

P.O. Box 1749 Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3A5 Canada

Item No. 15.8.7

Request for Halifax Regional Council's Consideration				
✓ Included on Agenda (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Thursday)	Added Item (Submitted to Clerk's Office Monday)			Request from the Floor
Date of Council Meeting: August 22, 2023				
Subject: By-Law A700 - Respecting Animals and Responsible Pet Ownership				
Motion for Council to Consider:				
That Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to provide a staff report and recommendations with respect to increasing the fines for dealing with animals that attack as set out in By-law A-700, Respecting Animals and Responsible Pet Ownership, HRM's animal control by-law. The recommendations for fine increases should be based on a jurisdictional scan of Canadian municipalities and be high enough to serve as a significant deterrent to animal attacks on residents and pets.				
Reason:				
The incidence of animal attacks has increased in HRM in the last few years. HRM's minimum fine is \$300 and has not changed since 2015. By increasing the fines, HRM can send a message to pet owners that the municipality takes animal attacks seriously and owners need to be responsible for their pets. Increased fines may also result in pet owners volunteering to surrender animals involved in attacks.				
Outcome Sought:				
Fines should be updated to a level in keeping with other Canadian jurisdictions and high enough to act as a deterrent.				
Councillor Kathryn Morse	Ε	District 10		