dog-walkers to clean up after pets (Rock, 2013).

Policies on pets and, more generally, the extent of governments' capacity and authority when it comes to non-human animals have global relevance (Wadiwel, 2009; Zinsstag *et al.*, 2011; Smith, 2012; Srinivasan, 2013). Challenges are inherent to assessing the health impact of policies and programs that help to shape settings, and one consequence is that whole-system assessments are rather rare in health promotion (Dooris, 2006). Describing, never mind evaluating, a whole system in action poses methodological difficulties, not least when grappling with 'living cities' as complex socio-ecological systems (Hinchliffe and Whatmore, 2006). The conceptual framework that we have proposed is admittedly based on limited information and may continue to evolve, yet we already feel confident in providing some direction for policy-makers. At present, interventions in lower-income settings tend to emphasize population control of pet species, mainly through culling and sterilization (Morters *et al.*, 2013). Vaccinations are also prescribed, notably against rabies (Morters *et al.*, 2013). Meanwhile, in higher-income countries, a multitude of unattended pets are impounded every year, many unclaimed animals are euthanized, and policy responses continue to emphasize sterilization for the purposes of population control (Coleman *et al.*, 2010; Scarlett and Johnston, 2012; Srinivasan, 2013). Across divergent settings and contexts, therefore, a key concern in policies on pets is the balancing of civil liberties (such as respecting people's choices when it comes to pets) and the collective good

(such as ensuring that neither people nor non-human animals are unduly inconvenienced or harmed by other people's choices when it comes to pets). Whereas questions concerning harm prevention and mitigation are classic concerns in public policy and in public health (Coggon, 2012), these questions may take different forms when respectfully acknowledging the presence of non-human animals in constituting people's values and the collective good (Rock and Degeling, 2013).

As a non-obvious response to these issues, licensing fees are pivotal to the conceptual framework that we propose. Licensing of pets stems from recognition that these animals can legitimately live with people in urbanized societies, as a matter of personal choice. At the same time, pet licenses offer fellow citizens with a mechanism for intervening into the behavior of both owners and pets, by providing local governments with a way of tracing a particular pet to a particular owner when lodging formal complaints. Meanwhile, in the aggregate, licensing fees add up to substantial amounts of money that can be reinvested in animal-related community services, for the sake of both human and non-human lives.

We acknowledge that caring for oneself and others represents an ideal, as much in the *Ottawa Charter* as in our conceptual framework. Therefore, researchers and practitioners cannot assume that people who adhere to policies on pets do so out of consideration for others, or that people who do not comply are necessarily inconsiderate. Yet as caring for fellow human beings, for non-human beings, for entire ecosystems and for oneself become entwined in urban life, we contend that healthy cities are being created and sustained.

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Responsible Pet Ownership
Bylaw Review



Feedback from Concerned Pet Owners and Citizens

Prepared for SPC on Community and Protective Services 2021 May 12

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- Part 9 – Enforcement
 - S.82
- Part 10 – Transitional
 - Schedule A Exclusion Excess Animal Permit
 - Schedule C 16(5) Animal left unattended in vehicle

GENERAL



- Recognition – It is recognized and appreciated that the City did not adopt breed specific legislation, and that stakeholders have been consulted through this process.
- Service and Financial Impacts – The report indicates “no operating budget requests associated” and “all costs associated with bylaw training and enforcement would be absorbed into existing operating budget.” It is unclear how the City proposes to implement and enforce these new bylaws without additional costs. Further, proposed amendments such as the Chief Bylaw Officer having oversight to label dogs as nuisance or vicious should require significant additional training as this is currently out of the scope of the role and under the purview of the Courts.
- Enforcement – The language within the bylaws will likely create an increase in complaints for such things as noise complaints, making it difficult and time consuming to enforce the bylaws.
- Comparable Communities: Cochrane does not have a dog limit and in discussing with their Peace Officers, number of dogs per household are not contributing to the incidents or complaints received.

PART 1 – DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS



Clause:

Section 2(f) “*Certified Professional Dog Trainer*” means a person specializing in training dogs who is certified by the Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers

Concern:

- It is not clear why this certification was chosen, and this clause does not consider dog trainer experience beyond the minimum 300 hours of self reported training required for the CPDT certification.
- It is also noted that “dwelling unit” is not defined in this section and is later used in S.9(2)

PART 2 – LICENSING REQUIREMENTS



Clause:

S.8(c) Obtain a license on the first day on which the Animal Services Centre is open for business after becoming the Owner of the Animal

Concern:

- This clause does not allow for a grace period for new pet owners to assess the fit of the animal in their home. This is especially important for rescues who have been re-homed.

PART 2 – LICENSING REQUIREMENTS



Clause:

S.9(1) A Person must not own more than six (6) dogs and six (6) cats that are more than three months of age.

S.9(2) A Person must not permit more than six (6) dogs and six (6) cats that are more than three months of age to reside in one dwelling unit.

Concern:

- This clause may impact the city's revenue for licensed animals with a limit of 6.
- It also unfairly targets breeders who may responsibly have more animals on their "dwelling" than the proposed maximum, impacting their ability to continue with breeding practices.
- This clause does not take into consideration owners who own dogs for competition sports with various organizations. These individuals often compete with multiple dogs at a high level in their sports while bringing up young dogs for competition. This will often result in a number of dogs over and above the proposed limit.
- There is no evidence that this licensing approach reduces animal hoarding, smells, or noise.
- The proposed updates to the bylaw do not indicate what the fee for Excess Animal Permits are in the Fee Schedule.

PART 3 – OWNER RESPONSIBLE FOR BEHAVIOR OF ANIMAL



Clause:

S.15(1) An Owner must not operate a wheeled conveyance such as a bicycle, e-bicycle, skateboard, roller-skates, scooter, e- scooter, Segway, or other similar vehicle on a Pathway, with any Animal on a Leash

Concern:

- While it is recognized that this is not a new update, it is surprising that this is still a bylaw in Calgary when other cities, such as Edmonton do not have this bylaw in place and do not report any issues. Allowing responsible pet owners the ability to exercise an animal on a bicycle with adequate safety measures in place that safely attach the dog to the bicycle will allow responsible pet owners the ability to exercise dogs who may not be good candidates for off-leash parks.

PART 3 – OWNER RESPONSIBLE FOR BEHAVIOR OF ANIMAL



Clause:

S.16(5) Notwithstanding subsection 4(b), the Owner of an Animal must not leave an Animal unattended in a motor vehicle when the temperature outdoors is below minus 15 (fifteen) Celsius or above plus 15 (fifteen) degrees Celsius.

Concern:

- This clause does not appear to consider any individual scenario or allow responsible pet owners the ability to manage their animals based on their individual needs. Breeds such as Siberian Huskies and Samoyeds would have no issue in -15C temperatures, alternatively, other breeds may not have any issues in +15C temperatures. Further, ventilation, shade cloths, blankets, water available etc. are all mitigation strategies that can safely allow animals to be left in a vehicle.
- This clause causes significant issues for responsible pet owners attending any dog event where crating is required in the vehicle.
- This clause does not consider an exemption for police dogs who often remain in the police vehicles unattended with mitigating actions in place to assure the safety of the dogs.

PART 3 – OWNER RESPONSIBLE FOR BEHAVIOR OF ANIMAL



Clause:

S.20(1) The Owner of an Animal must ensure that such Animal does not bark, howl, or otherwise make or cause a noise which disturbs any Person.

S.20(2) Whether any sound annoys or disturbs a Person, or otherwise constitutes objectionable noise, is a question of fact to be determined by a Court hearing a prosecution pursuant to this section of the Bylaw.

Concern:

- This clause could increase litigation because property right's override bylaw, and it would have to be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that there is an issue with the noise.
- This clause leaves the definition of noise up to personal interpretation and does not provide criteria to thwart unnecessary complaints to bylaw.
- Finally, in Section 5 and 6 of this proposed bylaw, the Chief Bylaw Officer is given jurisdiction to label a dog a nuisance or vicious and this clause contradicts these sections by indicating that noise shall be a fact determined by the Court.

PART 3 – OWNER RESPONSIBLE FOR BEHAVIOR OF ANIMAL



Clause:

S. 22 The *Owner* of an Animal must ensure that such Animal does not:

- (1) Bite, bark at, or chase stock, Animals, bicycles, automobiles, or other vehicles
- (2) chase or otherwise threaten a Person or Persons, whether on the property of the Owner or not
- (4) do any act that injures a Person or Persons, whether on the property of the Owner or not
- (7) Attack another Animal causing Severe Injury, whether on the property of the Owner or not

Concern:

- These clauses do not consider the territorial nature of animals. Most dogs will bark or act threateningly towards an intruder on their own property, whether human or another animal.

PART 5 – NUISANCE ANIMALS



Clause:

S.44 The Chief Bylaw Officer may designate an Animal to be a Nuisance Animal....

Concern:

- This clause changes the jurisdiction of designating an Animal a Nuisance from the Provincial Court to the Chief Bylaw Officer. This approach does not favor an objective process and could allow for personal opinion and prejudice to make decisions around an Animals future.

PART 5 – NUISANCE ANIMALS



Clause:

S.47 The Chief Bylaw Officer may impose one or more of the following conditions on an Owner of a Nuisance Animal:

(e) Require the Owner to retain the services of a Certified Professional Dog Trainer to provide the Owner with a specific type of education and training, for a specified number of hours, and require that the Owner provide proof of completion of such education and training hours;

Concern:

- As previously indicated in this presentation, Certified Professional Dog Trainer as defined in the proposed bylaw is a narrow definition and does not account for or consider trainer experience with nuisance or vicious animals.
- In addition, the education required for a CPDT is only 300 hours, a 180 question multiple choice test which only allocates 5% of the test to training equipment, tools which could be used to manage nuisance or vicious dogs and does not consider any behavior management strategies in the curriculum.

What will I be tested on?

Instruction skills = 48%

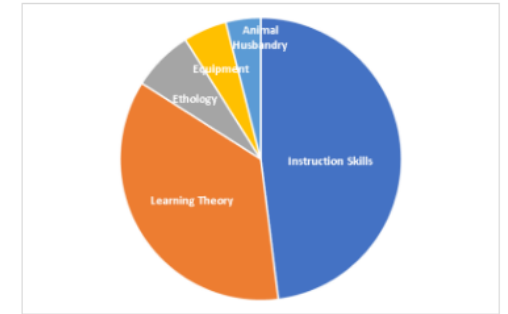
Learning Theory = 36%

Ethology = 7%

Equipment = 5%

Animal Husbandry = 4%

*Retrieved from the CCPDT Website



PART 5 – NUISANCE ANIMALS



Clause:

S.47 The Chief Bylaw Officer may impose one or more of the following conditions on an Owner of a Nuisance Animal:

(g) Any other additional condition that is similar to the above, and in the opinion of the Chief Bylaw Officer is reasonably necessary to reduce the nuisance posed by such Nuisance Animal.

Concern:

- This clause is vague and allows for subjectivity when assigning conditions to an Owner of a nuisance animal.

PART 6 – VICIOUS ANIMALS



Clause:

S.51 The Chief Bylaw Officer may designate an Animal to be a Vicious Animal...

S.53 The Chief Bylaw Officer may order the Owner of an Animal alleged to be a Vicious Animal to surrender the Animal to an Officer to be impounded at the Animal Services Centre pending the outcome of the Chief Bylaw Officer's decision on whether the Animal should be designated a Vicious Animal and any related appeal.

Concern:

- This clause changes the jurisdiction of designating an Animal Vicious from the Provincial Court to the Chief Bylaw Officer. This approach does not favor an objective process and could allow for personal opinion and prejudice to make decisions around an Animals future.

PART 6 – VICIOUS ANIMALS



Clause:

S.56(b) if the Animal is in an unaltered state, within 10 (ten) days of receiving the notice of the designation, have the Vicious Animal neutered or spayed at the Owner's expense;

Concern:

- Altering an animal is an unnecessary action to any act defined in S.51 and there is little evidence to support altering as a means to fixing unwanted behaviors.
- Some studies indicate that aggression can be made worse after sexual alteration.

PART 6 – VICIOUS ANIMALS



Clause:

S.57.1 The Chief Bylaw Officer may impose one or more of the following conditions on the Owner of a Vicious Animal:

- (b) Require the Owner to retain the services of a Certified Professional Dog Trainer to provide the Owner with a specific type of education and training, for a specified number of hours, and require that the Owner provide proof of completion of such education and training hours;
- (d) Any other additional condition that is similar to the above, and in the opinion of the Chief Bylaw Officer is reasonably necessary to ensure the health and safety of Persons in the City.

Concern:

- As expressed under Part 5 Nuisance Animals

PART 9 - ENFORCEMENT



Clause:

S.82 The early payment and specified fines in Schedule “C” in respect of a contravention of Sections 11(1) and 22(1)-(9) of this Bylaw are increased by one hundred dollars (\$100.00) where the Animal involved in the offence was unaltered.

Concern:

This clause unfairly targets responsible breeders whose animals may have been found in contravention of Sections 11(1) and 22(1)-(9) of this proposed Bylaw.

PART 10 - TRANSITIONAL



Clause:

Schedule A Exclusion of Excess Animal Permit
Schedule C

Concern:

- The exclusion of the Excess Animal Permit from the fee schedule gives question to how available this will be to responsible animal owners, and what the cost will be.
- The fees indicated in Schedule C 16(5) unfairly targets responsible animal owners who safely contain their dogs in a vehicle in weather above 15C or below -15C regardless of the mitigating actions such as ventilation, sun shades, blankets, fans etc. and does not take into account the breed of the dogs, or the visual observation of signs of distress.
- The fees in Schedule C appear do not appear to represent the severity of the offence ie: failure to clean up after an animal is a higher fee than an animal that causes injury to a person



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

In accordance with sections 43 through 45 of Procedure Bylaw 35M2017, the information provided may be included in the written record for Council and Council Committee meetings which are publicly available through www.calgary.ca/ph. Comments that are disrespectful or do not contain required information may not be included.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

Personal information provided in submissions relating to matters before Council or Council Committees is collected under the authority of Bylaw 35M2017 and Section 33(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act of Alberta, and/or the Municipal Government Act (MGA) Section 230 and 636, for the purpose of receiving public participation in municipal decision-making. Your name and comments will be made publicly available in the Council agenda. If you have questions regarding the collection and use of your personal information, please contact City Clerk's Legislative Coordinator at 403-268-5861, or City Clerk's Office, 700 Macleod Trail S.E., P.O. Box 2100, Postal Station 'M' 8007, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2M5.

- ✓ I have read and understand that my name and comments will be made publicly available in the Council agenda. My email address will not be included in the public record.

First name (required) Catherine

Last name (required) Smith

What do you want to do? (required) Submit a comment

Public hearing item (required - max 75 characters) Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw – legalizing backyard hens

Date of meeting May 31, 2021

Thank you for addressing the issue of legalizing backyard hens in Calgary. I have a farm where we keep a small flock of egg-laying hens. We also have a house in Calgary. I am not a passionate keeper of hens, and view this issue from a perspective of practicality for welfare of both animal and people, and waste and land use management.

The value of keeping small flock of egg laying hens for Calgary citizens (suggested 6 birds, as allowable in Edmonton), I believe, strongly outweighs arguments against urban hen-keeping. Small backyard flocks check off the boxes for sustainability:

1. Good for people:
 - food security: backyard food raising is needed and wanted by people; raising eggs in backyards is an important part of backyard food raising for a family
 - poverty: backyard hens for a family can supply much needed inexpensive protein food source, which is not currently available to Calgary citizens. The cost of buying the amount of eggs produced by a small flock is greater than the cost of maintaining a healthy backyard hens. The savings are important in any family or household living below or near the poverty line.
 - health: Eggs are the missing ingredient. While the city encourages raising food in Calgary by Calgarians through vegetable/fruit gardening and beekeeping, there is no ability for a

Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in

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Unrestricted

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Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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characters)

person to provide themselves a source of protein in the diet within Calgary's bylaws. An egg is known by food scientists as a powerhouse of healthy protein, vitamins, iron, and other

nutrients. The eggs from backyard hens can contribute to the nutritional health of citizens in real ways.

- active citizens: when citizens have an ability to participate in raising backyard hens, this raises citizens of all ages who are aware of a sustainable food system including the role of animals in that system.

2. Good for environment:

- waste reduction: backyard hens eat vegetable food scraps.
- urban local food decreases pressure on non-urban areas for food supply. The City of Calgary should consider it's effects of supporting backyard small hen flocks as part of a larger plan of responsible land use management in Alberta.
- Small, non-intensive food raising is understood to be a positive approach, from agricultural waste and animal welfare perspectives. Examples of successful backyard urban hen management can be copied from Edmonton's 5 yr. old program.