



# DOG/CAT REGULATIONS

## PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

The following Regulations have been made by the Town Council of Happy Valley-Goose Bay pursuant to the *Municipalities Act, 1999*, SNL 1999, c M-24.

\_\_\_\_\_, Mayor

## DOG/CAT REGULATIONS

1. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires:
  - (a) “Council” means the Town Council of Happy Valley-Goose Bay;
  - (b) “Dog Team” means a group of up to ten (10) dogs used primarily as work dogs;
  - (c) “Animal Enforcement Officer” means a person appointed by Council to seize and Impound dogs, and to enforce these Regulations as a Municipal Enforcement Officer pursuant to the *Municipalities Act, 1999*, SNL 1999 c M-24, as amended;
  - (d) “Impounded” means to seize and hold in custody;
  - (e) “License” means a license confirming the registration of a dog;

- (f) “Peace Officer” means a member of the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary, a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, or an Animal Enforcement Officer;
  - (g) “Regulations” means these Dog/Cat Regulations; and,
  - (h) “Town” means the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay;
2. From and after the date of the passing of these Regulations, no person shall keep any dog within the limits of the Town unless such dog has been Licensed.
  3. A fee of \$20.00 for each License will be charged.
  4. The Town shall keep a register of all Licensed dogs.
  5. License tags will be issued and supplied by the Council and be valid for the life of the dog.
  6. The owner of every Licensed dog shall immediately, on receiving the License, attach it to a strong and durable collar, which collar shall be kept upon the dog’s neck at all times when it is outside the enclosed premises of the owner.
  7. When an unlicensed dog is Impounded, the owner must have the dog Licensed before returned.
  8. A Peace Office is authorized to seize and Impound dog or cats in accordance with these Regulations.
  9. A Peace Officer shall seize and Impound a dog or cat as humanely as possible and without the use of tranquilizing darts or firearms except in cases where the dog or cat cannot be Impounded by other means and constitutes an immediate threat to persons or property.
  10. A Peace Officer may enter premises for the purpose of capturing any dog or cat that the Peace Officer was in pursuit of or had escaped from their control.
  11. A dog or cat may be seized or Impounded by a Peace Officer if is:
    - (a) At Large; or
    - (b) Found damaging or destroying private property.

12. Every owner of :
- (a) a dog within the Town shall keep the dog safely tethered or penned in accordance with the *Animal Health and Protection Act*, SNL 2010, c A-9.1, as amended, and the *Animal Protection Standards Regulations*, NLR 36/12, as amended, unless the circumstances fall within one of the exemptions therein set out, or set out in the *Nuisance Animal Regulations*, NLR 41/12, as amended; and,
  - (b) a cat within the Town shall be kept on its premises or safely tethered or penned up or under the control of some person capable of controlling it at all times,

And a dog or cat that is kept in non-compliance with this section constitutes a dog or cat “At Large”.

13. The Town will make all reasonable efforts to determine the owner of the dog or cat that is Impounded and to notify the owner that the dog or cat has been Impounded.
14. Any person who has custody, charge or possession of any dog or cat, or who is the principal resident of any house or premises where a dog or cat is kept or permitted to live or remain shall be deemed to be the owner of the dog or cat for the purposes of these Regulations unless they prove they are not the owner.
15. The owner of a dog or cat may recover the dog or cat on such proof of its ownership as the Council may require and upon payment of all fees in connection with the Impounding and maintenance of the dog or cat.
16. The following seizing and Impounding fees shall be paid by the owners of dogs or cats:
- (a) Seizing and Impounding, Licensed, 1st instance, \$40;
  - (b) Seizing and Impounding, unlicensed, 1st instance, \$75;
  - (c) Seizing and Impounding, 2nd instance within a 12 month period, \$125;
  - (d) For dogs or cats Impounded and quarantined for five days the costs involved are to be recovered from the owner;
  - (e) The costs to address after regular hours requests for assistance with dog and/or cat problems are to be recovered from the owner; and,
  - (f) Such other costs as are required to properly compensate the Town for the cost of seizing, Impounding and maintaining the dog or cat.

17. Where an owner of a dog or cat is not found within five days after the dog or cat is Impounded, the Town may, in its discretion, euthanize the dog or cat in accordance with the *Animal Protection Regulations*, NLR 35/12, as amended.
18. Prior to euthanizing any dog or cat, the Town shall make reasonable efforts to find and notify the owner.
19. The carcass of any dog or cat euthanized pursuant to these Regulations shall be disposed of exclusively by burning or burying.
20. An Animal Enforcement Officer shall keep a daily record of all its activities and submit an Activity Report to its Supervisor once a month.
21. The Town shall make a record of all Impounding in a book kept for that purpose.
22. Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of these Regulations is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction
  - (a) for a first offence to a fine not less than \$100.00 and not exceeding \$500.00 dollars, or to a term of imprisonment for a period not exceeding one month or to both the fine and imprisonment; and,
  - (b) for a subsequent offence to a fine of not less than \$500.00 and not more than \$1000.00 or to a term of imprisonment of not more than 3 months or to both the fine and imprisonment.
23. It is deemed to be an Offence under the Regulations where:
  - (a) A dog or cat causes damage to any lawn, grass plot, garden, or flower bed or flower, shrub or plant owned by someone other than the owner of the dog or cat, such dog or cat;
  - (b) A dog barks or howls in such a manner as to disturb the peace or to constitute an annoyance to residents in the neighborhood;
  - (c) A person interferes with or attempts to interfere with a Peace Officer in the exercise of its duties;
  - (d) A person releases a dog or cat that has been Impounded without the authority of an Animal Enforcement Officer;

24. For the purposes of subsections 23(a) and (b), the owner of the dog or cat will be deemed to have committed the offence.
25. Every person requested by a Peace Officer shall, on request, forthwith give his/her proper name and address.
26. No action lies against any person acting in good faith for anything done or proposing to be done under these Regulations.
27. The Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay Dog/Cat Regulations passed on October 23, 2012 are hereby repealed.
28. These Regulations were adopted and passed by Council at a meeting held on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014 and are effective as of that date and may be cited as the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay Dog/Cat Regulations.