

2023 Oshawa Animal Care Advisory Committee Work Plan**2023 OACAC WORK PLAN**

**Mandate:** to assist, advise and educate City Council, staff, key stakeholders and the wider Oshawa community with respect to continually improving the efficient and compassionate care of animals within the City of Oshawa. A key part of OACAC’s function will be to: find and evaluate potential initiatives; provide expert opinions and network with other subject matter experts on issues; assist and promote existing and future projects; support fundraising and grant applications; and facilitate training of stakeholders and the general public.

| Goals   | Examples of Actions to be Taken   | Timing                             |
|---|---|------------------------------------|
| SERVICES FOR VULNERABLE ANIMALS:<br>Improve the availability and exposure of services that support: vulnerable pet owners, unowned domestic animals and feral cats. | Evaluate solutions for the pets of homeless and in crisis persons – such as pet-friendly warming centers and shelters.  | Ongoing expansion and improvement. |
|   | Examine best practices for the provision of low cost or no cost vet care for residents with special emphasize on lower income and vulnerable pet owners. Including: basic vetting, emergency care, vaccines, flea & tick protection, deworming, spay /neuter, microchipping and necessary grooming. Including looking into the OMVA Safe Pet Program.   | Ongoing – report in Q2             |
|   | Evaluate best practices and historical performance of Oshawa’s TNRM program and other benchmark cities looking for potential adjustments to the current regulation and operation of the project or recommendations for bylaw amendments. Ensure that any changes are focused on community safety and animal welfare with an eye for improving effectiveness and efficiency of the existing program. | Ongoing                            |
|   | Look into available resources for residents who are struggling to feed their animals.   | Ongoing                            |
|   | Research resources and regulatory changes to make travelling with pets easier and safer for all residents and find solutions for the transport of pets and people to community resources as needed.   | Ongoing                            |
|   | Other related issues as they arise.   | TBD                                |

\***Timing Options:** TBD (to be determined), Ongoing, Q1 (Jan to Mar 2023), Q2 (Apr to June 2023), Q3 (July to Sept 2023) or Q4 (Oct to Dec 2023).

| Goals   | Examples of Actions to be Taken  | Timing  |
|---|--|---------|
| <b>RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP:</b><br>Determine best practices for bylaws, regulations and policy for owned domestic animals and recommend improvements to Oshawa's RPO bylaw.   | Compare the City of Oshawa's existing Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw to best practices and recommend amendments may improve animal welfare within the City. These include but are not limited to: Maximum pets per resident, tethering and roaming at large and "positive" list of permitted pets in the City of Oshawa.      | Ongoing |
|   | Other related issues as they arise.  | TBD     |
| <b>PET FACILITIES &amp; SERVICE PROVIDERS:</b><br>Research local pet facilities and service providers and the regulations / licensing that they are subject to. Utilize this information to recommend amendments to bring Oshawa in line with best practices. | Take a comprehensive look at local breeders; evaluate bylaws and regulations with respect to all breeders and evaluate whether they are effectively working to combat backyard breeders and mass breeders. Work towards recommendations that can help to identify and address problematic breeders in the town.                | Ongoing |
|   | Examine current regulations and licensing of local animal service providers like: kennels, dog walkers, doggy daycare providers, trainers, groomers, etc... Research minimum level of care requirements and oversight of these organizations. Evaluate whether new measures or improvements to existing measures are required. | Ongoing |
|   | Evaluate current pet store regulations and bylaws. Recommend amendments to restrict the sales of other animals in pet stores to specific types and require that they all be rescue animals. Examine minimum level of care requirements and oversight of these places.  | Ongoing |
|   | Other related issues as they arise.  | TBD     |

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| Goals   | Examples of Actions to be Taken   | Timing  |
|---|---|---------|
| PROMOTION AND EDUCATION:<br>Improve public perception and knowledge of animal welfare matters and available services within the City of Oshawa. | Promote and improve exposure of existing programs and resources within the City.  | Ongoing |
|   | Improve residents understanding of existing Responsible Pet Owners bylaw  | Ongoing |
|   | Assist in the development or selection of mailing / handout materials to provide residents with information and access to resources for animal welfare.   | Ongoing |
|   | Facilitate educational sessions, access to educational materials online and share information on where other resources exist.   | Ongoing |
|   | Invite staff or public relations personnel from the Ont. Solicitor General's Office, DRPS and Oshawa By-law to a joint panel to present and to field questions with respect to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) scope of service;</li> <li>b) areas of potential overlap in responsibilities that may confuse the public;</li> <li>c) handling of calls (processes);</li> <li>d) priorities and average response time;</li> <li>e) available materials for public education and outreach; and</li> <li>f) any other OACAC queries.</li> </ul> | Q3 2023 |
|   | Information brochure about the times of the year fireworks are likely to occur, and possible devices to aid in calming the animal   | Q2 2023 |
|   | Suggest additions and updates for the City of Oshawa website.   | Ongoing |
|   | Other related issues as they arise.   | TBD     |
| FUNDRAISING SUPPORT AND NETWORK BUILDING  | Provide advice, assistance and contacts to assist in fundraising campaigns, grant applications and additional revenue / donation opportunities.   | Ongoing |
|   | Other related issues as they arise.   | TBD     |

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| Goals  | Examples of Actions to be Taken  | Timing  |
|--|--|---------|
| <b>WILDLIFE &amp; OTHER ANIMALS' WELFARE &amp; RESOURCES:</b><br>Evaluate existing wildlife and other non-domestic animals resources, bylaws and policies in Oshawa against best practices and make recommendations for adjustments to support levels and animal care. | Look into best practices in wildlife, agricultural animals and exotic pets by-laws and regulations in other areas and evaluate against current Oshawa versions and recommend adjustments as necessary. | Ongoing |
|  | Ongoing public education resources including but not limited to Coyotes  | Ongoing |
|  | Support, education and options for residents who have found injured or ill wildlife.   | Ongoing |
|  | Look into temporary animal “events” or expeditions including but not limited to: circuses, petting zoos, animal attractions and such.  | Ongoing |
|  | Other related issues as they arise.  | TBD     |

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