



**City of
Prince Albert**

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News Release

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Council Adopts New Animal Control Bylaw

Fine increases, new cat licensing requirements

Prince Albert City Council has approved a new Animal Control Bylaw (No. 34 of 2010) that is intended to ensure more pets are licensed in Prince Albert. Included in the changes are cat licensing requirements, changes to the licensing fee structure and increases to fines for bylaw offenses.

“Licensing allows for pet owners to be easily found if their animal is picked up by bylaw enforcement or brought to the SPCA,” said Mayor Jim Scarrow. “Our primary objective is to first encourage this behaviour.”

Bylaw enforcement estimates that there is 10-20% compliance with pet licensing in Prince Albert. The goal is to achieve 75% compliance, which would be keeping with other jurisdictions such as Saskatoon.

Residents are asked to take note of the following changes:

1. Dog and Cat licensing:

Cats will now be required to be licensed in the City of Prince Albert. The new fee will be \$20, which will now be the standard fee for dogs as well. There will no longer be a higher price for dogs and cats that are not spayed/neutered.

2. Fine Increases by \$25:

A general increase of \$25 per offence was implemented for the majority of offenses. Failure to license a dog or cat will now be \$75, up from \$50; failure to attach a valid license tag will now be \$75, up from \$50; dog or cat being at large will now be \$75, up from \$50.

Dangerous activities, such as biting, will be increases to \$100 for the first offense, up from \$50.

More significant increases will be considered next year, if there is limited compliance with cat and dog licensing.

A complete list is available at www.citypa.ca.

3. Get out of Pound Free Program:

To encourage pet licensing, this program allows for licensed and spayed/neutered pets to be provided with one free ride home with no charge being filed if the pet is found at large and/or waiver of pound fees if the pet is impounded and redeemed within 24 hours.

The pet returned home service will be complimented by a warning rather than a running at large fine for first time offenders. Fines will be issued for second time offenses.

In the New Year, during budget deliberations, City Council will also be considering a Subsidized Spay/Neuter program and an information campaign to educate the public on the necessity of licensing pets. The new bylaw will be available for viewing on the City's website, www.citypa.com, in the next few days.

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For more information go to www.citypa.ca or contact:

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