

RE: LETTER FROM MR. JOSEPH BABOR WHICH APPEARED ON THE AGENDA FOR THE
FEBRUARY 16TH MEETING OF COUNCIL (ITEM 4C)
ANIMAL CONTROL

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the recommendation of the Director Finance be adopted.

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FROM: DIRECTOR FINANCE

RE: ANIMAL CONTROL

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT a copy of this report be sent to Mr. Joseph Babor,
7984 Gilley Avenue, Burnaby, B.C. V5J 4Y5.

REPORT

At the meeting of 1987 February 16, Council received a letter from Mr. Joseph Babor concerning separate incidents in which he was threatened by a dog while walking on the A.L.R.T. parkway in the vicinity of the Royal Oak Station. Further, Mr. Babor is concerned as to the poundkeeper's response to complaint that a dog is acting in a threatening or vicious manner during the hours when the animal shelter is closed.

The two incidents described by Mr. Babor did not result in physical injury to him. They took place at 5:30 a.m. and 6:30 a.m. on separate dates and involved two separate dogs. The owners of the dogs have been interviewed by the pound-keeper and were issued written warning notices to keep their animals confined to their properties or on leash when on a public place. Patrols carried out since the interviews indicate that the dogs are being confined to the owners' properties.

In the matter of response to complaints received after regular shelter hours, there is a recorded message on our shelter phone that advises that the facility will be open at 9:00 a.m. and in case of an emergency please call 879-7343. This is the Night Emergency Personnel (NEP) number connected to the S.P.C.A.'s regional shelter and office in Vancouver. If the NEP are on a call, there is a further taped message to contact a mobile radio telephone number, or a pager number.

NEP respond to injured animal calls, assist police and fire departments as required, and if a dog owner is unknown or unavailable, they will take into custody a dog that has bitten or is acting in an aggressive or vicious manner. If the owner of such a dog is known, either the police or the NEP will contact them to arrange for the dog to be immediately controlled. In such cases, the call is then passed over to the local shelter for investigation on the next working day. In Mr. Babor's case, he contacted the R.C.M.P. at about 8:30 a.m. regarding an incident that had taken place at about 6:30 a.m. He was directed to contact the Burnaby shelter office following their opening at 9:00 a.m.

Staff from the Burnaby shelter investigated both incidents as reported by Mr. Babor. On completion of the investigations, shelter staff met with Mr. Babor and reviewed the procedure for handling off-hours calls dealing with aggressive or vicious dogs, and advised him of the results of our investigations.


DIRECTOR FINANCE

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cc. Mr. G. Smith, Supervisor,
Burnaby S.P.C.A.