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**REPORT TO THE ELECTORAL AREA SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, 05 MAY 2010**

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

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to consider amending Bylaw No. 1465 to increase dog licence fees for unaltered dogs, and to increase impound and boarding fees to keep pace with inflation and increases in operating costs.

HISTORY/BACKGROUND

Capital Regional District (CRD) dog licence fees are the lowest in the region. This helps keep compliance rates high. History has shown that unaltered dogs generally cause more problems than altered dogs. For this reason we are looking to increase the dog licence fee for unaltered dogs.

The cost of impounding and keeping animals has increased every year. Impounding and boarding fees have remained constant for several years however the services have seen direct increases in operating costs as a result of inflation. Small increases are necessary to maintain our service level.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Amend schedules “A” and “B” of Bylaw No. 1465 as presented to allow for the reasonable recovery of increased operating costs.
2. Amend schedule “A” of Bylaw No. 1465 which would provide for increases in licensing costs only.
3. Amend schedule “B” of Bylaw No. 1465 increasing impound fees only.
4. Retain schedules “A” and “B” of Bylaw No. 1465 as is and review existing service levels.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Animal Care Services has experienced higher costs year over year and the scale of the operation is very sensitive to increased operating costs. Slightly higher fees for those that use the services more than others that are subject to licensing costs is recommended as an appropriate measure to ensure equitable cost recovery.

SUMMARY/CONCLUSIONS

Staff recommends Alternative No. 1, to amend schedules “A” and “B” of Bylaw No. 1465 as presented.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Electoral Area Services Committee recommend to the Board that Bylaw No. 3697 “Animal Regulation and Bylaw No. 1, 1986, Amendment Bylaw No. 7, 2010”, be introduced and read a first time, a second time and a third time.



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Concurrence

Kelly Daniels, Chief Administrative Officer
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