

April 18, 2017

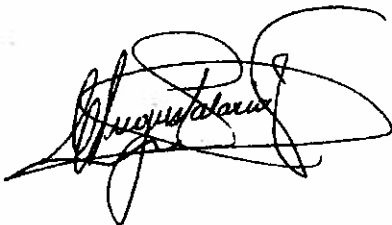
TO: MEMBERS OF LICENSING & STANDARDS COMMITTEE

RE: MODERNIZING TORONTO'S RACING PIGEON REGULATIONS

I am in receipt of the attached communication and recommendation from Councillor James Pastemak regarding the modernization of Toronto's Racing Pigeon Regulations.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) Executive Director of Municipal Licensing and Standards, in conjunction with the City of Toronto Medical Officer of Health report back to the Licensing and Standards Committee on the health and safety standards, within residential neighbourhoods.
- 2) The Licensing and Standards Committee request that Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards report back to the Licensing and Standards Committee by May 5, 2017 on a package of proposed updated regulations and by-laws for racing pigeons held in residential neighbourhoods that would bring the total number of domestic pigeons being raised and housed and pigeon flying time restrictions and flock numbers in line with some other municipalities in Ontario that have taken steps to regulate this matter.
- 3) Attachment "A", as noted.



Cesar Palacio
Toronto City Councillor
Ward 17 – Davenport
Attach.

Modernizing Toronto's Racing Pigeon Regulations

SUMMARY:

The sport of pigeon racing involves releasing trained racing pigeons and then timing the time it takes for them to return. In Canada, there are an estimated 5,000 pigeon racers that compete in racing clubs across the country. Participants in the sport often raise and train their pigeons in pigeon lofts kept in their backyards. The intention of the City's regulations was to allow this sport to be practiced as a hobby and the pigeons maintained by pigeon enthusiasts would be kept to a reasonable number so as not to be an inconvenience to a residential neighborhood. If the number of pigeons kept by each hobbyist is not limited, this results in a nuisance to neighbors due to the excessive flying times of a potentially large number of birds, as well as other noises and effects that go along with a major animal operation.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Licensing and Standards Committee request the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards report back to the Licensing and Standards Committee by May 5, 2017 on a package of proposed updated regulations and bylaws for racing pigeons held in residential neighbourhoods that would bring the total number of domestic pigeons being raised and housed and pigeon flying time restrictions and flock numbers in line with some other municipalities in Ontario that have taken steps to regulate this matter.

JURISDICTIONS LIMITING FLYING TIME AND NUMBERS OF PIGEONS PER FLIGHT IN ONTARIO

Jurisdiction, Municipality, Town, City, etc. and By-law details	# Domestic Pigeons permitted		Pigeon Flying Time Restrictions				
	Racing Season	Breeding Season	# flights permitted per day	Maximum # pigeons per flight	Time period dictated per flight	Months that supervised Pigeon Flights may take place	
City of Brampton Animal Control By-Law 261-93 (amended February 21, 2013)	60	40	2	50%	Yes	(a) From April 1 to September 30 in each calendar year, only before 7:30 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m. and (b) from October 1 to March 31 in each calendar year, only before 10 a.m. and after 3 p.m.	
The Corporation of the City of Cornwall By-law # 2013-205 (amended on October 28, 2013)	80	80	2	30	Yes	(a) before 9 a.m. or after 5 p.m. between April 1 and September 30 in any one year and, (b) before 10 a.m. or after 3 p.m. between October 1 and March 31 in the following year.	
The Corporation of the Town of Halton Hills By-law No. 94-077 (enacted June 13, 1994).	50	50	2	No	Yes	(a) From April 1st to September 30th, only before 7:30 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m.;; (b) from October 1st to March 31st, only before 10:00 a.m. and after 3:00 p.m.	
City of Hamilton By-Law No. 12-031 (amended on February 8, 2012) by By-law NO. 14-067	80	60	2	50%	Yes	A maximum of two flights daily before 10 a.m. or after 3 p.m.;	
The Council of the City of London Animal Control By-law 2.4 Class 3 animal - PH-3 Consolidated as of November 11, 2014	60	40	2	50%	Yes	9.2 Flights - summer months - times - designated: During the period from April 1 to September 30 of any year, all flights shall take place before 9:00 o'clock in the morning or after 5:00 o'clock in the afternoon. 9.3 Flights - winter months - times - designated: During the period from October 1 of one year to March 31 of the following year, all flights shall take place before 10:00 o'clock in the morning or after 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon.	

The Corporation of the Town of Milton Animal Control By-law 90-2004 (enacted on October 25, 2004)	60	60	2	No	Yes	(a) from April 1 to September 30, only after 6:00 p.m. and before 7:30 a.m.; (b) from October 1 to March 31, only after 3:00 p.m. and before 10:00 a.m.;
The Council of the City of Ottawa By-law No. 2003-77 (amended 2003)	70	40	2	No	Yes	May permit the birds to fly twice daily between the hours of 6 a.m. and 10 a.m. and between the hours of 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. provided that flight is supervised
The Corporation of the Town of Richmond Hill Chapter 304, Animal - Keeping, Article 4 - Find By-law 15-88 (Jan 5, 1988) and By-law 17-82	25	25	2	No	No	(a) October 1 to April 30 any time of the day. (b) May 1 to September 30, before 9:00 a.m. or after 7:30 p.m.
Corporation of the Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc Animal Care and Control By-law 60-09	10	10	n/a	No	Yes	i) before 9:00 a.m. or after 5:00 p.m. during the months of April to September, inclusive; and, ii) before 10:00 a.m. or after 3:00 p.m. during the months of October to March; inclusive
City of Greater Sudbury By-law 2002-285 (enacted October 24, 2002)	10	10	2	No	Yes	(1) are given full liberty for not more than 1 hour in each forenoon and 1 hour in each afternoon;
City of Thunder Bay Animal Keeping Chapter 232 and 248 (enacted on October 26, 1971)	30	50	n/a	No	Yes	Pigeons may be released for homing or exercising purposes between the hours of 6 a.m. and 8 a.m. and between the hours of 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. only.
The City of Toronto Chapter 349, Animals Article VIII - 349-25	n/a	n/a	No	No	No	No
Corporation of the Town of Uxbridge By-law Number 2013-168 enacted November 11, 2013)	70	70	2	50%	Yes	Allow a maximum of two (2) daily, two (2) hour, flight periods
The City of Vaughan By-law Number 53-2002 (amended on April 8, 2014) by By-law Number 52-2014	60	60	2	30	Yes	(b) each flight shall be restricted to two (2) hours; (c) flights shall be permitted between April 1 and September 30, from the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (d) flights shall be permitted between October 1 and March 31, from the hours of 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The Town of Whitby By-law No 3669-95 (enacted February 14, 1994)			2	50%	Yes	a maximum of two daily, two hour, flight periods during which no more than 50% of the total number of pigeons being kept shall be permitted to be at large during any particular flight period Flight periods shall take place only for the purpose of conditioning; and (a) between the hours of 7:00 in the forenoon and 11 in the forenoon. (b) between the hours of 4:00 in the afternoon and 8 in the afternoon.
	The City of Windsor By-law Number 8156 (enacted March 18, 1985)	80	80	2	40	

JURISDICTIONS LIMITING FLYING TIME AND NUMBERS OF PIGEONS PER FLIGHT IN CANADA

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The City of Edmonton By-law 13145 (consolidated on January 1, 2014)	75	75	No	20	Yes	(iii) on any Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday between 10 a.m. and 11 p.m. or on any day in May, June, July, August or September between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
The City of Winnipeg Pigeon Control By-law No. 978/75 repealed by Neighbourhood Liveability By-law (consolidation date November 25, 2015)	150	150	No	20	Yes	(7), the occupant of property must not allow any pigeons being kept on the property from being released: (a) after 9:00 a.m. on Saturdays, Sundays or statutory holidays; and (b) between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on any other day during the months of May, June, July, August and September.