

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM51.14	ACTION			Ward: All
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Reimbursement for the Removal of Coyotes in Residential Areas - by Councillor Saundercook, seconded by Councillor Grimes

** This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair. Council has added this Motion to the agenda for debate.*

Recommendations

Councillor Saundercook, seconded by Councillor Grimes, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards report to the Parks and Environment Committee on the feasibility of Toronto Animal Services reimbursing residents who have incurred expenses in connection with the capturing and/or removal of dangerous wildlife.

Summary

In the last few years, there has been a proliferation of wildlife such as coyotes in residential areas that surround ravines, forest, and parks in the City of Toronto. Many residents have expressed safety concerns for their family members, children, and pets - fearing that these animals pose a safety threat.

A family has raised serious concerns about a pack of wild coyotes infringing on their property. Their property is located next to a ravine where these animals have been residing for several months. The family has been witnessing the aggressive behaviour of the coyotes and have felt quite threatened at times. The family has been in contact with staff from Ministry of Natural Resources, Toronto Animal Services and the Toronto Wildlife Centre to assist in the capture and removal of the coyotes but have yet to arrive at a suitable solution. According to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Toronto Animal Services, under these circumstances, it is the responsibility of the home owner to hire a private company to remove the animals from the property. The family have not pursued this option but are considering doing so. Toronto Animal Services should be responsible for picking up the expense if this option is taken.

(Submitted to City Council on July 6 and 7, 2010 as MM51.14)