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November 17, 2015

**LETTER VIA EMAIL: mayorandcouncillors@richmond.ca
& communitybylaws@richmond.ca
Original and enclosures to follow by mail**

City of Richmond (the "City")
6911 No. 3 Road
Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1

Re: Third Request for an amendment to City of Richmond's Animal Bylaws

We are writing to address Council again, this time jointly with HugABull Advocacy and Rescue Society ("HugABull"). Together with 612 other Richmond Residents, who have signed a petition in our support, we are applying to Council for a fair and open review of the City of Richmond's animal bylaws.

In speaking with City staff over this past year, it was suggested that making a change like the one we've requested would be a lot of work, would require lawyers, and was not worth it for only one family's request. This inspired us to start an online petition to find out how many other Richmond residents felt the way we did about our current animal bylaws. In addition to receiving a significant amount of support from the public, HugABull has agreed to support us in this application.

In order to show you how other B.C. municipalities have dealt with this issue fairly and flexibly, we have enclosed with this letter the animal bylaws for two other cities in British Columbia, Nanaimo & New Westminster.

Nanaimo, which still has breed specific legislation, allows for exemptions through Canine Good Neighbour ("CGN") Certification. Details on the CGN program have been previously provided and can also be found at the following website:

<http://www.ckc.ca/en/Raising-My-Dog/Responsible-Ownership/Canine-Good-Neighbour-Program>

Attached please find a full printed copy of our online petition with over 6,100 signatures, as well as 6 hard copies of the petition, which were circulated throughout Richmond. A total of 612 of the signatures were from Richmond residents would like to see a change to the current bylaws and in particular, something similar to what the City of Nanaimo currently has.

For your further information, I have also enclosed all of the comments posted to online petition. I have highlighted some of the comments from Richmond residents, as well as comments from residents in surrounding communities stating that until the City of Richmond changes its current animal bylaws, they will not be spending any time or money in our City. The overwhelming response that the petition has received confirms that this is an issue that is very important not just for us, but to many other dog owners, and not just Richmond residents but those that visit Richmond as well.

Other municipalities have taken it a step further and moved towards making their bylaws breed neutral, including New Westminster, which recently updated their animal bylaws to this effect. Since our petition was initiated, we have been made aware that the City of Nanaimo is also considering changing their current bylaws to completely remove all BSL and go "breed neutral".

We can also confirm that Amy Morris at the B.C. SPCA has recently written to the City also requesting a change to the animal bylaws, and recommends the adoption of New Westminster's updated bylaws. Their Position Statement and Model Animal Responsibility Bylaw package is also enclosed for your review.

HugABull is one of BC's most established animal rescue groups, working with bull breeds in our province. Over the last 12 years they have collaborated with many municipalities and community groups to provide education concerning animal control bylaws. They, like so many animal welfare groups, take the position that breed-neutral, evidence-based bylaws that target owner behaviour are the only proven way to keep the community safer and reduce dog bites. They point to New Westminster's bylaws as one of the most progressive and effective in BC.

There is also a growing body of academic research showing that while there are certain predictors for dog aggression, breed is not one of them. Perhaps the most extensive is the 2012 study by the American Veterinary Medical Association. The AVMA published a meta-analysis of three dozen academic studies that sought to study breed and bite rate. Depending on the study, breeds as diverse as German Shepherds, pit bulls, Jack Russell Terriers, and Chows were identified as most likely to bite. The study concluded that the likelihood and severity of injury was not related to breed, but instead to a constellation of factors like size, individual temperament, owner behaviour, and victim circumstances.

Simply stated, breed specific legislation has not been shown to work. We've enclosed an information package on this with details about the determination of breeds, bite statistics and the evidence to back it all up. It also includes information on other cities in B.C. and pitbulls in general.

In addition to all of the above, the Canadian Kennel Club is also willing to work with committees and individuals across the country to assist in the development of legislation that is reasonable and enforceable. Their policy statement is enclosed for your review.

While we are pleased that Richmond has begun to make great strides in animal welfare by banning the sale of animals in pet stores, it's time for Richmond to follow the lead of surrounding communities who have taken the time to review the data on dog aggression and change their bylaws to be breed-neutral, focusing on owner behavior and responsible ownership. Thank you once again for your consideration. We look forward to discussing this further with you at our November 23rd appearance before counsel, and note that a representative from the B.C. SPCA will also be available to answer questions.

Yours truly,



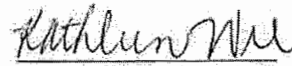
Shaun Bird



Leanne Bird

HugABull Advocacy and Rescue Society

Per:



Authorized Signatory

cc: morsetti@richmond.ca, ewarzel@richmond.ca, hberg@richmond.ca

“LICENCING AND CONTROL OF ANIMALS BYLAW 1995 NO. 4923”

Consolidated Version

2015-JUL-20

Includes Amendments: 4991, 5285, 5399, 5431, 5727, 4923.06, 4923.07, 4923.08, 4923.09,
4923.10

CITY OF NANAIMO

BYLAW NO. 4923

A BYLAW TO PROVIDE FOR THE LICENCING AND CONTROL OF ANIMALS
WITHIN THE CITY OF NANAIMO

WHEREAS the Council may, pursuant to Section 524 of the *Municipal Act*, provide for the licencing of dogs and for the establishment and collection of licence fees; and

WHEREAS the Council may, pursuant to Section 932(q)-(s) of the *Municipal Act* control animals, prohibit cruelty to animals and provide for the destruction of animals suffering from an incurable disease; and

WHEREAS the Council may, pursuant to Sections 933(1)(d)-(i), (2)-(4) and 934.1 of the *Municipal Act* regulate or prohibit, by area, the keeping of animals, bees and kennels; control, impound and detain animals unlawfully at large; establish, maintain and operate a pound facility; regulate and fix fines and fees; sell or destroy impounded animals; and provide for the laying of an information pursuant to the *Municipal Act* and the *Offence Act*.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipal Council of the City of Nanaimo in open meeting assembled, HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

Title

1. This Bylaw may be cited for all purposes as the "LICENCING AND CONTROL OF ANIMALS BYLAW 1995 NO. 4923".

Interpretation

2. In this Bylaw unless the context otherwise requires:

"Adequate Ventilation" means fresh air ventilation by means of open windows or operating
(Bylaw No. 4923.10) mechanical device that supplies fresh or cooled air.

"Animal Control Officer" means any person appointed from time to time by Council to administer
(Bylaw No. 4923.10) and enforce the provisions of this Bylaw and includes Bylaw Enforcement Officers and Peace Officers

"Animal" includes a Dog, Cat, Household Animal, Rabbit, Deer, Poultry, Bird and
(Bylaw 5727) Livestock.

"At Large" means being elsewhere than on the lands or premises owned or
occupied by the Dog Owner and not on a Leash.

"Bee"	means any of a various winged, hairy-bodied insects of the order Hymenoptera, characterized by specialized structures for gathering nectar and pollen from flowers.
"Bird"	means a member of the class Aves, which includes warm-blooded, egg-laying, feathered vertebrates having forelimbs modified to form wings.
"Cat"	means a carnivorous mammal, <i>Felis Catus</i> or <i>Felis Domesticus</i> , domesticated as a pet, or any other animals of the family Felidae.
"Choke Collar" (Bylaw No. 4923.10)	means a slip collar or chain that may constrict around the animal's neck as a result of pulling on one end of the collar or chain and includes pinch or prong collars but does not include a martingale collar
"City"	means the City of Nanaimo.
"Collector"	means the collector of the City.
"Council"	means the Municipal Council of the City.
"Deer"	means a hoofed ruminant mammal of the family Cervidae.
"Dog" (Bylaw 5727)	means a male or female animal of the species canine.
"Dog Licence"	means a licence for a Dog for the current licencing year that has been paid for and that has been issued by the City.
"Dog Owner"	means any person: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) whose name appears on a Dog Licence; (b) who is in possession of a Dog; (c) who has the care, custody or control of a Dog; or (d) who possesses, harbours or allows a Dog to remain about a house, land or premises owned or occupied by that person.
"Enclosure"	means a fence or structure of at least six (6) feet in height forming an enclosure capable of preventing the entry of a child under the age of 10 years and adequately constructed to prevent a Dog from escaping.
"Feral Rabbit" (Bylaw 4923.07)	means a domestic rabbit that is not harboured and confined to the owner's property as a pet.
"Highway"	includes every highway within the meaning of the <i>Highways Act</i> and every road, street, lane or right-of-way designed or intended for or used by the general public for the passage of vehicles and every place or passage-way owned or operated by the City for the purpose of providing off-street parking or for the use of pedestrian or bicycle traffic.
"Household Animal" (Bylaw 4923.06)	means a domesticated animal kept by a household, which is used or the product of which is used primarily and directly by the household and not for sale or profit, and includes dogs and cats, but specifically excludes Poultry and Livestock.
"Impounded"	means seized and delivered into the Pound or in the custody of the Poundkeeper.

"Leash"	means a line, thong or chain that does not exceed a length of 6 feet or 183 centimetres that is of sufficient strength to restrain a Dog without breaking.								
"Licenced Dog"	means a Dog that is wearing, either on its collar or harness, a metal tag on which is stamped figures corresponding to a Dog Licence for that specific Dog.								
"Licencing Year"	shall mean January 1st to December 31st in any year.								
"Livestock" (Bylaw 5727)	means a domesticated animal normally raised or kept for food, milk or as a beast of burden and, without limiting the foregoing, includes: <table border="0" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>cattle</td> <td>mules</td> <td>donkeys</td> <td>oxen</td> </tr> <tr> <td>goats</td> <td>sheep</td> <td>horses</td> <td>swine</td> </tr> </table> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">but specifically excludes dogs or cats.</p>	cattle	mules	donkeys	oxen	goats	sheep	horses	swine
cattle	mules	donkeys	oxen						
goats	sheep	horses	swine						
"Peace Officer" (Bylaw 4923.07)	means a bylaw enforcement officer of person appointed from time to time by resolution of the City of Nanaimo or an RCMP officer.								
"Poultry"	means a domestic fowl, a duck, a goose, a turkey, a pigeon, etc.								
"Pound"	means premises used by the Poundkeeper to harbour and maintain Animals pursuant to this Bylaw or any vehicle used by the Poundkeeper.								
"Poundkeeper" (Bylaw No. 4923.10)	means the person appointed as Poundkeeper by Council and any person or persons appointed from time to time by Council for the purpose of administering, enforcing and carrying out the provisions of this Bylaw								
"Rabbit"	means a burrowing gregarious herbivorous mammal of the hare family.								
"Restricted Dog"	means: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a Pit Bull Terrier, an American Pit Bull Terrier, a Pit Bull, a Staffordshire Bull Terrier or an American Staffordshire Terrier; or (b) a dog of mixed breeding which breeding includes the blood line of the breeds referred to in (a). <p>A Dog is not a "Restricted Dog" if the Dog is registered with the Canadian Kennel Club, the burden or proof of which registration is on the Dog Owner or the Dog/Dog Owner has successfully completed the tests required to qualify for the Canine Good Citizen (CGC) Certification. (Bylaw 5399)</p>								
"Tether or Tethering" (Bylaw No. 4923.10)	means to be hitched, tied or fastened by a securing device.								
"Unlicenced Dog"	means a Dog which is not a Licenced Dog.								
"Vicious Dog"	means a Dog which <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) has bitten a human without provocation; (b) has bitten an Animal without provocation; or (c) has a known propensity, tendency or disposition to attack or aggressively pursue without provocation a human, or an Animal; or (d) a Restricted Dog. 								

3. General

- (1) The Council does hereby authorize:
 - (a) the establishment, maintenance and operation of facilities for the impounding of Animals at such place or places and upon such premises, as the Council may determine, by resolution.
 - (b) the appointment, by resolution, of a Poundkeeper to maintain and operate the Pound or Pounds established under this Bylaw.
 - (c) the making of an agreement with such persons, firms, societies or corporations as may be fit for the purpose of maintaining and operating a Pound, for regulating the conduct of the Pound, and providing for the collection, distribution and payment of revenue and expenditures derived from the operation of the Pound.
- (2) Any Poundkeeper in charge of the Pound shall impound and detain all Animals delivered to him and shall furnish them with reasonable food, water, shelter and care.
- (3) The raising or slaughter of household animals for meat or consumption is prohibited. *(Bylaw 5727)*

PART I - CONTROL, PROTECTION, LICENCING AND IMPOUNDING OF DOGS *(Bylaw 4923.10)*

4. Control of Dogs

Except as otherwise permitted by this Bylaw:

Offences

- (1) A Dog Owner shall not permit, suffer or allow a Dog to be At Large.
- (2) A Dog Owner of a Vicious Dog or a Restricted Dog shall at all times, while the dog is anywhere else than on lands or premises owned or occupied by the Dog Owner, keep the Dog muzzled to prevent it from biting another Animal or human. *(Bylaw 4991)*
- (3) A Dog Owner of a Vicious Dog or a Restricted Dog shall at all times, while the Dog is on land or premises owned or occupied by the Dog Owner, keep the Dog securely confined either indoors or in an Enclosure.
- (4) Notwithstanding Section 4(2) of this Bylaw, the Dog Owner of a Vicious Dog or Restricted Dog which is participating in dog training or dog trials held by or sanctioned by the Association of Island Obedience Clubs or the Canadian Kennel Club is exempt from Section 4(2) while participating in such events, the burden of proof of which participation is on the Dog Owner.
- (5) A Dog Owner shall not permit, suffer or allow a Dog to be in a City cemetery, more particularly 555 Bowen Road, 1598 Townsite Road (Chinese Cemetery) or 4700 Ledgerwood Road (Wellington Cemetery). *(Bylaw 5285)*

- (6) Any owner, harbourer, or possessor of a vicious dog shall advise the Poundkeeper within one (1) week of any change of address within the City of Nanaimo which involves the relocation of the dog. (*Bylaw 5399*)

5. Licencing of Dogs

Offences

- (1) No person shall own, possess or harbour an Unlicensed Dog within the boundaries of City.

Requirements

- (2) A person who owns, possesses or harbours any Dog before the first day of January in each year, shall obtain a Dog Licence in accordance with the provisions of this Bylaw.
- (3) A Dog Licence issued pursuant to this Bylaw is valid for the Licencing Year in which it is purchased and shall expire on the 31st day of December in that Licencing Year.
- (4) Applications for and the issuance of a Dog Licence shall be the responsibility of the Collector, the Poundkeeper and such other persons as may be appointed by Council.
- (5) Every person who obtains a Dog Licence shall be given a metal tag which shall be, at all times, fastened to a collar or harness worn by the Dog for which the Dog Licence was obtained.
- (6) The number on the Dog Licence shall correspond to the stamped number on the metal tag.
- (7) Any person holding a licence under the provisions of the *Livestock Protection Act* or under a Bylaw of any other municipality of the Province of British Columbia shall not be liable to pay any Dog Licence fee pursuant to this Bylaw with respect to the same Dog for the unexpired portion of the period for which such Dog Licence shall have been issued. This provision shall not apply to any person who has obtained such licence elsewhere than from the City while residing within the City.
- (8) Where a Dog Owner finds that the metal tag issued by the City has been lost, destroyed or mutilated, the Dog Owner shall acquire for the remainder of the current licencing year a replacement tag, upon producing proof of purchase of a valid Dog Licence and upon payment of a prescribed fee.
- (9) The Dog Licence fees pursuant to this Bylaw shall be those set out in Schedule 'A' attached to and forming part of this Bylaw.
- (10) Notwithstanding Section 5(1) and Section 5(2) of this Bylaw, the following Dogs need not have a Dog Licence:
 - (a) a trained guide Dog owned or utilized by a blind person; and
 - (b) a Dog owned and utilized as an R.C.M.P. service dog.
 - (c) a Dog under the age of 12 weeks. (*Bylaw 5727*)

6. Care and Standards (Bylaw No. 4923.10)

No person shall cause, allow or permit a dog to be:

- (1) confined in a vehicle where there is no adequate ventilation or where the internal vehicle temperature exceeds twenty-three (23) degrees celsius.
- (2) tethered to a fixed object in such a way that the dog is able to leave the owner's property.
- (3) tethered to a fixed object or vehicle where:
 - (a) a choke collar forms part of the securing apparatus, or
 - (b) where a rope, cord or chain is tied directly around the dog's neck; or,
 - (c) the collar is not properly fitted or attached in a manner that will not injure the dog or enable the dog to injure itself by pulling on the tether.
- (4) tethered to a fixed object except with a tether of sufficient length to enable the full and unrestricted movement of the dog.
- (5) tethered to a fixed for longer than nine (9) hours within a 24 hour period.
- (6) tethered to traffic control device or support thereof; any fire hydrant or fire protection equipment, handrails or any other object in such a way as to obstruct the public or create a nuisance.
- (7) tethered within three (3) metres of an entrance or exit from any public building
- (8) transported in a vehicle outside of the passenger compartment unless the dog is:
 - (a) confined in a pen or cage which is securely fastened to the vehicle, or,
 - (b) secured in a body harness or tethered pursuant to Section 6(3) of this Bylaw; or,
 - (c) within a closed vehicle canopy;to prevent it from jumping or falling off the vehicle or otherwise injuring itself.

7. Impounding (Bylaw No. 4920.10)

- (1) The Animal Control Officer may seize and impound any dog which is found by him to be at large within the City.
- (2) The Animal Control Officer, upon seizure and impoundment of a dog at large, shall make every effort to inform the dog owner, if known, that the dog has been seized and impounded.
- (3) The Animal Control Officer, where it is believed that a dog is subject to suffering, may impound the dog and:
 - (a) transport the dog to a veterinarian and where the veterinarian determines that the dog's suffering cannot be reasonably addressed the dog may be destroyed in a humane manner; or,
 - (b) where the veterinarian determines that the dog's suffering may be addressed, the dog may be treated and released to the owner upon payment of the impound fees.

- (4) If a dog is impounded pursuant to this section and not claimed by the owner within 72 hours of notification or attempted notification in any manner, the dog shall be destroyed or adopted for sale.
- (5) The Poundkeeper shall maintain a log book, in which will be recorded the description of every dog impounded; the name of the person who impounded the dog; the time and location of the impoundment; all fees and costs owing and the adoption information or manner of disposal of the impounded dog.
- (6) The impoundment and maintenance fees for dogs, shall be those set out in Schedule 'B', attached to and forming part of this bylaw.

PART II - CONTROL AND IMPOUNDING OF LIVESTOCK, POULTRY, AND RABBITS

8. (a) Control of Livestock

Offences

No person shall suffer or permit any Livestock owned by him or in his charge to:

- (1) stray or trespass on a Highway;
- (2) stray or trespass in a public place;
- (3) stray or trespass on private property;
- (4) graze on unfenced land, unless they are securely tethered.
- (5) be in any City cemetery, more particularly 555 Bowen Road, 1598 Townsite Road (Chinese Cemetery) or 4700 Ledgerwood Road (Wellington Cemetery). *(Bylaw 5285)*

(b) Control of Poultry/Rabbits

Offences

No person shall suffer or permit any Poultry or Rabbits owned by him or in his charge to:

- (1) stray or trespass on a Highway;
- (2) stray or trespass in a public place;
- (3) stray or trespass on private property;
- (4) graze on unfenced land;
- (5) be released or abandoned on land within the municipality. *(Bylaw 4923.07)*

(c) Control of Bees

Offences

- (1) No person shall keep or harbour Bees in excess of three (3) beehives on any parcel of land under one (1) acre.
- (2) On parcels of land greater than one (1) acre, no person shall keep or harbour Bees in excess of three (3) beehives per acre.
- (3) No restrictions shall apply to parcels of land zoned agriculturally (A-1, A-2 or A-3).

9. (a) No person shall keep or harbour any Livestock, Poultry or Rabbit on any parcel of land unless the said parcel has an area of not less than one (1) acre).
- (b) Notwithstanding Section 8(a) of this Bylaw, a person who is a member of a certified pigeon racing club may keep up to a maximum of fifty (50) racing pigeons, the burden of proof of which membership in a certified pigeon racing club is on such person.
- (4923.08)(c) Notwithstanding Section 8(a), a maximum of six (6) chickens or ducks may be kept on a lot less than 0.4 Hectares (1 acre) in size but where the lot is less than 450 m² (4843.75 ft²) no more than four (4) chickens or ducks may be kept, provided that:
- (1) No roosters, cocks, or cockerels, or peacocks, and the like, are kept on the property;
 - (2) A minimum enclosure of 0.37 m² (4 ft²) must be provided per chicken or duck;
 - (3) Any structure containing chickens or ducks, whether portable or stationary is subject to the setback requirements of the zone;
 - (4) Structures housing chickens or ducks must be kept clean, dry, and free of odours;
 - (5) Areas within and around structures are kept free of vermin;
 - (6) Any diseased chicken or duck is killed and the carcass destroyed;
 - (7) No slaughtering of chickens or ducks occurs on the property;
 - (8) Chicken and duck manure and waste products are composted or disposed of to prevent odours; and,
 - (9) Chickens or ducks are not permitted within a dwelling unit.

10. Impounding of Livestock, Poultry, Rabbits and Bees

- (1) The Poundkeeper or any other designated person may seize and impound Livestock, Poultry, Rabbits or Bees found in contravention of Sections 7 and 8 of this Bylaw.
- (2) Impounded Livestock, Poultry or Rabbits may be reclaimed by their owner, upon proof of ownership and paying to the Poundkeeper the impoundment fees and maintenance fees for Livestock, Poultry or Rabbits as set out in Schedule 'C'.
- (3) The Poundkeeper shall inform the owner, if known, of the impoundment of their Livestock, Poultry or Rabbits.
- (4) If, after the expiration of not less than seventy-two (72) hours, the Impounded Livestock, Poultry or Rabbits have not been claimed and the impoundment fees and the maintenance fees not paid, the Poundkeeper may destroy or advertise for sale such Livestock, Poultry or Rabbits by public auction, for the best price that can be obtained provided such price exceeds the amount of the impoundment fees and the maintenance fees.
- (5) A sale shall be deemed to be duly advertised by publishing notice of the sale in at least one issue of a newspaper circulating in the City. There shall be at least three (3) business days between the date of the notice and the date of the sale.
- (6) The Poundkeeper shall maintain a log book in which he shall record the number and description of Impounded Livestock, Poultry or Rabbits; the date, time and

location of the impoundment; and the impoundment fees and maintenance fees owing.

PART III – WILDLIFE (Bylaw 4923.07)

11. No person shall feed a deer or feral rabbit within the municipality.

PART IV - CATS

12. No person shall keep, harbour or have in his possession any Cat suffering from any infectious or contagious disease, unless such Cat is in isolation and under treatment for the cure of such disease.

PART V - ENFORCEMENT

13. The *Offence Act*, where applicable, shall apply to proceedings under this Bylaw.

14. Penalty

- (1) A person or property owner who contravenes, violates or fails to comply with any provision of this bylaw, or who suffers or permits any act of thing to be done in contravention or violation of this bylaw, or who fails to do anything required by this bylaw, commits an offence and shall be liable, upon conviction, to a fine of not more than \$10,000.00 and not less than the fines prescribed in Schedule "D" of this Bylaw, the cost of prosecution and any other penalty or order imposed pursuant to the *Community Charter* or *Offence Act*.
- (2) Each day that an offence against this bylaw continues or exists shall be deemed to be a separate and distinct offence

15. Inspection

The Poundkeeper may enter, at all reasonable times, upon any property subject to this Bylaw in order to ascertain whether this Bylaw is being obeyed.

16. Repeal

"LICENCING AND CONTROL OF ANIMALS BYLAW 1987 NO. 3230" and all amendments thereto is hereby repealed in its entirety.

SCHEDULE 'A'

CITY OF NANAIMO LICENCING AND CONTROL OF ANIMALS BYLAW

DOG LICENCE FEES

Dog Licence fees, pursuant to Section 5(9), shall be:

- (a) \$30.00 for each Dog. A licence fee shall be subject to a discount of \$5.00 if paid on or before the 28th day of February of the year in which the licence is effective. Each licence fee shall be payable for the Licencing Year in which the Licence shall be applied for regarding of the date within that year when the application for the Licence shall be made.
- (b) Notwithstanding (a) if a person becomes the owner of a dog after the 1st day of July in the Licencing Year, the fee shall be \$20.00.

(Bylaw 4923.09)

SCHEDULE 'B'
LICENCING AND CONTROL OF ANIMALS BYLAW
DOG IMPOUND FEES

A Dog Owner may reclaim their Impounded Dog upon proving ownership and upon paying to the Poundkeeper the following impound fees, maintenance fees and any overdue dog licence fees pursuant to Schedule 'A'.

- (a) An impoundment fee in respect of a Licenced Dog:
 - First impoundment \$ 50.00
 - Second impoundment 100.00
 - Third and subsequent impoundments 200.00

- (b) An impoundment fee in respect of an Unlicenced Dog:
 - First impoundment \$ 150.00
 - Second impoundment 200.00
 - Third and subsequent impoundments 300.00

- (c) A maintenance fee in respect of each day or part of a day of the impoundment period \$ 15.00

- (d) An impoundment fee for a Vicious Dog or Restricted Dog
 - First impoundment \$ 500.00
 - Second impoundment 1000.00

- (e) An impoundment fee in respect of a Vicious or Restricted Dog which has caused injury to a person or animal \$ 1000.00

- (f) An impoundment fee in respect of a dog confined in a vehicle without adequate ventilation: *(Bylaw No. 4923.10)*
 - First Impoundment of a Dog \$ 200.00
 - Subsequent Impoundment \$ 300.00

(Bylaw 4923.09)

SCHEDULE 'C'

LICENCING AND CONTROL OF ANIMALS BYLAW
LIVESTOCK, POULTRY OR RABBITS IMPOUND FEES

An owner may reclaim their Impounded Livestock, Poultry or Rabbit upon proving ownership and paying to the Poundkeeper, the following impound fees and maintenance fees for each:

(a) An impoundment fee in respect of:

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| (i) any Livestock | \$50.00 per day per animal |
| (ii) any Poultry | \$10.00 per day per animal |
| (iii) any Rabbit | \$10.00 per day per animal |

(b) A maintenance fee in respect of each day or part of a day of the impoundment period:

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| (i) any Livestock | \$10.00 per day per animal |
| (ii) any Poultry | \$5.00 per day per animal |
| (iii) any Rabbit | \$5.00 per day per animal |

SCHEDULE 'D'
LICENCING AND CONTROL OF ANIMALS BYLAW
FINE SCHEDULE

<u>Description of Offence</u>	<u>Section #</u>	<u>Amount of Fine</u>
Slaughter of household animals for meat or consumption	3(3)	\$ 500.00
Dog at Large	4(1)	100.00
Restricted/vicious dog not muzzled	4(2)	500.00
Fail to enclose restricted/vicious dog	4(3)	500.00
Dog in a cemetery	4(5)	100.00
Fail to advise Poundkeeper of change of address within one week	4(6)	100.00
Fail to licence a dog	5(1)	50.00
Fail to display a dog licence	5(5)	50.00
Dog without adequate ventilation (Bylaw No. 4923.10)	6(1)	500.00
Dog able to leave property (Bylaw No. 4923.10)	6(2)	100.00
Dog tethered incorrectly (Bylaw No. 4923.10)	6(3)	100.00
Dog movement restricted (Bylaw No. 4923.10)	6(4)	100.00
Dog tethered over allowable time (Bylaw No. 4923.10)	6(5)	100.00
Dog tethered obstructing public (Bylaw No. 4923.10)	6(6)	100.00
Dog tethered within 3 metres (Bylaw No. 4923.10)	6(7)	100.00
Dog transported incorrectly (Bylaw No. 4923.10)	6(8)	200.00
Livestock running at large	7(a)	50.00
Livestock in a cemetery	7(a)(5)	100.00
Poultry/rabbits running at large	7(b)	50.00
Release or abandon a rabbit on land within the municipality (4923.07)	Sec. 7(b)(5)	100.00
Exceed maximum number of chickens or ducks	8(c)	100.00

Exceed 3 beehives under 1 acre	7(c)(1)	100.00
Exceed 3 beehives per acre	7(c)(2)	100.00
Keep livestock, poultry or rabbits	8(a)	100.00
Feed a deer or feral rabbit within the municipality (Bylaw 4923.07)	10	100.00
Keep cat suffering from infectious disease	11(1)	100.00

**CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NEW WESTMINSTER
BYLAW NO. 7586, 2013**

A bylaw to regulate the keeping of animals, establish and operate
the Animal Shelter, provide for the licensing of dogs and for the
impounding and prevention of cruelty to animals

WHEREAS the Community Charter SBC 2003, Chapter 26 authorizes a local government to regulate, prohibit and impose requirements in relation to animals;

NOW THEREFORE the City Council of the Corporation of the City of New Westminster in open meeting assembled **HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. This bylaw may be cited as **“Animal Care and Control Bylaw NO. 7586, 2013”**
2. Animal Control Bylaw 7037, 2005 Bylaw and amendments thereto are hereby repealed.

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1 In this bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:

“Aggressive Behaviour” includes snarling, growling, baring teeth or pursuing another animal or person;

“Aggressive Dog” means a dog that:

- i. has, without provocation, displayed aggressive behaviour toward a person or domestic animal; or
- ii. has, without provocation, caused a minor injury to a person or domestic animal;

“Animal” means any member of the animal kingdom, other than a human being;

“Animal Control Officer” means a person appointed by Council for the purpose of administering the provisions of this bylaw;

“Animal Shelter” means the City facility established for the holding of impounded animals as set out in this bylaw;

“At Large” means:

- i. when not on the property of the owner;

- ii. uncontained and not under the immediate charge and control of a responsible person and/ or competent person; or
- iii. not under the direct control or within the immediate vicinity of the owner or responsible person in an authorized off leash area;

“Bylaw Officer” means a member of the New Westminster Police Department or such person appointed by council as a Bylaw Officer, Animal Control Officer, or Parking Patrol Officer;

“Cat” means a member of the felis catus family and commonly known as the domestic house cat;

“City” means the Corporation of the City of New Westminster and the geographical area within the boundaries of the City;

“Continuous Sound” means any noise or sound continuing for a period of, or periods totaling, three minutes or more of any fifteen minute period;

“Community Charter” means the Community Charter, SBC 2003, Chapter 26, as amended from time to time;

“Council” means the Municipal Council of the City;

“Dangerous Dog” means a dangerous dog as defined in the Community Charter;

“Dog” means any animal of the canine species irrespective of age or sex;

“Domestic Animal” means an animal that is tame or kept, or that has been or is being sufficiently tamed or kept, to serve some purpose for people;

“Enclosure” means a structure at least 1.8 meters in height having a concrete or asphalt floor and wire or steel mesh sides and roof, which is adequate to prevent the entry of young children or the escape of a dog enclosed therein;

“Fees and Rates Bylaw” means the current City Fees & Rates Bylaw No. 7553, 2013 as amended by Council from time to time;

“Hen” means a domesticated female chicken;

“Identification” means:

- i. a collar or tag worn by a cat or dog which includes the name, current address and telephone number or the owner;

- ii. a traceable tattoo;
- iii. a traceable microchip; or
- iv. a valid dog licence issued by a municipality;

"Impound" means seize, deliver, receive, or take into the pound or other suitable place of confinement by the Bylaw Officer;

"Keep" means harbour, house, and display, possess or offer for sale;

"Licence" means a licence tag for a dog issued by the City of New Westminster;

"Leash" means a device of sufficient strength and design to restrain the animal for which it is being used, where one end is securely affixed to the animal and the other end is being securely held by the owner of the animal;

"Minor Injury" means a physical injury to a person or domestic animal that consists of pinches, minor localized bruising, scratches, shallow punctures, or lacerations in one direction only;

"Muzzled" means prevented from biting by means of a humane fastening or covering device, of adequate strength, placed securely over the mouth;

"Off Leash Area" means an area of City-owned property designated by signs, which defines the geographic area and or times that dogs are permitted to be unrestrained by a leash;

"Owner" means any natural person or body corporate:

- i. who is the licensed owner of an animal;
- ii. who has legal title to an animal;
- iii. who has possession or custody of an animal, either temporarily or permanently;
- iv. who harbours an animal;
- v. who allows an animal to remain on their premises; or
- vi. where an animal is being kept or harboured by or in the possession or custody of a person under the age of 18 years, the custodial parent or legal guardian of that person;

"Peace Officer" means a member of the New Westminster Police Department, Bylaw Officer, Animal Control Officer, Parking Patrol Officer, or other person so employed for the preservation and maintenance of public peace;

"Poultry" means domesticated fowl collectively; especially those valued for their meat and eggs, such as chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, and guinea fowl;

"Public Place" means a highway, street, lane, boulevard, park, or any other real property owned, held, vested in, or operated, managed or administered by, the City or by a school located within the City;

"Serious Injury" means a physical injury to a person or domestic animal that:

- i. consists of deep punctures, lacerations in more than one direction, or broken bones; or
- ii. requires sutures or cosmetic surgery;

"Service Dog" means any dog trained by a recognized and accredited institution:

- i. as a law enforcement dog; or
- ii. to provide assistance to a hearing or visually impaired, physically or developmentally challenged person;

"Sterilized" means spayed or neutered;

"Supervisor" means the Senior Animal Control Officer; Coordinator, Parking and Animal Services; or Supervisor, Parking and Animal Services;

"Under Control" means, in respect of any dog, such circumstances where the dog:

- i. immediately returns when called or signaled by the owner of the dog;
and
- ii. is not displaying aggressive behaviour

"Unlicensed Dog" means any dog for which the licence fee for the current year has not been paid, or any dog which is not wearing a licence tag for the current year;

"Vicious Dog" means a dog that:

- i. has, without provocation, caused a serious injury to another domestic animal or a human being;

- ii. has a known propensity, tendency or disposition to attack without provocation other animals or humans; or
- iii. displays unprovoked aggressive behavior;

“Wild Animal” means those animals listed in Schedule “A” attached to and forming part of this bylaw, whether bred in the wild or in captivity, and includes their hybrids with domestic species.

4. LICENSING AND IDENTIFICATION OF ANIMALS

- 4.1 Every owner shall obtain a valid licence for the dog(s) by applying in writing to the City of New Westminster on the form provided and paying the prescribed fee as set out in the Fees and Rates Bylaw.
 - 4.1.1 Every licence issued under this bylaw shall be for that calendar year specified thereon and shall expire on December 31 of that year.
 - 4.1.2 The owner shall securely affix and keep affixed the licence tag to the dog’s collar.
 - 4.1.3 Every owner applying for a licence for a sterilized dog must present a certificate from a qualified veterinarian confirming that the dog has been sterilized.
 - 4.1.4 Every owner of a dog that been certified by a qualified veterinarian as being too old or physically unable to undergo the necessary surgery to sterilize the dog shall be able to obtain a licence for a sterilized dog.
- 4.2 Every owner of a cat shall ensure that the cat has identification at all times.
- 4.3 The City shall issue to an owner of a dog a replacement licence upon payment of the fee set out in the Fees and Rates Bylaw after being satisfied that the original licence has been lost or stolen.
- 4.4 Licence fees are not refundable or pro-rated.
- 4.5 An owner of a dog may transfer a valid licence, only if:
 - 4.5.1 the dog is currently licenced by another municipality in the Province of British Columbia and the owner surrenders such licence and pays the fee set out in the Fees and Rates Bylaw; or
 - 4.5.2 the owner replaces a licenced dog which has died, applies with the City for a transfer of the licence and pays any applicable fees.

- 4.6 The City shall maintain a record of all licences issued pursuant to this bylaw, including the names and addresses of all dog owners, the description and licence number of all dogs, and the date that the licence was issued and the fee which was paid.
- 4.7 No person shall without lawful excuse, remove, obscure or deface a valid licence which has been affixed to a dog's collar, or any identification worn by any other animal.
- 4.8 A licence issued pursuant to this bylaw shall be valid from the 1st day of January and shall expire on the 31st day of December of the year in which it is issued.

5. CONTROL

- 5.1 Every owner of an animal shall:
 - 5.1.1 ensure that the animal is not at large in the City or trespass on any private property;
 - 5.1.2 ensure that the animal is not on any property that is unfenced and not able to securely contain the animal while unattended.
- 5.2 Owners of sterilized and identified cats are exempt from the requirements of Section 5.1.
- 5.3 Every owner of a dog shall:
 - 5.3.1 have in their possession, a suitable means of facilitating the removal of the dog feces when on any place off the owner's property;
 - 5.3.2 provide proof of compliance with section 5.3.1 when requested by a bylaw officer; and
 - 5.3.3 immediately remove and dispose of, in a waste container or by other sanitary means, any feces deposited by the dog on any place off the owner's property.
- 5.4 Except when in a designated off leash area, every owner of a dog shall secure the dog by a collar and leash and keep the dog under control while not on the owner's property.
- 5.5 When in a designated off leash area, every owner of a dog, may allow their dog to be off-leash provided that the owner:
 - 5.5.1 carry a leash;
 - 5.5.2 keep the dog in view at all times;

- 5.5.3 keep the dog under control; and
- 5.5.4 immediately leash the dog if it displays any aggressive behavior.
- 5.6 Every owner shall ensure that their dog does not:
 - 5.6.1 display aggressive behavior towards a person or domestic animal;
 - 5.6.2 cause a minor injury to a person or domestic animal; or
 - 5.6.3 cause a serious injury to a person or domestic animal.
- 5.7 Section 5.6 does not apply to a peace officer acting in the course of his duty.
- 5.8 Every owner of a female dog in heat must:
 - 5.8.1 while on the premises of the owner, confine the dog in an enclosed pen or other structure that is adequately constructed to prevent the female dog in heat from escaping and prevent the entry of any other dog from gaining access to it; and
 - 5.8.2 keep the dog out of all designated off leash areas.
- 5.9 Every owner of a whelping female dog must, where the dog has, at any time during the whelping period or any previous whelping period, displayed aggressive behaviour, keep the dog confined to premises under the control of the owner.
- 5.10 Every owner of a diseased animal must, where the disease poses a threat to the health or safety of a person or domestic animal, ensure that the diseased animal does not leave the property or premises of the owner other than for the purpose of visits of a veterinarian, in which case the animal must be transported in a manner as to ensure that it does not come into contact with another person or domestic animal.

6. AGGRESSIVE DOGS

- 6.1 Where a dog meets the definition of an aggressive dog, the bylaw officer may issue written notice to the owner of that dog advising the owner of the requirements of this bylaw with respect to aggressive dogs.
- 6.2 Every owner of an aggressive dog shall:
 - 6.2.1 secure the dog by a collar and leash that is a maximum length of one (1) metre when not on the owner's property;
 - 6.2.2 ensure that the dog is not at large within the City at any time;

6.2.3 keep the dog muzzled when in a designated off leash area; and

6.2.4 within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving notice that their dog is an aggressive dog, ensure the dog has permanent identification and provide the identification information to the bylaw officer.

6.3 After one year of receiving notice that their dog is an aggressive dog, the owner of the aggressive dog may apply to the supervisor for relief from the requirements of sections 6.2.1 and 6.2.3 provided that:

6.3.1 the City has received no further complaints in regard to that dog's aggressive behaviour;

6.3.2 proof and documentation is provided that the owner and the dog have successfully completed a course by a recognized and accredited institution or trainer to address the dog's aggressive behaviour.

6.4 If a dog displays aggressive behavior again after relief has been granted pursuant to section 6.3, the requirements of section 6.2 shall permanently apply.

7. VICIOUS DOGS

7.1 Where a dog meets the definition of a vicious dog, the bylaw officer may issue written notice to the owner of that dog advising the owner of the requirements of this bylaw with respect to vicious dogs.

7.2 Every owner of a vicious dog shall:

7.2.1 secure the dog by a collar and leash that is a maximum length of one (1) metre when not on the owner's property;

7.2.2 ensure that the dog is not at large within the City at any time;

7.2.3 ensure that the dog is not in a designated off leash area in the City at any time;

7.2.4 keep the dog effectively muzzled to prevent it from biting another animal or human when not on the owner's property;

7.2.5 post a clearly visible sign at all points of entry onto any premises where the dog is being kept, temporarily or permanently, warning that there is a vicious dog on the premises;

- 7.2.6 at all times while the vicious dog is on the person's premises, keep the vicious dog securely confined indoors or confined outdoors in an enclosed pen or other structure that is adequately constructed to prevent the entry of any unauthorized person including small children or to prevent the vicious dog from escaping.
- 7.2.7 within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving notice that their dog is a vicious dog, ensure the dog has permanent identification and provide the identification information to the bylaw officer.

8. DANGEROUS DOGS

- 8.1 Where a dog meets the definition of a dangerous dog, the bylaw officer may issue written notice to the owner of that dog advising the owner of the requirements of this bylaw with respect to dangerous dogs.
- 8.2 Every owner of a dangerous dog shall:
 - 8.2.1 secure the dog by a collar and leash that is a maximum length of one (1) metre when not on the owner's property;
 - 8.2.2 ensure that the dog is not at large within the City at any time;
 - 8.2.3 ensure that the dog is not in a designated off leash area in the City at any time;
 - 8.2.4 keep the dog effectively muzzled to prevent it from biting another animal or human when not on the owner's property;
 - 8.2.5 post a clearly visible sign at all points of entry onto any premises where the dog is being kept, temporarily or permanently, warning that there is a dangerous dog on the premises;
 - 8.2.6 at all times while the dog is on the person's premises, keep the dog securely confined indoors or confined outdoors in an enclosure;
 - 8.2.7 within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving notice that their dog is a dangerous dog, ensure the dog has permanent identification and provide the identification information to the bylaw officer;
 - 8.2.8 have the dangerous dog photographed and the photo retained at the animal shelter for identification purposes; and
 - 8.2.9 provide to the bylaw officer proof of liability insurance in the amount of not less than one million (\$1,000,000) dollars for the period of the dog license, over the

premises where the dangerous dog is kept, to cover any claims arising out of dog bites or dog attacks that could be caused by the dog.

- 8.4 The bylaw officer and supervisor are hereby designated by Council as animal control officers for the purposes of section 49 of the Community Charter.

9. GUARD DOGS

- 9.1 Every owner of a guard dog shall:

- 9.1.1 prevent the dog from leaving the property of the owner by ensuring:

9.1.1.1 the dog is confined within the premises and such premises are reasonably secure against unauthorized entry;

9.1.1.2 the premises is completely fenced by means of a 1.8 meter fence constructed in accordance with City bylaws and any gates in such fence are reasonably secured against unauthorized entry; or

9.1.1.3 the dog is securely confined in an area within the property that is adequate to ensure that the dog cannot escape;

- 9.1.2 post warning signs advising of the presence of a guard dog on the, with lettering clearly visible from the lesser of the curb line of the property and 50 feet from the premises, are posted at each driveway or entranceway to the property and at all exterior doors of the premises; and

- 9.1.3 notify the supervisor before bringing the dog onto premises under control of the owner;

9.1.3.1 of the address of the property which the guard dog will be guarding, the approximate hours during which the guard dog will be performing guard duties, the breed, age, sex and dog licence number of the dog and the full names, addresses and telephone numbers of the owner and any other individual who will be responsible for the guard dog while it is on guard duty; and

9.1.3.2 written approval has been granted by the supervisor.

10. PROHIBITION OF CRUELTY AND PERFORMANCES INVOLVING ANIMALS

- 10.1 Every owner shall provide to the animal:

- 10.1.1** clean potable drinking water at all times and suitable food of sufficient quality and quantity to allow for normal growth and maintenance of normal body weight;
 - 10.1.2** food and water receptacles which are kept clean and disinfected and located so as to avoid contamination by excreta; and
 - 10.1.3** the opportunity for daily exercise sufficient to maintain good health, including the opportunity to be unfettered from a fixed area for a reasonable length of time each day, while not running at large.
- 10.2** No person shall leave an animal unattended while:
 - 10.2.1** chained or tethered;
 - 10.2.2** muzzled;
- 10.3** No person shall cause an animal to be tied or fastened to a fixed object where a choke collar or choke chain forms part of the securing apparatus, or where a rope, chain or cord is directly tied around the animal's neck.
- 10.4** Every owner must provide immediate veterinary medical care when an animal exhibits signs of pain or suffering.
- 10.5** No owner shall keep an animal outside for extended periods of time unless the animal is provided with outside shelter that:
 - 10.5.1** ensures protection from heat, cold, water, or water vapor and that is appropriate to the animal's weight and type of coat; and
 - 10.5.1.1** is in an area providing sufficient shade to protect the animal from the direct rays of the sun at all times; and
 - 10.5.1.2** provides sufficient space to allow the animal the ability to turn about freely and to easily stand, sit, and lie in a normal position; and
 - 10.5.1.3** the shelter is at least 2 times the length of the animal and at least the animal's length in width, and at least as high as the animal's height measured from the floor to the highest point of the animal when standing normal position, plus 10%; and
 - 10.5.2** is regularly cleaned and sanitized and from which all excreta is removed at least once a day.

- 10.6** No owner shall cause an animal to be confined in an enclosed space, including a motor vehicle or boat, without adequate ventilation.
- 10.7** No person shall transport a living animal on the running board, fender, hood, truck bed or other exterior part of a motor vehicle unless a suitable cage, carrier or guard rail is provided and is attached adequately to protect that animal from falling or being thrown from the vehicle or otherwise injuring itself.
- 10.8** No person shall operate or carry on any show, exhibition, performance, carnival or circus within the City where any animals, including, without limitation, wild animals perform, fight or otherwise participate except for;
- 10.8.1** an agricultural fair, pet show, magician show or children's petting zoo in which domestic animals or companion animals perform or are exhibited, provided that;
- 10.8.1.1** the supervisor has been provided with written notice dated no more than three (3) months earlier than the day of the proposed performance, certifying that the domestic animals or companion animals are in good health; and
- 10.8.1.2** written approval has been granted by the supervisor.
- 10.9** No person shall keep any wild animal within the City.
- 10.10** No person in care and control of an animal shall abandon that animal within the City.
- 10.11** No person shall keep a rooster within the City.

11. IMPOUNDING OF ANIMALS

- 11.1** A bylaw officer may seize and impound any animal:
- 11.1.1** which is unlicensed, if there is a requirement that it be licensed;
- 11.1.2** unlawfully at large on a highway or in a public place;
- 11.1.3** straying or trespassing on private property;
- 11.1.4** on unfenced land and not securely tethered or contained; or
- 11.1.5** that is subject to, or appears to be, suffering that the bylaw officer considers cannot be otherwise reasonably addressed.

- 11.2** An animal that is seized pursuant to section 11.1.5 may be destroyed if the bylaw officer considers that the animal is subject to, or appears to be, suffering that the bylaw officer considers cannot be otherwise reasonably addressed.
- 11.3** If an impounded animal is known to have inflicted a bite on another animal or person, it may be kept in isolation, and if it is determined that the animal is suffering from rabies or any other incurable disease, the bylaw officer may immediately bring such animal to a qualified veterinarian to be humanely destroyed;
- 11.3.1** Except where the bylaw officer has made an application to the Provincial Court for an order that a dangerous dog be destroyed or has determined that the dangerous dog suffers from rabies or other incurable disease and is to be destroyed, the owner of a dangerous dog impounded pursuant to the provisions of Section 11.1 of this bylaw, may reclaim such dangerous dog after the twenty-one (21) day impounding period, or at such earlier time as the bylaw officer may determine, on application to the bylaw officer and upon establishing proof of ownership of the dangerous dog, payment of the fees set out in the Fees and Rates Bylaw and delivery to the bylaw officer of an executed statement in the form prescribed by Schedule "B" attached to and forming part of this bylaw;
- 11.3.2** If the dangerous dog which has been impounded pursuant to the provisions of Section 11.1 of this bylaw is not reclaimed after the twenty-one (21) day impounding period, or at such earlier time as the bylaw officer may, at any time thereafter, cause such dangerous dog to be destroyed; except that where the owner of such dangerous dog requests a further period of time in which to construct an enclosure for the dangerous dog, the bylaw officer may extend the time limited to reclaim the dangerous dog for a period of not more than thirty (30) calendar days upon receiving payment in advance of all fees prescribed in the Fees and Rates Bylaw.
- 11.4** The City shall keep every impounded animal in the animal shelter for a minimum of ninety-six (96) hours after impoundment unless:
- 11.4.1** it is reclaimed sooner by the rightful owner; or
- 11.4.2** it is suffering from an incurable disease or severe injury.
- 11.5** Subject to the provisions of this bylaw, an impounded animal may be reclaimed by an owner after:
- 11.5.1** providing satisfactory proof of ownership and where applicable, proof of sterilization of the animal;

11.5.2 paying the impoundment and maintenance fees as set out in the Fees and Rates Bylaw, and;

11.5.3 paying, in addition to the impoundment and maintenance fees, the required licence fee for any unlicensed dog.

11.6 The sole cost and expense of an impounded or detained animal is the responsibility of the animal's owner, and must be paid in full before the animal is released, if the City deems it necessary that the animal:

11.6.1 requires any treatment deemed necessary by the City;

11.6.2 requires an examination by a veterinarian;

11.6.3 requires urgent veterinary care to alleviate any pain or suffering as recommended by a veterinarian; or

11.6.4 is subject to, or appears to be, suffering that the bylaw officer considers cannot be otherwise reasonably addressed.

11.7 The City may have the animal humanely destroyed, offered by sale, or transfer to another animal shelter, any impounded animal which remains unclaimed after the expiration of the minimum impoundment period.

11.8 The City may remove and have cremated any animal received from an owner after payments of fees set out in the Fees and Rates Bylaw are made to the City.

12. PENALTIES AND ENFORCEMENT

12.1 Every bylaw officer is authorized in accordance with section 16 of the Community Charter at all reasonable times and with reasonable notice to enter onto any property within the City, for the purposes of ascertaining whether the provisions of this bylaw are being complied with.

12.2 A bylaw officer is hereby authorized to issue orders in writing to every person who owns, keeps, or has custody, care or control of an animal which is in contravention of this bylaw, and said person shall be responsible for the carrying out every requirement of every such order.

12.3 No owner shall keep more than three (3) dogs on any parcel of land or real property.

12.4 Every owner of an animal, other than a service animal, must obey all posted signs in a public place.

12.5 Every owner of an animal shall ensure that the animal does not produce any noise or continuous sound which disturbs or tends to disturb the quiet, peace, rest, comfort, convenience or enjoyment of the neighbourhood or of persons in the vicinity.

12.6 Every person who takes any animal, or attempts to take any animal that is lawfully in the custody of a bylaw officer, or who interferes with, obstructs or impedes a bylaw officer in lawful performance of their duties is guilty of an offense under this bylaw.

12.7 Every owner of an animal shall, at the request of a bylaw officer, produce identification and state correctly his or her name and address.

12.7.1 If the owner cannot produce identification, then the owner shall state correctly his or her name and address.

12.8 Every person who violates any of the provisions of this bylaw or who suffers or permits anything to be done in contravention or violation of this bylaw, or who neglects or refrains from doing anything required to be done under the provisions of this bylaw shall be guilty of an offense punishable on a summary conviction and liable to a fine not exceeding the maximum set out in the Offence Act, as amended;

12.8.1 a violation that is committed or continued on more than one day constitutes a separate violation for each day on which it is committed or continued.

13. EXEMPTIONS FOR WILD ANIMALS

13.1 This bylaw does not apply to the premises of a City facility.

13.2 The prohibition against keeping wild animals in Schedule "A" of this bylaw does not apply to:

13.2.1 the premises of a veterinarian if the veterinarian is providing temporary care for a wild or exotic animal.

14. GENERAL

14.1 If any Court of competent jurisdiction declares any phrase, sentence or section of this Bylaw invalid, the invalid portion shall be severed and the severance shall not affect the validity of the remainder.

SCHEDULE "A"

NEW WESTMINSTER ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL BYLAW 7586, 2013

WILD OR EXOTIC ANIMALS

The following list of animals, and any hybrids thereof, constitutes "wild or exotic animals" for the purposes of this Bylaw. The words in parentheses are intended to act as examples only, and are not to be construed as limiting the generality of the group.

1. Alligators, caimans, crocodiles (crocodilia);
2. apes, lemurs, gorillas and monkeys (primates); excludes humans;
3. anteaters, armadillos, and sloths (edentata);
4. badgers, polecats, otters, wolverines, weasels (mustelidae); excludes descended skunks and domestic ferrets, minks and ermines;
5. bats (chiroptera);
6. bears (carnivora);
7. beavers, porcupines, squirrels, muskrat, marmots, and gophers (rodentia); excludes domestic hamsters, guinea pigs, chinchillas, rats and mice;
8. cassowaries, ostriches, emus, rheas (struthioniformes);
9. cats, including but not limited to, servals, lions, jaguars, cheetahs, tigers, hyenas, mountain lions, lynxes, bobcats, ocelots and leopards (feloidea); excludes domestic cats;
10. civets, genets, meerkat, mongooses (viverrids);
11. camel, hippopotamus, tapir, rhinoceros or hyrax (ungulata); excludes domestic goats, sheep, pigs, cattle, horses, llamas, alpacas, mules and donkeys;
12. dogs, including bush dogs, dingos, racoon dogs, African wild dogs, coyotes, jackals, foxes and wolves; excludes domestic dogs;
13. dolphins, porpoises and whales (cetaceans);
14. elephants including Asian and African (proboscidae);
15. falcons, peregrines, gyrfalcons, kestrels, hawk, condor, eagle, vultures (falconiformes);
16. hares, pikas and rabbits (lagomorpha); excludes domestic rabbits;
17. hedgehogs, moles and shrews (insectivora); excludes African Pygmy Hedgehogs;
18. kangaroos, wombats, bandicoots, opossums (marsupialia); excludes sugar gliders;
19. owls (strigiformes);
20. raccoons and coatimundi (procyonids);
21. seals and walrus (pinnipedia);

22. snakes (excludes non-venomous snakes native to British Columbia) and venomous reptiles, boas, pythons (serpentina);
23. venomous, frogs and salamanders (amphibia);
24. venomous lizards and skinks (sauria);
25. venomous turtles, tortoises and terrapins (chelonina).

SCHEDULE "B"

NEW WESTMINSTER ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL BYLAW 7586, 2013

APPLICATION FOR RELEASE OF DANGEROUS DOG

1. I, _____,
(Name of Owner)

Of _____,
(Address of Owner)

in the City of New Westminster, British Columbia, apply for the release of a

(Colour, Breed, and Sex of Dog)

which has been impounded pursuant to the Community Charter SBC 2003,
Chapter 26.

2. I am the owner of the above-described dog.
3. I am aware that the dog is a "dangerous dog" within the meaning prescribed by the Community Charter, and I am aware of the responsibility and potential liability which rests with me in keeping or harbouring such dog.
4. In consideration of the release of such dog to me, I acknowledge, covenant, and agree with the City of New Westminster that I:
 - (a) have constructed on the premises where such dog will be kept an "enclosure" within the meaning prescribed by Bylaw No. 7586, 2013;
 - (b) will, at all times when the said dog is not effectively muzzled, on a leash and under the direct and continuous charge of a person who is competent to control the dog, keep such dog indoors or within a securely closed and locked enclosure;

SCHEDULE "B"

NEW WESTMINSTER ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL BYLAW 7586, 2013

APPLICATION FOR RELEASE OF DANGEROUS DOG (cont'd)

- (c) will save harmless and indemnify the City of New Westminster, its bylaw officer, and any of its officers, employees, agents, or elected or appointed officials from and against any and all actions, causes of action, proceedings, claims, demands, losses, damages, costs or expenses whatsoever and whomsoever brought in any way arising from or caused by the release of such dog to me or in the keeping or harbouring of such dog by me and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, for any personal injury or death inflicted on any other animal or any person by such dog or any damage to property caused by such dog; and
 - (d) am aware that if such dog is ever again found to be at large or not confined as hereinbefore provided, the dog may be seized and an application made to the Provincial Court for an order that the dog be destroyed.
 - (e) will provide to the supervisor proof of liability insurance in the amount of not less than one million (\$1,000,000) dollars for the period of the dog license, over the premises where the dangerous dog is kept, to cover any claims arising out of dog bites or dog attacks that could be caused by the dangerous dog.
5. I submit the sum of \$ _____ in payment of all impounding fees payable by me pursuant to Bylaw No. 7586, 2013.
6. The dangerous dog has been photographed and the photo retained at the Animal Shelter for identification purposes.

Signature of Owner

Dated this ____ day of _____, 20__.

Signature of Animal Control Officer
(or authorized agent)

BCSPCA

BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

POSITION STATEMENT

DANGEROUS DOGS AND PUBLIC SAFETY

The BC SPCA recognizes that inappropriate aggression by dogs against people and other animals is a serious threat to public safety, and that this issue must be addressed if we are to create humane societies where humans and dogs co-exist and enrich each other's lives. The BC SPCA opposes breed banning as a strategy for addressing incidents of aggression and reducing dog bites. Rather, the Society believes that the most effective way to address public safety concerns is for humane organizations, other animal stakeholder organizations, municipalities and the provincial government to work together on multi-faceted strategies that identify and address dangerous dogs of all breeds.

Background/Comment

Suggested Strategies:

Successful models for dealing with canine aggression do exist in other countries. These models focus on legislation, education and the creation of remedial resources for aggressive dogs. The BC SPCA believes the most effective approach to dealing with the issue of inappropriate canine aggression in our communities is to develop an approach based on these models. Strategies may include:

Legislation:

- Development and enforcement of harmonized animal control bylaws which promote spaying and neutering, make pet identification mandatory, restrict the keeping of backyard dogs and place the burden of responsibility for an animal's actions on the guardian, not the dog;
- Creation of tougher laws to address the animal neglect that contributes to canine aggression;
- Development of effective licensing schemes that regulate breeding facilities, pet shops, trainers and others in the animal sector who influence canine behaviour;
- Registration of aggressive dogs through reporting by veterinarians, groomers, police, postal carriers, animal control officers, meter readers, and humane organizations;

- Creation of a centralized, accessible database that accurately records dog bite incidents;
- Promotion of mandatory remediation by certified specialists for dogs reported as dangerous;

Education/Remediation:

- Commitment to education on responsible pet guardianship, canine behaviour and dog bite prevention;
- Creation of resources for guardians of dogs with aggression problems, including the identification and certification of specialists who can provide remedial measures for canine aggression.

Note: It is essential that sufficient resources be allocated to ensure that the strategies outlined above can be implemented and enforced effectively.

Addressing the Root Causes of Aggression:

The BC SPCA believes it is important that any approach to the issue of dangerous dogs consider the range of factors which play a key role in canine aggression, including:

- **Genetic factors:** Fearful and aggressive dogs are more likely to have aggressive offspring than other dogs, regardless of the breed.
- **Sexual status:** Un-neutered males are involved in 70-76 % of dog bite incidents. Un-spayed females encourage roaming and aggressive behaviour in males, regardless of breed.
- **Early experience:** Puppies are more likely to be aggressive if they are raised by irresponsible breeders who do not provide them with proper socialization and who later sell or give them away to people without proper matching or guardian education.
- **Later socialization, training & proper care:** Dogs are more likely to become dangerous if they live with irresponsible guardians who do not provide them with proper training, socialization, medical care and adequate living conditions.
- **Victim behaviour:** Some people get bitten because they are unfamiliar with canine behaviour and do not behave safely around dogs.
- **Lack of remedial expertise:** There is currently a lack of certified specialists available for pet guardians who are seeking help to remediate aggressive behaviour in their dog.
- **Unaddressed pain, injury and disease.**

Breed Specific Legislation:

The BC SPCA opposes breed specific legislation as a strategy for reducing inappropriate aggression and dog bites for the following reasons:

- Breed specific legislation ignores the fact that aggressive behaviour can occur in any breed and therefore does not protect the public.
- There are no efficient methods to determine a dog's breed in a way that can withstand legal challenge or be a foolproof method for deciding whether a guardian is in compliance or violation of laws. Any breed ban bylaw inevitably results in the creation of subjective, arbitrary factors to determine breed.
- Popularity of breeds changes over time -- what is identified as a "dangerous breed" today, may be different tomorrow. Some countries with breed laws now have upwards of 30 breeds on record, all of which require enforcement.
- People who want aggressive dogs simply switch to another breed or select a cross-breed that cannot effectively be identified as belonging to or looking like a specific breed. Breed specific restrictions in bylaws do nothing to discourage irresponsible behaviour by individuals who breed, train, sell or possess dangerous dogs not covered by the breed specific legislation.
- There is no reliable way to identify the number of dogs of a particular breed in the canine population at any given time making financial planning for enforcement of breed legislation nearly impossible.
- Breed specific legislation treads upon the rights of responsible dog guardians who cherish a non-aggressive pet whose breed may fall under the legislation. Conversely, the guardian of an aggressive pet whose breed does not fall within the legislation will not be subject to appropriate legislative remedies.

*Approved by the Board of Directors – October 13, 2004
Background updated November 14, 2013*

Think breed restrictions make communities safer?

Think again.

Some people perceive that specific breeds – like pit bulls – are more likely to be aggressive and cause injury. Citing public safety, they call for breed specific legislation (BSL) where certain breeds are muzzled, restricted, or banned. Although these measures were widely implemented in the late 80s and 90s, they are being reversed all over North America and Europe, because they have been shown to be ineffective, expensive, and inhumane.

There is no conclusive way to determine a dog's breed.

Unless you have access to a dog's pedigree, you are relying on visual clues like body shape and coat to identify a breed. A recent study in the Journal of Applied Welfare Science showed that even trained shelter workers are wrong up to 87.5% of the time when they guess at a dog's breed. Try for yourself online at

<http://stopbsl.org/bsloverview/impossibleid>

Or take a look through the photos along the right side of this document. Try to identify which were identified by shelter professionals as pit bulls or pit bull mixes – answer is at the end.

BSL is expensive.

In jurisdictions like Ontario and Denver, Colorado, where there are full breed bans, it has been a costly endeavour with no demonstrated impact on bite rate. More animal control officers are required to seize, police, and investigate reports of "pit bulls", and there is legal challenge after legal challenge, as well as negative public relations associated with killing puppies and family dogs.

<http://stopbsl.com/bsloverview/expensive>

<http://network.bestfriends.org/11240/news.aspx>

In Ontario, the bill has been consistently in court, with the first lawsuit filed the very day it was enacted: August 29, 2005. It's been taken to the Supreme Court, changed, and challenged again. There are lawsuits from individual owners whose dogs have been seized – resulting in damages paid out and thousands of dollars in impound fees while the dog's fate is determined. After one such case, Councillor Carolyn Parrish commented, "We've learned from this that this law is very difficult to enforce and it breaks people's hearts. Saying that something looks like something else is a very poor basis for a law." The city of Ottawa has given up altogether on trying to enforce the ban because of cost and logistics. <http://goo.gl/Bqxmdp>

By contrast, the City of Calgary targets known risk factors and owner behaviour without any breed restrictions – and has made a **profit** from increased fines and policing of licensing fees. Proceeds from licensing and fines have paid for dedicated Animal Control truck fleet with a networked computer system, expanded shelter facility, and public education and subsidy programs.



There are factors that make dogs more likely to bite.

Breed isn't one of them.

You may be surprised to learn that despite certain breeds being targeted as more dangerous, there is no conclusive data showing that specific breeds bite more, or do more damage when they attack.

In 2012, the American Veterinary Medical Association analyzed three dozen studies on the topic of breed and bite that had been published over the last 40 years. These studies variously identified German Shepherds, pit bulls, Rottweilers, Jack Russell Terriers, Chows or other breeds/mixes with the highest bite rates. The AVMA concluded that severity of injury was linked to dog's size, temperament, owner's management, and proper supervision of children. It did not support the targeting of breed, and noted that if breed-specific legislation was based on data, a significant group of large breeds, including Shepherd categories, would need to be targeted.

<https://www.avma.org/KB/Resources/Backgrounders/Pages/The-Role-of-Breed-in-Dog-Bite-Risk-and-Prevention.aspx>

In Canada, there have been 36 fatalities attributed to dog attacks since 1983. Only one was a pit bull breed. <http://www.chicobandido.com/2012/03/dbrf-201202/>

While some articles circulate the internet with staggering claims about injury and death due to pit bull bites, they don't stand up to scrutiny. Most are based on anecdotal or media reports, which are not a reliable source of data. A December 2013 study in the American Veterinary Medical Association examined the issue of media breed reporting by comparing animal control reports, breeding background, DNA reports, and examination by veterinary professionals. A reliable breed descriptor was determined in only 18% of fatal dog attacks. It was found that at least 40% of the time, media reports did not agree with other sources, and the media had a habit of reporting mixed breeds as single breeds.

<http://www.nationalcanineresearchcouncil.com/blog/potentially-preventable-husbandry-factors-co-occur-in-most-dog-bite-related-fatalities/>

The data shows unequivocally that there are identifiable, interacting causes that contribute to dog aggression. Numerous studies in the American and Canadian Veterinary Journals, among others, correlate dog bites to factors like sexually intact status, poor breeding and early socialization, health status, and victim's age and behaviour (i.e., most dog bites are to children).

BSL addresses none of these factors. Even if it causes pit bull type dogs to be removed from irresponsible owners, it does nothing to prevent that individual from failing another dog – whether another restricted breed or another “power” breed that is easier to obtain.



The bottom line? BSL doesn't work.

In places as diverse as the Netherlands, Italy, Spain, the UK and the United States, dog bites have continued and sometimes even increased under BSL:

<http://stopbsl.com/bsloverview/the-failure-to-improve-safety/>

This is true in Canada as well. In February 2013, the Canadian Veterinary Journal published a study comparing bite rates in Canadian municipalities. Cities with breed specific legislation did not have lower bite rates. Factors that contributed to safer dog/human relations included public education, active animal control enforcement, and increased animal control resources.

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3552590/pdf/cvj_02_145.pdf

As governments begin to recognize the flawed logic and poor track record of BSL, more and more jurisdictions are adopting breed-neutral legislation. Recognizing that BSL is dangerous, some places are outlawing breed discrimination itself! A total of 17 American states have legislation that forbids any kind of breed discrimination. The White House has also published a statement against BSL.

<http://now.msn.com/breed-specific-legislation-condemned-by-white-house-cdc>

The following Lower Mainland municipalities have removed breed-specific language from their municipal bylaws in recent years:

- 2005 – BSL reversed in Vancouver
- 2009 – BSL reversed in North Vancouver
- 2010 – BSL reversed in Delta, rejected in Port Coquitlam
- 2011 – BSL reversed in Castlegar, Cumberland, Coquitlam, and White Rock
- 2012 – BSL rejected in Maple Ridge
- 2013 – BSL reversed in Pitt Meadows and New Westminster

What do the experts say?

Organizations like the Canadian and American Kennel Clubs, the BC and Canadian Veterinary Associations, Humane Societies, and the SPCA do not support BSL. Even organizations that do not have an animal-related mandate have spoken out against BSL as a legal and public health mistake, including the American Bar Association and the Centers for Disease Control.

<http://stopbsl.com/bsloverview/the-lack-of-professional-support/>

What does work?

Promoting responsible ownership and targeting behaviour – not breed – is the only proven way to reduce dog bites and make communities safer. This is known as “Dangerous Dog Legislation” and the City of Calgary has been a leader in its successful implementation. Dog bites have decreased by 75% since 1985, while population has increased dramatically. Calgary currently has the lowest bite rate in North America – possibly the world.

http://www.calgarysun.com/news/columnists/michael_platt/2009/07/12/10104761-sun.html

All major public health and animal welfare groups support **Dangerous Dog Legislation**, with proven measures to increase public safety including

- Mandatory leashing of dogs in public or shared areas
- Spay and neuter incentives
- Laws against tethering, chaining, or unreasonable restraint of dogs
- Active ticketing and enforcement, with visible Animal Services presence in the community
- Public education and encouraging community members to report bad owner behaviour.



Breed Specific Legislation in Metro Vancouver. Who has it?

- Burnaby
- Richmond
- West Vancouver

More importantly, who doesn't?

- Abbotsford
- Aldergrove
- Chilliwack
- Coquitlam
- Delta
- Hope
- Langley
- Maple Ridge
- Mission
- New Westminster
- North Vancouver
- Pitt Meadows
- Port Coquitlam
- Port Moody
- Squamish
- Surrey
- Vancouver
- Whistler
- White Rock

About pit bulls

A "pit bull" is not a breed, but rather a general term to describe three types of dogs. Three breeds are generally defined as "pit bulls" under bylaws, although there are many cases where breeds like American Bulldogs, Bull Terriers, or mastiff breeds lumped in under the term.

- American Pit Bull Terriers
- American Staffordshire Terriers
- Staffordshire Bull Terriers

By its breed standard, a pit bull is expected to be extremely loving towards people. Human aggression is not considered part of this breed, and any instances of this can be attributed to mistreatment and/or unscrupulous breeding.

The American Temperament Test (ATT) has been a gold standard in canine temperament testing for over 30 years. Over 28,000 dogs have been exposed to a standard set of challenges and assessed for traits like shyness, aggressiveness, and friendliness. Pit bull breeds have a higher pass rate than common breeds like Border Collies, English Sheepdogs, and Boxers. <http://www.atts.org/statistics.html>

A 2011 UBC study published in *Animal Welfare* compared pit bull breeds with similar-sized breeds adopted through the shelter system. For the most part, the two groups scored similarly on measures of friendliness to humans, tolerance of other animals, excitability, and other areas. The statistically significant differences appeared in only a few areas: pit bulls were less likely to be returned to the shelter because of aggression, less likely to be described as aggressive, more likely to sleep on the owner's bed, and more likely to cuddle with their owners.

<http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/ufaw/aw/2011/00000020/00000004/art00001>

Pit bulls used to be a popular family dog, best illustrated by canine nanny "Petey" in the Our Gang TV show. One of the most decorated war dogs of all time is "Sergeant Stubby," who served in WW2. Today they work as therapy dogs, search and rescue dogs, service animals, actors, sports champions and beloved companions all over the world. <http://www.pbrc.net/misc/PBRCHeros.pdf>



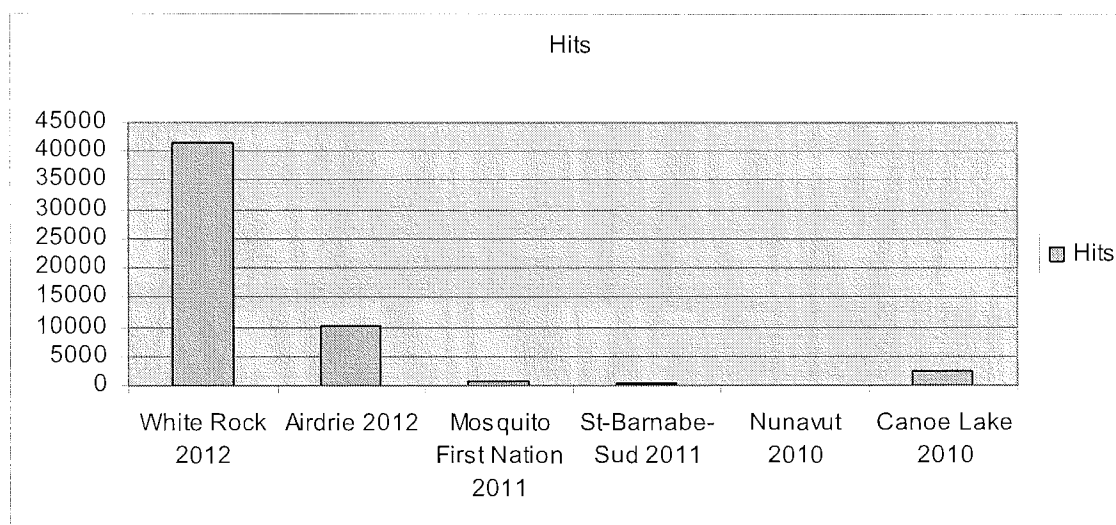
So Why the Bad Rap?

A once much-loved breed has been failed in three ways:

Irresponsible breeding. When people are drawn to the dog for its image, they support breeders who are not breeding to fill the demand for a “tough dog”, not for correct health or temperament. If individual aggressive dogs are allowed to remain in the breeding pool, that is only going to put more aggressive dogs into the population. This is true (and observed) in all breeds.

Irresponsible ownership. As outlined above, the biggest risk factors for dog bites are improper training, socialization, and management of the dog. Poor treatment of any dog, of any breed, will result in bad behaviour. Pit bulls, due to breed stigma and irresponsible ownership, are by far the most surrendered and abused breed in the shelter system. Breed Specific Legislation works to create a cycle of irresponsible ownership. Laws that tell people that one breed is different/more aggressive than others simply encourage the wrong people to pursue that breed.

Media sensationalism. While there is little formal research in this area, there is a undeniable bias towards “pit bull” stories in the media. There is no evidence to suggest that pit bulls attack more often or more severely than other breeds, yet this is the impression left in the public’s mind when “pit bull” attacks are covered more widely and more breathlessly than the attacks that happen every day by other breeds. In Canada, there have been five children killed by dogs in the last five years. None of these stories received a fraction of the media coverage of a singular incident in White Rock where a child was bitten by a “pit bull” and sustained a deep but not life-threatening wound. In one case, a child’s death warranted only 30 media hits.



This table shows media hits ensuring from each story. The White Rock attack in 2012 was by a pit bull, but non fatal. The other attacks were by Northern Breeds or mixed breeds, and resulted in the death of a young child.

What is the way forward?

From the White House to a growing number of celebrity spokespeople, the world is beginning to recognize the obvious – the pit bull is just a dog. Banning or stigmatizing the breed hurts everyone, and punishes responsible owners.

For more information on pit bull type dogs and better animal control options, visit these sites:

www.nationalcanineresearchcouncil.com

www.hugabull.com

www.animalfarmfoundation.org/pages/Resources

Photos – all of the dogs pictured on these pages were listed on Petfinder as pit bulls or pit bull mixes, sourced in a single search on April 20, 2014.



The Canadian Kennel Club

**Policy Statement -- The Responsible Ownership of Dogs (Dog Legislation)
(Effective December 1992)**

The Canadian Kennel Club fully supports and encourages the adoption of reasonable, enforceable and non-discriminatory laws governing the ownership of dogs. The Canadian Kennel Club believes that dog owners should be responsible for their dogs and that laws should: impose penalties on irresponsible owners; and, establish a well-defined procedure for dealing with dogs proven to be dangerous, which includes, if necessary, the destruction of such animals;

In addition, The Canadian Kennel Club encourages the adoption and enforcement of, among other things:

- Leash laws;
- "Running at large" laws;
- Laws against dogs fighting;
- Laws governing unsanitary conditions caused by irresponsible dog owners;
- Vaccination and quarantine laws;
- Maintenance and care laws;
- Laws governing the local licensing of dogs;

To advance this position The Canadian Kennel Club is willing to work with committees and individuals across the country to assist in the development of legislation that is reasonable and enforceable. This includes strengthening legislation against irresponsible dog owners as well as pointing out the inadequacies of legislation that is vague or breed discriminatory;

To further support this effort, The Canadian Kennel Club will provide assistance in:

- The legal and educational fights against adverse dog legislation;
- Making available an information packet which includes examples of existing legislation that is reasonable, enforceable and non-discriminatory;
- Developing a program to be used in schools and within communities to educate the general public about responsible dog ownership;
- Supplying local newspapers around the country with camera-ready materials promoting responsible dog ownership;

Finally, The Canadian Kennel Club will continue to assist, however possible, those who share in the concern for the protection and advancement of all dogs.

The Canadian Kennel Club

**Policy Statement -- Breed Specific Legislation (Dangerous and/or Vicious Dogs)
(Effective December 1992)**

The Canadian Kennel Club supports dangerous and/or vicious dog legislation, which would serve to protect the public from dangerous dogs. The Canadian Kennel Club does not support breed-specific legislation. The Canadian Kennel Club's opposition to breed-specific legislation is based on the fact that a dangerous temperament is a product of many factors, and not by breed alone. Thus, breed-specific legislation may include dogs which are not dangerous, while excluding those which are.

The Canadian Kennel Club considers banning a particular type of dog as a reactionary measure with little effect, and one that will only serve to push the indiscriminate breeders and/or owners underground, or to another breed not included in the legislation.

The label of "vicious" and/or "dangerous" should be determined by an individual dog's behaviour, and not by its breed or appearance.

The Canadian Kennel Club believes that dog owners should be responsible for the actions of their dogs, and that laws should:

- Impose stern penalties on irresponsible owners;
- Establish a well defined procedure for dealing with dogs proven to be dangerous, which includes, if necessary, the destruction of such animals;
- The Canadian Kennel Club endorses and encourages the enforcement of:
 - Leash laws;
 - "Running at large" laws;
 - Confinement on private property - childproof from the outside and dog-proof from the inside.

The Canadian Kennel Club will continue to support and assist those who share our concern for the protection and advancement of all breeds.