

**ANIMAL CARE COMMITTEE**  
**"(PROPOSED)" (ADOPTED BY COUNCIL 2012 2020)**

**BACKGROUND**  
**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**BACKGROUND**

The purpose of the City's animal care and control services program is to provide excellent service to help ensure the wellbeing and protection of domestic pets and wildlife. has a primary focus on animal control for the purpose of protecting the public. In 2006, the City of Markham established an Animal Care Committee to support and act as a resource to Legislative Services Council and City staff for the efficient and compassionate care of animals.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

To promote and ensure excellence and professionalism in animal care through continuing education, public outreach, staff support and the enhancement of Markham's ability to provide quality, cost effective services to our residents and care to the animals in our municipality.

**COMMITTEE MANDATE**

The Animal Care Committee's mandate is to develop a community-driven model for improving animal welfare in Markham and report its findings back to the General Committee.

The primary focus of the Committee will be on the welfare of animals within the Town domestic pets and wildlife in the City of Markham. Within this category, the Committee will primarily focus on: cats, dogs and, some other pets, including rabbits and rodents. The eight key goals of the Committee include:

Prepare and implement an annual business plan

1. Education of residents regarding responsible pet ownership
2. Provide advice on maximizing adoption services in partnership with the City's animal care provider, the Markham Cat Adoption and Education Centre as well as local rescue organizations.
3. Provide advice and guidance regarding best practices for the habitat and care of sick/injured/orphaned wildlife in partnership with the City's wildlife services provider.

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**Commented [JZ1]:** Please note that the original version of the Mission Statement is below Committee Mandate. The decision was made to put statement above.

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4. Provide advice and guidance regarding best practices to assist residents to live harmoniously with wildlife, and prevent and resolve conflicts.

5. Provide input on the City's animal services programs.

6. Support the City's animal services and initiatives.

7. Fundraise whenever possible for the above items.

8. Prepare and implement an annual business plan to achieve the above.

~~1.~~

~~2. — Education regarding the importance of sterilization to prevent pet overpopulation and unwanted pets, animal care, and the appropriate veterinary services;~~

~~3. — Provide advice and recommendations regarding convenient, affordable spay neuter clinics;~~

~~4. — Provide advice on maximizing adoption services in partnership with the Town's animal care provider, and local rescue organizations.~~

~~5. — Provide advice and guidance regarding the best practices for the habitat and care of sick/injured/orphaned wildlife;~~

~~6. — Provide input on animal care programs for the Town of Markham; Fundraising for all of the above items.~~

~~7. —~~

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Issues, concerns and opportunities relating to animal care include, but are not limited to: ~~engaging the community~~ **engagement**; animal licensing; ~~and other fees~~; public education; ~~and awareness programs~~; pet adoption programs; ~~controlling~~ pet overpopulation; and ~~limited~~ available funding.

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Team work will be the foundation of a community-driven animal care model.

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#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

~~"To promote and ensure excellence and professionalism in animal care through continuing education, effective networking, mutual support and the enhancement of the ability to provide quality, cost effective services to our residents and care to the animals in our municipality."~~

**Commented [JZ2]:** Please note that the mission statement has been moved ahead of the committee mandate section. In moving, WORD would not allow the original to stay visible so it has been repeated here so one can see what the mission statement read before.

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#### **\*COMPOSITION\***

The Animal Care Committee shall be comprised of the following:

- up to ten (10) members of the public
- one (1) member of Council
- up to four (4) representatives from local animal advocacy groups

The following resources shall be assigned to the Committee:

- ~~The the Town~~ **City** Clerk (or alternate)
- Senior Animal ~~Control~~ **Services** Officer (or alternate)

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- ~~A~~a volunt~~eerary~~ veterinarian

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The Committee may form sub-committees and working groups as may be necessary to address specific issues. Legislative Services does not provide secretariat support to sub-committees and working groups – these bodies shall draw upon members of the Committee as well as other external resources as deemed necessary.

## QUALITIES

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#### Interested

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Candidates will have:

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- a keen interest in animal care within the ~~Town~~City of Markham;
- regard for the interest of all citizens;
- the ability to maintain and promote an appropriate atmosphere within Committee and sub-committee meetings;
- an understanding of the by-laws related to animals within the ~~Town~~City;
- the ability to commit the required time~~re~~ and
- demonstrated integrity.

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## DURATION OF APPOINTMENT

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Committee members will be appointed at the discretion of Markham Council.

## CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

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The Committee will appoint a Chair and Vice Chair amongst its members as part of the first official Committee meeting. These individuals will serve in this capacity for one year.

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## MEETINGS AND LOCATION

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Meetings are generally held once a month in the evening at the Markham Civic Centre. Additional meetings will be at the call of the Chair.

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## DUTIES AND DELIVERABLES

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The Animal Care Committee ~~will~~ reports to ~~Town~~City of Markham Council through the General ~~Services~~ Committee.

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Typical duties of Committee members include:

- Advising on issues ~~and concerns faced by~~ concerning animals within the ~~Town~~City of Markham;
- Advising on opportunities that have been identified within the community to improve animal care in Markham;
- Advising, consulting and reporting ~~the current~~ findings, best practices, and recommendations on matters from within the ~~Town~~City of Markham

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and other jurisdictions that are directly related to the mandate of the Committee;

- ~~Providing advice on solutions on how to improve animal care in Markham;~~
- Supporting, encouraging and being an ongoing resource to the ~~Committee~~**Council**, ~~individuals~~**staff, residents**, agencies and the business community ~~by educating and building community awareness about~~**regarding** measures for improving animal care in Markham;
- ~~Becoming familiar with and working towards improving animal care issues and veterinary practices in Markham, and the impacts on community character;~~
- ~~Participating in fund raising events designed to resource improved animal services care, including reasonable veterinary services;~~
- Becoming familiar with the **City of Markham's animal services**, by-laws, ~~and policies/~~**and** procedures ~~related to animals within Markham;~~
- ~~Becoming familiar with public views and concerns regarding animal care in Markham;~~
- Participating in workshops and public events related to the proposed animal care related issues;
- Providing feedback received from residents to the Committee regarding issues and options relating to animal care.

**Individual members do not make recommendations; they participate in Committee meetings.**

## **DURATION OF APPOINTMENT**

~~Committee members will be appointed at the discretion of Markham Council.~~

## **CHAIRPERSON**

~~The Committee will appoint a chairperson amongst its members as part of the first official Committee meeting. This individual will serve in this capacity for one year.~~

## **REMUNERATION**

No remuneration is paid to Committee members.

## **CONTACTS**

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Name: ~~Christopher Alexander~~**Christy Lehman**, Supervisor, Licensing & Animal  
Services **Coordinator**  
Phone: (905)-477-7000 ext. ~~2128~~**2131**  
Fax : (905) ~~305-5980~~**475-4708**  
Email: ~~calexander@markham.ca~~**clehman@markham.ca**

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or

Name: ~~Bill Wiles~~, Manager of Enforcement  
Phone: (905) 477-7000, ext. ~~4851~~  
Fax: (905) 305-5980  
E-mail: ~~bwiles@markham.ca~~

Originally Adopted by Council – October 10, 2006

\*Amended by Council at its meeting on September 23, 2008 (Composition, and Meetings  
and Locations) **and**,

~~\*Amended by Council on~~ June 26, 2012.

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