

CITY OF SURREY

BY-LAW NO. 6037

As amended by By-laws 6562, 8080, 8228, 8555, 9112, 9314, 9745, 10019, 10226, 10772, [11125](#), [11566](#), [11913](#), [12053](#), [12268](#), [12666](#), [12992](#), [13005](#), and [13730](#)

A By-law to regulate the keeping of dogs within the City and to provide for fixing, imposing and collecting license fees from and the issuance of licences to any [person](#) who owns, possesses, or harbours any [dog](#).

**Amended
B/L [12268](#)
04/25/94**

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THIS IS A CONSOLIDATED BYLAW PREPARED BY THE CITY OF SURREY FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY. THE CITY DOES NOT WARRANT THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS CONSOLIDATION IS CURRENT. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PERSON USING THIS CONSOLIDATION TO ENSURE THAT IT ACCURATELY REFLECTS CURRENT BY-LAW PROVISIONS.

WHEREAS it is deemed expedient to regulate the keeping of dogs within the City of Surrey and to provide for the fixing, imposing and collecting of licence fees from and the issuance of licences to any [person](#) who owns, possesses or harbours any [dog](#).

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Surrey, in open meeting assembled, and pursuant to the powers vested in it by the "Municipal Act" ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. In the construction and for the purposes of this By-law, the following words and terms shall have the meaning hereby assigned to them unless repugnant to the content hereof:

(a) "Council" or "City Council" means the Council of the City of Surrey.

(b) "Dog" means an animal of the canine species, irrespective of sex or age. **Amended
BL [11566](#)
12/07/92**

(bb) "Enclosure" means: **Inserted
BL [9112](#)
11/02/87**
a fence or structure of at least 6' in height, forming or causing an enclosure suitable to prevent the entry of young children, and suitable to confine a vicious dog in conjunction with other measures which may be taken by the owner or keeper, such as tethering of the vicious dog. Such enclosure shall be

securely enclosed and locked and designed with secure sides, top and bottom and should be designed to prevent the animal from escaping from the enclosure.

(c) "Impounded" means seized, delivered, received, or taken into the Pound, or in the custody of the Poundkeeper, as provided herein or in the "Surrey Pound By-law".

(cc) "License Inspector" means the City Solicitor, or his designate, of the City, who is hereby authorized to enforce the provisions of this By-law.

**Inserted
BL 9314
12/21/87
Amended
BL [12268](#)
04/25/94
BL [13005](#)
06/23/97**

(ccc) "Leash" means a chain, rope, cord or other such device by which a dog is led, controlled, or restrained, which does not exceed two (2) metres in length.

**Inserted
BL [11566](#)
12/07/92**

(d) "Owner" in respect of any dog, includes possessor or harbourer, and "Owned" includes possessed or harboured.

(e) "Parks" means public parks, playgrounds, including all driveways, roadways, paths, lanes and boulevards within the same, beaches, swimming pools (both indoor and outdoor), wading pools, ice arenas, community centres, public libraries, art galleries, museums, arenas, exhibition buildings, and all community recreational facilities owned by or under the ownership or control of the City of Surrey and delegated to the custody, care, management and jurisdiction of the Surrey Joint Parks and Recreation Commission.

**Inserted
BL 9745
10/17/88**

(f) "Poundkeeper" means the person appointed from time to time by the Council for the purpose of enforcing and carrying out the provisions of the "Surrey Pound By-law" and shall include any assistant poundkeeper or any person appointed by the Council to carry out the provisions of this By-law.

(g) "Pound" means any building or enclosure established as a pound by the Council.

(h) "Person" shall, when necessary, mean persons of either sex, and associations, corporations, co-partnerships, companies, whether acting by themselves, or by a servant, agent, or employee, and the heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns or legal representative of such person to whom the content shall apply according to law: the singular shall, when

necessary, be held to mean and include the plural, and the masculine and feminine, and the converse.

(i) "Run at Large" when used with reference to a dog means being elsewhere than on the premises of a person owning or having the custody, care or control of any dog and not being under the immediate charge and control of a responsible and competent person, and where the dog is located upon any highway or public place, including school grounds, public parks or public beaches, that the dog is not secured on a leash as defined in this by-law to a responsible and competent person: "running at large" shall have a corresponding meaning.

**Amended
BL [11566](#)
12/07/92**

In addition, where a dog has been deemed to be a vicious dog pursuant to this by-law, "run at large" shall also mean that while on the premises of the owner, harbourer, or possessor, said dog is not being contained in an "enclosure", as defined in this by-law, other than a dwelling.

(j) "Unlicensed dog" means any dog for which the licence for the current year has not been paid as provided herein, or to which the tag provided for herein is not attached.

(k) "Vicious Dog" means:

(i) A dog which injures or kills a person or domestic animal; or

**Amended
BL 9112
11/02/87
BL [12053](#)
11/01/93**

(ii) Any dog with a known propensity, tendency or disposition to attack without provocation other domestic animals or humans; or

(iii) A dog which attacks or aggressively pursues a person or domestic animal.

**Amended
BL [11913](#)
07/12/93
BL [12053](#)
11/01/93**

(iv) A Pit Bull Terrier, American Pit Bull Terrier, Pit Bull, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier or any dog of mixed breeding, which includes any of the aforementioned breeds.

**Amended
BL [11566](#)
12/07/92**

(v) Any dog owned or harbored primarily or in part for the purpose of dog fighting or any dog trained for dog fighting.

1.A The City Solicitor, or his authorized designate, is hereby authorized to enter at **Amended**

all reasonable times upon any property subject to any of the regulations of this By-law, in order to ascertain whether such regulations are being obeyed.

BL 8555
03/24/86
BL [12268](#)
04/25/94
BL [13005](#)
06/23/97

2. The [owner](#) of every [dog](#) shall, annually on or before the first day of January of each year or as soon thereafter as such dog shall attain the age of six (6) months cause the same to be registered, numbered, described, and licensed in the office of the Licence Inspector of the City and shall cause the dog to wear around its neck, a leather or metal collar to which shall be attached, the metal tag referred to in Section 8 of this By-law.

Amended
BL 8228
05/06/85

3. The licence shall be issued by the Licence Inspector of the City, or such [person](#) as the [Council](#) may by resolution appoint; and applications for licences may be made to him, or to any constable or other person duly authorized to receive same. Every licence shall be distinguished by a number and a record shall be kept of all licences issued, and for the purpose of identification a general description of the [dog](#) in respect of which such licence was issued.

4. (a) Subject to Section 4.(b), no [person](#) shall keep more than two dogs on any parcel of real property in any area of the City.

Amended
BL 9112
11/02/87

(b) More than two dogs may be kept on a parcel of real property if a kennel license for that parcel has been lawfully issued; (in which case the number of dogs being kept shall not exceed the number authorized by said license).

5. Effective January 1, 1992, every application for a licence shall be accompanied by a licence fee payable as follows:-

Amended
BL 10019
05/01/89
BL [11125](#)
12/02/91
BL [12992](#)
01/06/97

(a) for each male [dog](#) a fee of \$45.00

(b) for each neutered male [dog](#) a fee of \$25.00

(c) for each female [dog](#) a fee of \$45.00

(d) for each spayed female [dog](#) a fee of \$25.00

(e) for each kennel as defined in and by Section 4 hereof and subject to the restrictions of the City Zoning By-law, a fee of \$40.00.

* The above fees are subject to a 50% Seniors' Discount.

** If paid on or before February 28 in a given year, above fees are subject to a \$10.00 discount.

Before issuing a licence for a spayed female [dog](#) or a neutered male dog the Licence Inspector may require the [owner](#) to furnish proof that the dog has been spayed or neutered.

6. License registration shall be provided, at no charge, to registered dogs and puppies registered in the Guide Dog in Training Program, provided that appropriate proof of such registration is presented to the [License Inspector](#) of the Planning and Development Department.

Inserted
BL 9314
12/21/87
Amended

BL [11566](#)

12/07/92

BL [12268](#)

04/25/94

7. Effective January 1, 1980, every application for a [dog](#) licence by an [owner](#) who is an old age pensioner (65 years of age and over) shall, upon production of proof of age, be issued the dog licence for fifty percent of the amount quoted in Section 5.

Amended

BL [11566](#)

12/07/92

8. Every licence issued under this By-law shall be for the calendar year in which the licence is issued and shall expire on the thirty-first (31st) day of December next following the date on which the licence takes effect. There shall be issued with each licence a metal tag which shall be impressed or stamped with a number corresponding to the number of the licence and with figures denoting the year in which the licence expires.

9. Where the [owner](#) of a [dog](#) in respect of which a licence is issued under this By-law sells or otherwise ceases to be the owner of the dog, the licence shall, in respect of that dog ipso facto become cancelled.

10. Any [person](#) holding a licence for any [dog](#) under the provisions of the *Livestock Protection Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 273 or under a By-law of any other Municipality of the Province of British Columbia shall not be liable to pay any licence fee pursuant to this By-law in respect of the same dog for the unexpired portion of the period for which such licence for such dog shall have been issued. This provision shall not apply to any person who has obtained the licence in another City while residing within the City of Surrey.

Amended

BL [13730](#)

05/17/99

11. No [person](#) shall keep, harbour or have in his possession, within the City, any [dog](#) over six (6) months of age unless a licence therefor pursuant to the provisions of this By-law has been obtained. This six (6) month age exemption shall not apply to any dog deemed to be a [vicious dog](#) by the [Poundkeeper](#) pursuant to this By-law.

Amended

BL [11566](#)

12/07/92

12. No [person](#) owning or having the custody, care or control of any [dog](#), shall allow or suffer such dog to [run at large](#) in the City, provided that this clause shall not apply to a dog that is under the charge and control of:-

(a) a responsible and competent [person](#) and is actively engaged in [dog](#) trials, dog shows, or other similar activities.

(b) of a police officer, police constable or other [person](#) employed for the preservation and maintenance of the public peace, or an officer or a person having the powers of a customs and excise officer when performing any duty in the administration of the Customs Act or the Excise Act, or officers and men of the Canadian Forces, or a duly licenced and qualified security guard, when performing their lawful duties.

13. No [person](#) owning or having the custody, care or control of any [dog](#), shall permit such dog to be upon any beach in the City between the fifteenth (15th) day of May and the fifteenth (15th) day of September in any year.

14. (1) No [person](#) owning or having custody, care and control of a [dog](#) shall allow or suffer the dog to deposit excrement on any park or public property unless that person immediately removes the excrement and disposes of it in a sanitary manner.

**Added
BL 8080
Amended
BL 9745
10/17/88**

(2) No [person](#) owning or having custody, care and control of a [dog](#) shall allow or suffer the dog to deposit excrement on any private property not under the care and control of the dog [owner](#) or onto any private property onto which the dog owner has not been invited, unless that person immediately removes the excrement and disposes of it in a sanitary manner.

**Inserted
BL 9745
10/17/88**

(3) No [person](#), without the authority of the person owning, or having the custody, care or control of any [dog](#), shall remove from any dog any collar to which is attached the metal tag provided for herein, or remove such tag from any dog.

15. (a) The [Poundkeeper](#), Licence Inspector or any Police Officer may seize or impound any [vicious dog](#), any dog found running at large or any unlicensed dog, and such Poundkeeper, Licence Inspector or Police Officer shall forthwith after making such seizure cause such dog to be

**Amended
BL 9112
11/02/87
BL 11566
12/07/92**

[impounded](#), and the Poundkeeper shall retain such dog for seventy-two (72) hours, and if the same is not reclaimed within the said seventy-two (72) hours it shall be the duty of the Poundkeeper to cause such dog to be destroyed or sold by auction or private sale; provided, however, that when any such dog has been impounded and it is found that such dog is suffering from any injury, disease or sickness or from any other cause, the Poundkeeper may, in his discretion, immediately destroy such dog, if it is his opinion that such dog would not survive such injury, disease or sickness, or that it would be an act of humanity so to destroy such dog.

(b) The [Poundkeeper](#) may, where he has reason to believe that a [dog](#) is not receiving proper care, treatment or shelter, enter onto any premises at any reasonable time to determine the health and well-being of any dog therein.

16. It shall be the duty of the [Poundkeeper](#) to receive any [dog](#) delivered to him by an Officer or Constable or any official or employee of the City which has been seized or [impounded](#) pursuant to the provisions of this or any other relevant By-law of the City, and he shall retain such dog and deal with the same in the same manner as other dogs seized, received and retained by him pursuant to this By-law.

17. (1) The [Poundkeeper](#), on being requested to call for and take away any [dog](#),

**Amended
BL 8555**

may call for and take away such dog, and for so doing he shall be entitled to demand and receive from such [owner](#) the sum of Twenty Dollars (\$20.00).

03/24/86
BL [11566](#)
12/07/92

(2) The [Poundkeeper](#), on being requested to destroy a [dog](#) by the [owner](#), may destroy such dog, and for so doing he shall be entitled to demand and receive from the owner the sum of Twenty Dollars (\$20.00).

(3) The [Poundkeeper](#), on being requested to dispose of the body of a dead [dog](#) which the [owner](#) thereof desires to have disposed of, may dispose of said body, and for so doing he shall be entitled to demand and receive from the owner the sum of Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00).

(4) If, in the opinion of a qualified veterinarian, a [dog](#) is required to be euthanized by reason of illness or injury or both, that service shall be carried out. The cost of this service and the subsequent disposal of the remains, if carried out by the [Poundkeeper](#), shall be borne by the [owner](#), harbourer or possessor of said dog.

18. The [owner](#), possessor or harbourer of any [dog impounded](#) pursuant to the provisions of this By-law may reclaim such dog on application to the [Poundkeeper](#) at any time prior to its sale or destruction on proof of ownership and on payment of the following charges:-

1. (a) If no licence for the current year for the [dog](#) has been taken out by the [owner](#), possessor or harbourer, pursuant to this By-law: the prescribed license fee together with a sum of sixty dollars (\$60.00) for first impoundment.

Amended
BL [10019](#)
05/01/89
BL [10722](#)
1/7/91
BL [12992](#)
01/06/97

(b) If the licence for the current year for the [dog](#) has been taken out by the [owner](#), possessor or harbourer pursuant to this By-law:

BL [11566](#)
12/07/92
BL [12992](#)
01/06/97

1. a sum of forty dollars (\$40.00) for the first impounding of the [dog](#).

2. a sum of sixty dollars (\$60.00) for the second impounding of the [dog](#).

3. a sum of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for the third and any subsequent impounding of the [dog](#).

(c) If the [dog](#) is a [vicious dog](#), pursuant to this By-law:

1. a sum of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) for the first

impounding of the [dog](#) for running at large.

2. a sum of Five Hundred dollars (\$500.00) for the second impounding of the [dog](#) for running at large.

3. a sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for the third impounding of the [dog](#) for running at large.

4. (i) notwithstanding 18 1.(c)1, 2 and 3, where a [vicious dog](#) has caused injury to a [person](#) or domestic animal a sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for the first impounding of the dog, or

(ii) notwithstanding 18.1.(c)1, 2 and 3, where a [vicious dog](#) has caused injury to a [person](#) or domestic animal the [Poundkeeper](#) may detain said dog pending a hearing under Section 8 of the Livestock Protection Act to seek an order to have said dog humanely destroyed. Should the order not be granted the dog may be redeemed by the [owner](#) upon payment of the fee in the amount of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00).

5. in addition to these impounding fees the [owner](#), harbourer or possessor of the [vicious dog](#) shall also be liable for all extraordinary costs incurred in the course of impounding said dog due and payable at the time of reclamation.

6. if the [vicious dog](#) is unlicensed at the time of impoundment then a prescribed license fee for the current year will be assessed in addition to the reclamation fee, and a license subsequently issued.

7. this schedule of impounding fees for vicious dogs shall be cumulative over time and not follow the calendar year.

8. any [owner](#), harbourer, or possessor of a [vicious dog](#) must advise the [Poundkeeper](#) within one (1) week of any change of address within the City which involves the relocation of said dog.

2. A maintenance fee of Seven Dollars (\$7.00) for each day the [dog](#) has remained in the [Pound](#).

**Amended
BL [12992](#)
01/06/97**

19. The [Poundkeeper](#) may, where he has reason to believe that a [dog](#), for which the licence for the current year has not been paid, or that a dog not bearing the collar and metal tag as provided in Section 3 and Section 7 of this By-law, has taken refuge on any

premises, request the occupant of such premises to satisfy him that such licence has been paid and to exhibit such licence receipt and metal tag, or to forthwith deliver to him such dog; and where any dog is found to be on any such premises as aforesaid, any [person](#) who fails or refuses to exhibit such licence receipt and metal tag, or who fails, neglects, or refuses to deliver such dog on request, or who resists or interferes with such Poundkeeper in seizing such dog, shall be deemed to be guilty of an infraction of this By-law, and shall be subject, upon conviction, to the penalties herein provided.

20. It shall be unlawful for any [person](#), to suffer to permit any [dog](#) owned, possessed or harboured by him, to [run at large](#), or to trespass in or upon any private lands or premises within the limits of the City.

21. (a) It shall be unlawful for any [person](#) to own or have custody of a [vicious dog](#) which is: **Amended
BL 9112
11/02/87**

(i) found on any street or in any public place or in any other place that is not owned or controlled by the [person](#) having custody of the [dog](#), unless the dog is muzzled to prevent it from biting another animal or a human; or **BL 10226
10/16/89
BL 11566
12/07/92**

(ii) on the premises owned or controlled by the [person](#) having custody of the [dog](#), not kept securely confined either indoors or in an [enclosure](#) as defined in this By-law capable of preventing the entry of young children and adequately constructed to prevent the dog from escaping.

(b) The provisions of Section One (1), Sub-Section (j) shall not apply to a [vicious dog](#) described by Section 1.(k)(iv) while that dog is in attendance at an event sanctioned by the Canadian Kennel Club.

22. It shall be unlawful for any [person](#) to release or rescue or to attempt to release or rescue any [dog](#) lawfully in the custody of the [Poundkeeper](#) or any other person, as herein provided and no person shall intervene or otherwise interfere with the Poundkeeper in the lawful exercise of his duties.

23. The [Poundkeeper](#) shall maintain proper records of all monies received by him pursuant to the provisions of this By-law and shall, at least once in every month pay over to the General Manager, Finance the monies so received. **Amended
BL 12268
04/25/94**

24. All licence fees collected pursuant to the provisions of this By-law and all fines, penalties and forfeitures imposed for the violation of any of the provisions hereof and the proceeds of all recognizances extracted in connection therewith shall be paid into the City Treasury to the credit of a fund designated the "City Dog Tax Fund" and such fund shall become a portion of the general revenue of the City.

**Inserted
BL 12666
07/31/95**

25. (a) No [person](#) shall keep any [dog](#) unless the dog is provided with:

(i) clean potable drinking water at all times and suitable food of sufficient quantity and quality to allow for normal growth and the maintenance of normal body weight;

(ii) food and water receptacles kept clean and disinfected and located so as to avoid contamination by excreta;

(iii) the opportunity for periodic exercise sufficient to maintain good health;

(iv) necessary veterinary medical care when the animal exhibits signs of pain or suffering.

(b) No [person](#) shall keep any [dog](#) which normally resides outside, or which is kept outside for short to extended periods of time, unless the dog is provided with outside shelter:

(i) to ensure protection from heat, cold and wet that is appropriate to the animal's weight and type of coat. Such shelters must provide sufficient space to allow any [dog](#) the ability to turn about freely and to easily stand, sit and lie in a normal position;

(ii) At least 1 1/2 times the length of the animal and at least the dog's length in width, and at least as high as the dog's height measured from the floor to the highest point of the animal when standing in a normal position plus 10%;

(iii) in an area providing sufficient shade to protect the animal from the direct rays of the sun at all times;

(iv) any pen and run area must be regularly cleaned and sanitized and all excreta removed at least once a day.

(c) No [person](#) shall cause a [dog](#) to be hitched, tied or fastened by any rope, chain or cord that is directly tied around the dog's neck on to a choke collar.

(d) No [person](#) shall cause a [dog](#) to be confined in an enclosed space, including a car, without adequate ventilation.

(e) No [person](#) shall transport a [dog](#) in a vehicle outside the passenger compartment unless it is adequately confined or unless it is secured in a body

harness or other manner of fastening which is adequate to prevent it from falling off the vehicle or otherwise injuring itself.

26. Every person who violates any of the provisions of this By-law, or who suffers or permits any act or thing to be done in contravention of any of the provisions of this By-law, or who neglects to do, or refrains from doing, anything required to be done by any of the provisions of this By-law, or who does any act which violates any of the provisions of this By-law, shall be guilty of an infraction thereof and shall be liable to the penalties hereby imposed.

27. Any person who violates any of the provisions of this By-law shall upon summary conviction thereof be liable to a penalty of not more than Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) plus the costs of the prosecution.

**Amended
BL 9112
11/02/87
BL 10772
1/7/91**

28. "Surrey Dog Licencing and Control By-law, 1977, No. 5144" and "Surrey Dog Licencing and Control By-law, 1977, No. 5144, Amendment By-law, 1977, No. 5314" are hereby repealed.

29. This By-law may be cited for all purposes as "Surrey Dog Licencing and Control By-law, 1979, No. 6037."

PASSED by the Municipal Council on the 26th day of November, 1979.

RECONSIDERED AND FINALLY ADOPTED, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, and sealed with the Corporate Seal on the 3rd day of December, 1979.

"D.A. ROSS" MAYOR

"R.N. CHESTER" CLERK

