



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW NO. 2116

A bylaw to establish and set regulations for a pound and provide for the licensing of dogs within the City of Grand Forks.

The Municipal Council for the Corporation of the City of Grand Forks, in open meeting lawfully assembled, **ENACTS** as follows:

Citation

1. This bylaw may be cited as the **“Animal Control Bylaw No. 2116”**

Definitions

2. In this bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:
 - 2.1. **“Animal”** means any stallion, mare, gelding, filly, foal, colt, jackass, mule, bull, cow, heifer, steer, calf, ram, ewe, wether, lamb, goat, swine, fowl, poultry and rabbit;
 - 2.2. **“Animal Control Officer”** means any person appointed from time to time by Council for the purpose of administering and enforcing this or other City bylaws, which may include pound keeping services, and includes any assistant or any person appointed by *Council* to assist in carrying out the provisions of this Bylaw, or any Peace Officer.
 - 2.3. **“At Large”** means
 - 2.3.1. any *Dog* or *Animal* in or upon the lands or premises of any person other than the owner of the *Animal* without the consent, express or implied of that person;
 - 2.3.2. any *Dog* or *Animal* on a highway or public place not under the adequate control of a responsible and competent person;
 - 2.3.3. any *Animal* on a highway or a public place posted as being prohibited to *Dogs* or *Animals*; or,
 - 2.3.4. a vicious *Dog* not securely leashed and muzzled or under the adequate control of a responsible and competent person while on a highway or public place.
 - 2.4. **“Chief Administrative Officer”** means the Chief Administrative Officer for the City of Grand Forks;
 - 2.5. **“City”** means the Corporation of the City of Grand Forks;
 - 2.6. **“Collector”** means any person authorized by the *City* to collect fees and charges connected with this bylaw.
 - 2.7. **“Control Area”** means the area within the municipal boundary of the *City*;

- 2.8. **“Council”** means the municipal council of the *City*;
- 2.9. **“Dog”** means the male and female of the canine species;
- 2.10. **“Fees and Charges Bylaw”** means the *City’s Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 1958, 2014*, as amended or replaced from time-to-time.
- 2.11. **“Impound”** means to seize, deliver, receive or be taken into the *Pound* or in the custody and control of the *Animal Control Officer* as authorized by this Bylaw;
- 2.12. **“Incurable disease”** when used in relation to any *Animal* means an *Animal* certified by a licensed and qualified veterinarian to have an incurable disease;
- 2.13. **“Kennel”** means a building, structure, compound or group of pens or cages where *Dogs*, cats, other domestic pets, or exotic pets are, or are intended to be trained, cared for, bred, boarded or kept for commercial purposes.
- 2.14. **“Livestock Act”** means the British Columbia *Livestock Act* [RSBC 1996] Chapter 270, as amended or replaced from time-to-time.
- 2.15. **“Municipal Ticket Information Bylaw”** means the *City’s Municipal Ticket Information Bylaw No. 2073*, as amended or replaced from time-to-time.
- 2.16. **“Owner”** means any person:
 - 2.16.1. to whom a licence for a dog has been issued under this bylaw;
 - 2.16.2. who owns, is in possession of, or has the care, custody, or control of any *Dog or Animal*;
 - 2.16.3. who harbours or allows any *Dog or Animal* to remain about their house, land, or premises;
 - 2.16.4. during 2025, to whom a current licence for a dog has been issued under *Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Animal Control Bylaw No. 1550*;
- 2.17. **“Pound”** means any facility, building, structure, or enclosure used to harbour and maintain *Dogs or Animals* pursuant to this bylaw, or any vehicle used by an *Animal Control Officer*.
- 2.18. **“Public Place”** means any publicly owned property, park, playground, beach, boulevard, pathway or roadway;
- 2.19. **“Vicious dog”** means any *Dog* that has attacked or bitten, attempted to attack or bite, or chased any person or *Animal* or wildlife, without provocation, as determined by an *Animal Control Officer*;

Dog Licences

3. Every person who has resided in the *Control Area* for a period of thirty (30) days or more who owns, harbours, or keeps a *Dog* over the age of four (4) months within the *Control Area* shall pay the *Collector* an annual license fee as described in the *Fees and Charges Bylaw*.

Establishment of a Pound

4. *Council* authorizes the establishment, maintenance, lease, rental, subcontract, and operation of facilities for the impounding of *Dogs* and *Animals* at such a place or places within or around the *Control Area* as the *Council* may determine from time to time.
5. *Council* authorizes the appointment of a person or persons to carry out the duties of the *Animal Control Officer* by the *Chief Administrative Officer* or designate.
6. The *Animal Control Officer* shall ensure all impounded *Dogs* and *Animals* are provided with daily food, water and proper shelter.
7. The *Animal Control Officer* shall maintain a logbook on behalf of the *City* and record in the logbook the description of every *Dog* or *Animal* impounded, the name of the person who impounded the *Dog* or *Animal*, the time and occasion of the impoundment, the fees owing, and the manner and date of disposal.

Dogs in Public Places

8. An owner or person who has control of a *Dog* must not cause or allow the *Dog* to be on a highway or public place unless the *Dog* is under the immediate charge and control of a person competent to restrain the *Dog*:
 - 8.1. on a leash that is not longer than 2.4 metres; or,
 - 8.2. on a leash lead that is not longer than 8 metres when fully extended.
9. Paragraph 8 does not apply to *Dogs* participating in a lawfully organized *Dog* show or performance trial.
10. An owner or a person who has control of a *Dog* must ensure that the *Dog* is under control of a person competent to always restrain the *Dog* as prescribed by paragraph 8 unless specifically posted as an off-leash area in the *Control Area*.
11. An owner or person who has control of a *Dog* must not allow the *Dog* to deposit excrement on a highway or public place unless the person immediately removes the excrement and disposes of it in a sanitary manner.
12. An owner or person who has control of a *Dog* must not allow the *Dog* to deposit excrement on private property not owned by the owner of the *Dog* or by the person who has control of the *Dog* unless the person immediately removes the excrement and disposes of it in a sanitary manner.
13. Paragraphs 11 and 12 do not apply to a person who is legally blind or visually impaired and accompanied by a registered guide *Dog*.

Noisy Dogs

14. A person who owns, keeps, or harbours a *Dog* must not cause or allow the *Dog* to cry or bark in a manner which tends to disturb the peace, quiet, rest, enjoyment, comfort, or convenience of the neighborhood or of persons in the vicinity of the place where the *Dog* is kept.

Dogs and Animals at-Large

15. A person must not cause or allow any *Dog* or *Animal* owned or harboured by that person to be at-large within the boundaries of the *Control Area*.

Number of Dogs

16. A person must not keep, or allow to be kept, more than three (3) *Dogs* on any residential property within the boundaries of the *City*.

Damages for Trespass to Private Property

17. In accordance with Section 48 of the *Community Charter* and Section 707 of the *Local Government Act*, the owner of a *Dog* or *Animal* at-large is liable for the damages that the *Dog* or *Animal* caused while at-large and the damages may be levied and collected as a fine or fee prescribed by the Animal Control Officer.

Impounding of Dogs and Animals

18. The impoundment and maintenance fees for *Dogs* and *Animals* shall be those listed in the *Fees and Charges Bylaw*.
19. The *Animal Control Officer* may seize and impound any *Dog* or *Animal* that is found to be at-large within the *Control Area*.
20. Once a *Dog* or *Animal* is impounded, the *City* retains ownership of that *Dog* or *Animal* until reclaimed by its owner, sold, or humanely euthanized.
21. If the owner of any impounded *Dog* or *Animal* is known to the *Animal Control Officer*, the *Animal Control Officer* must notify the owner by telephone of the impoundment or mail the owner a "Notice of Impoundment", in a format similar to the example attached to this bylaw as Schedule 'A', within one business day of the impoundment.
22. The *Animal Control Officer* may post a "Notice of Impoundment" at the pound or in the local newspaper.
23. The owner of any *Dog* or *Animal* impounded may reclaim the *Dog* or *Animal* prior to its sale or destruction on proof of ownership and on payment of the impoundment, maintenance, and license fees prescribed in the *Fees and Charges Bylaw*. The owner must provide the *Animal Control Officer* with written authorization of the *Dog* or *Animal's* release from the pound.
24. If an impounded *Dog* or *Animal* is not claimed by its owner within 72 hours from its impoundment and the owner has not paid the impoundment, maintenance, and license fees, the *Animal Control Officer* may sell or humanely euthanize the *Dog* or *Animal*.
25. If an impounded *Animal* is an animal other than a *Dog*, a breed inspector must inspect the *Animal* before the *Animal Control Officer* may sell or humanely euthanize it.
26. Notwithstanding Sections 15 and 18-25 of this Bylaw for at-large *Dogs* and *Animals* and the impounding of *Dogs* and *Animals*, the *Livestock Act*, and its regulations and amendments

where applicable, shall prevail if there is any conflict between this Bylaw and the *Livestock Act*.

27. An owner of a *Dog* or *Animal* is liable for the payment of all fees prescribed in the *Fees and Charges Bylaw* incurred in relation to any *Dog* or *Animal* impounded at the pound.

Vicious Dogs

28. An owner or person in control of a *Vicious Dog* must keep the *Vicious Dog* a minimum distance of 100 metres away from an elementary school, middle school, high school, daycare facility, or any public park in the *Control Area*.

29. An owner or person in control of a *Vicious Dog* must:

29.1. securely confine the *Vicious Dog* indoors or in an enclosed pen or structure capable of preventing the *Vicious Dog* from escaping or being entered by any unauthorized persons; and,

29.2. securely leash, muzzle or cage the *Vicious Dog* to prevent it from biting, attacking or chasing another *Animal* or a person when the *Vicious Dog* is off the owner's premises.

Dogs with an Incurable Disease

30. A person must not own, keep, harbour, or possess any *Dog* with an incurable disease designated by a licensed and qualified veterinarian within the *Control Area* unless the *Dog* is in isolation and under treatment for the incurable disease.

31. The *Animal Control Officer* may humanely euthanize any *Dog* or *Animal* upon receiving a certificate from a veterinarian that the impounded *Dog* or *Animal* is suffering from an incurable disease or injury and was seized from the *Control Area*.

Warning Notice

32. The *Animal Control Officer* may issue a warning notice to the owner, possessor, or harbourer of a *Dog* or *Animal* which has been found in contravention of this Bylaw.

Right of Inspection

33. Under Section 16 of the *Community Charter*, the *Animal Control Officer* is authorized to enter at all reasonable times upon any property in the *Control Area* to inspect and determine whether a requirement of this Bylaw is being met or a regulation is being followed.

No Interference

34. A person must not hinder, delay, obstruct, or interfere with an *Animal Control Officer* in the lawful exercise of his or her duties under this Bylaw.

Enforcement and Penalties

35. Every person who violates any of the provisions of this Bylaw, or who suffers or permits any act or thing to be done in contravention of any provision of this Bylaw, or who neglects to do

or refrains from doing anything required to be done by any provision of this Bylaw or under a Permit issued under this Bylaw shall:

- 35.1. Upon being convicted of an offence under this Bylaw, pay a fine of not less than \$100.00 and not more than \$10,000.00 if proceedings are brought under the *Offence Act*, or;
 - 35.2. Pay the fine imposed for that offence specified in the *Municipal Ticket Information Bylaw*.
36. Any person violating any provision of this Bylaw is liable on summary conviction to a fine as prescribed in the *Municipal Ticket Information Bylaw*. A separate offence shall be deemed to be committed on each day during, or on, which a violation occurs or continues.
37. Any person designated as a Bylaw Enforcement Officer pursuant to the *Municipal Ticket Information Bylaw* is hereby authorized and empowered to enforce the provisions of this Bylaw.

General

38. Any enactment referred to herein is a reference to an enactment of British Columbia and regulations thereto, as amended, revised, consolidated or replaced from time to time.
39. If any section, paragraph or phrase of this bylaw is for any reason held to be invalid by a decision of a Court of competent jurisdiction, such decision will not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this bylaw.

Read a first, second, and third time by the Municipal Council this 14th day of July, 2025.

Adopted this 11th day of August, 2025.

Mayor – Everett Baker

Corporate Officer – Kevin McKinnon

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of Bylaw No. 2116, cited as the “Animal Control Bylaw No. 2116”, as passed by the Municipal Council on the ____ day of _____, 2020.

Corporate Officer of the Municipal Council of the
City of Grand Forks

Schedule A

Notice of Impoundment

To: _____

TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to the provisions of the City of Grand Forks Animal Control Bylaw No. 2116:

Description of Dog or Animal Impounded

Was (or were) impounded in the Pound kept by the undersigned at _____

on the _____ day of _____, 20____, at the hour of _____ A.M./P.M.

AND TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that unless, within three (3) days after the date of this notice, you appear at the Pound and release the dog(s) or animal(s) so impounded by the payment of the lawful fees and charges, the same will be humanely euthanized or sold as provided in the said Bylaw.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 20____.

Animal Control Officer