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**Sent:**  
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**Subject:**

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April 7, 2019 6:43 AM  
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Cruelty to Pets In Collingwood

Could you assist us in an issue of cruelty to pets in Collingwood. There is a coyote problem in Collingwood.

1. Collingwood harbours coyotes while contravening Animal Control By-law 2012-016 <http://www.collingwood.ca/.../www.collingwood.ca/node/6200>
  - a. Section 2.c addresses "harbours" - harbours, suffers or permits an animal to be present on any property owned, occupied or leased by them or which is otherwise under their control; and Section 18.1 "No person shall own, harbour, possess, keep, sell or offer for sale any animal listed below as a pet or for any other purpose or for any period of time. c) all canids, except the domestic dog; (note a coyote is a canids)
2. The Coyote Management Policy of Collingwood acknowledges that pets will be attacked by coyotes.
  - a. <https://collingwood.civicweb.net/document/12669/C2018-13%20Coyote%20Report%20FINAL%20w%20attachments.pdf?handle=5894F16C85554BF2BB2E-D815CACF1498>
  - b. <https://www.collingwoodtoday.ca/local-news/resident-launches-lawsuit-against-town-over-coyotes-1356272> reported in the local news that "by council last April, which includes a communications plan giving tips for co-existence with coyotes and would only support terminating a coyote in the case of an attack on a human or multiple confirmed reports of coyotes attacking pets on leashes with humans nearby."
  - c. <https://www.collingwoodtoday.ca/local-news/coyote-management-plan-approved-effective-immediately-910014>
3. The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act governs the laws pertaining to wildlife. Under Section 31 "Protection of property. 31 (1) If a person believes on reasonable grounds that wildlife is damaging or is about to damage the person's property, the person may, on the person's land, (a) harass the wildlife for the purpose of deterring it from damaging the person's property; or (b) capture or kill the wildlife. 1997, c. 41, s. 31 (1)."
4. <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/97f41> (Note pets are property )
5. Police Services Act, R.S.O. 1990 Section 1 of the PSA provides:
  - a. Police services shall be provided throughout Ontario in accordance with the following principles:
    - i. 1. The need to ensure the safety and security of all persons and property in Ontario.
    - ii. 2. The importance of safeguarding the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the *Human Rights Code*.
    - iii. 3. The need for co-operation between the providers of police services and the communities they serve.
6. The Collingwood OPP will only respond if there is an "immediate threat to public safety". Coyotes are an immediate threat to pets in Collingwood. An investigation by OSPCA of attacks will confirm this issue.
7. Criminal Code Section 445.(1)
  - a. Causing unnecessary suffering 445.1 (1) Every one commits an offence who
    - (a) wilfully causes or, being the owner, wilfully permits to be caused unnecessary pain, suffering or injury to an animal or a bird;

The issue at hand is the Town of Collingwood is knowingly and willfully harbouring urban coyotes which have attacked and killed pets in Collingwood. They will not enforce by-laws to legally remove coyotes which are a prohibited canids species or exercise laws to remove coyotes.

Could you please engage in this issue and help take action to protect pets in Collingwood. I have many reported attacks on pets in Collingwood.

Concerned Resident  
Jeff Brown