

**TOWN OF MORINVILLE  
PROVINCE OF ALBERTA  
RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP BYLAW  
BYLAW 8/2025  
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A BYLAW OF MORINVILLE, IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, TO REGULATE AND CONTROL DOGS, CATS, PETS, AND OTHER ANIMALS WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF MORINVILLE.

**WHEREAS**, Part 2 of the *Municipal Government Act*, R.S.A 2000 c. M-26 as amended, provides that Municipality may pass a bylaw respecting wild and domestic animals and activities in relation to them;

**AND WHEREAS**, pursuant to the *Municipal Government Act*, RSA 2000 c. M-26 as amended, a Municipality may pass a bylaw with respect to the safety, health and welfare of people and the protection of people and property;

**AND WHEREAS**, the Municipality of Morinville is of the view that it is necessary for the preservation and protection of public health, safety and welfare or of the residents of Morinville to provide for the control and keeping of Dogs, Cats and Animals within the Municipality of Morinville,

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Municipal Council of Morinville, Alberta, duly assembled, hereby enacts as follows.

**PART 1 – TITLE AND INTERPRETATION**

**1.0 BYLAW TITLE**

1.1 This Bylaw shall be cited as the “Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw”.

**2.0 INTERPRETATION**

2.1 Except as otherwise provided in this Bylaw, every offence under this Bylaw is a strict liability offence. A person shall be found liable for an offence regardless of their intent or knowledge.

**3.0 DEFINITIONS**

3.1 “Animal Control Officer” means a Bylaw Enforcement Officer appointed by the Municipality, a Community Peace Officer, a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, an independent contractor who is under contract with the Municipality to provide Bylaw Enforcement Services and is appointed by the Municipality to enforce this Bylaw.

3.2 “Animal Shelter” means a premises designated by the Municipality for the impoundment and care of Animals and includes premises supplied by an independent contractor under contract with the Municipality to provide such premises.

3.3 “At Large” means when a Domestic Animal or a non-Domestic Animal is not restrained by a leash that is securely held by a person at any place, except the Owner’s Property or on private property that the Owner has the express permission to have their Domestic Animal not restrained by a leash.

3.4 “Attack” or “Attacked” means where a Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or other animal causes or caused one or more of the following injuries:

3.4.1 Bleeding;

3.4.2 Lacerations;

3.4.3 Sprains;

3.4.4 Bruising; or

3.4.5 a Serious Injury.

3.5 “CAO” means the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) appointed by the Council of Morinville, Alberta or an employee of the municipality as designated by the Chief Administrative Officer.

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- 3.6 “Dangerous Dog” means any dog the Municipality determines on reasonable grounds to be a danger to other persons or animals, either through personal observation or on the basis of facts determined after an investigation, which includes and dog determined to be a Dangerous Dog under any bylaw prior to this Bylaw coming into effect.
- 3.7 “Domestic Animal” means any animal normally kept for as a household pet including but not limited to dogs and cats.
- 3.8 “Leash” means a chain or other material capable of being attached to and restraining a Domestic Animal.
- 3.9 “Municipality” or “Morinville” means the Municipal Corporation of Morinville.
- 3.10 “Muzzle” means a humane fastening or covering device of adequate strength over the mouth of an animal to prevent it from biting.
- 3.11 “Non-domestic Animal” any wild animal, reptile, fowl, or other animals that because of its size, nature or other characteristic, that could be a danger to human life, Domestic Animals or property.
- 3.12 “Owner” means any natural person or body corporate;
- 3.12.1 who is the licensed owner of the Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or any other animal;
- 3.12.2 who is issued a permit under this Bylaw;
- 3.12.3 who has legal title to a Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or any other animal;
- 3.12.4 who has possession, custody or care of a Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or any other animal, either temporarily or permanently;
- 3.12.5 who is in actual or apparent possession or control of the Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or any other animal, either temporarily or permanently;
- 3.12.6 who harbors or has care for any Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or any other animal on the Owner’s Property, or any property otherwise under his or her control; or
- 3.12.7 who claims and receives an animal from the custody of the animal shelter or an animal control officer.
- 3.13 “Owner’s Property” means:
- 3.13.1 Any property the Owner is the registered owner of; or
- 3.13.2 Any property the Owner is an occupant of pursuant to a lease, rental or license to occupy agreement.
- 3.14 “Premises” means any dwelling, building and any parcel or lot of real property or a portion thereof, and includes but is not limited to Owner’s Property.
- 3.15 “Serious Injury” includes any injury to a person, Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or any other animal where:
- 3.15.1 skin or flesh is lacerated, torn, ripped, or otherwise broken;

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3.15.2 a wound requires sutures, stitches or surgery;

3.15.3 one or more bones are broken or fractured; or

3.15.4 there is any other similar injury to a person Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or any other animal, and includes death.

3.16 “Service Dog” means a service dog as defined in the *Service Dogs Act*, SA 2007 c S-7.5.

3.17 “Tag” means an identification tag of an animal that contains a legible and operational phone number and/or the current address of the Owner.

## **PART 2 – ANIMAL OWNERSHIP**

### **4.0 ANIMAL OWNERSHIP RESTRICTIONS AND EXEMPTION PERMITS**

4.1 No person shall own, possess or house any Domestic Animal that is regularly or routinely kept outside of a dwelling house unless approved to do so by the Municipality via a permit. This provision does not apply to:

4.1.1 domestic dogs;

4.1.2 domestic cats; or

4.1.3 fish.

4.2 No person shall own, possess or house any Non-Domestic Animal in any part of any Premises unless approved to do so by the Municipality via a permit.

4.3 The decision of the Municipality on an application for a permit under this Part 2 of the Bylaw shall:

4.3.1 be in writing;

4.3.2 contains any conditions of approval or reasons for refusal; and

4.3.3 be mailed or delivered to the applicant.

4.4 The Municipality may revoke or cancel a permit under this Part 2 of the Bylaw if:

4.4.1 the permit was issued on the basis of incorrect information or misrepresentation by the applicant;

4.4.2 the applicant fails to comply with the conditions of the permit;

4.4.3 the applicant fails to comply with federal or provincial legislation or municipal Bylaws; or

4.4.4 complaints and resulting investigation received by the Municipality warrants revocation.

4.5 Breaching a condition on a permit issued under this Part 2 of the Bylaw is prohibited. The person named on the permit is responsible for ensuring all conditions of a permit are complied with.

## **PART 3 – DOG & CAT OWNERSHIP**

### **5.0 LIMIT ON DOGS/CATS AND HARBORING PERMITS**

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- 5.1 No person or Owner shall keep or harbor more than three (3) dogs on any Premises unless such person is a valid holder of a subsisting harboring permit as provided by this Bylaw. This section does not apply to
- 5.1.1 licensed Veterinary Clinics; or
- 5.1.2 persons granted a development permit to operate a kennel within the Municipality in accordance with the Morinville Land Use Bylaw as amended.
- 5.2 No person or Owner shall keep or harbor more than three (3) cats on any Premises unless such person is a valid holder of a subsisting harboring permit as provided by this Bylaw. This section does not apply to:
- 5.2.1 licensed Veterinary Clinics; or
- 5.2.2 persons granted a development permit to operate a kennel within the Municipality in accordance with the Morinville Land Use Bylaw as amended.
- 5.3 Any person applying for a harboring permit shall:
- 5.3.1 be over the age of 18,
- 5.3.2 pay the non-refundable application fee as set by this Bylaw; and
- 5.3.3 have written permission from the Owner of the premises where the harboring permit pertains, where the applicant is not the Owner of the premises.
- 5.4 Applicants for a harboring permit shall provide information as may be required to the Municipality, including but not limited to:
- 5.4.1 number of dogs and cats to be harbored;
- 5.4.2 name, description, breed, gender and age of the dogs and cats to be harbored;
- 5.4.3 name, street, and physical address and postal address of the property where the dogs and cats are to be harbored;
- 5.4.4 description and site plan of property where dogs and cats are to be harbored
- 5.4.5 plans for controlled confinement, kenneling, and storage of dogs and cats;
- 5.4.6 photographs of the dogs and cats,
- 5.4.7 any other identifiers as may be required by the Municipality in respect of the application; and
- 5.4.8 such other relevant and necessary information as may be required by the Municipality in respect to the application.
- 5.5 Applicants of a harboring permit may be required to have the Premises, dogs or cats inspected prior to having permit approved.
- 5.6 The decision of the Municipality on an application for a harboring permit shall:
- 5.6.1 be in writing;
- 5.6.2 contain any conditions of approval or reasons for refusal; and
- 5.6.3 be mailed or delivered to the applicant.

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- 5.7 The Municipality may revoke or cancel a harboring permit if:
- 5.7.1 the permit was issued on the basis of incorrect information or misrepresentation by the applicant;
  - 5.7.2 the applicant fails to comply with the conditions of the harboring permit;
  - 5.7.3 the applicant fails to comply with this Bylaw;
  - 5.7.4 the applicant fails to comply with federal or provincial laws or other bylaws of the Municipality;
  - 5.7.5 complaints and resulting investigation received by the Municipality warrants revocation; or
  - 5.7.6 the Municipality, on reasonable grounds, determines the harboring permit should be revoked or cancelled.
- 5.8 All harboring permits expire March 31<sup>st</sup> of the following calendar year in which it was issued.
- 5.9 Persons issued a harboring permit in accordance with this Bylaw shall apply to renew the harboring permit and shall pay the applicable costs set by the Municipality prior to a harboring permit expiring.
- 5.10 Harboring permits are not transferable from one property to another nor from one person to another.
- 5.11 Persons issued a harboring permit in accordance with this Bylaw shall notify the Municipality immediately of any changes to the harboring permit application information.
- 5.12 Breaching a condition of a harboring permit is prohibited. The person named on the permit is responsible for ensuring all conditions of a permit are complied with.

**6.0 OWNER RESPONSIBILITY**

- 6.1 An Owner must have a Tag securely attached to his, her, or their Domestic Animal at all places, except for the Owner's Property.
- 6.2 An Owner's Domestic Animal shall not be At Large.
- 6.3 An Owner of a Domestic Animal shall carry a Leash for the Domestic Animal while in a designated off-leash area.
- 6.4 An Owner of a Domestic Animal shall produce a Leash immediately when directed to do so by an Animal Control Officer while in a designated off-leash area.
- 6.5 An Owner of a Domestic Animal shall attach a Leash to the Domestic Animal immediately when directed to do so by an Animal Control Officer.
- 6.6 An Owner is liable for an offence if their Domestic Animal barks, howls, bawls, or otherwise behaves in a manner that is likely to disturb the peace, enjoyment, comfort, or convenience of another individual.
- 6.7 In determining whether barking, howling or behaviour is likely to disturb the peace, enjoyment, comfort, or convenience of another individual, consideration may be given, but is not limited, to the following:

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- 6.7.1 proximity of the property where the Domestic Animal resides;
  - 6.7.2 duration of the barking, howling or behaviour;
  - 6.7.3 time of day and day of the week when the barking, howling or behaviour occurs;
  - 6.7.4 nature and use of the surrounding area; and
  - 6.7.5 any impact of the barking, howling or behaviour.
  - 6.8 An Owner of a Domestic Animal is liable for an offence where the Domestic Animal is in an area where the presence of that Domestic Animal is prohibited by the Municipality, regardless of whether the Domestic Animal is At Large. All Service Dogs in the execution of their duties are exempt from this section and are permitted to enter prohibited areas.
  - 6.9 An Owner of Domestic Animal is liable for an offence where the Owner's Domestic Animal:
    - 6.9.1 bites, Attacks, causes a Serious Injury, threatens, harasses, chases or otherwise injures any person.
    - 6.9.2 bites, Attacks, threatens, harasses, chases, or injures any Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or any other animal;
    - 6.9.3 causes death to a Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or any other animal;
    - 6.9.4 causes death to a person;
    - 6.9.5 bites or chases any vehicle; or
    - 6.9.6 otherwise damages private or public property within the Municipality.
  - 6.10 If a Domestic Animal defecates on public or private property other than the Owner's Premises, the Owner shall remove or cause such defecation to be removed immediately.
  - 6.11 The Owner of a Domestic Animal shall carry a bag or container capable of removing feces or defecation at any time when the Domestic Animal is off the Owner's Premises.
  - 6.12 The Owner of a Domestic Animal shall produce, at the direction of an Animal Control Officer, a bag or container capable of removing feces or defecation at any time when the Domestic Animal is off the Owner's Premises.
- 7.0 OFF-LEASH PARKS AREAS**
- 7.1 The Municipality may designate specific areas to be an off-leash park area.
  - 7.2 An Owner of a dog, while the dog is in a designated off-leash park area, shall:
    - 7.2.1 keep the dog under their control. In this section, control means the dog immediately responds to voice, whistle, or hand signals at all times;
    - 7.2.2 have in their immediate possession a Leash;
    - 7.2.3 not leave a designated off-leash park area while their dog remains within it, unless the Owner has obtained the express permission of another person who is present and agrees to supervise the dog in their absence;
    - 7.2.4 remove and dispose of any feces produced by the Owner's dog;

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7.2.5 abide by any other rules established or posted by the Municipality.

7.3 An Owner is liable for an offence if the Owner's dog is in a designated off-leash park area, and:

7.3.1 The dog is a Dangerous Dog;

7.3.2 The dog has previously bitten any person or animal;

7.3.3 The dog Attacks another person or animal;

7.3.4 The Owner or person with the Dog have been directed to leave the designated off-leash park area by an Animal Control Officer and fails to do so; or

7.3.5 The dog's ability to enter the designated off-leash park area has been suspended under this Bylaw.

7.4 An Animal Control Officer may direct any person or Owner of a dog to leave a designated off-leash park area if:

7.4.1 The person or Owner has failed to follow this Bylaw.

7.4.2 the person or Owner has failed to follow the posted rules at the designated off-leash park area; or

7.4.3 the Animal Control Officer is of the opinion that the dog will cause or continue to cause a nuisance within the designated off-leash park area.

7.5 An Animal Control Officer may suspend a dog from being allowed in a designated off-leash park area if:

7.5.1 The Owner has failed to follow this Bylaw.

7.5.2 the Owner has failed to follow the posted rules at the designated off-leash park area; or

7.5.3 the Animal Control Officer is of the opinion that the dog will cause or continue to cause a nuisance within the designated off-leash park area.

7.6 The Municipality shall notify the Owner in writing of any suspension of off-leash park area privileges that are longer than 24 hours in duration.

**8.0 REPORTING INCIDENTS/CONTROLLED CONFINEMENT**

8.1 A person who has been Attacked, received a Serious Injury or has otherwise been injured by a Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or any other animal shall immediately report the incident to the Municipality.

8.2 The Owner of a Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or any other animal that has been killed, Attacked or suffered a Serious Injury from another Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or any other animal shall report the incident immediately to the Municipality.

8.3 When a Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or any other animal has Attacked or caused a Serious Injury, the Owner of the Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or any other animal causing the Serious Injury or death shall immediately report the incident to the Municipality.

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- 8.4 An Owner of a Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or any other animal shall surrender the Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or any other animal to an Animal Control Officer immediately if directed by the Animal Control Officer for a period not exceeding twenty-one (21) days at the cost of the Owner for an observation period, if the animal:
- 8.4.1 bit, Attacked, threatened or injured a person or any Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or any other animal.
  - 8.4.2 inflicted a Serious Injury on any person or Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or any other animal.
  - 8.4.3 caused death to a person or other Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or any other animal.
- 8.5 After the observation period an Animal Control Officer may:
- 8.5.1 In the case of a dog, designate the dog to be a Dangerous Dog in accordance with section 9 of this Bylaw.
  - 8.5.2 place the Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or any other animal under controlled confinement, which at the discretion of the Animal Control Officer may be at the Owner's Property, a registered veterinarian or an Animal Shelter or any combination thereof for a period of time as directed by the Animal Control Officer.

**9.0 DANGEROUS DOGS**

- 9.1 An Animal Control Officer may designate a dog to be a Dangerous Dog, where:
- 9.1.1 An Animal Control Officer determines that the dog may pose a risk to the health or safety of persons or Animals within the Town;
  - 9.1.2 The dog Attacked another Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or person;
  - 9.1.3 The dog exhibited behaviour as outlined in section 6.9 of this Bylaw.
- 9.2 Where a dog is designated to be a Dangerous Dog, an Animal Control Officer may require an Owner to apply for a Dangerous Dog license, which may include one or more of the following conditions:
- 9.2.1 requiring the Dangerous Dog to be muzzled when off the Owner's Premises;
  - 9.2.2 requiring that the Dangerous Dog be on a leash and held by a person eighteen (18) years of age or older when off the property;
  - 9.2.3 requiring the Owner of the Dangerous Dog to obtain, maintain and produce liability insurance specifically covering any damages for personal injury and property caused by the Dangerous Dog in an amount not less than two million dollars (\$2,000,000) per occurrence;
  - 9.2.4 requiring that an Owner microchip the Dangerous Dog and produce the details and the Dangerous Dog for inspection and verification, to positively identify the Dangerous Dog;
  - 9.2.5 requiring the Owner to securely house the Dangerous Dog on the Owner's Property in a secure and locked area that prevents the Dangerous Dog from getting out or from having unauthorized people from getting in, which may include but is not limited to a dog run.



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- 9.2.6 requiring the dog owner to ensure that the dog does not damage property, chase, Attack or bite a person or other animal;
- 9.2.7 prohibit the dog from being in an off-leash area; or
- 9.2.8 any other conditions deemed appropriate by an Animal Control Officer.
- 9.3 An Owner of a dog that has been declared dangerous by the Province of Alberta, another province or any other municipality in any other jurisdiction must report the Dangerous Dog declaration to the Municipality.
- 9.4 An Owner of a dog that has been declared dangerous by the Province of Alberta, another province, or any other municipality, may also have their dog declared a Dangerous Dog at the discretion of the CAO, based on that prior declaration.
- 9.5 Where a dog has been declared dangerous by the Province of Alberta, the Owner shall provide a copy of the declaration to the Municipality and comply with any conditions as required. The provincial conditions take precedence to conditions set out in this bylaw.
- 9.6 The Owner of a Dangerous Dog shall notify the Municipality immediately if the dog is At Large.
- 9.7 The Owner of a Dangerous Dog shall:
  - 9.7.1 notify the Municipality if the dog becomes deceased, is sold, gifted, or transferred to another person; and
  - 9.7.2 remains liable under this Bylaw for the actions of the Dangerous Dog until the Municipality has been properly notified.
- 9.8 The Municipality shall notify the Owner in a written notice that a dog has been declared dangerous and shall inform the owner of the conditions set out in this Bylaw.
- 9.9 The Owner of the Dangerous Dog shall obey and abide by all the conditions imposed pursuant to this Bylaw.
- 10.0 **IMPOUNDMENT AND RECLAIMING PROVISIONS**
  - 10.1 The Owner of an impounded Domestic Animal may reclaim the Domestic Animal by:
    - 10.1.1 paying all costs of impoundment to the Municipality; and
    - 10.1.2 pay any cost of veterinary treatment required by a registered veterinarian while the Domestic Animal was impounded.
  - 10.2 Where a Domestic Animal is claimed, the Owner shall satisfy the Municipality with proof of ownership of the animal prior to its release.
  - 10.3 An impounded Domestic Animal without proper identification shall be kept in the animal shelter for a period of seventy-two (72) hours.
  - 10.4 All impounded dogs or cats with proper identification shall be kept in the animal shelter for a period of seven (7) days.
  - 10.5 At the expiration of the impoundment period for any Domestic Animal the Municipality is authorized to:

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10.5.1 offer the Domestic Animal for sale;

10.5.2 destroy the Domestic Animal.

10.5.3 continue to impound the Domestic Animal for an indefinite period of time or for such further period of time as the Municipality may decide.

10.5.4 gift the Domestic Animal to the animal shelter or other recognized humane society.

**PART 4 - ANIMAL PROTECTION**

**11.0 ANIMAL PROTECTION AND DISEASE CONTROL**

11.1 No person shall cause a Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or other animal to be or to continue to be:

11.1.1 deprived of adequate food, water, care, or shelter;

11.1.2 injured, sick, in pain or suffering;

11.1.3 abused or subjected to undue hardship, privation or neglect; or

11.1.4 subjected to inclement weather without any option of reprieve or respite.

11.2 No person shall tease, torment, annoy, abuse, harass or injure any Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or other animal.

11.3 No person shall abandon a Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or other animal at an Animal Shelter, regardless of whether it was originally impounded.

11.4 No person shall untie, loosen or otherwise free a Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or other animal which has been tied or otherwise restrained.

11.5 No person shall open a gate, door or other opening in a fence or enclosure in which an animal has been confined and thereby cause an animal to be At Large.

11.6 No person shall entice an animal to be At Large.

11.7 Only traps issued by the Municipality may be used to capture animals designated for trapping by the Municipality. A person may use a Municipal trap within the Municipality's boundaries only after signing a release form and paying any required deposits or rental fees as established by the Municipality. The use of any other type of trap is strictly prohibited.

11.8 An Owner shall not allow fecal matter to accumulate on any property where a Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or other animal is kept or confined, in a manner or quantity that may pose a health risk to any person or animal.

11.9 An Owner of a Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or other animal shall ensure that any tether, leash, or device attached to the animal, is of sufficient length such that the animal can engage in normal activity necessary to maintain its health and well-being.

11.10 An Owner of a Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or other animal, who suspects, knows or ought to know, that the animal has rabies or any other communicable disease which may be transmitted to humans or other animals, shall:

11.10.1 immediately report the matter to the Municipality and a veterinarian.

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11.10.2 confine and isolate the animal in such a manner to prevent further spread of the disease and in a manner prescribed by law;

11.10.3 follow the direction of a veterinarian or any government officials who have authority to issue any related orders or directions.

11.11 In the event of an outbreak or threatened outbreak of rabies, or any other animal disease that may be transmitted to humans or other animals, an Animal Control Officer may issue a direction requiring the Owner of a Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal, or other animal to place the animal in controlled confinement or otherwise ensure it is effectively contained and not At Large. Failure to comply with such a direction constitutes an offence, and the Owner may be held liable.

11.12 Except as herein provided, no person shall kill, or cause to be killed, any Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or other animal, which has bitten a human, any rabid animal, any animal suspected of having been exposed to rabies or remove such an animal from the Municipality without prior permission from the Municipality.

11.13 Any person who takes control of any Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or other animal that was At Large shall immediately notify the Municipality, provide any requested information, and, upon demand, surrender the animal to an Animal Control Officer.

## **PART 5 - ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER POWERS / PROVISIONS / OPERATIONS**

### **12.0 INSPECTION AND ANIMAL SEIZURE**

12.1 An Animal Control Officer is authorized to seize and impound in the animal shelter any Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or any other animal which is At Large or contravenes any section of this Bylaw.

12.2 An Animal Control Officer is authorized to take such reasonable measures as are necessary to subdue any Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or any other animal which is At Large, including the use of tranquilizer equipment and materials. If any such animal is injured upon being subdued, it shall be taken to a registered veterinarian for treatment at the cost of the Owner and then to an Animal Shelter.

12.3 Where a Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or other animal is seized or impounded under this Bylaw, the Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal may be destroyed upon the recommendation of a licensed veterinarian, at the cost of the Owner, where, in the opinion of the licensed veterinarian, the Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or other animal should be destroyed for humane reasons, such as injury or illness.

12.4 An Animal Control Officer has authority and is empowered to enter onto private property to perform any duties required of them under this Bylaw.

12.5 Subject to the entry notice provisions of the *Municipal Government Act*, RSA 2000 c. M-26, an Animal Control Officer, bearing proper identification, may enter premises to conduct an inspection to determine if this Bylaw or an order issued pursuant to this Bylaw is being complied with.

12.6 No action shall be taken against the Municipality or any other person acting under the authority of this Bylaw for damages for the destruction or other disposal of any Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or other animal.

12.7 No person shall interfere with, hinder or impede an Animal Control Officer in the performance of their duties authorized by this Bylaw.

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12.8 No person shall remove any Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or other animal; from the possession of an Animal Control Officer.

12.9 Regardless of any authorization to trap animals, and subject to any conditions imposed by the Province of Alberta, a person will not contravene sections 11.1 to 11.4 of this Bylaw.

**13.0 OFFENCES AND PENALTIES**

13.1 Any person who contravenes any provision of this Bylaw is guilty of an offence and is liable upon summary conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 and in default of payment of any fine imposed, to imprisonment for not more than six (6) months.

13.2 Specified penalties established pursuant to this Bylaw shall be set out in Schedule “A” and in no event shall a lesser penalty be imposed upon conviction.

13.3 Any person who contravenes any provision of this bylaw for which a penalty is not set out in Schedule “A” of this bylaw, is liable to a minimum penalty of \$200.

13.4 The levying and payment of any fine or the imprisonment for any period provided in this Bylaw shall not relieve a person from the necessity of paying any fees, charges or costs from which said person is liable in accordance with this Bylaw.

13.5 Where a contravention of this Bylaw is of a continuing nature, further violation tags or tickets for the same offence may be issued, provided however, that no more than one (1) violation tag shall be issued for each day that the contravention continues.

**14.0 VIOLATION TAGS AND TICKETS**

14.1 An Animal Control Officer is hereby authorized to issue a voluntary payment tag in a form prescribed by the Municipality, where the Animal Control Officer has reasonable and probable grounds that such person has contravened any section of this Bylaw.

14.2 A voluntary payment tag may be issued to a person either:

14.2.1 Personally; or

14.2.2 By mailing a copy to such Person at their last known address.

14.3 The person to whom a voluntary violation tag is issued may, in lieu of being prosecuted for the offence, pay to the Municipality the penalty specified on the voluntary violation tag.

14.4 If the penalty specified on a voluntary violation tag has not been paid within the prescribed time, then an Animal Control Officer is authorized to issue a provincial violation ticket in the form and manner as prescribed by the *Provincial Offences Procedure Act*, Chapter P-34, RSA 2000, and all amendments thereto.

14.5 Notwithstanding sections 14.1 to 14.3, where an Animal Control Officer believes that any person has contravened any section of this Bylaw, they may serve upon such person a violation ticket in the form and manner as prescribed by the provisions of the *Provincial Offences Procedure Act*, Chapter P-34, RSA 2000, and all amendments thereto.

**15.0 APPEAL**

15.1 A person may appeal a decision made by the Municipality under sections: 4.3, 4.4, 5.6, 5.7, 7.5, 8.5, 9.1, 9.2, or 11.10. The appeal:

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15.1.1 must be in writing and accompanied with the applicable appeal fee as set by Council;

15.1.2 must be filed at the Municipality within 14 days of receiving a notice of such decision, where notice is sent by regular mail service and the document is properly addresses if shall be resumed to be effectively served seven (7) days from the date of mailing if the document is mailed within Alberta; and

15.1.3 must explain the reasons for appeal.

15.2 The CAO or designate shall coordinate a hearing to allow for the Owner to give evidence and justification for overturning the decision.

15.3 The CAO or designate will review and hear both the evidence and information provided by the Owner as well as evidence and information provided by the Animal Control Officer including any witnesses that may have any relevant evidence or information about the Domestic Animal, Non-Domestic Animal or other animal's behavior.

15.4 At the end of the hearing the CAO or designate can remove, uphold or alter the original decision. The decision of the CAO or designate is final and the Owner shall be notified of the decision in writing.

15.5 Where the owner of a dog that has been determined to be a Dangerous Dog produces new information to the Municipality that may alter a determination made under this Bylaw, the CAO or designate may cause the matter to be reviewed and make a determination regarding the declaration of the dangerous dog and any conditions imposed.

**16.0 SEVERABILITY**

16.1 If any Section or parts of this Bylaw are found in any court of law to be illegal or beyond the power of Council to enact, such Sections or parts shall be deemed to be severable and all other Sections or parts of this Bylaw shall be deemed to be separate and independent there from and to be enacted as such.

**COMING INTO FORCE**

That Bylaw 5/2016 is hereby repealed.

This Bylaw shall come into full force and effect on January 1, 2026.

READ a first time this 10<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

READ a second time this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2025.

READ a third and finally passed the 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2025.

**Original Signed**

Simon Boersma  
Mayor

**Original Signed**

Michelle Hay  
Chief Administrative Officer

## Appendix “A”

### SPECIFIED PENALTIES

Section	Offence	Penalty 1 <sup>st</sup> Offence	Penalty 2 <sup>nd</sup> and subsequent offence
4.1	Own, possess or house domestic animal without a permit	\$250	\$500
4.2	Own, possess or house a non-domestic animal without a permit	\$250	\$500
4.5	Fail to comply with conditions of a permit	\$250	\$500
5.1	Keep or harbor more than 3 dogs without a permit	\$250	\$500
5.2	Keep or harbor more than 3 cats without a permit	\$250	\$500
5.9	Fail to renew Harboring Permit	\$200	\$400
5.11	Fail to notify the Municipality of change in permit information	\$100	\$200
5.12	Fail to comply with the conditions of a permit	\$250	\$500
6.1	Dog/cat fail to wear identification tag when required	\$100	\$200
6.2	Domesticated Animal at Large	\$200	\$400
6.3	Fail to carry a leash as required	\$100	\$200
6.4	Fail to produce a leash as required	\$100	\$200
6.5	Fail to use leash when directed	\$200	\$400
6.6	Excessive Noise	\$200	\$400
6.8	Dog in prohibited area	\$200	\$400
6.9.1	Domestic Animal attack/threaten/chase/injure a person	\$500	\$1,000
6.9.2	Domestic Animal attack/threaten/chase/injure another animal	\$250	\$500
6.9.3	Domestic Animal cause death to an animal	\$1000	\$2500
6.9.4	Domestic Animal cause death to a person	\$1000	\$2500
6.9.5	Chase/bite vehicle	\$250	\$500
6.9.6	Cause damage to property	\$250	\$500
6.10	Fail to immediately remove defecation	\$250	\$500
6.11	Fail to carry/produce means of picking up defecation	\$100	\$200
7.2.1	Fail to keep dog under control in off-leash park/area	\$200	\$400
7.2.2	Fail to be in possession of required leash	\$200	\$400
7.2.3	Dog unattended in off-leash park/area	\$200	\$400
7.2.4	Fail to remove defecation in off-leash park/area	\$250	\$500
7.2.5	Fail to abide by posted off-leash park/area rules	\$200	\$400
7.3.1- 7.3.5	Enter Off Leash Dog Park/Area when not authorized	\$250	\$500
7.3.1- 7.3.5	Person who received serious wound fail to report	\$200	\$400
8.2	Owner of Animal receiving serious wound fail to report serious wound	\$200	\$400
8.3	Owner of animal who caused serious wound or death fail to report	\$500	\$1,000
8.4	Fail to surrender animal for observation period as required	\$500	\$1,000
8.5.2	Fail to quarantine animal as required	\$500	\$1,000
9.3	Fail to notify the Municipality of a Dangerous Dog declaration	\$500	\$1,000
9.6	Fail to notify the Municipality of Dangerous Dog running at large	\$250	\$500
9.7.1- 9.7.2	Fail to notify the Municipality of required information for Dangerous Dog	\$250	\$500

9.9	Fail to comply with conditions of Dangerous Dog Declaration	\$1,000	\$2,500
11.1.1	Fail to provide adequate food/water/care/shelter	\$250	\$500
11.1.2	Fail to provide for an animal that is injured/in pain/or suffering	\$250	\$500
11.1.3	Abuse animal or cause an animal undue hardship/privation/neglect	\$250	\$500
11.1.4	Subject dog to inclement weather without reprieve	\$250	\$500
11.2	Tease/torment/annoy/abuse/harass/injure an animal	\$250	\$500
11.3	Abandon an animal	\$500	\$1,000
11.4	Untie/loosen/free an animal	\$200	\$400
11.5	Open a gate/door/fence/structure where an animal is being confined	\$200	\$400
11.6	Entice an animal to run at large	\$200	\$400
11.7	Use prohibited Trap	\$500	\$1,000
11.8	Accumulation of fecal matter	\$250	\$500
11.9	Improper securing device	\$200	\$400
11.10.1	Fail to report communicable disease	\$250	\$500
10.10.2	Fail to confine communicable diseased animal	\$500	\$1,000
11.11	Fail to confine an animal as directed during an outbreak	\$250	\$500
11.12	Remove/kill animal suspected of having rabies	\$250	\$500
11.13	Fail to notify/surrender captured animal to Municipality	\$100	\$250
12.7	Interfere with animal control officer	\$500	\$1,000
12.8	Remove animal from possession of animal control officer	\$500	\$1,000