

COUNCIL REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

From: Administration

Date: August 9, 2023

Subject: Zoning Amendment Backyard Ducks

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council receives this report for information.

BACKGROUND:

Council received a request from a Mackenzie resident at the June 12, 2023 Regular Council meeting. The resident expressed a desire to keep backyard ducks and highlighted the benefits of urban farming, sustainable practices, and the educational opportunities associated with raising ducks in residential areas. Council directed staff to bring forward amendments to bylaws that would support this request for consideration.

Since then staff have brought forward amendments to the applicable bylaws and held a public hearing giving residents the opportunity to be heard. The following is a summary of the technical review from the agencies that staff contacted for referral as well as the results of the public hearing.

Technical Agency Referral

Agency Name	Response
District of Mackenzie – Operations – Public Works	"Agency's interests are unaffected."
District of Mackenzie - Fire Department	"Agency's interests are unaffected."
Ministry of Transportation	"The Ministry has no concerns with or objections to the proposed Zoning Amendment"
Ministry of Environment	Agency's interests are unaffected.
RDFFG	Agency's interests are unaffected.
Northern Health Authority	Concerns regarding placement near drinking water. See attached email.



This report has been published prior to the deadline of August 11, 2023 at 4:30 pm and any additional feedback brought before this will be attached and brought to the Regular Meeting of August 14th, 2023.

Public Hearing

On July 27th, 2023, the District of Mackenzie held a public hearing to hear residents' concerns regarding the Official Community Plan amendment. At this meeting one resident spoke in favor to Council as well as 6 written statements 2 in favor and 4 against the bylaw amendment.

Recommendation

As the wells that supply the town's drinking water are more than 30m away from any residential property that would be eligible for a backyard duck permit staff are recommending proceeding with Backyard Duck Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1503.

COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

Community and Social Development

- Our investment in the municipality's services and infrastructure, our commitment to principles of social equity and well-being, and our belief in the value of resident engagement, creates a healthy community in which everyone feels valued and enjoys a high quality of life.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Luke Thorne, Land & Environmental Coordinator

Reviewed By: Corporate Services

Approved By: Chief Administrative Officer