



To: General Purposes Committee Meeting **Date:** March 10, 2010
From: Dave Semple
General Manager, Parks and Recreation **File:** 11-7375-00/Vol 01
Re: **UBCM Resolution on the Prohibition of Sales of Rabbits in Richmond**

Staff Recommendation

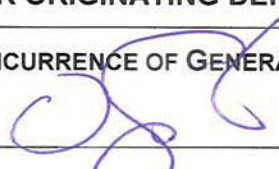
That:

1. The proposed resolution (Attachment 1) encouraging the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) to request that the Province of British Columbia enact legislation to ban the sale of rabbits in pet stores, be forwarded to the UBCM for consideration.



Dave Semple
General Manager, Parks and Recreation
(604-233-3350)

Att. 1

FOR ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT USE ONLY		
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER		
		
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
REVIEWED BY CAO	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

Staff Report

Origin

At their February 8, 2010 meeting Richmond City Council adopted the following motions:

“That Business Regulation Bylaw No. 7538, Amendment Bylaw No. 8566 (Attachment 1) be introduced and given first, second and third reading to ban the sale of rabbits in Richmond pet stores, provided that it be implemented one month from adoption.”

and

“That a resolution be forwarded to UBCM and the Lower Mainland Local Government Association regarding the proposed bylaw.”

The bylaw was adopted on March 8, 2010 and will go into effect on April 8, 2010. This report responds to the Council’s request for a resolution to be forwarded to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM).

Background

Richmond City Council recently adopted amendments to the Animal Control Regulation Bylaw to prohibit the sale of rabbits in pet stores.

The ban of rabbit sales in Richmond is a step towards the following:

1. a reduction in the number of domestic rabbits being dropped off in local parks;
2. a decrease in the number of impulse purchases of rabbits; and
3. promotion of more responsible pet ownership.

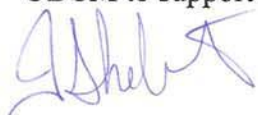
As requested by Council, a proposed resolution to the UBCM to request that the Province consider enacting a Provincial prohibition on the sale of rabbits is provided in Attachment 1. The City has also sent a letter to all Metro Vancouver cities requesting they consider enacting a ban on the sale of rabbits.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact.

Conclusion

The City of Richmond has recently adopted a bylaw which bans the sale of rabbits in pet stores. This report recommends that Council approve the wording of the attached resolution to the UBCM to support a request to the Province for a Provincial ban.



Jodie Shebib
Manager, Parks Programs
(604-244-1275)

PROPOSED UBCM Resolution – Prohibition of the Sales of Rabbits in Pet Stores

WHEREAS the City of Richmond seeks to reduce the number of domestic rabbits at large in City parks and to encourage responsible pet ownership,

AND WHEREAS the City of Richmond has adopted a bylaw to ban the sale of rabbits in pet stores,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request that the Province of British Columbia give consideration to enacting legislation banning the sale of rabbits in pet stores.