

Re: Dogs - "Operation Tattoo"
(Item 19, Report No. 86, December 30, 1974)

ITEM 10
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 7
COUNCIL MEETING Feb. 3/75

On December 30, 1974, Council tabled a report regarding a proposed S.P.C.A. program that involves the permanent impregnation of a registration number on the underside of dogs' ears ("Operation Tattoo"). Council's request for information on the number of municipalities that have participated in such a program, and the results achieved, is contained with other related comments in the following report from the Chief Licence Inspector.

We wish to emphasize that the S.P.C.A.'s intention to tattoo dogs on a voluntary basis at the Municipal Pound commencing February 1, 1975 would be done within the terms of the existing contract for services and, therefore, would not require any additional expenditure of funds as far as the Municipality is concerned. The cost to the participating owner would be \$2, \$3 or \$4, as more fully explained in the brochure that Council received on December 30, 1974.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Council endorse in principle the S.P.C.A.'s program "Operation Tattoo" for voluntary participation by dog owners; and
2. THAT Council defer consideration of a grant towards the cost of an advertising program with respect to "Operation Tattoo", until a report on a spaying and neutering clinic is presented for Council consideration.

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TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER

January 30, 1975

FROM: CHIEF LICENCE INSPECTOR

DOGS - OPERATION TATTOO

On December 30, 1974, Council tabled a report and requested further information on the S.P.C.A.'s proposal to establish a programme of tattooing dogs with a permanent identification number.

The S.P.C.A. requests action by the Corporation on the following:-

- A. To ensure that all dogs leaving the jurisdiction of our pound operation are tattooed.
- B. To make tattooing compulsory on a progressive scale, commensurate with the licencing of the dog.
- C. To make harbouring of a tattooed dog illegal by a person other than the registered owner.

and further recommends:-

- " 1. That all municipalities endorse the programme.

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2. That all municipalities examine closely the means of inducing members of the public to voluntarily have their dogs tattooed i.e. \$2.00 reduction in licence fee in current licence year to offset the expense of tattooing.
3. Suitable advertising to promote the concept.
 Depending upon the success of the concept that:-
4. Municipalities apply for changes to the Municipal Act to provide wider powers in the tattooing of dogs within the municipalities.

The Solicitor determined that the Municipal Act does not provide authority to permit the Corporation to comply with these requests or with item 2 under recommendations.

Our original report recommended that Council endorse the principle of a voluntary programme and consider making a grant for the advertising campaign necessary in this regard, as and when a report on proposed spaying and neutering clinic is before them.

Council has inquired as to the results of similar programmes.

The S.P.C.A. advises that no comparable programme is known to be in operation throughout North America. They further advise that response from municipalities in the Greater Vancouver area is encouraging.

Due to the lack of information on any similar programme, we anticipate that responsible dog owners may find that tattooing offers protection for their dog, therefore they may participate in a voluntary programme.

The S.P.C.A. intends to proceed with tattooing dogs as a voluntary programme, beginning February 1, 1975. There will be no additional administrative costs to the Corporation; however, Council may wish to consider a grant for the advertising campaign the S.P.C.A. intends to conduct.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That Council endorse in principle the S.P.C.A.'s programme "Operation Tattoo" for voluntary participation by dog owners; and,
2. That Council defer consideration of a grant towards the cost of an advertising programme with respect to "Operation Tattoo", until a report on a spaying and neutering clinic is presented for Council consideration.


 H. Buckley,
 CHIEF LICENCE INSPECTOR.

PK:cc