



## **ANIMAL CONTROL CONSULTATION REPORT**

2018 Public Consultation research results

### **Acknowledgements & Approval**

*The survey questions, data collection and kiosk management were completed by the Animal Control and Public Safety Staff; Deidra White, Ashley Ross, John Deere, and Brandi Rice. The Animal Control staff were vital partners in supporting the development of this report. In addition, the Public Relations Unit of the Mohawk Council of Kahnawake was instrumental in assisting in the collaboration and implementation of all public relations material, commercials, and survey questions. This report was approved by the Public Safety Director, Lloyd Phillips, in collaboration with Mohawk Council of Kahnawake Portfolio chief Harry Rice.*

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2018 community consultation research project on Animal Control sought to assess community experience and perspective on issues related to the care and control of domesticated and non-domesticated animals within the territory. Its aim was to determine if there was an increased level of community complaints on loose dogs and if there was an experience with an increase aggressivity of these animals. In addition, assessing if specific breeds should be banned within the community and what type of other safety concerns existed for respondents. The project also wanted to determine if the community sought to legislate pet owner responsibilities over all animals in their care, legally enforced by Animal Control Officers. It was significant to gauge the community's perspective and experience over the control of domesticated and non-domesticated animals in collaboration with actual animal control response calls to put forth recommendations that would amend the animal control law to meet the overall needs of animal control within the community.

It was critical for the purposes of this report to study and present specific statistical information regarding Animal Control calls from a period covering from 2015-2018 to determine actual animal response activities. The study included all response activities such as animal attacks, surrender, euthanasia, and dead animals to act as an additional reference point to determine the full response activities of Animal Control officers within the community.

It was imperative to frame a global picture of animal control services and activities to determine the critical areas in need of effective change to improve the overall public safety interests of the community.

The enclosed study and conclusions are put forth within the spirit and intent of delivering effective preventative strategic planning for the better management over the care and control of animals within the realm of ensuring Public Safety for all Kahnawa'kehró:non.

**Research Objectives:**

The research objective was to conduct a comprehensive study on the issues facing Kahnawake's Animal Control services for the purposes of providing recommendations to improve how animals are controlled and cared for within the community. The first objective was to establish a series of questions explored through four (4) pre-determined data sources (surveys, comments, kiosks, and actual animal control officer response calls). The questions were drafted based on a series of hypothesized areas of concern, derived either from animal control officers, staff, and/or the community. The areas determined were considered broad enough to effectively extract as much information as possible over animal control issues within the community. As a result, the follow questions were used as a benchmark for measurement;

**Research Questions:**

- 1. Is there an increase in community complaints on loose dogs and an increase of their aggressivity?***
- 2. Should there be a specific breed ban on dogs within the community?***
- 3. Is there an overall safety concern regarding domesticated and non-domesticated animals within the territory?***
- 4. Does the community feel amendments to the Animal Control Law should focus on pet owners' responsibilities over all animals in their care? What type of responsibilities should pet owners have?***
- 5. How does enforcement of the Animal Control Law effect the control of domesticated and non-domesticated animals within the territory?***

The next step was to gather all the data in each identified source (survey, comments, kiosk, and calls) and determine, based on value and analysis, if it supported or rejected the proposed research question. For example, does the data support or reject the statement ***Is there an overall safety concern regarding domesticated and non-domesticated animals within the territory?*** Based on the amount and type of data for each area, conclusions were drawn to support or deny the statement. A series of recommendations will later be developed to make various changes in the way in way in which services are delivered over animal control within the community.

## **Methodology**

The consultation sought to determine community experience and input over the over care and control of domesticated and non-domesticated animals; *if* owner (caretaker) responsibility contributed to this approach and *if* enforcement issues over the animal control law needed to be addressed. In addition, other areas such as the banning of specific breeds of dogs was also included in these areas as well as community concern/level of safety over the care and control of domesticated and non-domesticated animals in the territory.

Four (4) different data sources were identified, and various effort was organized around compiling the necessary information for each. **Survey questions** were created, and all results were directly applied to each research questions (where applicable). **Comments** from each survey question were analyzed and color coded and categorized into re-occurring themes and applied to questions. For example, survey question #2 posed *What should occur with dangerous/aggressive pets?* Thirty-six (36) comments from this question fell into three (3) categories: (1) *Actions to animal/pets*, (2) *Actions owners/people*, (3) *Actions to a law/government*. This type of comment analysis enriched the overall proposed direction of each point. It portrayed a more accurate synopsis of community input over the area.

Five different **Kiosk questions**<sup>1</sup> were created and left out in a public area (services complex) where individuals were encouraged to fill out comments related to questions. Finally, all service calls to animal protection officers were collected and broken down to type of response and applied to the questions (if applicable).

The available data and analysis came together to provide research responses (conclusions) that will help formulate the basis for sound recommendations for changes made toward the delivery of Animal Control services within the community. For the purposes of this report, general conclusions were made on the data flow to provide overall insight on the direction of the responses provided (based on community feedback and actual response calls).

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<sup>1</sup> See Page 24

## **Communications Plan**

Extensive work was completed by both Public Safety (Animal Control services) and the Public Relations Unit of the Mohawk Council of Kahnawake to educate and inform the community on the consultation initiatives and to gauge public opinion on animal issues.

Roughly 90 radio information segments were aired toward the topics of nuisance pets, the benefits of spay and neuter and pet owner responsibility between November 27<sup>th</sup>-December 11, 2018. Three different posters were placed in two local newspapers, both Iori: wase and the Eastern Door on the following dates;

- AP services and Frequently Asked Questions<sup>2</sup> – November 22/23, 2018.
- Spaying & Neutering - November 29/30, 2018.
- Biting Pets (wandering and aggressive animals) – December 6/7, 2018.

The (FAQ) was placed on the AP page and distributed every item via mailing list subscribers to staff, community orgs and community (email and MailChimp), shared via Facebook. The MCK has 470 subscribers on an internal community mailing list and 1,800 Facebook followers and over 720 Twitter followers in which the information was disseminated. Two Kiosks were set up at the Kahnawake Services Complex on both November 26, 2018 and December 4, 2018 from 8:30-4:00PM. In addition, community focus groups were held at the Golden Age Club, on November 26 and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 6-8PM. Three (3) educational commercials were collaborated by the Public Relations Unit of the MCK and aired on u-tube between November 2018-December 2018;

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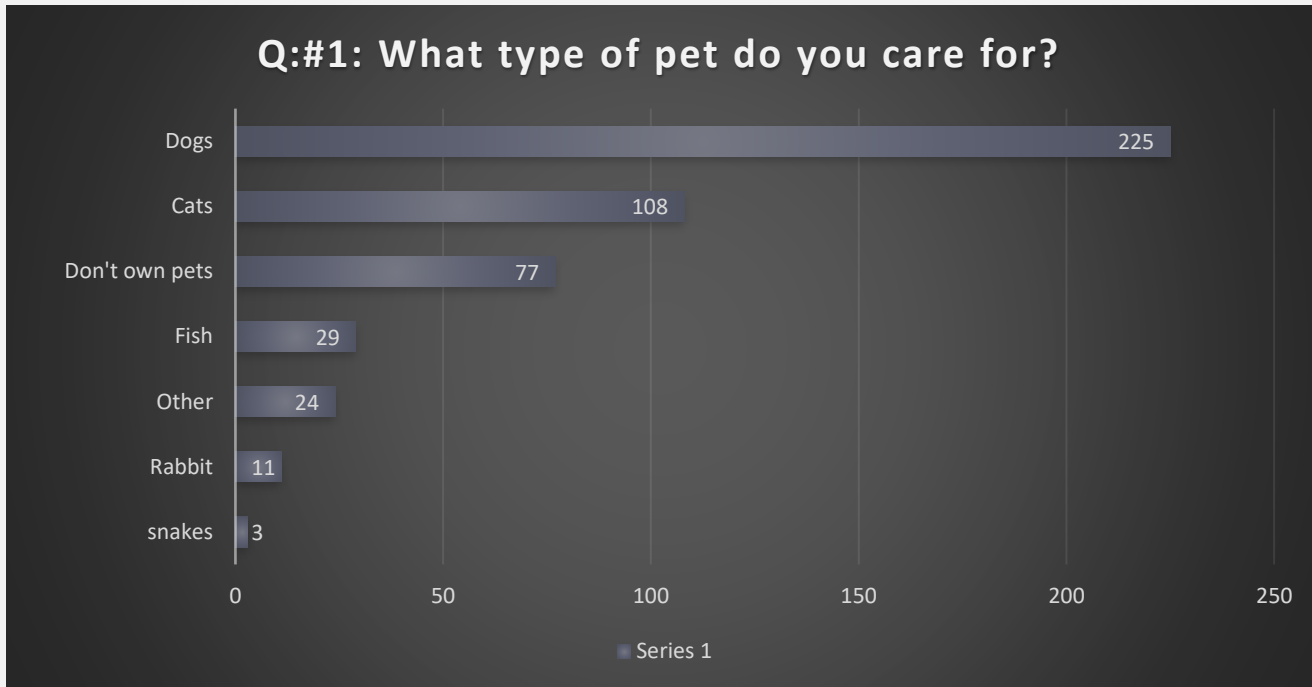
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[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u8qVeLII5ig&index=7&list=PLDETiILGC4S91XDbVMr2Va4WT\\_NZPDjuM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u8qVeLII5ig&index=7&list=PLDETiILGC4S91XDbVMr2Va4WT_NZPDjuM)

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<sup>2</sup> See Annex 1: Page 40

**SURVEY QUESTION RESULTS**

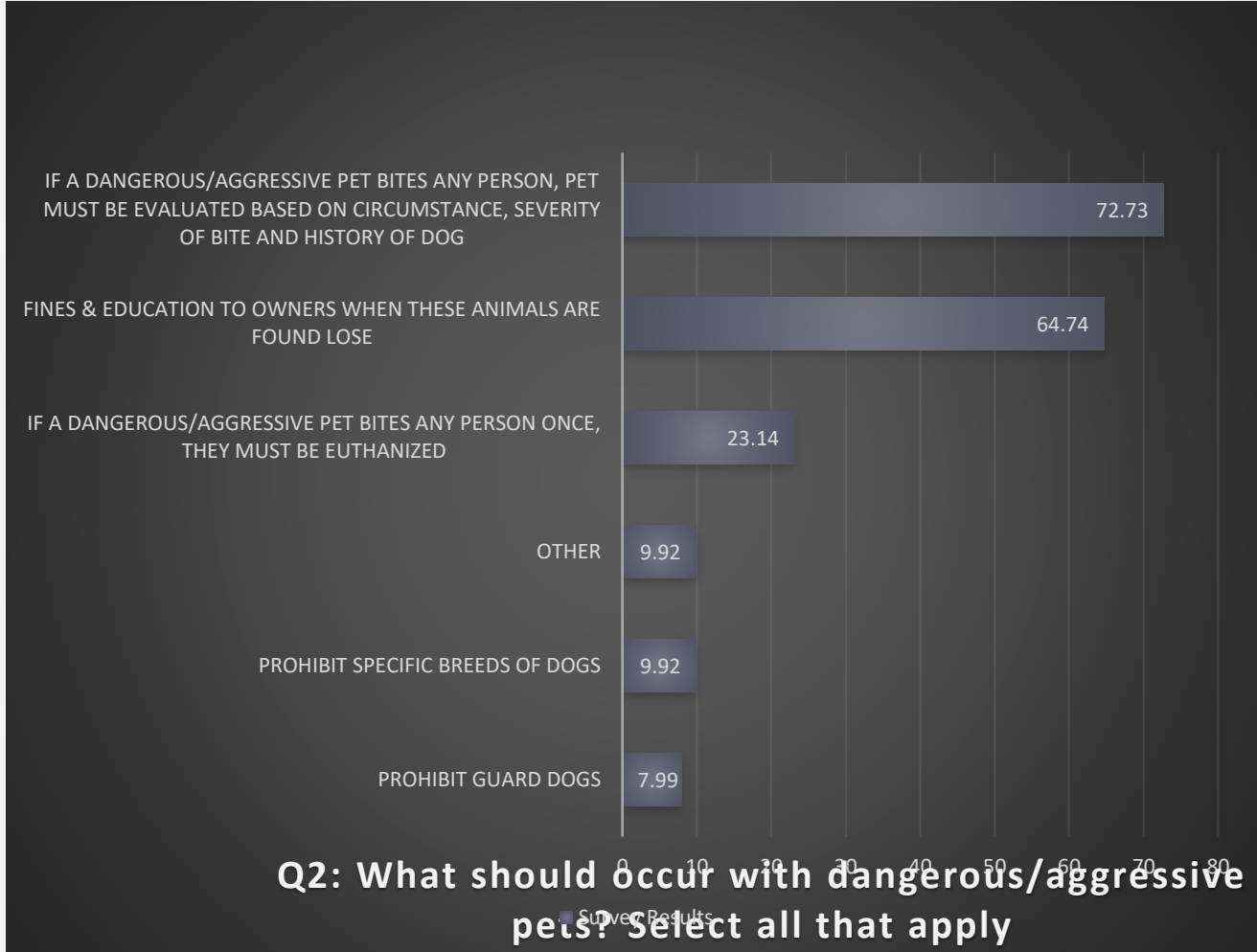


DOGS: 225  
CATS: 108  
DON'T OWN PETS: 77  
FISH: 29  
OTHER: 24  
RABBIT: 11  
SNAKES: 3



**COMMENTS: Q 1: OTHER**

1. Ferrets
  2. Chickens
  3. Chimpanzee
  4. Previous dog owner
  5. Horses
  6. Crested Geckos
  7. Horses, Cows, goats, turkeys. Pigs, ducks etc.
  8. Birds
  9. Turtles
  10. I don't have any pets. I do not hate animals; I believe they should be taken care in the home, and I do not want pets in my home. I cannot see any animals being left out in the cold or tied to a tree, that's just plain cruelty. They have feelings too, just because they cannot speak.
  11. Chickens
  12. Guinea pigs.
  13. Not really pets, but I feed birds, raccoons, skunks, chipmunks.
  14. Birds
  15. Wild birds
  16. Rabbits
  17. Hamsters
  18. I do wish to own a dog or cat one day.
  19. Had a dog and plan to get another one soon.
  20. Miniature pig.
  21. Kept a dog for 17 years but she died 2 years ago.
  22. Wild birds
  23. Guinea pig (2) and a turtle.
  24. Goats.
  25. I fee wild animals, Ferrell cats/stray dogs of potential threat.
  26. Everyone else's pets that come into my yard, under my porch or on my porch.
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**Comment Analysis: Question #2/Categorized into 3 areas:****ACTIONS TO ANIMALS/PETS**

1. Guard dogs must be chained securely if applicable or escape proof property must be established. If a guard dog attacks on properly secured premises, its target had no business there.
2. Usually, a dog bites out of fear, they could be lost or just maybe got out and owners were trying to catch it back or whatever circumstances happened, I think unless they were previously aggressive, they should be given a chance and be evaluated to determine if it may happen again,
3. I am not sure about Euthanizing but growing up dogs that bit was put down.
4. Animal training should be mandatory for the pet (and owner).
5. No more loose dogs why do we still have loose dogs on our streets.
6. Emphasis on the "dog history". Sometimes biting is a defense mechanism.
7. I want the animal for special training to become nicer.
8. When animals are mistreated and neglected, they react with instinct and do not learn social skills with humans.
9. Loose dogs are not as bad as before, however, there are still aggressive dogs roaming. Two years ago, a dog was very aggressive towards me. Luckily, I was not bit. The owner used to live across from the moose and had a big dog. As I kept walking and told the owner to get her dog. She went berserk and started screaming at me. I said is it ok to let this dangerous dog loose?
10. If a pet attempts to attack someone they should be evaluated for aggressive instincts and potential to bite in the future-to prevent a serious incident. Potentially aggressive dogs do not always bite the first time but could demonstrate menacing behavior.
11. Every effort should be made to evaluate the dog and provide training. I DO NOT believe Euthanizing an animal is the solution ever.
12. Dog attacking another pet is also an issue.
13. Require muzzles for specific breeds. Loose dogs are such an issue you need to focus on that first. The fact is many people are afraid to use the town recreationally because of loose dogs.
14. Do not let pit bulls roam just because it is a rural area, there is a school nearby.
15. Prohibit specific breeds of dogs.
16. Education.
17. Owners incurring frequent complaints should be barred from pet ownership.
18. Pick up.
19. Proper training.
20. If animal is not confined to their yard.
21. Kill the dog.

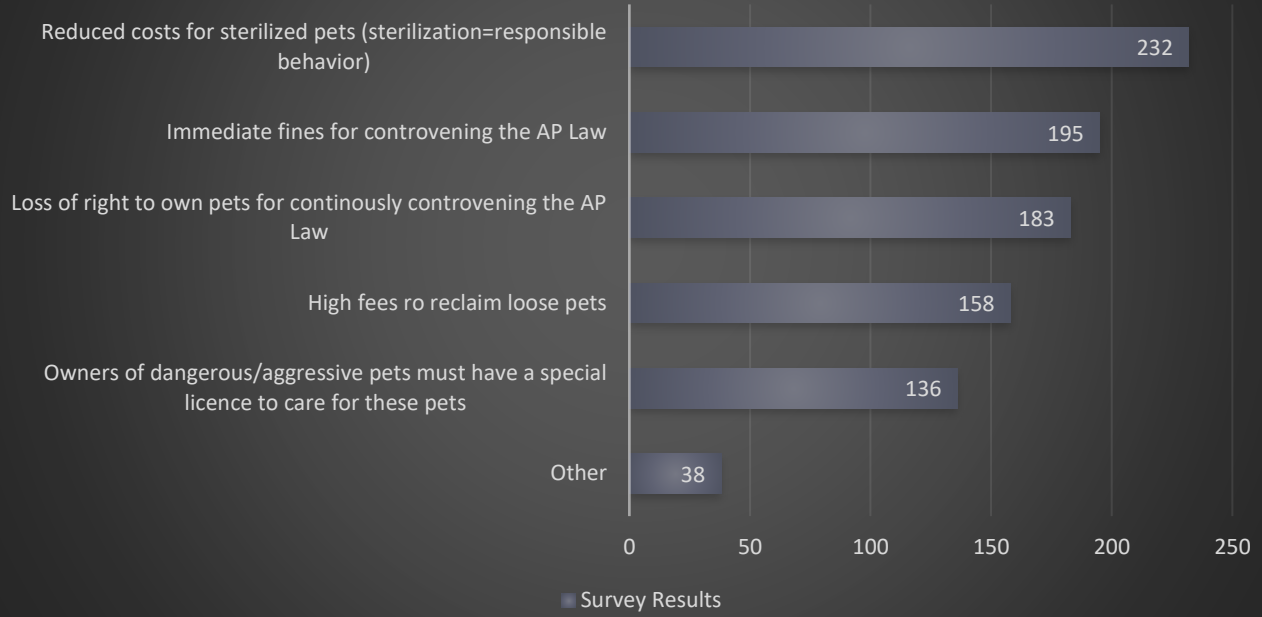
**ACTIONS TO OWNERS/PEOPLE**

1. Education
2. People should also tell their children not to tease dogs.
3. Ban repeat offenders from being allowed to own more pets.
4. If animal protection or the PK's do not do anything, people need to arm themselves to protect their families from the breeds of dogs that can kill a human.
5. Sometimes I think the owner needs to be evaluated.
6. We are always responsible for our own safety, and should always be alert, even when a dog is on the other side of the fence.
7. If a dog has bitten before, owner should be fined because they know the aggression.
8. Require the owner to bring dog behavior school. Have someone who comes to the community or who is from the community teach the course at a reduced rate.
9. Education should include legal responsibility of pet owner and that if their pet bites someone they can be sued or sent to jail (I Have read about these types of cases in the Gazette).
10. Owners cover vet bills if their dog causes harm to another dog.
11. Consider the history and treatment of the dog-take the dog away from the owner if the dog is vicious. If the dog bit someone to protect their owner, the dog should not be punished.
12. I met with an Animal protection worker afterwards and told her what happened. She said they have a big file on this owner, constant warnings to keep her dog tied up or in the house, but she never listens. The dog should be killed, as the owner does not care for the safety of others.
13. Fine the owner.
14. Prohibit specific people from owning any kind of dog. Some abuse them by constantly breeding them or breeding them to be aggressive. The people are the problem not the animals.
15. Prohibit people from owning animals if they have previously shown they cannot properly take care of one.

**ACTIONS TO GOVERNMENT/ADMINISTRATORS**

1. Get rid of that one bite rule immediately. Its cruelty to animals.
2. Maybe you can offer low-cost training to dog owners, so accidents happen less an educated owner and a well-behaved dog are what we all want so maybe helping owners learn how to best control their dogs is a win, win solution.
3. Give the PK's authorization to shoot on site, any loose dogs.
4. It should be up to the people involved to figure out what should be done. No Law/regulation should dictate to those involved what should or should not happen.
5. Things must be based case by case; dogs loose can be a dog normally fenced getting loose. No reason for harsh actions to be taken.
6. Why put in "prohibit guard dogs" without mentioning a specific breed? Some dog breeds are capable of maiming and killing a person while others cannot. Animal protection needs to deal with the dangerous breeds. Who cares about a chi Wawa guard dog? No one.
7. Do not pick and choose the law should apply to all.
8. To truly solve Kahnawake's animal control problem, mimic the City of Montreal Animal Control bylaw section pertaining to fines. CHAPTER III PENAL PROVISIONS 49.
9. You should be educating people on animal behavior/body language/tendencies to prevent bites and attacks from family pets. Instead of picking and choosing the breeds you pick up.
10. Pet ownership course should be implemented, and dog ownership licenses should be earned through courses or tests.

### Q:3 What would agree with regarding pet ownerships, licencing & fines?



**PET OWNERSHIP**

1. Have pets trained mandatory.
2. Loss of ownership in cases of neglect.
3. Crackdown on animal cruelty (pets living in inhuman conditions or abused).
4. Bottom line-people's safety first. Animals should be second. If you do not have a proper fenced in, secured yard, you should not even think of owning dogs.
5. Mandatory pet ownership responsibility course for any owners that violate the Animal Protection Law. Owners on limited budgets may have difficulty paying high fees and should be given a chance to learn how to properly care for their pets before they are taken away. A home visit to understand the owner's challenges and help them find solutions could be beneficial.
6. We need more communication on pet responsibility. If you cannot care for an animal and just keep it tied up in the back of your garage or mistreat them do not get a dog or cat.
7. There should be education provided to owners of vicious pets.
8. All dangerous dogs are always to be tied. If it gets loose and puts someone in danger, the dog is killed immediately. We need laws like the outside. If people complain that we are becoming a municipality we are not, it is a question of safety. Dangerous dog owners thin they do not have to follow Animal Protection laws because it is Kahnawake. This must change.
9. There are many dogs left outside in cold or heat. That is abuse. They should be removed immediately and rehomed without question.
10. Owners should not be allowed to have dogs tied up outside on a 24 Hr. basis. This is a form of torture and abuse.
11. What constitutes a dangerous dog? Because chihuahuas bite more often than bigger dogs.
12. Education on pet ownership.
13. If you want to own a pet, you should be able to afford it. Although lower costs of anything is positive. I do not think lowering the cost of a low-cost program is going to change anything.
14. All pets should be on a once in a lifetime band list.
15. Have pet's mandatory trained.
16. Owners of aggressive pets should not be made to muzzle their pets outside the home.

**LICENCING**

1. House-bound dogs sometimes escape; consideration should be extended provided the dog is properly name tagged.
2. I do not think any actions i.e., fines, confiscation or euthanasia should ever be considered. As for animal licensing, I do not think it serves any purpose other than raising money.
3. Licenses for dogs only.
4. I do not want a license to an own a pet.
5. No Licenses, we are not Chateauguay.
6. I agree with license, but I have questions about how a law would distinguish dangerous/aggressive pets? It is after the fact. Is it the breed? I like the direction, but I have questions.
7. Immediate fines for contravening the Animal Protection Law: Send Law to the community.

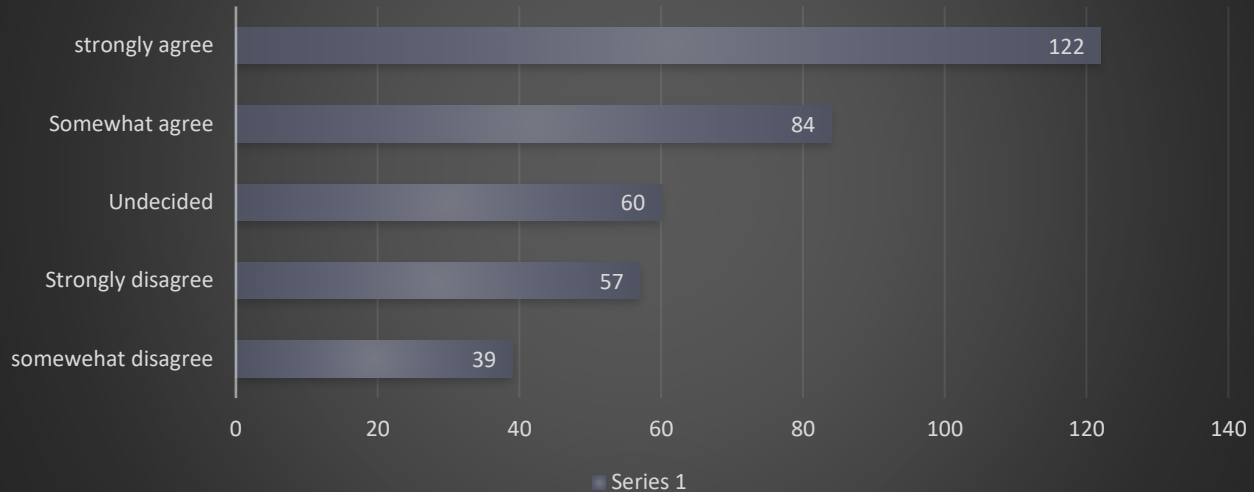


**FINES/ENFORCEMENT**

1. Who is going to enforce this? Maybe you can get a psychologist to speak to the dogs.
2. Animal Protection needs to enforce an Animal Protection Law if enacted. People are already taking matters into their own hands with the dogs and owners because nothing is done about the dangerous dogs. I take care of my dog and made sure he is not a dangerous breed when I got him. I walk him on a leash, but I am afraid someone's Pitbull will attack him one day.
3. Ownership, licensing and fines for contravention of the animal protection law are all separate subject matters. Also, animal protection law-is that a law in addition to the animal control law?
4. We must make laws and obey them. No loose dogs.
5. Fine the owner each time the animal is loose. Dogs are nice to their owners but not always to strangers.
6. High fees may result in unclaimed/abandoned pets. Not conducive to helping people be responsible pet owners.
7. Maybe we need animal police in Kahnawake for people. A lot of people abusing their pets. Do not get an animal if you cannot take care of it. Right?
8. A fee to reclaim loose pets, only after it is a reoccurring event with dog owner.
9. High fees just mean that they will leave them for animal protection to claim. Adoption out of town might be the way to go. Think 60s scoop for dogs. Seriously though, having somebody in town adopt somebody else's dog because they did not care for it/pay to claim it back with cause trouble.
10. Too high a fine, owners may not reclaim their pets.
11. Medium fees to reclaim loose pets. Some pets may break free accidentally but be a very good family pet. Perhaps the fee can increase each time a pet has to be reclaimed.
12. Enforcement needs to happen. We do not need an animal protection law; we need a people Protection from Animals law.
13. 3<sup>rd</sup> time and a loss of right to own any pets for 3 years.
14. High fees to reclaim pets will not work. In my opinion, if someone cares for their dog, it will not be running loose. Therefore, if those people are fined to reclaim their pet, most likely they will not reclaim the animal.
15. Maybe consider using this real-life example. Westmont is launching a new online system for dog permits on Nov 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016, making it easier than ever to obtain or renew a permit by visiting the city's website. The new permit will include a permit medal for your dog. Click here to access the new online system for dog permits. No person shall keep a dog in the city, unless a license has been issued by the city for such dog is still in force, and unless such dog bears a numbered tag or pate indicating such license for the current year. To obtain a license, you must go to the permit's office between 8:30 and 1PM and between 2PM and 4:30PM. And hand over and application signed setting out of the breed, sex and color of the dog and the markings or other description necessary to identify it. A certificate signed by a veterinarian surgeon that the dog has been inoculated against rabies, inoculation to have taken place not more than thirty-six months prior to obtaining a license. The license is renewable each year commencing January 1<sup>st</sup>. the following fees apply: \$30.00 for obtaining an annual permit (\$50.00 for nonresidents) \$15.00 for the replacement of a tag.
16. If an animal is in danger to public safety, remove it from the territory by whatever means.

17. Fines must be heavy to give the message that AP is serious when it comes to pet ownership and taking responsibility for them.
18. Define Irresponsible Pet Owner and fine based on repeat offenses.

### Q 4: Do you agree or disagree with annual mandatory licencing & identificatoin for all pets?



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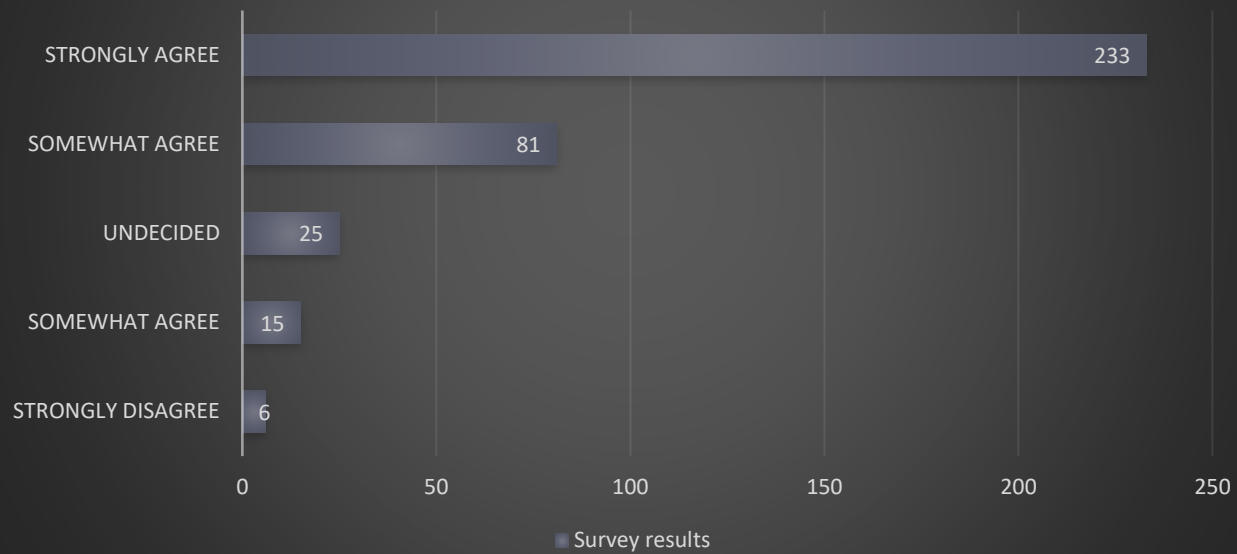
#### COMMENTS:

1. If pet is tagged, it would be easier to implement fees on owner.
2. Special breeds.

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<sup>3</sup> Notes: Licensing and identification of pets was not readily described in this section, in addition to the context of "mandatory".

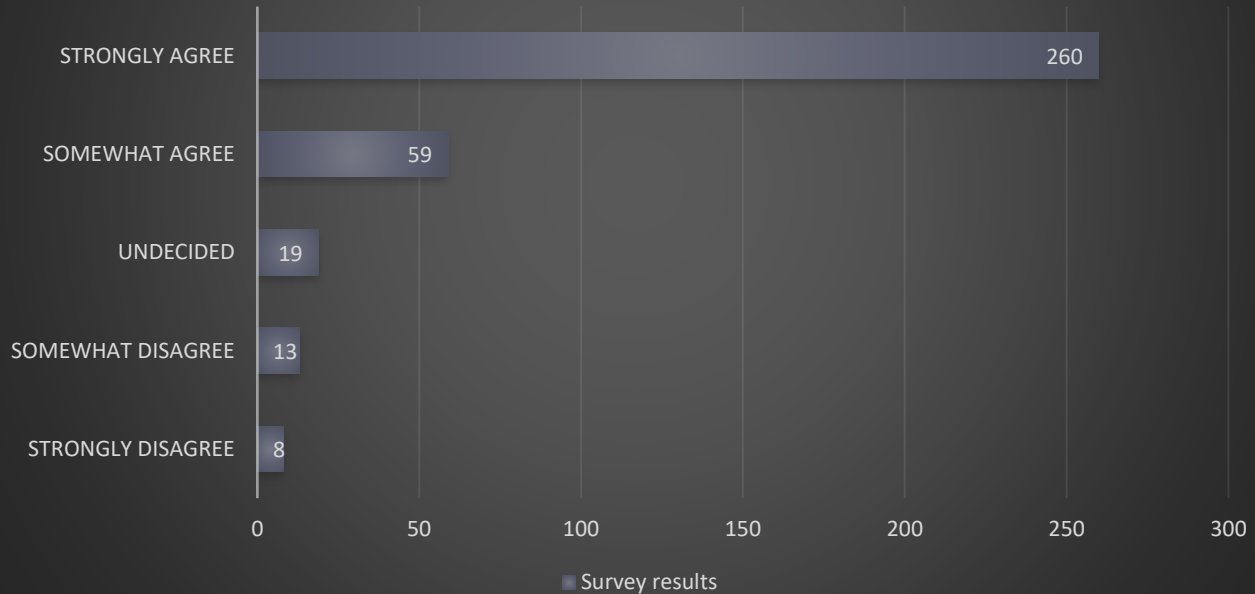
**Q: 5 Do you agree that all Kahnawake pets should be vaccinated according to generally accepted Veterinarian standards to ensure safety**



COMMENTS: Q:5

1. Too many stray animals

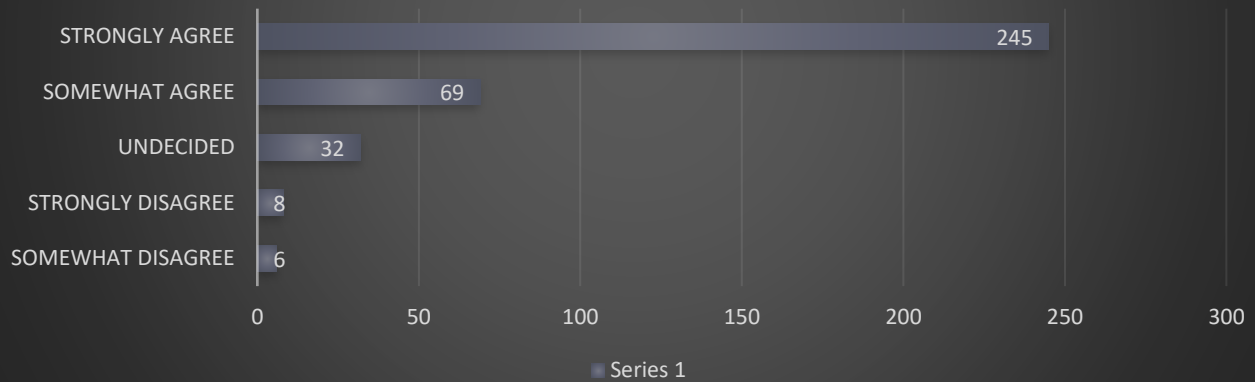
**Q 6: If all dogs, when in public are required to be on a leash, do you agree that there should be a fenced in area that they can have the opportunity to exercise and be off the leash? (i.e Dog Park)**



**COMMENTS:**

1. As stated, if pets are to be outside, they should be muzzled if it is an aggressive pet. This way they will not be dangerous to individuals doing outdoor activities.
2. Strongly agree but needs to be well regulated.
3. Loaded question (did not respond).

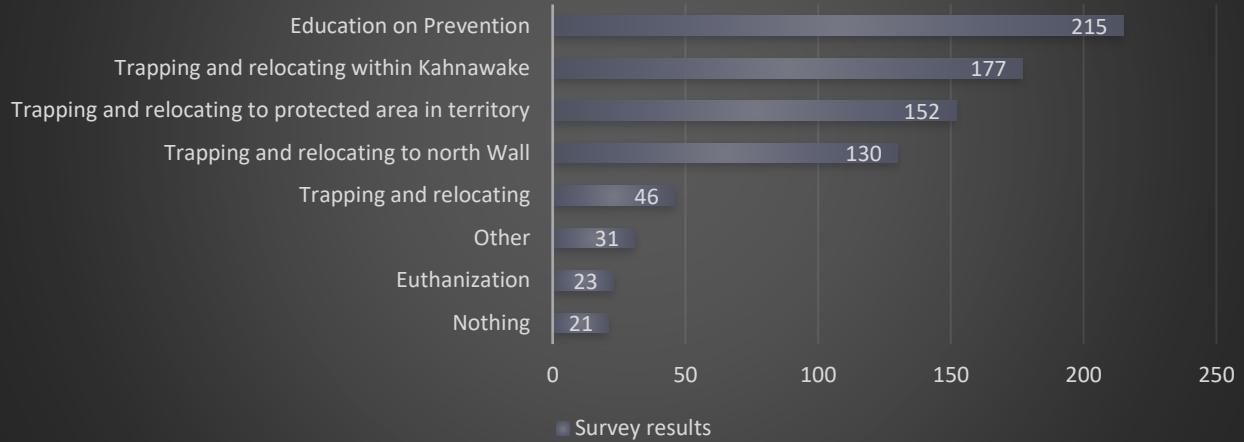
**Q:7: Do you agree that owners who neglect/improperly care for their pets should be ordered by a court not to be able to own pets or have their licences removed (If licences become mandatory)?**



**COMMENTS:**

1. Should not happen with or without licenses.
2. I do not believe we should be taxing ourselves like on the outside.

**Q8: what methods would you agree with to deal with nuisance wildlife? Select all aspects you agree with.**



**OTHER (BROKEN INTO 3 CATEGORIES)****1) ACTIONS TO ANIMALS BASED ON SAFETY OF PEOPLE**

1. Combination. Depending on species if children are at risk.
2. Unless they pose a safety concern they should just be left alone.
3. How about a nuisance wildlife park? You can put it next to the dangerous dog walking park. Then put both next to the services complex for easy access.
4. Let those affected deal with the problem as they see fit. But if they need help dealing with the situation the resources/help should be available.
5. We had trapped an aggressive/X-large raccoon and it had to be euthanized, could not even pick up the trap.
6. Sometimes they must be shot. Squirrels and raccoons have damaged my doors and home and they have entered the attic through gable vents. If you do not do anything, they will take over. It is no time to be nice to them. They will take over.
7. Depending on if they have a high rate of carrying disease that can harm the public then possible euthanizing them.
8. And that is why we have dogs. Trap and kill and relocate to Newfoundland.
9. Trapping and relocating. Not sure where.
10. Euthanize if dangerous or sick.
11. Cutting the numbers by hunting them.
12. Trial basis to determine if this will eliminate the problem.
13. Let dogs loose. They will take care of the problem.
14. Euthanize: If Rabid.
15. Euthanize: If dangerous
16. Trapping and relocating to Tioweró:ton last resort only.



**2) ACTIONS BASED ON MORAL PERSPECTIVE OF WILD ANIMALS**

1. Smelling a skunk may be a nuisance, but it is not a reason to bother them.
2. I think we should respect the fact that wildlife has always been around us and just as this our home its theirs as well and we should respect that.
3. They should be left alone. They do not usually attack people; they mostly hide from us so we should just leave them alone.
4. I know killing them is not right. But I know some people who will shoot squirrels and kill them by they also eat them. My dog caught one and killed it up north. Provide receipts for cooking and eating different types of wildlife i.e., rabbits. Information on how they are safe to eat, how to trap. Kill humanly, medicinal uses (skunk oil) how to skin and use the fur and various parts of the animals.
5. The nuisance animals are running out of land, just like us. More people, less room for wildlife and their natural life.
6. Relocating may be problematic because the animal could be the mother of babies that cannot survive without her.
7. We are invading their world (wild animals) not the other way around.
8. If relocating, ensure they do not have babies left behind.
9. Strongly disagree with trapping and relocating.
10. There is a need for more education about wildlife we say that it is part of our tradition, but we need to live it not just say it.
11. I oppose relocation within Kahnawake because they find their way back or become someone else's nuisance.
12. I live in a rural area and there are a lot of wild animals. I have had raccoons, wild turkeys, rabbits, and deer. I have more of a problem with irresponsible, underage youth trespassing on my property with high powered rifles shooting these animals. There is absolutely no reason to be shooting, there is no need to hunt as they are populated areas. These animals have nowhere to go as many people are building homes. People are the problem, not the animals.
13. Nuisance cases only, otherwise leave them be.
14. We all live on the same planet.

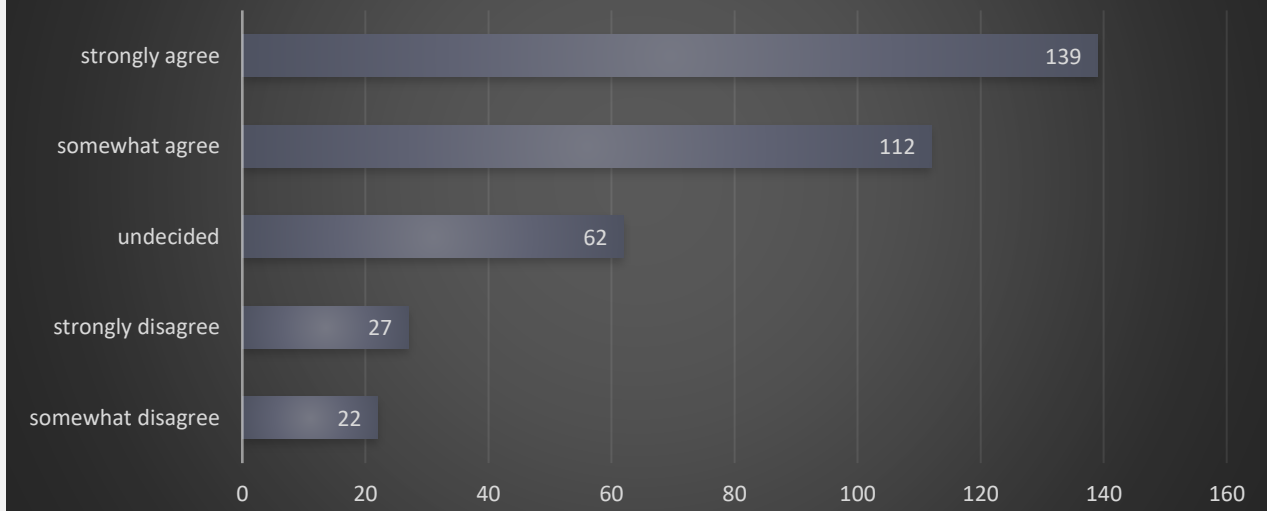
## Other comments:

- 15.? respondent did not understand the question.
16. Get a dog.

**3) ACTIONS BASED ON ENVIRONMENTAL/LEGAL CONCERNS**

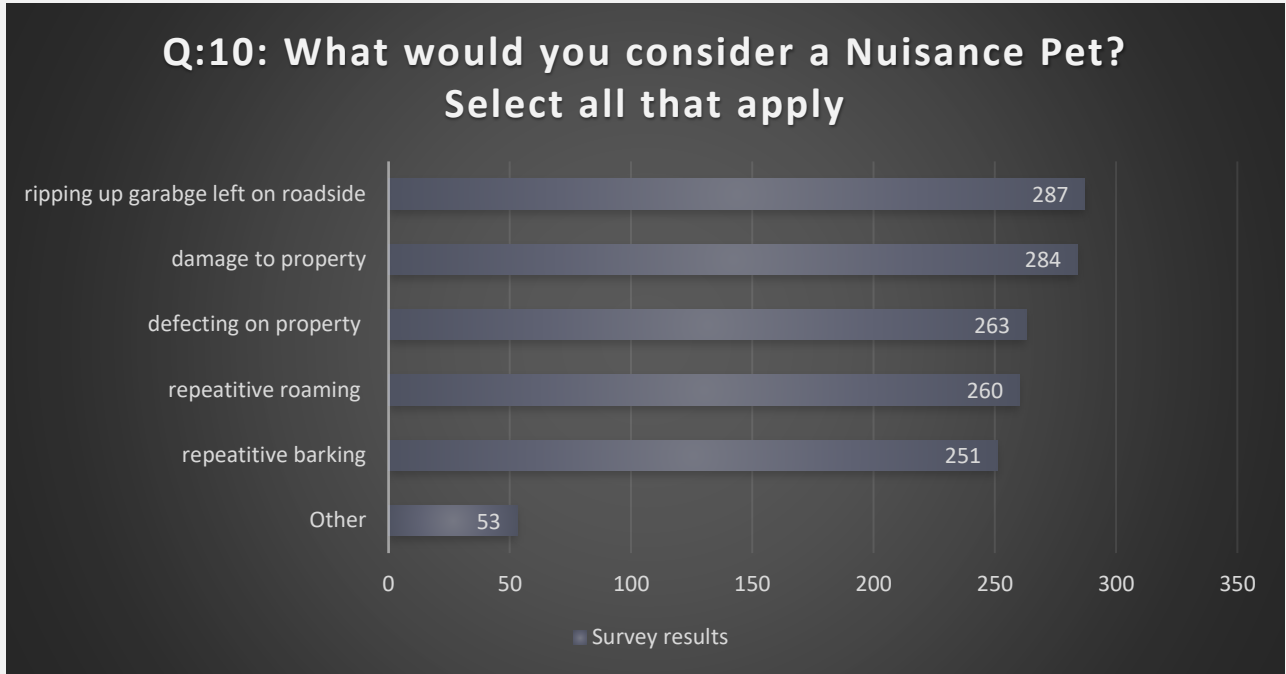
1. Never ever relocate any living organism to Tioweró:ton due to risk of contamination what is already up there.
2. Also make sure homeowners are not leaving food out i.e., throwing food out just for animals to eat instead of throwing out in the garbage.
3. We have protected areas. Tioweró:ton should be protected. Never ever transport any wildlife to Tioweró:ton, that includes plant life and animal life.
4. Involve the wildlife department of the SPCA.
5. Nuisance wildlife become a nuisance when they are overpopulated, or people leave out food or garbage. If over population occurs.

### Q 9: For future consideration, do you think there should be regulations in regards to livestock?



#### COMMENTS:

1. Came across in the middle of the street in the middle of the night and almost hit it. Chickens all over the road.



COMMENTS BREAKDON: (1) AGGRESSION, (2) NUISANCE/DESCRUTCTIVE BEHAVIOR, (3) POOOR HUMAN RESPONSIBILITY (OWNER, INDIVIDUAL, GOVERNMENT)

**1) AGGRESSION**

1. Biting
2. When a dog tries to attack you.
3. Aggressive behavior towards a leashed dog (while walking anywhere).
4. Pets charging at garbage men, delivery drivers, kids selling raffle tickets door to door.
5. Biting people almost ripping of arms and legs, facial disfigurement, life threatening attacks can be a nuisance.
6. Showing signs of aggressivity.
7. Killing other dogs (my dog was killed by other lose dogs).
8. Aggressively mating/humping people's animals.
9. Causing harm to other pets or people.
10. Dangerous, attacking other animals.
11. Intimidating people who walk, ride, or drive by.
12. Dogs that may attack people.
13. Charging.
14. Biting.
15. Killing of other animals.

**2) NUISANCE/DISTRUCTIVE BEHAVIOR**

1. Chasing bikes, cars, children, walkers, runners.
2. I have seen huge vicious dangerous looking dogs running at high speed through people's yards in the dark on clay mountains. This is unacceptable.
3. Going into other people's property and not just defecating but garden for litter box, peeing on the car wheels, house, porch, house doors; killing livestock or other pets (chicken, rabbits) eating other pets' food, stealing other pets toys/chew bones, taunting a chained-up pet. Dogs in heat can pose a big problem as well. Need to know how to deal with that, cannot even put dog out chained up all lose dogs will go after and get aggressive. I think there are owners who also put the animals out at night thinking nobody will know, that is when they can cause trouble. As well, I have encountered wild cats-most likely from owners letting their cats out and they multiple, they live in the woods behind my house, dig under shed to live, live under porches and in the spring and summertime it stinks from their peeing and dying in the winter.
4. Just being lose.
5. Repetitive barking past 9:00PM.
6. Running at or running at people passing.
7. Harassing leashed dogs.
8. Chasing people on bicycles.
9. Lose dogs chasing/bothering community members who are walking.
10. Chasing/harassing pedestrians & cyclists.
11. The smell/noise of farm animals (i.e., Rice Farm, lots of residents owning roosters, etc.).

Other Statements:

12. Stray cats
13. I know my neighbor's dogs, they are loose. When they see me, they look, then they continue their way. Believe it or not they almost seem polite, cause I never seen them go thru anyone's yard.
14. Lord, I never thought I would see the day when we must help with a survey about the animals in the territory.
15. The number of dogs is not a concern for me anymore. The number of dogs on the loose has decreased significantly since the 1990's. I am ok with the occasional dog out for his morning walk without his owner, my neighbor dog does it.
16. Chasing people.

**3) POOR HUMAN RESPONSIBILITY (OWNER, INDIVIDUAL, GOVERNMENT)**

1. Encourage owners to get a fence and garbage bin.
2. Dogs should be indoors in the evening and fenced in during the day.
3. Most Nuisance pets are owned by nuisance owners.
4. People should not be putting bags of garbage on the street. Any dog, good or bad, will rip it open if they had the chance.
5. Repetitive complaint without owner accepting responsibility.
6. Animals are innocent, domestic animals are guided by their owners who are fully responsible and for wild animals. We often take their homes by new construction and have no where to go so they are left in neighborhoods in search of food, and they need to be relocated in a natural environment away from the people.
7. Like all property, it should be kept in your own yard. Unfortunately, when you call the PKs you must be dying for them to do anything. Maybe we can get MCK regulations to carry a firearm to protect us from the Pitbull's.
8. Bothering my kids.
9. Dragging dead animals and garbage onto property.
10. Owners allowing leashed pets to defecate on or near people's property (i.e. curbside where people get out of their vehicles or where children must walk when there's traffic.
11. There should not be any loose dogs/pets roaming wild. Wild dogs that no one claims to own. Our children, elderly with sever allergies to animals or fear of animals live in fear and must stay indoors. We need laws and we need people to help keep our streets safe.
12. People who do not pick up after their pet defecates.
13. All these options are technically a nuisance, but it is the owner's responsibility to make sure the pet is taken care of and does not get into these situations.
14. Not having a leash or keeping them fenced in. There should be no pets wondering in the public at all.
15. All of the above refer to bad pet ownership.
16. All the above, but owners should not allow pets to be loose, more education.
17. Animal protection is too soft when dealing with tough issues. Excuses are made. Now you have an ad on the radio about people inquiring if they can shoot the dogs? If animal protection were doing its job with the dogs, people would not be inquiring if they can shoot them. They must feel like they do not have a choice.
18. Of you do not place garbage outside properly, you deserve what any pet or wildlife can do to it.
19. Roaming and barking can be owners neglect.
20. All of the above based on owners neglect of domestic animals.
21. Only if it is a repetitive problem and the owners have had a chance to address. Shit happens. I am pet owner, and something is not within our control.
22. Animal protection does a poor job in relation to nuisance pets. Usually the AP officer is too afraid of the owners to do anything. This results in complainants taking matters in their own hands. Like most rules in Kahnawake, they only work if people follow them. Lack of enforcement is the main problem with Animal Protection. I am tired of hearing "there are no bad dogs, just bad owners" by the Animal protection officers on K103. Give me a break. Dog laws need to be treated like gun law, a sliding scale of regulations on the protentional threat of the dog.

23. If this is occurring, the problem is the owner and not the animal. Also, garbage should be in a proper container, such as a garbage can, especially if you live in a rural area because other animals will tear into it, not just dogs. People must be more accountable.
24. Seagulls; when fed by neighbors they hang around.
25. Roaming dogs, repetitive or otherwise- in this town DOGS have more rights than people. We cannot bike, walk, or run at our leisure because of loose dogs.
26. Owners should be responsible to pick up after their pets.
27. Educate owners. Get a fence and garbage bin.
28. Outside doghouses are bad.
29. All are owners' responsibilities.
30. Defecating on property other than owners. Owner should pick up.
31. Ripping bags left on road: owners should have containers.



## KIOSK DATA

Two separate kiosks were held at the Kahnawake Services Complex on serviced by Animal Control officers who asked people to engage and write opinions on five areas of the study, which included;

1. What rules/regulations would you like to see in Animal Control Department and in the Animal Control Law?
2. What should the responsibility be regarding care of an animal/pet?
3. What authority should Animal Control Officers have?
4. What types of offenses should be fined?
5. How should Animal Control Officers be able to enforce regulations (ticket, charge, etc.).

This feedback was specifically structured to engage community opinion around enforcement and regulation of an Animal Control law concerning the care of domesticated and non-domesticated animals within the territory. However, all comments and concerns were recorded and factored into the overall analysis in the main research questions proposed.

### **Methodology**

Animal Control Officers wrote each question on a flip paper and allowed for writing space for community input below each. Markers were provided, and explanations given to all respondents to indicate the information Animal Control was seeking and how it would formulate needed change to an upcoming AC Law within the community.

All the responses were recorded (below) then categorized into each research question to support and or add additional direction.

## **QUESTIONS AND RESULTS**

### **1. What rules/regulations would you like to see in an Animal Control Law?**

- 1.1 Higher fines
- 1.2 Prevention to own pets if found neglectful or abusive.
- 1.3 Leash Law.
- 1.4 Nuisance (barking, destroying property.)
- 1.5 Spay/Neuter regulations.
- 1.6 Farm animals (not in residential area).
- 1.7 Owner who consistently break regulations being ordered not to own pets.
- 1.8 Mandatory spay/neuter upon 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> transgression (picked up running around, loose)
- 1.9 All dogs picked up and destroyed after 1 offense, no chances, heavy fines.  
Dogs should not be allowed to roam free or neglected or abused.

### **2. What should the responsibility be regarding care of animal/pet?**

- 2.1 Need to spay or neuter animals.
- 2.2 Have pets on a leash.
- 2.3 Caring for pets (vaccinated, etc.).
- 2.4 Caring for pets ensuring has shade and drinking water in hot weather.
- 2.5 Ensuring pets are not left outdoors in cold weather.
- 2.6 Keeping pets within property (fenced in area).
- 2.7 Have respect for neighbors (incessant barking).
- 2.8 Keep them safe and warm.
- 2.9 Picking up dog feces.
- 2.10 Spay and Neuter
- 2.11 Socialization
- 2.12 Vaccination
- 2.13 Education-do not get a pet without doing your homework.
- 2.14 If they abuse the animal the owner should be tattooed on forehead as an abuser.

**3. What authority should animal control officers have?**

- 3.1 Remove animal from owners.
- 3.2 Ticket animal owners.
- 3.3 Pressing charges against owners that are in contravention to the law.
- 3.4 Entering someone's home or property to remove animals.
- 3.5 Immediate seizure of vicious animal.
- 3.6 To be able to act as a peace officer.
- 3.7 To be able to enter a property to investigate a complaint/concern.
- 3.8 Removal of animal if needed.
- 3.9 Document evidence of cruelty or neglect (upon complaint.)
  - Body camera and to be able to enter property and have owners tie up dog/bring them inside.

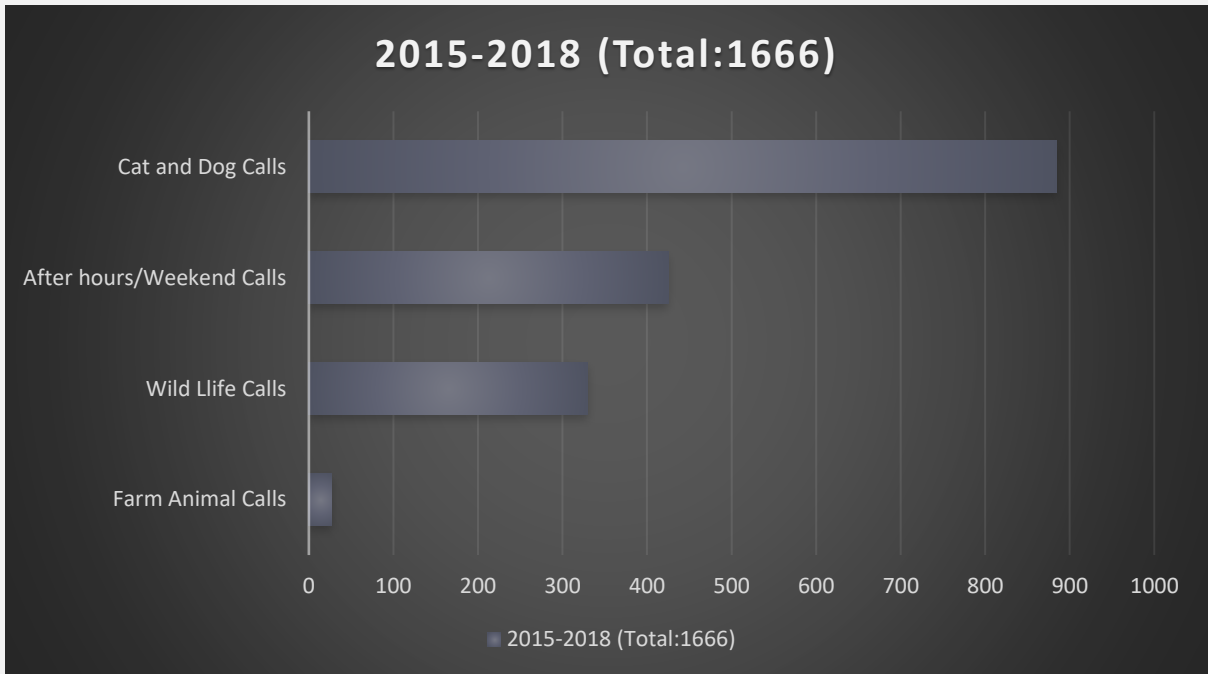
**4. What types of offenses should be fined?**

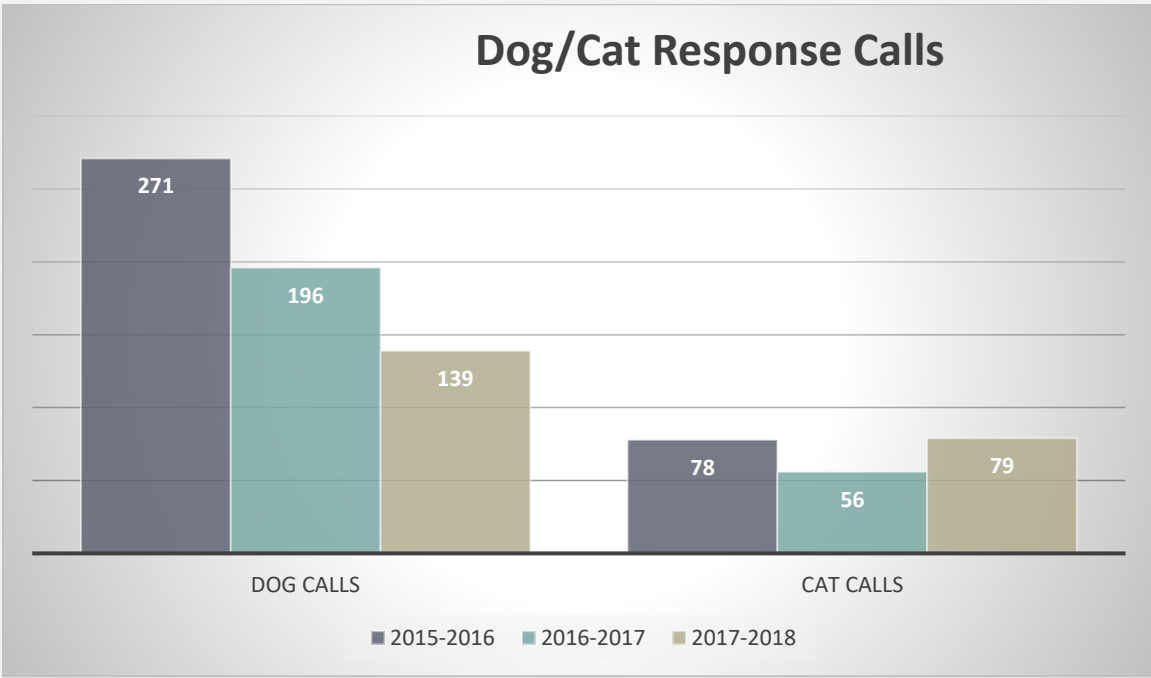
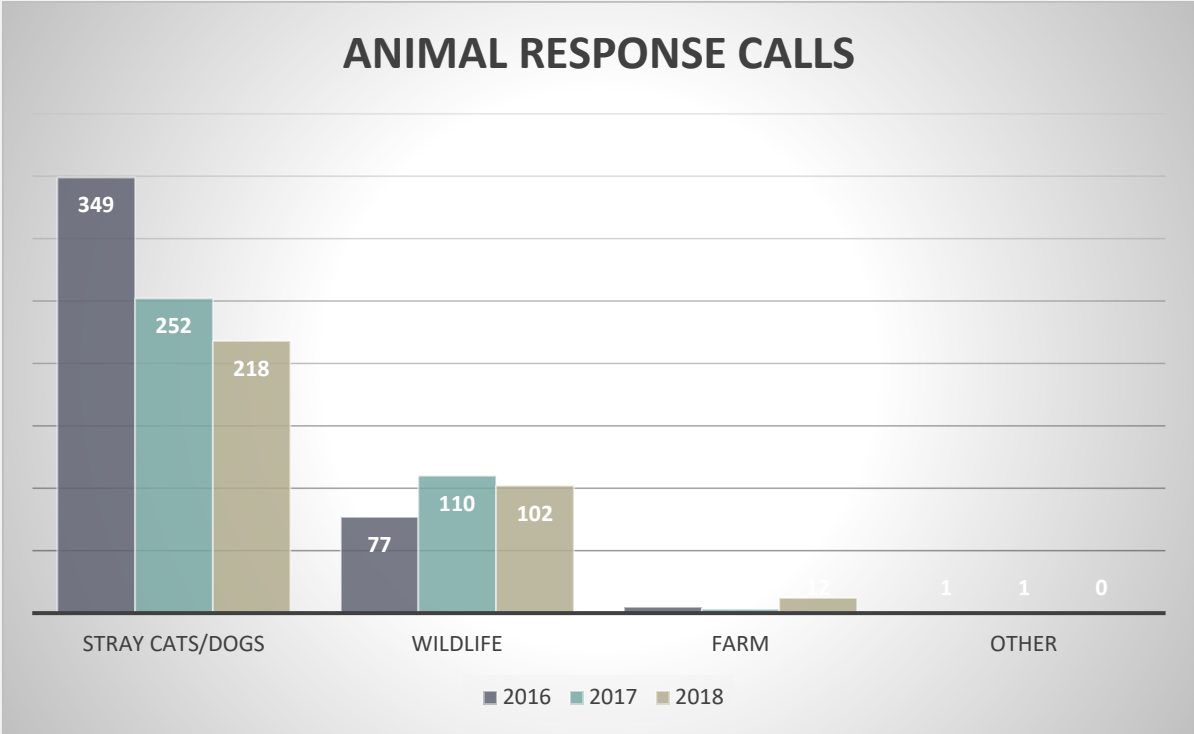
- 4.1 loose dogs/pets
- 4.2 Aggressive pets (biting, chasing)
- 4.3 If pets damage property
- 4.4 Owner of property should be compensated by dog owner.
- 4.5 Any dog off leash
- 4.6 Loose animals (dogs, cats, pigs, cows, etc.)
- 4.7 Loose dogs
- 4.8 Not picking up poop
- 4.9 Neglect/abuse
  - Leaving animals out in dangerous temperatures
  - Repetitively loose (not just being picked up)
  - Damage to property (ripping up garbage, digging up yard, etc.)
  - Leaving animals outside without food.

**5. How should Animal Control officers be able to enforce regulations (ticket, charge, etc.).**

- 5.1 Removal of animals
- 5.2 Ticket owners in contravention of law
- 5.3 Charge pet owners, especially after repeated offenses.
- 5.4 Immediate issue of tickets
- 5.5 Sever offense that should be able to charge in court.
- 5.6 Authority for immediate seizure of animals (neglect or aggressive)
- 5.7 Using photo or video as evidence
- 5.8 Pics of dogs/cats as proof (evidence) like red light/camera pics
- 5.9 Removal of pet from community if refuse to pay fines
  - Fines, warnings, publicly announce owners' names.

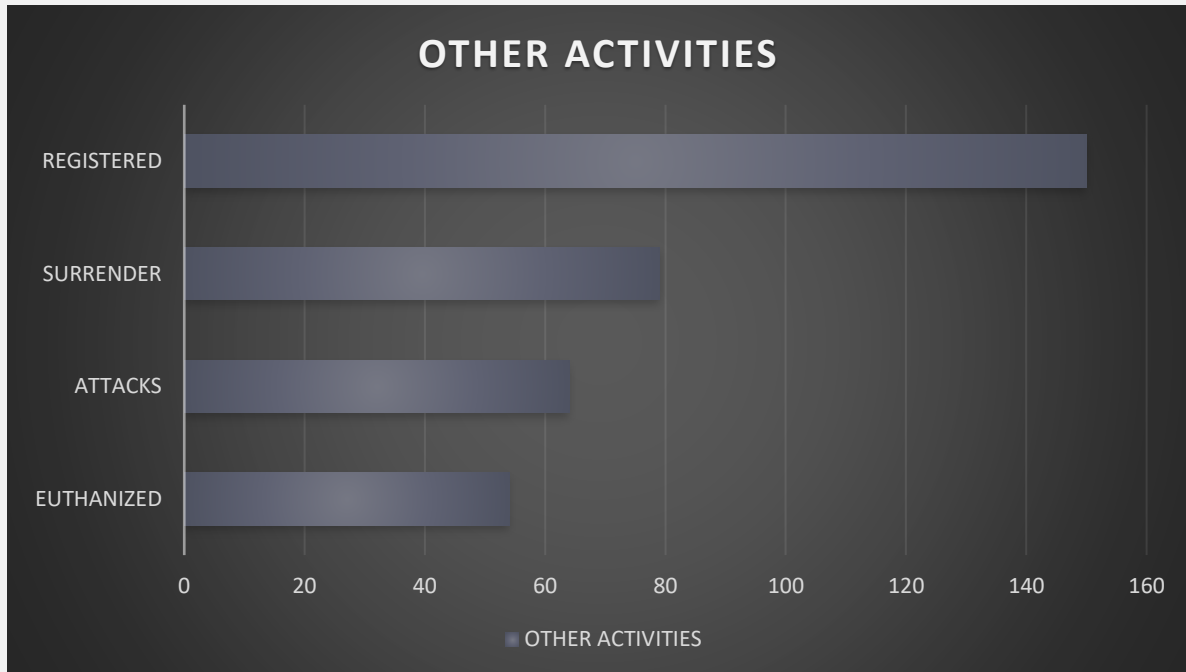
**ACTUAL ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER RESPONSE CALLS**





**Dog Calls:** This period displays a decrease in dog calls. However, some issues to note; Animal Control began a public awareness campaign in 2016-2017 Responsible Pet Ownership Campaign, along with public service announcements against loose dogs, in addition to a public attention on the demolishing a temporary animal protection building (housed in the rear of the public safety building) which would limit the ability for Animal protection to house dogs/cats. Comments through this research project also indicate a community apathy over calling Animal Control services due to their inability to issue fines, or tickets and enforce the Animal Control law. Even though the problem with lose/aggressive dogs may be increasing as a community concern; the amount of response calls may not reflect that circumstance due to community perception over enforcement problems currently existent over Animal Control services.

**Cat Response Calls:** Have remained consistent. However, Animal Control staff have noticed the stray cat population in the community increase significantly over the last three (3) years.



#### DEFINITIONS OF ACTIVITIES

1. **ATTACKS:** Include animals that display a willingness to engage in forceful violent behavior toward a human or other animal that may include charging, biting, scratching, nipping.
2. **SURRENDER:** refers to owners of domesticated animals that wish to relinquish their ownership rights and responsibilities due to their inability to care for them.
3. **EUTHANIZATION:** is the act of putting an animal to death or allowing it to die by withholding extreme medical measures. Reasons for euthanasia include incurable conditions or diseases, lack of resources to continue supporting the animal, or laboratory test procedures.
4. **REGISTERED:** This includes pet owners registering owner and breed information with the Animal Control Services for purposes of identification in cases of a stray or lost animal.

#### ESTABLISHING DIRECTION FOR RESEARCH QUESTIONS THROUGH DATA ANALYSIS

To establish direction for the proposed research questions, a point of measurement was drawn from each data source; (1) **Actual surveys**, (2) **Survey comments**, (3) **Actual animal protection response calls**, (4) **Kiosk data** -community feedback. Determining if the overall data from all (4) sources, supports or denies each statement was key in providing clear conclusions for change in service delivery over the care and control of domesticated and non-domesticated animals within the territory. If all (4) sources of data sufficiently supported the direction of each research question, it would allow animal control authorities to formulate a sound action plan that will respond to the identified needs.

**ANALYSIS: 1. Is there an increase in community complaints on loose dogs and an increase of their aggressivity?**Sources of Data:

1. Survey question #2,
2. Comment Analysis: Question #2, #10
3. Kiosk feedback data: Questions: #1, #2 and #4.
4. Actual animal control response calls: total dog calls for the combined years and after-hours calls: 1,031<sup>4</sup>

Survey questions:

**Survey question #2:** What should occur with dangerous/aggressive pets? subsection (2) specifically deals with dogs by asking *if a dangerous/aggressive pet bites any person, pet must be evaluated based on circumstance, severity of bite and history of dog*, it can be assumed all respondents felt they were responding for dogs only and 264/363 respondents had an opinion or believed aggressivity with dogs could exist. Although respondents did not feel Guard Dogs (7.99%), or specific breeds were the cause of aggressivity (9.92%) with dogs.

**Survey Question: #10:** *What do you consider a Nuisance Pet? Select all that apply* and Comment Analysis: Nuisance/destructive behavior/poor human responsibility.

Although the definition of *nuisance* and *aggressive dog* (animal) was not specific in the survey question, the comments section of #10 provided significant feedback that would support an increase in community complaints/concern over the *increase* of loose dogs and their *aggressivity*.

Respondents provided a significant amount of feedback that would define behaviors of dog aggressivity (see 16 comments-page/18). Both sections of nuisance/destructive behavior and poor human responsibility overwhelmingly indicate respondent concern over loose dogs and their destructive behavior is a direct result of poor owner responsibility, further complicated by a lack of enforceable laws within the community that remove repeat offender animals from their owners or issue fines. The comments derived from this section indicate that respondents had frequent bad experience with loose/aggressive/destructive dogs that is not properly contained and controlled by Animal officers due to the absence of an enforceable animal control law.

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<sup>4</sup> Data did not lend toward separating weekend calls. The assumption based on Animal Control Officer calls, was that the bulk of calls were estimated to be dog calls. We can only estimate (1031) to be an accurate resemblance of



**Comment Analysis** of #2: Actions to animals/pets/owners/government and administrators

Four (4) comments indicated a loose dogs/increase of loose dogs were a continued problem in the community. Aggressivity of roaming dogs was also present in this section. Although it seemed evident that respondents felt that loose dogs should be addressed first and aggressivity of the animal to be taken care of through pet owner training/education. Dogs that displayed aggressive behavior should be assessed independently; as it was believed *environment* and pet owner treatment toward the dog was more to blame for their circumstance.

Respondents acknowledged that there are repetitive complaints made to animal protection on lose/aggressive dogs, however, environment and pet owner irresponsibility seem to be the underlying issue for this adverse animal behavior. Such behavior could be addressed through an enforceable bylaw (penal provisions) and mandatory pet owner education and responsibility.

**KIOSK FEEDBACK/DATA:**

Three (3) questions posed at the kiosks held feedback pertaining to the area of loose dogs.

(a) **What rules or regulations would you like to see in Animal Control Law?**

- Dogs should not be allowed to roam free.

(b) **What should the responsibility be regarding care of an animal/pet?**

- Pets on leash
- Keeping pets within property/fenced in area.

(c) **What types of offenses should be fined?**

- Loose dogs
- Repeatedly loose dogs.

3. ACTUAL RESPONSE CALLS: (2015-2016): 271, (2016-2017): 196, (2017-2018) 139  
total weekend/afterhours calls: 425

Two factors to consider in this section; there appears to be a decline in animal response calls for dogs during this period and a total of 425 for a three (3) year period, which could be presumed (based on animal protection staff feedback) to be a majority of dog related calls. The slight decrease in calls from year to year could be attributed to public apathy toward the lack of enforcement of Animal Control services (as reported throughout survey questions and kiosk feedback).

4. Attacks: 64, for a 3-year period but could not distinguish which were specifically for dogs.

Conclusion: Community feedback from survey questions, comments and kiosk data indicate that there is a prevalence of concern over loose dogs and their aggressivity. Keeping in mind that the feedback is opinion based and reports the experience and observations of respondents. However, it is evident that high opinion and experience over loose dogs and their aggressivity exist within the community. The Animal Control statistics concerning attacks and response calls are problematic to apply to this section; since decreases in dog response calls were evident across the three (3) year period and "attacks" could not specify dog attacks. Again, the decrease in calls could be attributed to community apathy over the lack of enforcement capabilities of Animal Control services.

**ANALYSIS: 2. Should there be a specific breed ban on dogs within the community?**Sources of Data:

Survey Questions: #2 What should occur with dangerous/aggressive pets? Select all that apply.

Under question #2, subsection (3) posed an option to prohibit specific breeds of dogs, whereby 36 (9.92%) of total respondents chose to agree with this statement. Only two other comments existed in the same question comment analysis, one found in *Actions to animals/pets* that wrote “prohibit specific breeds of dogs” and in Actions to government/administrators comment #6 alluded to specific dog breeds being aggressive, to be “dealt” with by animal protection.

**Conclusion:** The specific question was not posed in the kiosk data, or was it supported in any of the Animal Control response calls. The data retrieved for this research question supports that the *community does not support a specific breed ban of dogs*. It is important to note, that research focus on this question was not specific enough to gauge enough direction and or did not formulate the top concerns over Animal Control within the community.

ANALYSIS: 3: Is there an overall safety concern regarding domesticated and non-domesticated animals within the territory?

**Sources of data:**

Survey questions: #2, #8 and #9

Comment analysis: Survey Question #3 Pet ownership

Kiosk data: Questions #1, #4.

Animal Control officer response calls: All

The concern with safety over the care and control of animals, both domesticated and non-domesticated (wildlife and livestock) within the territory derived from all the above sources of data. Keeping in mind no specific questions were posed over human safety and wildlife animals, species at risk, conservation or regulations concerning the handling or prevention of wildlife and human from interacting *other than* nuisance wildlife (raccoons, skunks, etc.). However, key data in the comments section did add to the issue of safety and care over wildlife that extended past nuisance animals that was important to capture. Although the question posed over wildlife was constricted to raccoons and skunks, the content found in the section comments provided a larger scope over environment and wildlife that was beneficial for this report and future considerations in this area. No questions were directly posed for safety of livestock; either to humans or animals, however, the comments did add some qualifying perspective over safety and if regulations needed to extend to livestock within the territory.

Direct survey questions, kiosk feedback and Animal Control response calls all came together to provide support for the existence of safety concerns over the control and care of domesticated and non-domesticated animals within the territory.

**Domesticated animals (dogs).**

Most of the safety concern regarding the care and control of animals centered around the behavior, control and care of domesticated **dogs** within the territory; because the bulk of the survey questions centered around dog behavior and control.

**Question #2** acknowledged aggressive dogs, whereby (79.11%) 178 of the respondents felt that *dangerous/aggressive pets that bite any person should be evaluated based on the circumstance, severity of bite and history of dog* as way to deal with aggressive dogs.

The **comment analysis** of Question #2 (**Actions to animals/pets**) suggest that respondents felt that there is a large presence of loose aggressive and dangerous dogs on the public streets of Kahnawake. In addition, there are loose aggressive dogs attacking and killing other dogs, dogs tied up on private property. This pattern also exists in the **Actions to Owners/People** and **Actions to government/administrators** whereby respondents felt it critical to be on the watch for aggressive dogs and allow the peacekeeper to shoot aggressive dogs on site. The survey results and comment analysis suggest that respondents feel that aggressive/dangerous dogs (as no other animals were identified in this section), exist in the community.

**Question #10** What would you consider a Nuisance pet also adds substance to support community safety concerns over domesticated dogs. Although the question poses a *pet*, the subsections are geared toward **dogs**, whereby the top concern was ripping garbage bags left on roadside (79.72%), damage to property (78.89%) and defecating on property (73.06%) could be identified as a safety concern over the behavior of these animals.

Further **comment analysis** of Question #10 **Aggression/Nuisance/destructive** behavior all suggest that community concern over aggressive behavior of dogs, outlining many experiences of dogs effecting the quality of life of community members through their aggressivity from chasing cars, bikes, people, children, destroying property. Respondents again, felt that dogs aggressivity and destructive behavior were a result of irresponsible owners not guided through a clear and enforceable law.

Actual response calls for stray dogs:

(2015-2016) 271

(2016-2017) 196

(2017-2018) 139

It is important to note that although it appears that the number of calls for stray dogs have *decreased*; two factors existed during this time that may affect that result: During 2016/2017 Animal Control introduced a pet owner responsibility awareness program. In addition, the former Animal Control building was destroyed behind the current Public Safety Building, leaving a shortage of available space to house animals. This change service was temporary and communicated to the public at the time which could have had an impact on the number of calls placed to Animal Control. During the 2018 research community consultation, there was significant feedback on the lack of enforcement capabilities of Animal Control services and ability to seize animals and hand out fines. As a result, community apathy over the ability of Animal Control services to be able to properly respond to calls, made have also influenced the community's unwillingness to place calls to Animal Control.

**Conclusion: The community expressed significant safety concerns over the care and control of dogs, and believe it is due to ineffective laws and lack of education/enforcement over prevention, education, and regulation.**

#### **Non-Domesticated Animals**

##### **Wildlife (survey definition included skunks and racoons only)**

*The comment analysis of question #1* found respondents admitting to feeding wildlife and feral animals; whereby the survey responses in question #8 overwhelmingly chose education on prevention as the most important activity to prevent problems between wildlife and humans. Interaction between humans and wildlife was presented in this survey as a "nuisance" which was not directly defined, however, we can assume it lent toward direct harm to humans, damage to property, ripping up garbage and effecting noise levels in residential areas.

Respondents in the *comment analysis of question #8* communicated that euthanizing of wild animals should only be used in cases where the animal physically attacked humans or were at risk for contracting disease. In all other cases where humans were not at immediate danger our risk, education on preventing wildlife from entering human space (i.e., by-laws against feeding wildlife, keeping refuge in sealed containers) should be the remedy applied over the handling of human/wild animals' interactions within the territory.

Aside from matters of extreme safety of humans, respondents expressed those methods used to deal with nuisance wildlife in the territory (trapping and relocating) to be an option that was presented (48.90%) or 177/365. However, greater attention and research needs to go into determining the environmental impacts associated with continuously introducing species to a new area (either within the territory or Tioweró:ton), that would either impact the local environment or existing species.

Actual Response calls over wildlife: 330 over a three (3) year period indicates enough evidence that wildlife and human interaction is a concern for respondents and prevalent enough to introduce measures for change.

**Livestock animals:**

Although most questions posed in the surveys and kiosks dealt with domesticated pets (dogs) concerning their care and control; indicators were found in the sources of data that would lend to concluding that respondents had safety concerns over livestock animals within the territory.

Question #9 proposed **for future consideration, do you think there should be regulations regarding livestock? (Defined as cows, pigs, chickens, horses).**

Respondents agreed (strongly to somewhat) for regulations over the control and care of livestock (with a combined total of 251/363) 69%. In addition, respondents in question #1 indicated to owning horses, cows, goats, turkeys, pigs, ducks, chickens. The kiosk data presented **What rules/regulations would you like to see in an Animal Control Law?** This also indicated to include farm animals- which should not be in residential areas.

Actual Animal protection officer response calls total (27), estimated to be 9 per year.

**Conclusion:** There exists enough data indicators to suggest that regulations over the care and control of livestock animals could be factored into future changes to the Animal Control Law. The interaction between wildlife and humans, in certain circumstances have serious safety implications (health and physical wellbeing). In those cases, euthanizing was believed to be the only option. However, for most problems between humans and wildlife was believed to be the result of poor human behavior (feeding wildlife, not securing refuse in sealed bins) and lack of enforceable communal by-laws that would regulate responsible human behavior to reduce interaction between humans and wildlife. In some cases, relocation is appropriate, however, policy over relocation needs an environmental study to determine negative ecological and environmental impacts caused by re-locating species to different areas.

**ANALYSIS: #4. Does the community feel amendments to the Animal Control Law should focus on pet owners' responsibilities over all animals in their care? What type of responsibilities should pet owners have?**

Sources of data:

Survey questions: Q: #3, #4, #8, #10

Comment analysis: Q: #3, #10

Kiosk data: Questions #1, #2

Animal Control officer response calls: None

The feedback respondents provided pointed toward *human responsibility* over animals; enforced through a detailed animal control law and regulations. Respondents felt that owners, care givers (livestock) and the general population should be regulated based on responsibility toward all animals within the territory.

Respondents also felt in Q:3 that pet owners should lose their responsibility to own a pet should they contravene parts of an Animal Control law over pet responsibility (183 respondents answered Loss of rights). This level of response suggests that respondents acknowledge that pet owners should be held legally accountable for contravention of established responsibilities contained within an Animal Control law.

Many examples of pet responsibilities can be found in the **comment section of both of #3 & #10 that included:** not tying dogs up in extreme weather, vaccinating, (Spay/neuter), housing animals on private property behind a secure fence, picking up defecate in public places, mandatory leashing of animals in public areas (parks/streets/public gatherings) and making secure bins for household/business refuge mandatory.

Respondents felt that creating enforceable by-laws around these areas of responsibilities would address community safety concerns for loose aggressive dogs and their destructive behavior (charging people, pedestrians, cyclists, runners, ripping up garbage, destroying property). Other responsibilities focused on keeping animals inside during the night to prevent their natural ability to bark due to wildlife or pedestrians. This area was considered a pet owner responsibility; that if contravened, should be met with fines. Repetitive offenders of all pet owner responsibilities should have their rights revoked and the animal(s) seized by animal control officers.

Although **question #4** addressed Mandatory licensing and identification (based on annual fees) of animals, the responses scored lower on average to other questions based on levels of agreement. This could be due to a lack of a definition provided over "*mandatory*" "*licensing*", and "*identification*" and what type of fees would be involved. Characteristically, questions posed with fees attached would naturally score lower. As a result, gauging public opinion on future regulations, would require more education/research/consultation to properly conclude its need for future changes.

Vaccination requirements: Q: 5: 233/365=64.72% respondents) were also noted.

**Kiosk data from question #2: What should the responsibility be regarding care for animal/pet?**

All feedback gathered from public Kiosks duplicated and confirmed responsibilities found in the comment section in the survey questions (as noted above). Preventing animals from “roaming free” (would prevent a host of concerns over nuisance and dangerous behaviors, including; destroying property, chasing cars, pedestrians, cyclists, runners, defecating in public) leashed in public, bringing dogs in at night to prevent all night barking, spay/neuter, mandatory vaccination, socialization of animals, ensure animals are not left in extreme weather and keep in a secure fenced in area on private property.

Respondents also felt human responsibility also extended beyond domesticated pets and were clearly the focal point in comment and survey analysis over *wildlife* and *livestock*. In the wildlife **Question #8** posed What do you feel should be done with nuisance wildlife? Respondents overwhelmingly chose awareness and education (215/365 or 59.39%) as a foremost method to deal with wildlife that meet people and or property. Relocating could be an alternative, (in Kahnawake: 177), (protected areas in Kahnawake: 152), (North Wall: 130), or Tioweró:ton: 46). However, respondents expressed through the comment section of this question that research would have to be done to determine the ecological and environmental impacts of repeatedly introducing various species into one area, or Tioweró:ton.

Respondents felt that the responsibility over the contact of wildlife to people was the responsibility of people to ensure they had secure refuge bins, regulate against feeding wildlife and other points of prevention. Most the problems associated with wildlife and people was felt to be lack of regulations and education over prevention.

In addition, respondents answered in Question: **9 Do you think there should be regulations regarding livestock?** to the affirmative (139) that regulations over the care and control over livestock (secure fenced areas, clean and habitable living conditions, etc.) were required.

**Conclusion:** The research concluded that respondents felt there were significant problems associated with the care and control of domesticated and non-domesticated animals within the territory and that could be mitigated by an enforceable law that outlined the actions and responsibilities of people over the care and control of animals within the territory. Promotion, prevention and education of animal care and responsibility would also need to be done regularly from animal control services/public safety staff.



**ANALYSIS: Q: #5: How does enforcement of the Animal Control Law effect the control of domesticated and non-domesticated animals within the territory?**Sources of data:

1. Survey questions: #3, #4, #7 and #9
2. Comment analysis: Survey Question #2 Actions to government/administration, #3: Poor human responsibility
3. Kiosk data: Questions #1, #3, #4, #5
4. Animal Control officer response calls: None

The data retrieved from this question was extensive, as issues related to enforcement were prevalent through out the consultation. Overall, respondents felt that problems associated with the control and care of domesticated and non-domesticated animals were the result of an unenforceable law. In addition, it should be people that are directed to be responsible citizens and caregivers over pets and animals.

**Survey question #3** posed ***What would you agree with regarding pet ownership, licensing & fines?*** This question provided a significant source of information for responses over enforcement as (195) felt immediate fines for contravening the AP Law, (183) believed loss of rights to own pets for continuously contravening the AP law, (158) propose high fees to reclaim loose pets and suggested owners of dangerous/aggressive pets fall into a behavioral modification classification system to teach animals (dog) and owner, environmental contributors that lead to animal aggression.

**The comment analysis of question #3** also provided strong indicators toward enforcement; suggesting that human safety and protecting animals from cruelty should be the driving force around an updated law. Although “licensing” was not defined for this question, some feedback was provided against it, more so, respondents questioned how dangerous/aggressive pets would be categorized and managed in relation to licenses? Other respondents felt that licensing/fees and enforcement issues should have been framed separately and confused the question, thus adding hesitancy toward the response.

Question #4 **Do you agree or disagree with mandatory licensing and identification of all pets in Kahnawake?** Though (122) respondents marked *strongly agree*, it is evidenced that many individuals remained somewhat undecided on this area (60); which could be attributed to lack of definitions over “licensing”, “identification” and or the insertion of asking if fines should be applied.

Q: #5: **Do you agree that all Kahnawake pets should be vaccinated according to accepted Veterinarian standards to ensure safety and protection?** (314) respondents *strongly* and *somewhat agreed* to this question, which indicated a general concern over pet care and owner responsibility, which should include vaccination.

**Comment analysis of Q: #2:** suggests that pet owner responsibility should focus on responsibility of human behavior that should be controlled through an enforceable law. Part of that responsibility involves an Animal Control officer providing regular education on prevention on all areas in the law (pamphlets, classes, web page, flyers, kiosks etc.). Respondents felt that the current Animal Control issues (loose aggressive dogs, animals destroying property, management of animal aggressivity) is due to lack of powers vested in the Animal Control officers to investigate, remove animals, and issue fines. Respondents felt that the law is not specific toward addressing animal care and owner responsibility.

**Kiosk feedback from question #1 what rules/regulations would you like to see in an Animal Control Law?**

This area revealed that respondents wanted to see the prevention of abuse or animal neglect by prohibiting owners from accessing to future pets; including issuing higher fines for repetitive offenders, mandatory spay and neuter, preventing animals to roam free and implementing a leash law formulated the main areas of concern.

**Question #3** of the kiosk feedback was also critical in information concerning the powers vested in Animal Control officers asking **What authority should Animal Control officers have?** Some of the feedback included removal of animals from owners and empowering officers similarly to a peacekeeper (peace officer), with investigative abilities; have body cameras, collecting evidence for a court proceeding, rescuing animals from private property, seizing aggressive animals and issuing fines. The types of fines issued should focus on loose dogs (animals), neglect/abuse, picking up feces in public places, leaving animals out in extreme temperatures.

**Finally, Question: #5 How should Animal Control officers be able to enforce regulations (ticket, charge etc.)?** included the ability of officers to issue tickets (with an enforceable mechanism for payment) and ability to remove animals if dangerous or contravening law (if loose).

**Conclusion:** Respondents reported being aware that the current Animal Control law is not enforceable and continues to operate in the community without these capabilities; as such, this negatively impacts the care and control of animals within the territory. Loose animals, dogs, cause extensive problems from public safety to property damage. Livestock and wild animals also need regulation. In addition, there is significant community concern over Animal Control's inability to properly execute their job for the protection of people and animals in the absence of these capabilities.

## **ANNEX 1: ANIMAL CONTROL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **What are Animal Control's hours? Is there someone working evenings and weekends?**

-Animal Control's (AC) office hours are from Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 4pm. We have AC officers on call on evenings and weekends.

### **I want to get my dog/cat fixed; do you offer a low-cost option?**

-Yes, we offer a low-cost Spay/Neuter Program in collaboration with a veterinary clinic in Kirkland.

### **How old do dogs/cats need to be to get fixed (spay/neuter)?**

- Six (6) months of age is typically the age a veterinarian will tell you. With our Spay/Neuter program, dogs and cats can be sterilized as early as eight weeks of age or 2lbs in weight, whichever comes first.

### **Does Animal Control have a veterinarian on staff/at the office?**

-Unfortunately, we do not have a veterinarian on staff at our office. We do however have our vaccine clinics which are held five times a year. At our vaccine clinics, a vet is present at our office to administer vaccines and provide preventatives for fleas, ticks, and heartworm. We also work closely with the vets who provide us with our low-cost Spay/Neuter program.

### **I am frustrated with loose/nuisance animals in my yard, what can I do?**

-Speak to the owner of the animal, if known (dog/cat). Call Animal Control, and we will try to resolve the issue. No harmful method against the animal can be used under any circumstances to keep them off property. It is a criminal offence.

### **I have a friendly dog; can it be allowed to roam freely?**

-No. All dogs need to be tied, in a fenced in yard, or indoors. While out in public, on a leash. Community members have the right to move freely without being bothered or intimidated by loose animals.

### **When an animal is picked up by Animal Protection, how long does AC keep them?**

-Our stray hold period is three days. An owner of an animal has three days to come in and reclaim. After the stray hold is up, the animal will be networked to find an appropriate placement with a rescue/SPCA.

### **Am I required to pick up after my dog (poop)?**

-Yes, you are required to pick up after your dog, whether on public property or private property belonging to another person.

### **Does banning a breed of dog work regarding dog bites and attacks?**

-Dog bites and attacks can occur within every breed or breed cross. Any dog can bite, regardless of breed. Banning a breed or Breed Specific Legislation (BSL) is considered ineffective, expensive and unenforceable amongst experts in the animal field. Responsible ownership prevents dog bites.

### **Does Animal Control loan out live traps?**

-We often get inquiries for traps regarding stray/feral cats, wildlife such as raccoons and skunks hanging around an area or home. Yes, we do lend out traps, when available (we have a limited supply). Trapping wildlife should be used as a last resort; preventative measures are key to keeping wildlife away.

**What are preventative measures regarding wildlife?**

-Preventative measures or proactive steps to ensure to not run into issues with wildlife around your home/property. Properly storing your garbage (with a lid), not leaving food or pet food outside, cleaning your BBQ/grill can help eliminate the food source. In cases of sheds, low decks/porches-installing mesh underneath to ensure it does not become home (shelter) to wildlife. Food source and shelter are huge components to why an animal will choose to reside on your property. Bright lights and noise (i.e., radio) are also effective as wildlife want a quiet, dark place.

**Does Animal Control do euthanasia?**

-We do receive requests for euthanizing pets; we refer owners to contact their local veterinary clinic. We do not perform euthanizations, that procedure is required to be done by a veterinarian.