

**BY-LAW NO. 2006-002
of the Ditidaht Band**

Animal Control By-law

WHEREAS section 81, paragraph (a), (d), (e), (q) and (r), of the *Indian Act* empower the Council of an Indian Band to pass by-laws to provide for the health of residents on the reserve, the prevention of nuisances, the protection against and the prevention of trespass by domestic animals, in addition to, matters arising out of or ancillary to the exercise of powers under this section, and the imposition of a penalty for the violation of any such by-law;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Ditidaht Band is of the opinion that the uncontrolled ownership, breeding, and running at large of animals may be detrimental to the health of the residents on the reserve, and a nuisance to such residents;

THEREFORE, the Council of the Ditidaht Band enacts this Animal Control By-law, Number 2006-002, as follows:

PART 1 - GENERAL

SHORT TITLE

1. This by-law may be cited as the "Animal Control By-law".

INTERPRETATION

2. In this by-law

"*animal*" means a dog, a cat, or any other domestic animal;

"*animal register*" means the register kept by the animal control officer for the purpose of the registration of all dogs and other animals on the reserve.

"*band*" means the Ditidaht Band, as defined by Section 2 of the *Indian Act*;

"*cat*" means any cat, male or female;

"*council*" means the Council of the Ditidaht Band, as defined in the *Indian Act*;

"*dog*" means any dog, male or female and includes an animal that is a cross between a dog and a wolf;

"*dwelling*" means each single unit home being a fully or semi-detached building, a multiple unit dwelling, an apartment home or any building used or intended to be used for human habitation and in which normal domestic functions may be carried on;

"*medical officer of health*" means the medical officer of health so appointed by band council resolution;

"*muzzle*" means to secure a dog's mouth in such a fashion that it cannot bite anything;

"*officer*" means an animal control officer, appointed pursuant to section 3, or any by-law enforcement officer, including a police officer or a person employed by the band council for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this by-law;

"*owner*" of a animal includes a person who possesses or harbours a animal, and the terms "owns" and "owned" have a corresponding meaning;

"*at large*" or "*running at large*" means off the premises of the owner and not muzzled or under the control of any person;

"*reserve*" means the reserve of the Ditidaht Band and includes the Band's Reserves No. 1 through 17.

"*vicious dog*" includes

(a) any dog that demonstrates any ferocious, vicious, or aggressive behaviour;

(b) any dog that an officer, upon reasonable and probable grounds, believes to be a vicious dog;

(c) any dog which has been the cause of a prosecution under this by-law within the previous six months where a conviction against anybody had been entered concerning that specific dog;

(d) any dog which has bitten another animal or human without provocation.

APPLICATION

3. This by-law applies to all owners of domestic animals residing or visiting on the reserve.

PART II - ADMINISTRATION

OFFICER

4. (1) The Council may appoint, by band council resolution, an officer to provide for the administration and enforcement of this by-law and more specifically to receive registrations and to issue identification tags under this by-law.

(2) The Council may, in the band council resolution, provide for reasonable remuneration to be paid to the officer.

REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION OF ANIMALS

5. (1) Every person keeping one or more dogs, or other animals on the reserve shall register and have an identification tag placed around the neck of each animal.

(2) The application for registration and identification tag shall be filed with the animal control officer and it will include:
 - (a) the applicant's name;
 - (b) the applicant's address or lot number;
 - (c) a description of the dog or other animal sought to be registered, including age, sex, name and breed if known;
 - (d) the number of animals in the household;
 - (e) a record that the animal is immunized against rabies, noting the date of such immunization, the name of the person immunizing the animal, including the manufacturer's name of the vaccine and its batch number; and
 - (f) any other information deemed by the officer to be necessary for the proper administration of the by-law.
6. The charge for registration and identification tags shall be \$50.00 dollars per year.
7. The officer shall issue the licence tag upon registration and payment of the annual fee and, if necessary, proof that the animal has been immunized against rabies.
8. The licence tag shall be securely attached to the collar or harness of the animal at all times.
9. The registration and identification tag will be valid for one full year from the date of issuance.

IMMUNIZATION OF ANIMALS

10. All animals on the reserve must be immunized in accordance with generally accepted veterinary standards.

11. The owner of any animal exposed to rabies shall surrender such animal to the officer and quarantine for a period of 14 days and such animal shall not be released from such quarantine without the written permission of the medical officer of health.
12. The owner of any animal shall forthwith surrender to the officer any animal which has bitten any person or which has been exposed to rabies to be held in quarantine at the discretion of the medical health officer.
13. Any animal found to be infected with rabies shall be destroyed by its owner or by the officer at the owner's expense.

LIMITATION ON ANIMALS PER DWELLING

14. (1) No more than two (2) domestic animals shall be kept, harboured or possessed in any dwelling;

(2) The provisions of subsection (15)(1) shall not apply to dog or cat litters, whereby the pups or kittens are under four (4) months of age.

GENERAL PROHIBITIONS

15. (1) Subject to subsection (2), every owner of a vicious dog shall keep the dog safely tethered or penned up at all times.

(2) No owner shall allow a female animal in heat to remain in any public place unless the animal is attached to a leash and is accompanied by and is under the observation and control of the owner or his agent.

(3) The owner of an animal who fails to take all necessary measures to ensure that such dog is under control or supervision or in the possession of the owner at all times, upon any property on the reserve, is guilty of an offence.

(4) The owner of a dog which causes damage to any property including moveable property, lawns, flower gardens, flower beds, bushes or plants, or other parts of property, is guilty of an offence.

(5) The owner of a dog shall, when the dog is on public property or private property belonging to another person, immediately pick up and thereafter dispose of, any feces, vomit, or any other waste left by the dog on the said property.
16. No owner shall allow his dog to remain unfed or without water whereby it either amounts to cruelty or causes the dog to become a nuisance.
17. No person shall punish or abuse a dog in a manner which is cruel or unnecessary.

18. No owner shall permit a dog to bark, yelp, growl or otherwise annoy or disturb the peace of residents on the reserve.

PROHIBITIONS WITHIN SPECIFIC AREAS OF THE RESERVE

19. (1) The Council may at any time prohibit the keeping of animals within any area of the reserve.

(2) Notice of any prohibition made by council pursuant to subsection 19(1) shall be posted in the band office and after the date of the posting of such notice, no person shall keep or have an animal within the prohibited area.

(3) No person may establish, own or operate an establishment or facility for the boarding or treatment of animals within the limits of the reserve, without express written authorization to that effect from the band council, by way of band council resolution.

Vicious Dogs

20. Anyone owning a vicious dog or aggressive dog must post a clearly visible sign notifying the public.
21. At all times, a vicious dog must be muzzled and kept on a leash whenever it is in a public place.
22. On private property, a vicious dog shall be kept on a secure leash or in a restricted area which shall be constructed so as to prevent any escape by the dog and/or to prevent the entry of children.

Impounding and Seizure

23. (1) No owner shall permit his vicious dog to be at large on the reserve;

(2) An animal found at large on the reserve may be impounded for not less than five (5) days and, after notifying the owner, may thereafter be humanely destroyed or otherwise disposed of, unless in the meantime such animal has been claimed by its owner and the costs incurred for the impounding of the animal have been paid.
24. (1) An officer may seize a dog from any person whom he has reasonable cause to believe is violating or has violated or is about to violate any of the provisions of this by-law.

(2) If an animal is apprehended because it has inflicted an unprovoked attack upon an animal or human person, the officer shall impound the animal for such period of time as specified by a veterinary surgeon.

(3) Subject to subsection (6), an officer who has seized a dog pursuant to subsection (1) shall release the dog to its owner where:

- (a)** the owner claims possession of the dog within five (5) days after the date of seizure, and;
- (b)** the owner pays to the officer all expenses incurred in securing, caring for and feeding the dog as listed in Schedule "A" hereto attached;
- (c)** the owner has obtained the necessary registration identification tag from the officer before the dog is released.

(4) Where a dog has not been reclaimed within five (5) days after seizure, pursuant to subsection (3), and notification has been given to the owner, the officer may humanely destroy or dispose of the dog where a veterinary surgeon so directs and no damages or compensation may be recovered as a result of the destruction or disposal of such an animal.

(5) The officer shall seek veterinary attention for an animal found to be diseased, whereby the owner has declined, failed or neglected to do so; in addition, any fee arising from the provision of such veterinary care shall be a charge against the owner of the animal.

(6) Whereby, a dog is seized which is injured or should be destroyed without delay for humane reasons or for reasons of health or safety to persons or animals, the officer shall destroy the dog as soon after the seizure as the officer thinks fit without permitting any person to reclaim the animals and no damages or compensation may be recovered on account of such action.

(7) The officer shall forthwith make every reasonable effort to notify the owner of an animal which has been impounded.

(8) A written report of each such incident, as described in this section, shall be filed with the band council by the officer.

PROTECTION FROM VICIOUS DOGS

25. (1) A person or officer may destroy, if necessary, a vicious dog which is running at large and is in the act of pursuing, attacking, injuring, damaging, killing or destroying:

- (a)** a person;
- (b)** another dog that is tethered;
- (c)** a food cache, harness or other equipment; or
- (d)** domestic livestock.

(2) A person or officer who must destroy a vicious dog, pursuant to section 26(1), shall immediately report the incident to the Band Council and notify the dogs' owner.

(3) No damages or compensation may be recovered as a result of destroying a dog by a person or officer who is required to do so pursuant to section 26(1).

PENALTY

26. Every person who contravenes any of the provisions of this by-law is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of not exceeding \$1,000 or to imprisonment for a term of not exceeding 30 days, or to both a fine and imprisonment.
27. Should a court determine that a provision of this by-law is invalid for any reason, the provision shall be severed from the by-law and the validity of the rest of the by-law shall not be affected.
28. This by-law comes into force 40 days after the date of mailing to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development as required pursuant to section 82 of the *Indian Act*.

THIS BY-LAW IS HEREBY made at a duly convened meeting of the Council of the Ditidaht Band this 11th day of September, 2006.

Voting in favour of the by-law are the following members of the Council:



Jack Thompson



Maureen Knighton



George Williams


Carl Edgar, Jr.

being the majority of those members of the Council of the Ditidaht Band present at the aforesaid meeting of the Council.

The quorum of the Council is 3 members.

Number of members of the Council present at the meeting: 4

I, Jack Thompson, Chief Councillor of the Band, do hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing by-law was mailed to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development at the District/Regional/ Hull office (as the case may be) pursuant to subsection 82(1) of the *Indian Act*, this 11th day of September 2006.



(Witness)



(Chief Councillor)