

Background:

Over the course of a two year period, between the fall of 2014 and the summer of 2016, Council, with the assistance of Matrix Consulting, completed a full review of the service delivery models associated with Animal Care and Control for the City of Greater Sudbury. Key decisions made by Council included the consolidation of Animal Control Enforcement with By-Law Services and adoption of a Low Kill Philosophy.

In July 2016, Council reviewed the history and price escalations for contracted services and voted to cancel the RFP for Pound Services and implement a CGS operated Pound for a (1) one-year trial period.

Criteria used to identify a suitable location for the pound included the size, space and configuration of the building and its location in the community with some geographic distance from residential homes and appropriate zoning. Formerly licensed and operated as a kennel, the facility at 39 Kari Road in Wahnapiatae is leased from the property owner for \$4,500 per month. The initial lease is a one (1) year lease with an option for a one (1) year extension and verbal consent from the landlord has been obtained to add a second year extension should Council approve this option. Relations with the property owner have been positive and the City program is well supported by the landlord.

The decision to lease space followed an extensive review of available CGS facilities that may have supported the operation of Shelter Services, which determined that significant capital project upgrades, having an estimated value of between \$400,000 and \$600,000, would be required to renovate any one of those municipal facilities to a pound. Renovating a municipal building or purpose building a facility would only be recommended for a long term solution to animal care services should the City decide in the future to operate the Pound on permanent basis.

To ensure the safety and security of animals and staff, while ensuring compliance with the Animals for Research Act R.S.O., 1990, c. A. 22 R.R.O. 1990, Reg. 23 Pounds, capital upgrades to the facility on Kari Rd were required. The City spent \$57,791 on physical changes and required upgrades to the facility, primarily related to proper ventilation and water proof surfacings as required to pass the OMAFRA (Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs) Animal Health and Welfare Branch inspection for pounds. An additional \$38,035 was spent on equipment that can be repurposed to another facility if so required in the future. All amounts were budgeted for within capital budget as approved by Council for this project.

On October 26, 2016, following an open house for the community, the City of Greater Sudbury opened animal shelter services on Kari Road. The 2600 square foot facility has fifteen (15) interior dog runs (2 with gate access to outdoor runs) and thirty-four (34)

individual cat cages. In addition, to support housing of cats for the redemption period, the Shelter has five (5) communal cat areas that can each hold 5-6 cats.

While the current shelter is not ideally located from a citizen convenience and distance perspective, it is highly functional and has excellent outdoor spaces for animals to exercise and continuing to provide the service at this location can easily be supported in the current service delivery model.

The City of Greater Sudbury Animal Shelter is open to the public between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday and between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on weekends and operates within Council approved budgets for this service. To ensure the timely return of animals to their owner and a minimize the length of stay for animals in our care, pet owners can make appointments outside these hours, subject to staff availability.

Greater Sudbury By-Law Enforcement officers are scheduled between 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. Monday to Friday with extended coverage on weekends to respond to Animal related calls in the field. Immediate care for animals in emergency outside these times is provided to the community by way of an overnight on call position. In preparation for animal related duties, both shelter and enforcement staff have had extensive training through Canine Foundations (<http://www.caninefoundations.com/>). Those staff who work at the Shelter also spent time in the municipally operated Brampton Shelter.

Statistics

For the period of October 26, 2016 to March 23, 2017, the City of Greater Sudbury received a total of 451 animals into its care as described in the table below:

DOG INTAKES		DOG OUTCOMES		CAT INTAKES		CAT OUTCOMES	
Owner Surrender	49	Adoption	74	Owner Surrender	36	Adoption	159
Stray	124	Return to Owner	90	Stray	239	Return to Owner	12
Protective Care	3	Transfer to OSPCA	2			Transfer to OSPCA	10
		Euthanasia/Death	4			Euthanasia/Death	16
		Still in Care	6			Still in Care	78
TOTAL	176	TOTAL	176	TOTAL	275	TOTAL	275

The City's goals are is to quickly reunite animals with their owners and publicize animals available for adoption so as to minimize the length of stay for all animals in our care.

Staff have worked diligently to develop and maintain relationships with the Animal Care community, including foster and adoption groups in support of these goals.

City of Greater Sudbury Shelter hosts a Facebook page to post pictures and videos of all animals in our care that are available for adoption. As of March 23, 2017, the page had over 1,300 members and has been well received by many in the animal care community.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/cgsshelter/permalink/1492924720758114/>

The City has also developed excellent relationships with three veterinary practices which provide medical support to animals and training to our staff. This ensures that all animals in need of assessment or medical services during their redemption period will be examined by a Veterinarian. Further, these partnerships with local vets support the provision of spay/neuter services and provision of euthanasia where medically required.

Next Steps

This report updates Council and the Community on CGS Animal Care and Control Services at the Pound, through our first six months of operation. It is recommended that staff use the next eighteen months to gather more complete and comprehensive service delivery data and prepare a business case analysis that will allow the next Council, during the 2019 Budget deliberations, to make a decision about the long term service delivery model for Pound Services at that at this time, Council extend the current Pilot Project for an additional two years to October 2019.

Council Report History

Tuesday, September 09, 2014

<http://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=agenda&action=navigator&id=786&itemid=9012&lang=en>

Tuesday, January 26, 2016

<http://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=agenda&action=navigator&id=939&itemid=10506&lang=en>

Tuesday, February 09, 2016

<http://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=agenda&action=navigator&id=940&itemid=10834&lang=en>

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

<http://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=agenda&action=navigator&id=949&itemid=11688&lang=en>

Tuesday, April 25, 2017

<http://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=agenda&action=navigator&id=1126&itemid=12735&lang=en>