

Okanagan Indian Band  
Dog Control By-law No. 2019-02  
Being a By-law Respecting the Care and Control of Dogs on the Reserves of the Band.  
Enacted on the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2019.

**WHEREAS:**

- A. Subsection 81(1), paragraph (d) of the *Indian Act* empowers the Council of a Band to pass bylaws to provide for the prevention of disorderly conduct and nuisances;
- B. Subsection 81(1), paragraph (e) of the *Indian Act* empowers the Council of a Band to pass bylaws to provide for the protection against and prevention of trespass by cattle and other domestic animals, the establishment of pounds, the appointment of pound-keepers, the regulation of their duties and the provision for fees and charges for their services;

**THEREFORE**, the Council of the Okanagan Band enacts this Okanagan Indian Band Dog Control Bylaw, No. 2019-02 as follows:

**1. GENERAL**

- 1.1. This by-law may be cited as the "Okanagan Indian Band Dog Control By-law No. 2019-02".
- 1.2. In this by-law
  - a. "at large" or "running at large" means off the premises of the owner and not muzzled or under the control of any person;
  - b. "band" means the Okanagan Band, a Band within the meaning of Section 2 of the *Indian Act*;
  - c. "Council" means the duly elected Council of the Band from time to time;
  - d. "dog" means any dog, male or female and includes an animal that is a cross between a dog and a wolf;
  - e. "Dog Control Officer" means a Dog Control Officer, appointed pursuant to section 2.1, or any by-law enforcement officer, including a police officer or a person employed by the Council for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this by-law.
  - f. "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.
  - g. "owner" of a dog includes a person who possesses or harbours a dog, and the terms "owns" and "owned" have a corresponding meaning;
  - h. "pound" means a place designated by Council resolution pursuant to section 2.2 for the holding of dogs impounded pursuant to this bylaw;

- i. “provoke” means to intentionally do some act to a dog with the knowledge that the action will or is likely to illicit a ferocious, vicious or aggressive response from the dog;
- j. “public notice” means a notice posted in the Band Office, in the Band’s Senk’l’ip Newspaper, on the Band’s website ([www.okib.ca](http://www.okib.ca)) and at such other locations and publications as directed by the Council;
- k. "Reserve" includes each and every part of Okanagan Reserve No. 1, Otter Lake Reserve No. 2, Harris Reserve No. 3, Swan Lake Reserve No. 4, , Duck Lake Reserve No. 7 and any other lands that may be set apart as reserves of the Band from time to time;
- l. “resolution” means a resolution approved by the Council in accordance with the procedures governing meetings of the Council from time to time;
- m. "vicious dog" includes
  - i. any dog that demonstrates any ferocious, vicious, or aggressive behaviour;
  - ii. any dog that a Dog Control Officer, upon reasonable and probable grounds, believes to be a vicious dog;
  - iii. 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;
  - iv. any dog which has bitten another animal or human without provocation.

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

1.4. Band Housing rules prohibiting the ownership of dogs takes precedence over this bylaw.

## **2. ADMINISTRATION**

2.1. The Council may, by resolution, appoint a Dog Control Officer to provide for:

- a. the administration and enforcement of this by-law

2.2. The Council may, by resolution, establish a pound and/or appoint a pound keeper to provide for:

- a. the quarantine and impounding of dogs pursuant to this by-law; and
- b. to receive payment for the costs associated with capturing, quarantining or impounding dogs under this by-law.

2.3. The Council may, in the resolution appointing a Dog Control Officer or pound keeper may limit the exercise of a Dog Control Officer’s powers to one or more of the Reserves.

- 2.4. The Council shall give public notice of all Dog Control Officers, dog pounds and pound keepers immediately upon their appointment.
- 2.5. A Dog Control Officer, pound service provider or pound keeper may be an independent contractor and is not required to be an employee of the Band.
- 2.6. All complaints related to offences made under this bylaw shall be directed to the Dog Control Officer.

### **3. GENERAL PROHIBITIONS SURROUNDING NEGLECT**

- 3.1. 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.
- 3.2. 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 lawfully dispose of, any feces, vomit, or any other waste left by the dog on the said property.
- 3.3. 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.
- 3.4. No person shall punish or abuse a dog in a manner which is cruel or unnecessary.

### **4. PROHIBITIONS WITHIN SPECIFIC AREAS OF THE RESERVE**

- 4.1. The Council may at any time prohibit the keeping of animals within any area of the Reserve.
- 4.2. Notice of any prohibition made by Council pursuant to subsection 4.1 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.
- 4.3. No person may establish, own or operate an establishment or facility for the boarding or treatment of dogs within the Reserve, without express written authorization to that effect from the Council, by way of Council resolution or a business licence.

### **5. VICIOUS DOGS**

- 5.1. Anyone owning a vicious dog or aggressive dog must post a clearly visible sign at the entrance of their property to notify the public.
- 5.2. At all times, a vicious dog must be muzzled and kept on a leash whenever it is in a public place.
- 5.3. 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 to prevent the entry of children.
- 5.4. If a dog is apprehended because it has allegedly inflicted an unprovoked attack upon an animal or human person, the Dog Control Officer shall impound the dog and conduct an investigation to determine the validity of the allegation.

- 5.5. If the Dog Control Officer conducts an investigation pursuant to section 5.4 and determines that the allegations are true, then the Dog Control Officer may:
- a. impound and then release the animal to the owner with a warning;
  - b. offer the owner to sign a consent order whereby the owner agrees to keep the dangerous animal under control at all times. Failure to live up to the terms of the consent agreement would result in the dog being seized;
  - c. apply for a court order to have the animal humanely destroyed if it is deemed that the animal is an extreme risk to public safety and cannot be securely controlled at all times.
- 5.6. Pursuant to section 5.5, the Dog Control Officer may enter a place or exercise authority to investigate a dangerous animal:
- a. in any case, with the consent of the owner or occupier of the place;
  - b. in any case, in accordance with a warrant obtained through a court ruling and accompanied by a police officer.
- 5.7. A person or Dog Control Officer may kill, 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.
- 5.8. A person or Dog Control Officer who must kill a vicious dog, pursuant to section 5.7, shall immediately report the incident to the Dog Control Officer and notify the dogs' owner.
- 5.9. No damages or compensation may be recovered as a result of killing a dog by a person or Dog Control Officer who is required to do so pursuant to section 5.7
- 5.10. A Dog Control 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 bylaw.

## **6. IMPOUNDING AND SEIZURE**

- 6.1. The Dog Control 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.
- 6.2. 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 Dog Control 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.

6.3. A written report of each such incident, as described in this section, shall be filed with the Council by the Dog Control Officer.

6.4. The Dog Control Officer may humanely destroy an animal if, after giving five (10) days' notice to the owner, the owner abandons the animal.

**7. PENALTIES**

7.1. 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 more than one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars or to imprisonment for a term of not more than thirty (30) days, or to both a fine and imprisonment.

7.2. 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.

**THIS BY-LAW IS HEREBY** made at a duly convened meeting of the Council of the Band this \_\_\_\_ day of April, 2019.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Byron Louis

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor Cindy Brewer

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Councillor Valerie Chiba

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor Timothy Isaac

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor Garrett Lawrence

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor Allan Louis

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor Dean Louis

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Councillor Sheldon Louis

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Councillor Shawna Whitney

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Councillor Dan Wilson

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Councillor Leland Wilson

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

The quorum of the Council is five (5) members.

I, Byron Louis, Chief 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 \_\_\_\_\_ office of the Department pursuant to subsection 82(1) of the *Indian Act*, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

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Witness

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Chief Byron Louis