

May 6, 2019

Good Morning.

I am not sure of proper procedure, so will start with you and trust you will direct my concerns to the appropriate people. My concern is basically cat owners who appear to have little or no regard for their neighbours. I am referring specifically to cat crap in flower beds, vegetable gardens, and children's sandboxes. Mackenzie's current bylaws do not require cat owners to have any responsibility over their cats and typically allow their cats to do whatever they want, where ever they want.

Flower beds usually dress up a property, which overall beautifies our community, show an overall caring of a person for their property, and should be quite enjoyable to work in and view. Having the neighbour's cat use the flower bed for a litter box quickly takes away the joys of having a flower bed.

Vegetable gardens: Yuck! I do not want my veggies fertilized with raw crap! Do you?Enough said.

Kid's sand boxes, In a society that is recognizing the need to get our kids off the electronic devices and outside doing something, a sandbox is a great place. Minus the cat crap. Cats are known carriers of diseases such as ringworm and after having to take my child to the doctor a second time because of it, I would have dearly loved to personally deal with the cats. The owners won't.

The owner's suggestion: Spray them with a garden hose. I do not think it's realistic to expect me to stand guard over my property, 24-7, with a garden hose to protect my property and children from my neighbour's cat.

I have borrowed the District's cat trap and brought the cats to the pound, only to have them returned to their owners to carry on as before, only now "trap wise".

Most people accept the District's dog bylaws. I respectfully ask that the District adopt similar bylaws for cats, and thus protect the residents from uncaring cat owners.

I have included a copy of the cat bylaws for the Community of Grande Cache, Alberta, as it is clear and simple and has been in effect for years. Most communities have such bylaws and I truly believe it is time for Mackenzie to address this concern.

Thank you,



Ted Lepp



- 3.11 Notwithstanding section 3.2, the owner of a dog over the age of 65 or residing in a Lodge or Assisted Living Facility is not required to pay a fee for a license under this bylaw. However, they are required to apply for a license for registration purposes.

PART FOUR – OFF LEASH PARK

- 4.1 The Town of Grande Cache may designate areas where a dog may be exercised while not restrained by a leash.
- 4.2 When using an area designated as an 'Off Leash Park', an owner shall ensure dog is under control at all time. Whether a dog is 'under control' may be determined by a Peace Officer.
- 4.3 Under Control may be determined by:
- a) whether dog is such a distance from owner so as to be incapable of responding to voice, sight or sound commands,
 - b) whether dog responds to voice, sight or sound commands from owner,
 - c) whether the dog bites, attacks or does any act that injures a person or another animal,
 - d) whether the dog chases or otherwise threatens an animal or person,
 - e) complies with all signage within the Off Leash Area.
- 4.4 A Peace Officer may order a dog in an Off Leash Area to be put on a leash or be removed.

PART FIVE – CATS

- 5.1 No person shall keep, possess, or harbor more than three (3) cats over the age of four (4) months in any premises, regardless of the number of people who live in the premises, unless the person holds a valid kennel license.
- 5.2 No owner of a cat shall:
- a) permit the cat:
 - i. to run at large; or
 - ii. to disturb the quiet of a person;
 - b) permit cat excrement to accumulate so that it becomes a nuisance;
 - c) endanger the health or safety of the cat.
- 5.3 An owner of a cat shall:
- a) have the cat spayed or neutered if it is more than four (4) months old,
 - b) provide proof of age for the cat upon request from the Peace Officer,
 - c) notify the Town Office when the owner sells or otherwise ceases to be the owner of a licensed cat and provide the Town Office with the name and address of the new owner,
 - d) remove the excrement of the cat from public or private property and, when required by the Peace Officer to do so, from the owner's property,
 - e) keep a cat over the age of four (4) months vaccinated against rabies and repeat the vaccination at intervals of not more than three (3) years,

Chair Initial



CAO Initial



- 5.4 It is an offense for any person to keep, maintain, or harbor a cat which causes damage to private or public property within the Town of Grande Cache or which habitually howls or otherwise creates a disturbance.

PART SIX – OTHER ANIMALS

- 6.1 No person shall keep or cause or suffer to be kept any livestock within the limits of the Town of Grande Cache.
- 6.2 The keeping of domestic animals, except dogs, in the Town of Grande Cache is not permitted in numbers greater than four on residential property and provided that the pens are kept in a clean and sanitary condition. In the event that damage is proven on another's property by pigeons or rabbits, then in such event Council may direct the person owning said domestic animals to restrain or dispose of same.
- 6.3 Animals in the Town of Grande Cache for parades or exhibitions, under the care and supervision of competent person are not subject to the provisions of this bylaw.

PART SEVEN – EXOTIC ANIMALS

- 7.1 No exotic animals shall be permitted within the Town of Grande Cache.
- 7.2 A person shall not have an exotic animal in any public place or property, except as permitted below:
- a) veterinary clinic under control of a veterinarian,
 - b) premises operated by an institution of education for research, study or teaching purposes,
 - c) an aquarium or zoological park operated by an organization accredited by the Canadian Association of Zoos and Aquariums,
 - d) retail premises where such animals are sold legally.

PART EIGHT – KENNELS

- 8.1 No person shall own or operate a kennel unless the kennel is registered and licensed under this Bylaw.
- 8.2 An application for a kennel license shall be made in writing, by the owner of the premises, accompanied by the annual fee set out in Schedule A, and is subject to approval by meeting the requirements for a kennel in the Town of Grande Cache Land Use Bylaw.

PART NINE – DOG TEAMS

- 9.1 No person shall own or operate a dog team unless the dog team is registered and licensed as such.
- 9.2 An owner of a dog team shall register each dog, except dogs under four (4) months, as being part of that dog team.

Chair Initial



CAO Initial



2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

31075. MOVED by Councillor Wiens
Introduction of Late Items THAT the following late item be added to the agenda:

6. ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

"e) Parsnip Crescent Traffic Calming

THAT the report from Public Works dated July 16, 2019 be received;
AND THAT Council provide direction to staff on any additional traffic calming measures."

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

31076. MOVED by Councillor Barnes
Adoption of Agenda THAT the agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

4. PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

Nil

5. CORRESPONDENCE

31077. MOVED by Councillor McMeeken
Receipt of Correspondence THAT the correspondence listed in the agenda be received.

CARRIED

31078. MOVED by Councillor McMeeken
Bylaw to Regulate Cats THAT Council directs Administration to research and report back to Council regarding the development of a bylaw to regulate cats in Mackenzie.

CARRIED