

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Director of Legislative Services & Clerk of the Town of Tecumseh  
917 Lesperance Road  
Tecumseh, ON, N8N 1W9

**RE: Rescission of the Dog Controllor's 'dangerous dog' designation applied to Neo**

January 12, 2025

**Dear Council,**

We are writing to share some information about our dog, Neo, in light of the recent incident on October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Neo is a beloved member of our family, and we want to assure the community that he is a gentle and docile companion. Neo has always displayed a calm and friendly demeanor, both at home and in public as the Tecumseh by-law officers can attest to from their many recent in-home visits (such as Jason Coates and his supervisor). Neo interacts kindly with people of all ages, as well as other animals. He is not aggressive, and we take pride in ensuring that he is well-trained and cared for.

We vehemently disagree with the 'dangerous dog' designation applied to Neo, as defined under section 1.3 due to his very mild demeanor and lack of display of any aggressive behaviours. Moreover we believe that the by-law section applied to our case is applied incorrectly, as it states:

1.3 (1) in the absence of any *Mitigating Factor*, has attacked, bitten, or caused injury to a person

There was a mitigating factor - the other dog owner's belligerent and aggressive behaviour towards Neo at the time of their encounter. Not only that, but we firmly believe it was the plaintiff's dog that bit the plaintiff.

We understand the importance of community safety and the responsibility that comes with being pet owners. We exercise Neo twice a day, he has yearly veterinarian visits, he has a big, fenced back yard to play in, we are continuing his professional obedience training, and we have neutered him recently in order to do all our due diligence as responsible pet owners. Other than this one specific plaintiff, we have never had any complaints about Neo, quite the contrary: he plays very well with other dogs, cats, and little children. We are attaching a reference letter, our original statements for the Animal Control/Provincial Offences Officer, as well as some candid pictures taken of his recent interactions after the incident.

Thank you for your understanding and for fostering a compassionate and supportive community for all its members, both human and animal. If you have any questions or concerns, we would be happy to discuss further, arrange in-home visits, or whatever you deem necessary to assess Neo's behaviour.

Respectfully,

[REDACTED] ■ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

January 8, 2025

**To Whom It May Concern,**

I am writing in regards to Neo the Siberian Husky. Prior to adopting Neo I was consulted by [REDACTED] both as a family friend and due to my experience training dogs as a foster volunteer with The Windsor Essex Humane Society and Rat Terrier Rescue Canada. I have been acquainted with Neo in both training and social settings for over 2 years. Therefore, I am confident attesting to his positive temperament and obedience skills.

To characterize Neo's temperament, I would describe him as friendly, curious, energetic and docile. The behaviors I have observed to support this characterisation are: He is intuitively gentle with small animals and children. He allows body manipulations, both by family and strangers. Neo never displays any prey drive, nor does he display any guarding behaviors. He shows no signs of reactivity or aggression. When meeting strangers, both human and canine, he is outgoing and curious. He is respectful of standoffish dogs and cats. He will engage playfully while allowing them their distance. Overall, Neo shows a positive disposition for a family companion.

I would also like to highlight that [REDACTED] are caring, responsible and proactive guardians. Since September, Neo's recall training has been top priority. The family has consulted a professional trainer that they attend on a regular basis. Training is reinforced daily with sessions at home. He responds to many commands such as sit, stay, come, and heel. As a result of this consistency, his obedience has become more dependable in a variety of situations.

Neo has always been exercised daily, as the family recognizes Siberian Huskies have high energy and the natural drive to run. Neo sees a veterinarian on a yearly schedule, and is up to date with all his vaccinations. On the advice of their veterinarian Neo has recently been neutered. Overall [REDACTED] attend to every aspect of Neo's care and enable Neo to be a good canine citizen.

I am confident that Neo's obedience and good behavior will continue to develop and shine in any environment. He is a well-rounded and dependable companion, and I wholeheartedly believe him to be a well-trained and obedient dog. Please feel free to email me at the address above if you require any further details.

[REDACTED]

Pictures of Neo, our Siberian Husky





Sharing his food and water with our cat



## ESSEX COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES

Please contact at 519-816-7627 when complete to arrange pick up. You may also email this statement to [animalcontrol@essexcountyk9.ca](mailto:animalcontrol@essexcountyk9.ca)  
Please describe incident in as much detail as possible. Include date, time, location, pictures etc.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Town of Tecumseh Dog ID Code: C233FE60

Rabies Tag Number: 1017408406

Date of incident: October 21, Time 6:15pm - 6:45pm

I went into the garage, but the door between the garage and house did not click shut unbeknownst to me. Neo (husky) quickly ran out in the street. My son and I jumped in my car to retrieve Neo. Neo did not obey our calling commands, so we followed him in the car closely, while my teenage son would jump out of the car with a leash in hopes of retrieving the dog. After about 5 minutes, the dog spotted a man with what it seemed like a terrier/pitbull mix at the north corner of Centennial and Little River. The man's dog was very aggressive and attacked Neo. Neo did not back down. At this point (about 20 seconds later) the man tried to get in between them, while my son crossed the street to restrain Neo. When Neo saw my son, he bolted off. For the next 15 mins we chased Neo while he passed many people and dogs and just like usual, he never approached any of them. Finally we caught him in a neighbour's yard. Please note that

Above statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

↑  
he was happily playing with their dog and the neighbour





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con't  
NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

the man with the dog did not seem to have gotten bitten while we tried to break up the dogs. It is a lot more likely, based on the aggressive nature of his dog, that his dog bit him - if he claims a bite. We have never had any aggression, from Neo towards any people. To me it seems like a neighbour's personal grudge than an act that the dog actually performed. Neo is very mild natured, he has all his shots, regular vet visits, frequents the dog park regularly (other than now-on his 10-day quarantine), and has gone through obedience training. In our family, he plays with other animals and young children without concern. Please contact me if you have further questions.

Above statements are  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 28/oct/2024



# ESSEX COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

When I got out of the car to go chase Neo, I saw our dog prancing towards another dog with an older man. The other dog was aggressive and Neo went to sniff him. The other dog attacked Neo, and Neo barked at him. The other dog owner was trying to separate him as I was getting closer to Neo with a leash. When Neo saw me, he ran away. I did not see him bite the man. I would not be surprised if his own dog bit him based on his behaviour. The man said "this is the second time this \*\*\* dog attacked us" which was very confusing to me. I continued chasing Neo.

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\_\_\_\_\_

The above is our 16-year-old son's statement of the incident.