

To: Chair and Committee Members, Economic and Community Development Committee

From: Liz White and Barry MacKay, Animal Alliance of Canada Fund

Re: EC22.4 - Updated Coyote Coexistence and Response Strategy

Date: July 9, 2025

Dear Chair and Members, Economic and Community Development Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to offer the Committee members suggestions as to how the address and resolve occurrences between the residents of Toronto, coyotes and other wildlife.

We commend the City and Toronto Animal Services for the work that has been done thus far. It is clear that a lot of time, energy and resources were put into this issue to resolve it with modern and humane effective techniques.

The question for the Committee to consider is what kind of city do we want? We urge the Committee to support a strategy that promotes a peaceful co-existence approach with our wild neighbours.

Therefore we urge the Committee to:

- 1. Recommend the formation of a "Wildlife Co-existence Team" under Toronto Animal Services umbrella. This team would intervene early in human wildlife conflicts to resolve the situations in advance of any escalation.
- 2. Involve the City's public health and property standards and the City's parks department regarding more frequent garbage pick-up in areas where interactions are occurring between coyotes, other wildlife and people. This should be

augmented by reminders of proper disposal of organic waste accessible to coyotes, raccoons, and other wildlife. This approach will begin to reduce current rat populations where garbage is easily accessible.

- 3. Involve the City's Shelter Support and Housing Administration and the City's Outreach and Response team where encampments are involved. Garbage is of concern because it also adds to the attractants for coyotes, raccons, rats and other wildlife.
- 4. Enforce the City's off-leash by-laws, including extended leashes and the stoop and scoop bylaws. Dogs trigger coyotes. Leashes help prevent interactions between coyotes, other wildlife and dogs.

We look forward to working with Toronto Animal Services and the City to humanely resolve human/wildlife conflicts.

Sincerely,

Liz White, Barry MacKay
Chief Exacutive Officer Wildlife Advisor

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