

From: [Hugh Mason](#)
To: [Heather Falconer](#)
Cc: [Emily Dance](#)
Subject: Fwd: Animal Control & Responsible Ownership Bylaw request
Date: August 9, 2021 1:25:13 PM
Attachments: [Cat%20Tag%20Registration.pdf](#)

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Shelley Meldrum <smeldrum@hurontel.on.ca>
Date: August 9, 2021 at 11:51:18 AM EDT
To: Hugh Mason <hupatt@hurontel.on.ca>
Subject: **Animal Control & Responsible Ownership Bylaw request**

Aug 9, 2021

To address the current draft by-law “Feeding of Wildlife and Feral Animals” we disagree that the animals in question on Seneca St are Wildlife nor Feral. The majority of the cats were born at the residence in question. Feeding the cats indoors or out is of no concern or relevance.

What is needed is a By-law that will control the cats from running freely off the property. It is a serious nuisance & health issue to both area property owners and their pets, resulting from excrement on lawns, flower beds and gardens, sitting on neighbours vehicles, setting off alarms etc. Also, this issue on Seneca of cats being allowed to run at large compounds the health & safety concerns of them being carriers of disease & rabies. For certain these cats have never been vaccinated, putting area domestic pets and residents at risk. At present there is no bylaw addressing this serious matter, nor does the current proposed bylaw. The proposed By-law would only be a band aid solution. Several other residential areas in the Township are encountering this same problems. A bylaw with “more teeth” would make for more effective results.

For Staff to say “the most effective and widely used by other Municipalities is a by-law that regulates the feeding of nuisance animals including cats”. Upon reading their by-laws we question that statement.

With regards to the current issue on Seneca, if anything the proposed bylaw would only move the problem to other neighbourhoods, not eliminate the problem. These cats will only seek out other sympathetic owners in the area for food then return back to their place of birth & shelter, potentially creating a problem in more than one area. It is a stretch to consider these cats truly as feral. All of them (except a couple) were born & have received food & shelter at this

residence since birth.

What does seem to be the best solution is the Cat Registration Form as part of Bylaw 2819-13 that Hanover uses. The Registration Form indicates the Rates and Fees., the date of Rabies vaccination .The By-law states “regulating animal control and responsible ownership, require that owners keep their cat under control and not allow their cat to run at large or trespass on private or public property”. Also , the fine for cats RUNNING AT LARGE is \$95.00
Now that is what this township should have. This bylaw would most certainly be effective at controlling the current issue on Seneca as well as any future issues that arise in the township. It is a far better long term solution.

In speaking with Hanover Municipal office, they feel the Bylaw 2819-13 has been very effective & works well in their municipality. They stated there is no need to make any changes or adjustments.

The registration being a one time fee per cat could be \$10.00 or whatever the township feels is required to be revenue neutral.

Please review the Cat Registration as part of Bylaw 2819-13 enacted in Hanover, as attached. As one of many concerned citizens in Huron Kinloss we request the Hanover bylaw be replicated in this township as it would be the best & most effective solution to eliminate the current issue as well as any future issues.

I look forward to your reply.

Regards,
Hugh Mason
Spokesperson for the affected Wilson & Seneca St residents