

**REPORT TO ELECTORAL AREA SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, 09 JANUARY 2008**

SUBJECT **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO BYLAW NO. 1465, "ANIMAL REGULATION
AND IMPOUNDING BYLAW NO. 1, 1986".**

PURPOSE/ISSUE

To amend Bylaw No. 1465 to make it gender neutral and to review the compensation sections for domestic animal killings or injuries.

HISTORY/BACKGROUND

There are several references in Bylaw No. 1465 to dog owners as he or him which should be amended to be gender neutral.

With respect to the provisions for compensation contained in Bylaw 1465, the *Local Government Act*, Section 703(6) states that, "if a fee is imposed for a dog licence, the Board may, by bylaw, provide for the payment of compensation to the owner of any domestic animal that is killed or injured by a dog over the age of four months, the owner which is unknown, and after diligent inquiry, cannot be found". To date, the number of claims for compensation has been minimal (one or two per year), however the Committee directed staff to bring this issue forward as part of the annual review of the service to re-evaluate the practice.

As outlined in Section 703(6) of the *Local Government Act*, the Board is not obligated to provide compensation and it is within its discretion to amend Bylaw No. 1465 to remove these provisions. There have been three claims for compensation in the past four years. The total compensation paid was \$925. We budget \$2,000 every year for compensation. The CRD has a limit in place that allows for maximum compensation of \$750. The Cowichan Valley Regional District recently reviewed their Compensation section and retained it with the same limit as the CRD.

Recent discussion about this provision of the bylaw suggests that a change is not supported at this time. However staff has presented the option to delete the compensation section for livestock if the Committee wishes.

The total revenue for dog licences for 2006 was \$115,344 for 6,426 dog licences. For 2007 revenue was \$128,295 for 7,449 dog licences. This revenue is net after the paying of 10% commissions to vendors that sell dog licences for us.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Retain Bylaw No. 1465 as is.
2. Accept the proposed amendments and retain the compensation section for livestock kills or injuries.
3. Accept the proposed amendments and delete the compensation section for livestock kills or injuries.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Dog licence revenue and the number of dog licences sold has increased. It is estimated there are 10,800 (as per Ispos Reid poll) dogs in areas that use CRD licences. Staff feels that the existing licencing initiatives are effective and are well received in the community. Therefore, staff recommend that licence fees remain at the current level and that staff continue to promote dog licence sales to increase compliance.

There will be some advertising costs to provide public notices of the proposed changes.

SUMMARY/CONCLUSIONS

Staff recommends Alternative #2 to adopt the proposed amendments to the current Animal Regulation and Impounding Bylaw and to retain the compensation sections of this Bylaw.


RECOMMENDATION

That the Electoral Area Services committee recommends to the Board:

1. That Bylaw No. 3472, "Animal Regulation and Impounding Bylaw No. 1, 1986, Amendment Bylaw No. 6, 2008", be introduced and read for a first, second, and third time.



Don Brown
Chief Bylaw Officer



Robert Lapham, General Manager
Planning and Protective Services
Concurrence



Kelly Daniels, CAO, Concurrence

Attachments:

Bylaw No. 3472

**CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT
BYLAW NO. 3472**

**A BYLAW TO AMEND BYLAW NO. 1465, BEING "ANIMAL REGULATION AND IMPOUNDING
BYLAW NO. 1, 1986"**

The Board of the Capital Regional District in open meeting assembled enacts as follows:

1. Bylaw No. 1465, "Animal Regulation and Impounding Bylaw No. 1, 1986" is amended as follows:
 - (1) by adding the following to Section 3:

"LICENCING DOGS:

 3. The word "/she" after the word he (x 3)"
 - (2) by adding the following to Section 4(1):
 4. (1) The words "or she" after the word he
The words "or her" after the word him
 - (3) by adding to Section 5:

"5. (7) The owner of a dog declared dangerous must purchase a "Dangerous Dog Licence" for a fee listed in Schedule "A"
2. This Bylaw may be cited as "Animal Regulation and Impounding Bylaw No. 1, 1986, Amendment Bylaw No. 6, 2008".

READ A FIRST TIME THIS	day of	, 2008.
READ A SECOND TIME THIS	day of	, 2008.
READ A THIRD TIME THIS	day of	, 2008.
ADOPTED THIS	day of	, 2008.

Chair

Secretary

SCHEDULE "A"
DOG LICENCE FEES

(a)	Female Dog (not spayed)	\$ 30.00
(b)	Female Dog (spayed)	\$ 20.00
(c)	Male Dog (not neutered)	\$ 30.00
(d)	Male Dog (neutered)	\$ 20.00
(e)	Replacement of Lost Licence	\$ 5.00
(f)	Late Application Penalty	\$ 10.00
(g)	Breeding Kennel having four (4) or less dogs	\$ 75.00
(h)	Breeding Kennel having five (5) or more dogs	\$150.00
(i)	Boarding Kennel	\$200.00
(j)	Dangerous Dog Licence	\$100.00