

Possible Amendments
By-Law #12 Dog

Option 1

Dog Attacks

1. The owner of a fierce or dangerous dog or a dog which attacks any person or other animal is guilty of an offence.
2. This section shall not apply to a dog acting in furtherance of law enforcement work at the time of the attack.
3. Where an Enforcement Officer has reason to believe that a dog has attacked a human being or animal the Enforcement Officer may take any one or combination of the following actions:
 - (i) issue the owner an order to muzzle the dog, which order shall specify the times and circumstances when the dog must be muzzled;
 - (ii) issue the owner an order to secure a microchip registration for the dog; or
 - (iii) subject to section 7, designate the dog as a fierce or dangerous dog.
4. The owner of a dog designated a fierce or dangerous dog pursuant to section 7 shall:
 - (i) when the dog is on the property of its owner, keep the dog securely restrained either indoors or inside an escape-proof enclosure while outdoors; and
 - (ii) when the dog is off the property of its owner,
 - i. muzzle the dog;
 - ii. ensure that the dog is under the control of a person not less than eighteen (18) years of age;
 - iii. ensure the dog is on a leash; or
 - iv. is securely restrained indoors or inside an escape-proof enclosure, including a motor vehicle.

Option 2

Impounding (Addition)

1. Municipal Staff may, without notice to or complaint against the owner, impound any dog that:
 - a) runs at large contrary to this By-Law;
 - b) attacks any person or other animal
 - c) is fierce or dangerous;
 - d) is rabid or appears to be rabid or exhibits symptoms of canine madness; or
 - e) persistently disturbs the quiet of the neighborhood by barking, howling or otherwise.

2. Despite anything to the contrary herein, when a dog has been impounded and the dog is suffering from an injury, disease, or sickness from any cause, the Enforcement Officer may, in his or her discretion and in consultation with a veterinarian, immediately destroy the dog if it is the veterinarian's opinion that the dog would not survive the injury, disease, or sickness or that it would be an act of humanity to destroy the dog.

Notification of Impoundment

3. When the Enforcement Officer is aware of the name and address of the owner of any licensed dog impounded, he shall within 24 hours of the impounding or the first business day thereafter, attempt to notify the owner of the impoundment.
4. The Enforcement Officer may post a "Notice of Impoundment", containing a general description of the dog, at the pound, on the Internet, or in the newspaper.

Release Requirements - Aggressive Dogs

5. Subject to this bylaw, an aggressive dog may be reclaimed upon the owner or authorized person providing:
 - a) proof of ownership to the satisfaction of the Enforcement Officer;
 - b) proof of compliance with all requirements for keeping of an aggressive dog, including but not limited to:
 - i. an enclosure;
 - ii. electronic microchip identification;
 - iii. liability insurance;
 - iv. a humane properly fitting muzzle; and
 - c) full payment of any outstanding fines;

Option 3

Destroying a Dog

1. The Enforcement Officer, without notice to or complaint against the Owner, may destroy on sight any dog that is fierce or dangerous or a dog which attacks any person or other animal, if:
 - (a) the dog poses an immediate danger to a person or a domestic animal or to property of persons other than the Owner; and
 - (b) it is not reasonably possible to safely capture the dog.
2. Where a dog has been captured or impounded and charges have been laid against the Owner of the dog, the Enforcement Officer may make application to the Court to have the dog destroyed if the dog:
 - (a) without provocation, has attacked, chased, bitten, or injured any other domestic animal or person, or damaged any property contrary to this Bylaw; or
 - (b) is fierce or dangerous.
3. In cases where a dog is to be destroyed that:

- (a) without provocation has attacked, bitten any other domestic animal or person and no current rabies vaccination certificate is in effect for the dog, the dog must first be kept under quarantine and observation for a period of ten (10) days in accordance with the Nova Scotia Rabies Response Plan (2016).
4. Where a dog is to be destroyed with the Owner's consent:
- (a) The dog may be returned to the Owner so long as the Owner signs a temporary undertaking in relation to the destruction of the dog;
 - (b) the temporary undertaking contains such conditions, safeguards and limitations that the Enforcement Officer deems to be appropriate;
 - (c) the temporary undertaking contains a timeframe for the destruction of the dog;
and
 - (d) the temporary undertaking contains a clause requiring the Owner to provide the Enforcement Officer, with proof that the dog has been destroyed.