

Deputation to Council by Kim Van Demark and Ronnda Singer- Robinson

Proposal

To amend the current by law 2017-039 to Regulate Animals in COKL Sec. 5.10.

- 5.10 **Restriction – Livestock or Agricultural Animals:** No person shall keep livestock or agricultural animals such as but not limited to a horse, donkey, pony, mule, jackass, bovine, bull, heifer, goat, swine, mink, fox, sheep, chickens, peafowl in any premises or on property that is zoned and primarily used for residential purposes as defined in the applicable Zoning by-law.

Purpose

Communities across the country that allow backyard chickens are growing in numbers; including most recently, Peterborough. With appropriate care and conditions, there are numerous benefits of allowing chickens in residential areas. The currently by law language is a “one size fits all” restriction. If a property is not zoned agricultural and you are under the required 10 acres for a hobby farm, it doesn’t matter if you have a small, urban town house or 6 acres on a sideroad.

By Laws are intended to maintain community standards and protect the rights of citizens to the reasonable enjoyment of their properties. Currently there are homeowners throughout the region raising small backyard chicken flocks in residential zones. We have come to learn that most aren’t aware that this practice is not permitted.

Recommendations

1. Remove chickens from the list of restricted animals in residential areas
2. By law amendment to focus on care, conditions, respect for neighbours and not-for-profit practices rather than finite numbers of bird numbers
 - a. Acknowledge larger rural properties when determining rules for small urban properties
3. Introduce a permit system for coops that can be revoked if the keeper does not maintain satisfactory standards and practices, providing a source of revenue to the COKL
4. No roosters, no home butchering

Rationale behind allowing back yard flocks

- The eggs provide an economical, sustainable food source (especially for those with limited food budgets)
- Manure management provides high quality, chemical free fertilizer for gardens; further promoting clean, home-grown food without the weeds that come with mammal manures
- Chickens are generally quieter than dogs and virtually silent after dark
- Chickens controls pests, effectively reducing ticks and mosquitos
- Chickens are social and are considered as pets by many who keep them
- It teaches responsibility and valuable animal husbandry skills to young people, which also creates accountability for where their food comes from
- It promotes children’s interest in agriculture (as one of our largest municipal industries)
- Charging a fee for coop permits is a potential source of income to the COKL
- Current bylaws already cover requirements for proper enclosures, manure management, care and conditions in addition to existing noise by law

TRANSCRIPTION OF SCANNED LETTER FROM 11-YEAR-OLD 4H MEMBER

Dear City Clerk; Cathie Ritchie:

I am Robbie Stephens. I am eleven years old and I am home schooled.

I am writing to you today because my friend and I have Sea Bright Bantam chickens. I would like to keep four of them at my house. I love them and they are quiet. These are my pets. When I go to the barn to see them, they come to see me. I read to them and play with them. But I would love to see them more after. I can only visit twice a week. They went to the fair and Lemonbalm won first, Speckles won third. I went to 4H Chickens so I can learn how to be a better chicken owner. I do not plan to sell any eggs. We will only eat them in the family. My Dad and my brother built an awesome coop! I would like to say I am learning a lot of information on chickens; food, safety, anatomy, housing, life cycles.

I would like to suggest allowing four chickens (no roosters) in a pen, in Pontypool at my house.

Thank you for your time.

CANADIAN COMMUNITIES THAT CURRENTLY ALLOW BACKYARD CHICKENS INCLUDE BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

Edmonton – license system

Vancouver – 4 allowed per household

Whitehorse – permit system

Victoria- household use only with specific coop standards required

Calgary & Winnipeg – allowed if there are no complaints

Some areas of Montreal and Toronto – 4 hens, no roosters, no home butchering, no profiting

Brampton

Niagara Falls,

Caledon, and most recently,

Peterborough

10/18/18
ON 180

Dear City Clerk; Cathie Ritchie;

I am Abbie Stephens. I am eleven years old and I am home schooled. I am writing to you today because my friend and I have Sea Bright Bantam Chickens. I would like to keep four of them at my house. I love them and they are quiet. They are my pets. When I go to the barn to see them, they come to see me. I read to them and play with them. But I would love to see them more often. I can only visit twice a week. They went to the fair and Lemonbalm won first, Speckles won third. I want to 4H chickens so I can learn how to be a better chicken owner. I do not plan to sell any eggs. We will only eat them in the family. My Dad and my brother built an awesome coop. I would like to say I am learning a lot of information on chickens: food, safety, anatomy, housing, life cycles. I would like to suggest allowing four chickens (no roosters) in a pen, in Pontypool at my house.

Thank you for your time,

Excerpts from the Support Backyard Chickens in Kawartha Lakes Facebook Page



Debbie Turner recommends Support Backyard Chickens in Kawartha Lakes.

July 31 · 🌐



Backyard chickens not only supply a family with fresh eggs, they help with insect control & give a regular supply of fertilizer for the lawn & gardens eating weeds, grass & insects as they go. Eliminating the need for chemical insecticides, herbicides & fertilizers in urban settings. There is no need for noisy roosters, hens will lay eggs with out a rooster they just won't be fertilized & unable to hatch out chicks.

Edited to add

Chickens will happily eat kitchen scraps... including meat & meat products that can not go on the compost.

Jessica Reeson I just emailed my Ward 7 counsilar Patrick O'Reilly. I had no idea this by-law even existed (who would being a mainly country community)?? I was planning on 2 or 3 chickens this summer to help with pests in the veggie garden and to provide eggs to my family. Such an odd by-law!!

Like · Reply · Message · 39w

Amber Brown I'm moving into ward 4 next month. (Manilla) and was shocked to see we cant have chickens. Is it too late to sign a petition or get involved? I'm pretty disappointed about this

Like · Reply · Message · 22w

Scott Jordan Dykstra I also live just outside of town with an acre and I bieleve 3 hens to be allowed for the kawartha lakes and homes with an acre or more 6 to 8 hens

Like · Reply · Message · 1y



1

Maggie Marie I agree with no roosters. Besides that, it should be 2sqft of indoor coop space per bird.

Manure mgmt should be talked about. It should be covered. It shouldn't be in a low or flood area of the property.

Maybe someone could run a "backyard chickens" seminar that's not mandatory but would address why you should set up this way vs that way.

Like · Reply · Message · 1y



4

Jillian Kouri Omg that's terrible 🤢 I'd lose my mind if my chickens were taken from me... Especially like that 😞

Like · Reply · Message · 1w

Bryan Babineau Yes please. Bring back the backyard chickens

Like · Reply · Message · 3w

Uncle Sam Expects You To Keep Hens and Raise Chickens



Two Hens in the Back Yard for Each Person in the House Will Keep a Family In Fresh Eggs

EVEN the smallest back yard has room for a flock large enough to supply the house with eggs. The cost of maintaining such a flock is small. Table and kitchen waste provide much of the feed for the hens. They require little attention—only a few minutes a day.

An interested child, old enough to take a little responsibility, can care for a few fowls as well as a grown person.

Every back yard in the United States should contribute its share to a bumper crop of poultry and eggs in 1918.

In Time of Peace a Profitable Recreation

In Time of War a Patriotic Duty

For information about methods of Back-Yard Poultry Keeping, write to your location and conditions, write

Your State Agricultural College
or
The United States Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C.

This Agent Issued by the Publisher

Person Submitting the Petition



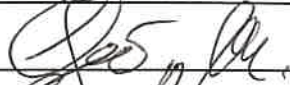



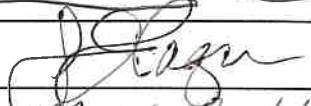
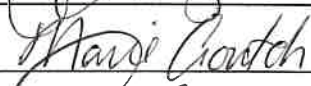

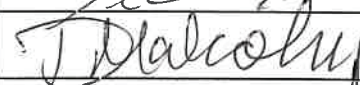
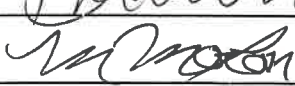
Name:	Kim Van Demark
Address:	36 Island View Road, Little Britain, ON K0M 2C0
Phone:	647-473-2853 289-356-4744

Petition

To: the Council of the City of Kawartha Lakes, 26 Francis Street, Lindsay, ON K9V 5R8.

I/We the undersigned, petition the Council of the City of Kawartha Lakes as follows:

To amend the bylaw disallowing backyard chickens. With standards in place for care and conditions, backyard flocks provide a source of food that is self-sustaining, local, organic and cost effective. Standards can be modeled after municipalities that already allow backyard flocks; to ensure there is no impact to surrounding neighbours and the reasonable enjoyment of their own properties.

#	Name	Contact Information	Signature
1	Charlie Song	705 772 9916	
2	Liz Hicks	905 442-6399	
3	GEORGE MEINGAST	416-209-0443	
4	Bruce Shawcross	705-928-8958	
5	Andrew McDonald	905-431-3987	
6	Heather Kelleck	705-341-8486	
7	Wendy Kelleck		
8	JANNE KALUA	705.878.5030	
9	Marie Crouch	705-768-2982	
10	Derrick Malcolm	905-926-5942	
11	Danielle Malcolm	9059257821	
12	M Moxon	705 328 3716	
13	M McLennell		
14	Krista Hege	416 732 2254	