

**Date:** 28/02/2022

**To:** Chair and Directors, Committee of the Whole

**And To:** John MacLean, Chief Administrative Officer

**From:** Stuart Larson, Manager of Protective Services

**Date of Meeting:** Committee of the Whole\_Mar17\_2022

**File:** 4000-01

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## **Short Summary:**

Potential Animal Control Bylaw

## **Background:**

Staff was given direction to explore the feasibility of an Animal Control Bylaw within the Cariboo Regional District (CRD). After consulting with other Regional Districts as to how they manage animal control, it was made clear that due to geographical size and staffing requirements, it would not be feasible to do so. However, the concept for a stand-alone Dangerous Dog Bylaw was researched by staff as nuisance animals are already covered under the existing bylaw. Staff consulted with the RCMP, and they support the CRD in enacting a Dangerous Dog Bylaw as it is much easier for them to enforce a bylaw than using provisions in the Community Charter.

Before continuing with a recommendation to the Board to pursue a Dangerous Dog Bylaw, it needs to be understood that even with the support of the RCMP, all responsibility to action the file will still rest with the CRD. The following will have to be researched prior to further action:

- Cost of contracting kennels within the CRD for animal care prior to obtaining an order for destruction on a dangerous animal;
- Cost to obtain a court order for destruction;
- All legal fees in the case of an appeal;
- Likelihood of false claims;
- Training and PPE for Bylaw staff to action any files as the primary contact for bylaw complaints;
- Ancillary equipment needed for the transportation of animals.

It should be understood that while this is a valuable tool to have, there will be significant ongoing costs to maintain this program and there is a heavy burden of proof required to seize and destroy an animal.

**Attachments:**

N/A

**Receipt Only:**

That the memorandum from Stuart Larson, Manager of Protective Services, dated February 28, 2022, regarding the potential of adopting an Animal Control Bylaw, be received. *Further action at the discretion of the Committee.*