

Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal 2025 Annual Report

Date: May 26, 2026
To: Economic and Community Development Committee
From: Executive Director, Court Services Division
Wards: All

SUMMARY

The Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal (DDRT) is a local board under the authority of the City of Toronto Act, 2006 and carries out an adjudicative function in accordance with Chapter 349, Animals and Section 107 of the City of Toronto Act, 2006. DDRT hearings are conducted in accordance with the Statutory Powers Procedure Act and the Tribunal's rules of procedure.

The Tribunal provides an independent review of appeals to Dangerous Dog Orders issued by Municipal Licensing and Standards (MLS) under the authority of Section 349-15 of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 349, Animals. It is comprised of five members of the public appointed by Toronto City Council for a four-year term. The current Tribunal Chair was appointed in May 2023.

The DDRT has the authority to either confirm the determination of a Dangerous Dog Order; or rescind the determination of a Dangerous Dog Order and exempt the owner from compliance with Section 349-15.1 of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 349, Animals (Dangerous Dog Order requirements).

On October 2025 City Council adopted EX26.9 - Transferring Secretary Role for Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal and Property Standards Committee to Court Services. City Council re-assigned the appointment of Secretary of the Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal from the City Clerk to the Executive Director, Court Services, effective January 1, 2026. Court Services is bringing forward this report for the first time.

The Chair of the Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal submits an annual report on its activities to the Economic and Community Development Committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Director, Court Services recommends that:

1. The Economic and Community Development Committee receive this report for information.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact arising from the recommendation contained in this report.

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and agrees with the information as presented in the Financial Impact Section.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting on June 10, 2025, the Economic and Community Development Committee adopted Item EC21.3 Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal 2024 Annual Report <https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2025.EC21.3>

At its meeting on May 29, 2024, the Economic and Community Development Committee adopted Item EC3.3 Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal 2023 Annual Report, <https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2024.EC13.1>

At its meeting on April 25, 2023, the Economic and Community Development Committee adopted Item EC3.3 Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal 2022 Annual Report, <https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2023.EC3.3>

At its meeting on April 6 and 7, 2022 City Council adopted EC28.11 Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal 2021 Annual Report. <https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2022.EC28.11>

At its meeting on May 5 and 6, 2021 City Council adopted EC21.13 Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal 2020 Annual Report. <https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2021.EC21.13>

At its meeting on March 10, 2020, the Economic and Community Development Committee adopted Item EC3.3 Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal 2019 Annual Report <https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2020.EC12.9>

COMMENTS

The Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal Chair's 2025 Annual Report, contained in Attachment 1 to the report, covers DDRT activities from January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025.

The Tribunal receives administrative support from Court Services Division. Meeting dates, agendas and written decisions are posted on the Tribunal's webpage online at www.toronto.ca/council. All Tribunal hearings are open to the public.

In 2025, eight Dangerous Dog Orders were appealed to the Tribunal, a decrease from the eighteen Orders appealed in 2024, as shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Comparative Overview of Tribunal Activity 2025 vs. 2024

Activity	2025	2024
Total Number of Hearings	8	18
Total Hearings Upheld	5	11
Total Hearings Rescinded	1	1
Total Hearings Withdrawn	2	2
Total Hearings Deferred	0	2

In addition, two requests for reconsideration were received in 2024, one resulted in a deferral to 2025 and the other resulted in the Dangerous Dog Order being rescinded. In 2025, the Tribunal also received one request for review of its earlier decisions, which was approved for a rehearing that has yet to be scheduled.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Dianne Kasias
Executive Director, Court Services

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 - Dangerous Dog Review Tribunal Chair's 2025 Annual Report