

Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw #5/2016 Review

Committee of the Whole
April 22, 2025

Presented by:

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Introduction

Background

Morinville's first dog control bylaw was adopted in 1943, and similar legislation has been in place since.

Current Scope

Bylaw covers dogs, cats, all domesticated animals and exotic animals.

Bylaw Purpose

Promote responsible pet ownership, ensure animal welfare, maintain community safety and quality of life.



Key Objectives of the Bylaw

- Promote public safety
- Ensures animal welfare
- Control nuisances
- Ensure compliance with best practices
- Protect the environment



Bylaw Overview

- Addresses pet ownership
- One of the pillars of Enforcement bylaws
- Administered by Enforcement Services and other departments
- 30% of the total bylaw-related investigations



Responsible Pet Ownership (RPO) Statistics

Year	<i>Total Morinville Enforcement Files</i>	<i>Total incident types</i>	<i>Total Bylaw Incident types</i>	<i>Total RPO Files</i>	<i>Total RPO incident types</i>	<i>RPO % of total investigations</i>	<i>RPO % of Bylaw investigations</i>
2022	642	1405	1069	66	269	19%	25%
2023	633	1297	910	116	319	25%	35%
2024	608	1401	1029	131	319	22%	31%
3- year Average	628	1368	1003	104	302	22%	30%

- Represent a significant portion of total investigations.
- Follow population trends with expected annual growth.
- Require more time to investigate than other types of legislation.



Enforcement Methods

- **Reactive**
 - Public calls for assistance
 - Referrals from other departments including RCMP
 - Referrals from contract pound services
- **Proactive**
 - Patrols of Dog Park, trails and known areas of concern
 - License renewal
 - Permitting process



Bylaw Amendment Considerations

- License requirement removal
- Review and update infraction penalties
- Review and update dog park expectations
- Move the fees section to Fees and Charges Bylaw19/2024
- Update and modernize language
- Remove grandfather clauses



Next Steps

- Administration will review the Bylaw and include amendments considerations.
- Enforcement Services will investigate emerging trends and develop effective strategies.



Conclusion

- Morinville's Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw is essential for maintaining community safety, promoting animal welfare, protecting the environment, and enhancing overall quality of life, thereby increasing overall community safety and well-being.
- Continued review and adjustments ensure the bylaw stays effective and aligned with current best practices.



Questions?

