



**Corporate Services Department
Clerk's Office**

CITY of STRATFORD
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December 3, 2013

All Ontario Municipalities

Dear Ontario Municipal Clerks and Councils:

Re: Resolution - Province-wide Standards for Keeping of Exotic Animals

Stratford City Council recently adopted a resolution to petition the Provincial and Federal Governments for province-wide standards for keeping of exotic animals.

A copy of the resolution is attached for your consideration. We kindly request your support and endorsement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joan Thomson".

Joan Thomson
City Clerk

Encl.
/ja



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF STRATFORD

Resolution: Province-wide Standards for Keeping of Exotic Animals

Whereas Ontario municipalities have adopted by-laws to regulate the keeping of animals in municipalities for reasons of health, public safety, animal welfare and environmental issues;

And Whereas municipal by-laws include animal control by-laws, exotic animal by-laws, circus animal by-laws, feeding of wildlife by-laws, zoning by-laws and dangerous dog by-laws;

And Whereas recent events in New Brunswick has Canadians expressing concern and sympathy about the tragedy and again raising questions about exotic animals rules;

And Whereas exotic animal by-laws typically include lists of permitted animals, restricted animals and prohibited animals and such lists can vary from one municipality to another municipality;

And Whereas some exotic animal by-laws may require owners of restricted animals to register their animals with the municipality to be provided to emergency responders for awareness of the location of exotic animals when responding to emergency calls;

And Whereas the Ontario Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services announced on August 13, 2013 that the Ontario Government will review rules in place dealing with the possession and ownership of exotic animals;

And Whereas the Ontario Government is creating a working group to examine whether changes need to be made to the rules and is seeking input from key stakeholders, including municipalities;

And Whereas the working group is to report this Fall with options for moving forward;

And Whereas following the recent events in New Brunswick, the Federal Government announced a review of the government's role in the regulation of exotic animals and exotic pet shops;

And Whereas existing municipal by-laws to regulate exotic animals vary from municipality to municipality resulting a patchwork of rules for the keeping of exotic animals, or no rules;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That Stratford City Council hereby petitions the provincial and federal governments to implement standard rules to restrict the keeping of exotic animals to address health, public safety, animal welfare, environmental issues, and emergency responder awareness;

And Be It Further Resolved That Municipalities be consulted by the Provincial and Federal Governments during their review of rules in place dealing with the possession and ownership of exotic animals;

And Be It Further Resolved That this Resolution be forwarded to Municipalities in Ontario for endorsement and to the Prime Minister of Canada, Premier of Ontario, Ontario Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, Perth-Wellington MP, Perth-Wellington MPP, AMO and FCM.

Adopted by City Council of The Corporation of the City of Stratford on November 12, 2013.

The Corporation of the City of Stratford, P.O. Box 818, Stratford ON N5A 6W1
Attention: City Clerk, 519-271-0250 ext 235, clerks@city.stratford.on.ca

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