



**DISTRICT OF VANDERHOOF  
BYLAW NO. 1183, 2018  
ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW**

**WHEREAS** the Community Charter empowers the Council of the District of Vanderhoof to regulate, prohibit and impose requirements with respect to animals and to provide for a system of licenses, permits and approvals;

**NOW THEREFORE**, The Council of the District of Vanderhoof, in public meeting, enacts as follows:

**PART 1: INTERPRETATION**

**Citation**

1. This bylaw may be cited for all purposes as “**The District of Vanderhoof Animal Control Bylaw No. 1183, 2018**”.

**Definitions**

2. In this bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:

“**Animal**” means any member of the Kingdom Animalia excluding humans and wildlife;

“**Animal Control Officer**” means a person designated by the Municipality to be responsible for enforcing this bylaw and includes a peace officer;

“**Barbiturate**” refers to drugs which are derivatives of barbituric acid approved by the British Columbia Veterinary Medical Association used to humanely euthanize an animal;

“**Cat**” means a male or female domesticated animal of the feline species over the age of six (6) months;

“**Aggressive Dog**” means any dog to which the following applies:

- i. has without justifiable provocation displayed aggressive behavior that unduly intimidates a person or animal and includes snarling, growling or pursuing a person or animal in a threatening manner; and
- ii. has without justifiable provocation caused a minor injury to a person or animal.

“**Dog**” means a male or female domesticated animal of the canine species over the age of six (6) months;

“**Farm Animal**” means a domesticated animal normally raised or kept for food, milk, eggs, or as a beast of burden and, without limiting the foregoing, includes cattle, donkeys, goats, horses, mules, oxen, buffalo, sheep, fallow deer, swine, ducks, quails, roosters and poultry;

“**Guide Dog**” means a dog trained by the Canadian National Institute for the Blind or a dog trained by the Western Canada Handi and Hearing Ear Dog Society;

“**Hen**” means a female chicken;



**DISTRICT OF VANDERHOOF  
BYLAW NO. 1183, 2018  
ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW**

“**Kennel**” means the use of land, buildings or structures for any building, structure, compound, group of pens or cages or property, excluding a veterinary hospital, where five (5) or more dogs or cats are or are intended to be cared for, bred, boarded or kept for any purpose whatsoever;

“**Kennel License**” means a license issued by the Municipality to any person who keeps, harbors, treats or lodges six (6) or more cats or dogs at a kennel facility.

“**License**” means a license issued by the Municipality under this bylaw for the current license year;

“**Municipality**” means the District of Vanderhoof;

“**Neuter**” means the sterilization of a male animal by removing the testicles or by any method of pharmaceutical sterilization approved by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association;

“**Owner**” means any person, partnership, association or corporation that owns, possesses or has control, care or custody over an animal;

“**Pound**” means the facility designated by the Municipality, which is used for the temporary housing and care of animals that have been impounded pursuant to this bylaw;

“**Poundkeeper**” means any person appointed by the Municipality as the Poundkeeper or any contractor who has entered into an agreement with the Municipality to assume the responsibilities of the Poundkeeper under this bylaw;

“**Running at Large**” means an animal that is not on the property of the owner and not on a leash and/or under the control of a person responsible;

“**Spayed**” means the sterilization of a female animal by removing the ovaries or by any method of pharmaceutical sterilization approved by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association;

“**Unaltered**” means a dog that has not been spayed or neutered; and

“**Unsanitary Environment**” an environment is considered unsanitary when it contains objects that may cause injury to any person or animal or where it contains an accumulation of fecal matter, an odour, insect infestation, rodent attractants, or other conditions which endanger the health of any person or animal, or which disturbs or are likely to disturb the enjoyment, comfort or convenience of any person or animal.



**DISTRICT OF VANDERHOOF  
BYLAW NO. 1183, 2018  
ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW**

**PART 2: LICENSING FOR DOGS**

**Dog Licensing**

1. No person shall own or keep any dog, aged six (6) months or older, within the Municipality unless it is licensed as provided by this bylaw.
2. Every dog license and corresponding tag under this bylaw expires on December 31<sup>st</sup> each year.
3. Dog(s) that stay within the Municipality for less than 14 days do not require a license.
4. The Municipality shall keep a complete registry of all licensed animals, indicating the date of registration, name and description of animal, and name and address of the owner.
5. A license issued under this bylaw is not transferable from one dog to another.
6. Only those that reside within the Municipality qualify for a municipal license.

**Applying for License**

7. The dog owner must apply for an annual license at the Municipal office and must renew the license by paying the fee outlines in Schedule "A" on an annual basis.

**Waiving a License Fee**

8. Guide Dogs, as defined, are required to be licensed by the Municipality but the license fee may be waived for such dogs.
9. The license fee may be waived if the owner of the dog registers their dog in the first calendar month of that license year.

**License Tags**

10. The owner must ensure that any dog taken off of the owner's property must wear a collar, harness or other suitable device and must have a current license tag issued for that dog by the Municipality.
11. The owner of a dog may, upon producing proof of purchase and upon payment of a fee set out in Schedule "A", obtain a replacement license.

**PART 3: ANIMAL CONTROL**

**Running at Large**

1. An owner shall ensure his or her dog or cat does not run at large within the Municipality.

**Removing Excrement**

2. If an animal defecates on any property, it is the owner's responsibility to remove such feces immediately and dispose in a waste container or by other sanitary means.



**DISTRICT OF VANDERHOOF  
BYLAW NO. 1183, 2018  
ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW**

**Barking and Howling**

3. No person shall own, possess, keep or harbor any dog which by its repeated barking disturbs or tends to disturb the quiet, peace, rest or tranquility or any person or persons in the neighborhood or vicinity.

**On or Off Leash**

4. A dog in public must be secured by a leash no more than two and a half (2.5) meters long and must be under the immediate charge and control of a competent person unless another bylaw allows the dog to be off leash under certain circumstances

**Limiting Number of Cats and Dogs**

5. No person shall own more than three (3) dogs at any one time.
6. No person shall own more than three (3) cats at any one time.
7. No person shall own a more than three (3) cats or dogs, or a maximum of five (5) cats and dogs.
8. If a person wishes to have over the prescribed limits for cats and dogs, they must apply to the Municipality for a kennel license.

**PART 4: OWNER RESPONSIBILITIES**

**Standard of Care**

1. No owner shall keep his or her animal in an unsanitary environment.
2. An owner shall ensure his or her animal is provided with:
  - a. clean, potable drinking water and food of sufficient quantity and quality to allow for healthy growth and the maintenance of healthy body weight;
  - b. food and water receptacles kept clean and disinfected and located so as to avoid contamination by excreta;
  - c. the opportunity for regular exercise sufficient to maintain the animal's good health, including daily opportunities for social contact with people or animals, to be free of an enclosure and exercised under appropriate control; and
  - d. necessary veterinary care when such animal exhibits signs of pain, injury, illness or suffering.
3. An owner shall not keep an animal which normally resides outdoors, or which is kept outdoors for extended periods of time, unless such animal is provided with an outdoor shelter:
  - a. which provides sufficient space to allow the animal the ability to turn about freely and to easily stand, sit and lie in a normal position; at least one and a half (1.5) times the length of the animal in all directions, and at least as high as the animal's height measured from the floor to the highest point of the animal when standing in a normal position plus 10%;
  - b. which ensures protection from heat, cold and dampness that is appropriate to the weight and type of protective outer coat of such animal;
  - c. which provides sufficient shade to protect the animal from the direct rays of the sun at all times; and



**DISTRICT OF VANDERHOOF  
BYLAW NO. 1183, 2018  
ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW**

- d. which is regularly cleaned, sanitized and removed of excreta daily.

**Tethering Dogs**

4. Dogs are not to be hitched, tied or fastened to a fixed object where a choke, prong or shock collar forms part of the securing apparatus, or where a rope or cord is tied directly around the animal's neck; or be tethered other than with a collar that is properly fitted to the animal and attached in a manner that will not injure the animal or enable the animal to injure itself by pulling on the tether.
5. Dogs are not to be hitched, tied or fastened to a fixed object except with a tether of sufficient length to enable the full and unrestricted movement of the animal.

**Animal Enclosures**

6. No person may cause an animal to be confined in an enclosed space or vehicle, including a car, without adequate ventilation and water. Such an enclosed space or vehicle (if stationary) shall be in an area providing sufficient shade to protect the animal from the direct rays of the sun at all times.

**Securing Animals in Vehicles**

7. No person may transport an animal in a vehicle outside the passenger compartment or in an uncovered passenger compartment unless it is adequately confined or unless it is secured in a body harness or other manner of fastening which is adequate to prevent it from falling off the vehicle or otherwise injuring itself.

**PART 5: IMPOUNDMENT OF CATS AND DOGS**

**Pound/Poundkeeper**

1. The Council does hereby authorize:
  - a. the establishment, maintenance and operation of a pound;
  - b. the appointment of a Poundkeeper; and
  - c. an agreement with such person, firms, societies or corporations for the purpose of maintaining and operating its pound for the collection, distribution, and payment revenue and expenditures derived from the operation of the pound.

**Poundkeeper Powers and Responsibilities**

2. An animal seized shall be considered impounded from the time and place it comes under the control of the Poundkeeper or Animal Control Officer.
3. The Poundkeeper shall:
  - a. impound such animal; and
  - b. make all reasonable efforts to determine the identity of the owner of such animal and to inform such person that the animal has been impounded.



**DISTRICT OF VANDERHOOF  
BYLAW NO. 1183, 2018  
ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW**

4. All animals impounded under this bylaw shall receive sufficient food, water, shelter, exercise, social interaction and, if necessary, reasonable veterinary attention, and that the animals are not mistreated during seizure and impoundment
5. The animal shall remain impounded for a minimum of 72 hours (3 days) and a maximum of 168 hours (7 days), unless the animal is claimed by its rightful owner. If not claimed within that time, the animal shall become the property of the Municipality and may:
  - a. be adopted for such price as has been established; or
  - b. after reasonable attempts have been made to place the animal, be euthanized by a lethal injection of a barbiturate.
6. During the impoundment period, the Poundkeeper may euthanize, by lethal injection of a barbiturate, any animal deemed to be seriously ill or injured for humane reasons and in prior consultation with a veterinarian, if all reasonable efforts to contact the owner of the animal have failed.
7. During the impoundment period, the Poundkeeper shall:
  - a. be entitled to recover from the owner, the cost of veterinary care provided while the animal was impounded, in addition to any other fees due to the Municipality for redemption of the animal.
8. In order to obtain the release of an impounded animal during the impoundment period stipulated in part four (4), the owner shall:
  - a. provide proof of ownership of the animal;
  - b. license the animal with the Municipality; and
  - c. pay to the Municipality:
    - i. any applicable fines as outlined in Schedule "A";
    - ii. per diem maintenance fees as identified in Schedule "B"; and
    - iii. any costs incurred due to veterinary services rendered during the impoundment period.
9. Where the owner of an animal has been determined and all reasonable efforts to contact such owner have been made, but such owner does not claim the animal, he or she shall be responsible for payment to the Municipality of the maintenance fees set out in Schedule "B".

**PART 6: REGULATION OF ANIMALS**

**Aggressive Dogs**

1. Any person with an aggressive dog shall:
  - a. secure the dog by a collar and leash that is a maximum length of one (1) metre when not on the owner's property;
  - b. ensure that the dog is not running at large within the Municipality at any time;
  - c. ensure that the dog is not in a designated off-leash area in the Municipality at any time;



**DISTRICT OF VANDERHOOF  
BYLAW NO. 1183, 2018  
ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW**

- d. keep the dog effectively muzzled to prevent it from biting another animal or human when not on the owner's property;
- e. post a clearly visible sign at all points of entry onto any premises where the dog is being kept, temporarily or permanently, warning that there is an aggressive dog on the premises; and
- f. the owner of an aggressive dog shall at all times, while the dog is in the premises owned or controlled by that owner, keep the dog securely confined either indoors or in an enclosed pen or enclosure.

**Kennels**

2. The kennel license fee under this bylaw shall be those listed in the attached Schedule "A".
3. A kennel license is not a substitute for a business license.
4. No person shall establish a new kennel except in accordance with the permitted uses established by the District of Vanderhoof Zoning Bylaw No. 994, 2006 and its amendments.
5. No person shall own, lodge, or board dogs or cats, totaling not more than five animals collectively, at any one time on any premises in the Municipality unless a kennel license has been obtained.
6. All kennels operated in the Municipality shall maintain dogs and cats in a clean, secure and humane manner in accordance to the stipulations specified in Part 4.

**Farms Animals**

7. The owner shall not permit, suffer, or allow their farm animals to:
  - a. roam on a highway;
  - b. roam in a public place;
  - c. roam onto private property; and
  - d. graze on unfenced land, unless they are securely tethered.
8. No person shall keep, or be permitted to keep a farm animal, with the exception of hens, outside of a RR-1, RR-2 or A-1 zone.
9. A person is permitted to keep up to a maximum of 4 egg laying hens.
10. A person, who keeps one or more hens, must:
  - a. be the registered property owner, and reside at, the property where the hens are kept; or obtain written permission from the registered property owner;
  - b. provide each hen with at least 0.5 m<sup>2</sup> of coop floor area, and at least 1.0 m<sup>2</sup> of roofed outdoor enclosure;
  - c. situate hens in a back or side yard which is fully contained;
  - d. provide and maintain a floor of any combination of vegetated or bare earth in each outdoor enclosure;
  - e. provide and maintain, in each coop, at least one perch for each hen that is at least fifteen (15) cm long and one nest box;
  - f. not keep hens in a battery cage;



**DISTRICT OF VANDERHOOF  
BYLAW NO. 1183, 2018  
ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW**

- g. provide each hen with adequate food, water, shelter, light, ventilation, veterinary care, and opportunities for essential behaviors such as scratching, dust-bathing and roosting, all sufficient to maintain the hen in good health;
- h. maintain each hen enclosure in good repair, sanitary condition and free from any vermin and obnoxious smells and substances;
- i. construct and maintain each hen enclosure to prevent any rodent from harboring underneath or within it or within its walls, and to prevent entrance by any other animal;
- j. remove leftover feed, trash and manure in a timely manner;
- k. store manure within a fully enclosed structure, and store no more than three cubic feet of manure at a time and remove all other manure not used for composting or fertilizing;
- l. follow biosecurity procedures recommended by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency;
- m. keep hens for personal use only, and not sell eggs, manure, meat or products derived from hens;
- n. not slaughter, or attempt to euthanize, a hen on the property.

**PART 7: OFFENCES AND FINES**

- 1. A person shall not remove, or attempt to remove, from the pound an impounded animal except as allowed under this bylaw.
- 2. No person may interfere with, resist, or otherwise obstruct the Animal Control Officer, or other person authorized under this bylaw, in the performance of his or her duties.
- 3. Every person who commits an offence against this bylaw is punishable on conviction by a fine of not less than \$250.00 for each offense.
- 4. Each day a violation of the provisions of this bylaw exists or is permitted to exist will constitute a separate offence.

**Complaints**

- 5. Any and all animal complaints shall be dealt with in a timely manner by the Animal Control Officer.
- 6. Any and all animal complaints shall be formally submitted in writing on the complaint form as set out in Schedule "C" of this bylaw.

**Inspection**

- 7. The Animal Control Officer may enter, at all reasonable times, upon any property subject to the regulations of this bylaw in order to ascertain whether such regulations or directions are being obeyed.

**Severability**

- 8. If a portion of this bylaw is held invalid by a Court of competent jurisdiction, then the invalid portion must be severed and the remainder of this bylaw is deemed to have been adopted without the portion that has been severed.



**DISTRICT OF VANDERHOOF  
BYLAW NO. 1183, 2018  
ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW**

**PART 8: REPEAL AND ENACTMENT**

**Repeal**

1. This bylaw repeals District of Vanderhoof's Animal Control Bylaw No. 812, 1996 and Bylaw No. 1133, 2014 in their entirety.

**Enactment**

2. This bylaw takes effect upon final reading.

READ A FIRST TIME THIS	23 <sup>rd</sup> DAY OF April, 2018.
READ A SECOND TIME THIS	23 <sup>rd</sup> DAY OF April, 2018.
READ A THIRD TIME THIS	23 <sup>rd</sup> DAY OF April, 2018.
ADOPTED THIS	14 <sup>th</sup> DAY OF May, 2018.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
CORPORATE OFFICER



**DISTRICT OF VANDERHOOF  
BYLAW NO. 1183, 2018  
ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW**

**Schedule A  
License Fees**

Dog License Fees may be waived in the month of January.

Male or Female Unaltered Dogs	\$ 30.00
Neutered Male or Spayed Female Dogs	\$ 10.00
Replacement Tag	\$ 10.00
Kennel License	\$200.00

**Schedule B  
Impound / Maintenance / Euthanasia Fees**

	<b>Licensed</b>	<b>Unlicensed</b>	<b>Aggressive</b>
Impound Fee	\$20.00	\$40.00	\$250.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> & Subsequent	\$75.00	-	\$700.00
Maintenance Fee (per day)	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00
Euthanasia Fee	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Cremation Fee	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00



**DISTRICT OF VANDERHOOF  
BYLAW NO. 1183, 2018  
ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW**

**Schedule C  
Animal Complaint Form**

**ANIMAL CONTROL COMPLAINT FORM**

DATE of the complaint: \_\_\_\_\_

TIME of the complaint: \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION of the complaint: \_\_\_\_\_

NATURE of the complaint: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_