



The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

Corporate Services & Clerk

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Laura Moy, Director Corporate Services & Clerk

Date to Council: October 12, 2021

Report Number: CS- 2021-30

Subject: Cat Intake Program
Renewal Agreement 2022

Recommendations

It is recommended:

That The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh **renew** the Agreement with the Windsor Essex County Humane Society (WECHS) for the provision of cat intake services, at a cost to the Town of \$25 for each cat;

And that the Clerk **be authorized** to execute the renewal Agreement between the Town and WECHS, for a further one-year term commencing January 1, 2022, and concluding December 31, 2022.

Background

The Cat Intake Program with the Windsor Essex County Humane Society (WECHS) allows residents to drop off stray cats to the WECHS at a cost to the Town of \$25 for each cat.

The Agreement with the WECHS for the Cat Intake Program has been in place since 2010 and was originally entered into following concerns expressed by Town residents regarding cats entering onto property other than that of their owners. The Agreement with the WECHS has been renewed each year since.

Upon drop off, the WECHS examines the stray cats for their disposition, and treats if medically necessary. Healthy and friendly stray cats are adoptable; stray cats that appear to be

community cats are spayed or neutered, vaccinated, micro-chipped and returned to the field where trapped to live out their lives without producing any more kittens.

Comments

In just over the ten-year period, the Cat Intake Program has proven to be very successful for the Town and has received positive participation from residents.

A summary comparing the number of cats dropped off at the WECHS, over the past five years, is provided in the following Table.

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 Jan - July
Total Intakes	63	52	43	29	53
Actual	\$1,260	\$1,300	\$1,075	\$725	\$1,325
Budget	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,000	\$1,500

As of July 31, 2021, the current cost to the Cat Intake Program is \$1,325 based on invoices submitted by the WECHS to the Town for payment.

Based on the historical trend in previous years, the months of July, August, September and October tend to have a higher rate of cat intakes.

There was a steady decline in the use of the Cat Intake Program experienced from 2017 to 2019, which may be attributed in part, at the time, to a decrease in the feral cat population and the positive participation in the Cat Spay and Neuter Voucher Program subsequently introduced in 2014. Both Programs were introduced to reduce the feral cat population.

The uptake in participation for the 2021 Cat Intake Program could be attributable to a build-up from 2020 COVID-19 closures which saw a significant decline in number of cat intakes.

The anticipated overage in the 2021 Cat Intake line item will be offset by Cat Spay & Neuter Voucher Program cost-savings in the 2021 P&I Animal Control Budget.

The proposed Agreement by the WECHS is consistent with participating area municipal agreements.

Consultations

Windsor Essex County Humane Society

Financial Implications

Historically, the P&I Animal Control Budget has allocated funds for the Cat Intake Program.

Funding for the renewal of the Cat Intake Agreement. It is recommended that the 2022 Budget once again include funding in the amount of \$1,500 for the Cat Intake Agreement.

Link to Strategic Priorities

Applicable	2019-22 Strategic Priorities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Make the Town of Tecumseh an even better place to live, work and invest through a shared vision for our residents and newcomers.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ensure that Tecumseh's current and future growth is built upon the principles of sustainability and strategic decision-making.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrate the principles of health and wellness into all of Tecumseh's plans and priorities.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steward the Town's "continuous improvement" approach to municipal service delivery to residents and businesses.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrate the Town's leadership role in the community by promoting good governance and community engagement, by bringing together organizations serving the Town and the region to pursue common goals.

Communications

Not applicable ☒

Website ☐ Social Media ☐ News Release ☐ Local Newspaper ☐

This report has been reviewed by Senior Administration as indicated below and recommended for submission by the Chief Administrative Officer.

Prepared by:

Christina Hebert, BA (Hons), MA, Dipl. M.A.
Manager Committee & Community Services

Reviewed by:

Laura Moy, Dipl. M.M., CMMIII HR Professional
Director Corporate Services & Clerk

Recommended by:

Margaret Misek-Evans, MCIP, RPP
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment Number	Attachment Name
1	Cat Intake Services Renewal Agreement