



The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss

Staff Report

Report Title: Feeding of Wildlife and Feral Animals

Prepared By: Heather Falconer, By-Law Enforcement Officer

Department: By-Law Enforcement

Date: Aug. 4, 2021

Report Number: BLE-2021-08-13

File Number: C-11 BLE21

Attachments: Feeding of Wildlife and Feral Animals Draft By-law

Recommendation:

That the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby approves Report Number BLE-2021-08-13 prepared by Heather Falconer, By-Law Enforcement Officer and authorizes the bringing forward of the Feeding of Wildlife and Feral Animals By-Law Draft for approval.

Background:

At the June 21, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting, staff was directed to bring forward a report on potential mechanisms to control the feeding and gathering of stray cats on an individual's property. Staff has also received nuisance complaints about a resident making food available for stray cats in the Point Clark area.

Discussion:

Staff has investigated different routes to prohibit citizens from feeding multiple cats outdoors. The most effective and widely used by other municipalities is a by-law that regulates the feeding of nuisance animals including cats. These by-laws also prohibit any food being left outdoors that may attract wildlife or potentially dangerous animals.

Staff has created and attached a draft by-law "Feeding of Wildlife and Feral Animals" that prohibits feeding of animals that are considered Wildlife and Feral. By prohibiting these animals being fed by citizens, there will be a decrease of population in specific areas due to the animals having to move elsewhere to obtain sustainable resources to thrive.

Owners of domesticated animals will not be permitted to have a device or other material placed outdoors in such a manner as to attract or be accessible to a wild animal on private or public property.

Section 3.5 and 3.6 of the "Feeding of Wildlife and Feral Animals" Draft By-law does state exemptions for the purposes of feeding songbirds, trapping nuisance animals, baiting for licensed trapper, and agricultural zoned land being actively used for cropland or the raising of livestock.

The staff will recommend to the Ontario Court of Justice under the Provincial Offences Act that the amount of set fines be \$250.00 for each contravention of the by-law.

Financial Impacts:

There are no financial impacts.

Strategic Alignment / Link:

We are an accessible community that offers opportunities for everyone by being open and transparent.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Heather Falconer, By-Law Enforcement Officer

Approved By:

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer