

From: coyoteconcernscollingwood@gmail.com
Sent: April 11, 2018 6:08 AM
To: cao@collingwood.ca; 'Shannon, Mary (OPP)'
Cc: scooper@collingwood.ca; bsaunderson@collingwood.ca; tfryer@collingwood.ca; medwards@collingwood.ca; cecclestone@collingwood.ca; kjeffery@collingwood.ca; ddoherty@collingwood.ca; bmadigan@collingwood.ca; klloyd@collingwood.ca
Subject: Coyote - Danger and Immediate Threat Action

Now that Council members are aware of the danger and threat to safety in Collingwood; immediate action is required. Staff has dismissed this issue to date and has embarked on a failed coexistence coyote policy which allows coyotes to roam at large in Collingwood while threatening the safety and enjoy of Collingwood by residents and visitors – while attacking and killing our pets. This has and continues to cause damage to the residents of Collingwood.

The recent staff report C#2018-10 must be rejected immediately by Council with a strong message that safety in Collingwood is the priority and not urban coyote accommodations -dangerous wildlife which is devastating enjoyable wildlife in Collingwood while attacking and killing pets.

Staff is clearly not aligned with the safety and quality of life concerns of residents and need to be replaced and/or trained to fulfil the duties and services necessary to ensure our streets, parks, trails and private properties are safe.

Coyotes need to be removed to address immediate safety issues. Staff need to be educated and trained on managing the safety concerns of residents in regards to coyotes and in handling communications and respond to coyote threats in Collingwood. This is essential initially to recreate a meaningful and effective resident communications program. Having Coyote Watch Canada in to try and sell coexistence while using a formulated strategy of blaming of residents (hoax investigations of an individual feeding the coyotes) as the route of problem is insulting, irresponsible and should be cancelled.

I do not feel confident staff will take timely action to address this danger in Collingwood and will delay further while asking council for support in the future for their continued coexistence strategy – further dismissing resident concerns. Staff clearly does not understand the implications of what they are proposing as they cut and past policy from other failed coexistence programs into their Staff reports while failing to serve the needs and concerns of Collingwood residents.

Now that the Town has demonstrated the need to remove urban coyotes from Collingwood; trappers will work with residents as they have refused to under the previous coyote trapping position by the Town of Collingwood. I will attempt to mitigate damages and proceed with residential trapping as soon as possible with expectations of being reimbursed by the Town of Collingwood. I trust staff will not infer anymore but are welcome to assist by authorizing the use of Town property for the effective and successful removal of coyotes from Collingwood – beginning in the East end where appropriate private property approvals are in place.

I trust you are aware of the mounting pressure for action. The petition to remove coyotes is growing daily as we make residents aware of the facts not reported by the Town and activists/advocates protecting coyotes; currently at 357 sent to the Town Clerk; <https://www.change.org/p/town-of-collingwood-clerk-salmas-collingwood-ca-coyote-concerns-in-collingwood-ontario-canada>

Thank you,

Jeff Brown