Agenda
Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee

3rd Meeting of the Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee
March 7, 2024, 3:00 PM
Committee Room #3

The City of London is situated on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek (AUh-nish-in-ah-bek), Haudenosaunee (Ho-den-no-show-nee), Lúnaapéewak (Len-ah-pay-wuk) and Attawandaron (Add-a-won-da-run).

We honour and respect the history, languages and culture of the diverse Indigenous people who call this territory home. The City of London is currently home to many First Nations, Métis and Inuit today.

As representatives of the people of the City of London, we are grateful to have the opportunity to work and live in this territory.

The City of London is committed to making every effort to provide alternate formats and communication supports for meetings upon request. To make a request specific to this meeting, please contact advisorycommittee@london.ca.

1. Call to Order

   1.1 Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

2. Scheduled Items

3. Consent

   3.1 2nd Report of the Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee


   3.3 Community Contributors article – “A Closer Look at the Wildlife In Our Neighbourhoods”

4. Sub-Committees and Working Groups

   4.1 Goose Management and Coexistence Strategies Draft Recommendations

   4.2 Use of rodenticides and impacts to wildlife, effective rodenticide free strategies for Awareness and Education

5. Items for Discussion

   5.1 Bird Friendly Display

6. Adjournment
Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee
Report

2nd Meeting of the Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee
February 1, 2024
Committee Room #3

Attendance

PRESENT: W. Brown (Chair), M. Blosh, K. Coulter, A. Hames, G. Leckie and M. Toplack and H. Lysynski (Acting Committee Clerk)

ABSENT: H. Duhamel, J. Higgins and S. Ryall

ALSO PRESENT: W. Jeffery, M. McBride and M. Szarka

The meeting was called to order at 3:11 PM; it being noted that W. Brown, M. Blosh, K. Coulter, A. Hames, G. Leckie and M. Toplack were in remote attendance.

1. Call to Order

1.1 Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

That it BE NOTED that no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

1.2 Election of Chair and Vice Chair

That W. Brown and M. Blosh BE ELECTED Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, for the term ending November 30, 2024.

2. Scheduled Items

None.

3. Consent

3.1 1st Report of the Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the 1st Report of the Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee, from its meeting held on December 7, 2023, was received.

4. Sub-Committees and Working Groups

None.

5. Items for Discussion

5.1 Coexistence Strategies for Canada Geese and ducks

That any discussion of the coexistence strategies for Canada Geese and ducks BE FORWARDED to the Co-Existence with Geese Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee Sub-Committee for consideration; it being noted that P. Yeoman, Director, Parks and Forestry will provide an update in the spring, 2024.

5.2 Bird Friendly Glass and Light Applications Display for Public Education and Awareness

That a representative from Corporate Communications BE INVITED to the March 6, 2024 Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee meeting to
provide an outline of the proposed images for the bird friendly glass and light applications display for public education and awareness.

5.3 Clear Your Gear

That the Clear Your Gear discussion BE POSTPONED until P. Yeoman, Director, Parks and Forestry provides an update on this matter in the spring, 2024.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:37 PM.
January 24, 2024

H. Lysynski
Committee Clerk

I hereby certify that the Municipal Council, at its meeting held on January 23, 2024, resolved:

That the following actions be taken with respect to the 1st Report of the Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee, from its meeting held on December 7, 2023:

a) two Voyager Maxi 3 Panel Folding Tabletop Display Kit with PVC graphics and two carrying bags with green background BE PURCHASED for future bird friendly displays at various London Public Library locations; it being noted that the Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee has sufficient funds in its 2023 Budget; and,

b) clauses 1.1, 3.1 to 3.3, 4.1, 5.1, 5.2 and 5.4 BE RECEIVED. (2023-P01) (2.1/2/CPSC)

M. Schulthess
City Clerk
/jb

cc: Chair and Members, Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee
Our neighbourhood is more than a collection of houses and streets; it is a vibrant ecosystem filled with beautiful wildlife. In this article, we'll take a closer look at some animals that share our space along the Thames River and explore the joy of observing them in their natural habitats.

To begin, we acknowledge that we are situated on the traditional and ancestral lands of the Indigenous Peoples who have cared for this land and water since time immemorial. We also appreciate being able to consult with local flora and fauna enthusiast, Laurent Ruffo-Caracchini, and the support we have received from Mike Bartlett of the Broughdale Community Association.

Some of the more common animals in the neighbourhood include squirrels, chipmunks, raccoons, skunks, rabbits, groundhogs, beavers, muskrats, possums, hawks, stickleback fish, crayfish and clams. It's not unusual to see deer, coyotes, foxes, snapping turtles, or wild turkeys. Animals more challenging to detect include opossums, porcupines, minks, and stoats.

Amongst the diversity of wildlife in our neighbourhood, it is incredible to see animal superpowers in action. From squirrels that do tree acrobatics, raccoons that ninja climb, groundhogs that hibernate, skunks that defend through their stink spray, and coyotes with keen eyesight in the low light of dawn and dusk, all animals have unique superpowers to help them survive.

Many animals have mastered the art of camouflage and are good at hide and seek. Consider the white-tailed deer, a herbivore commonly seen in spring or summer. Fawns are born with white spots on their fur, which change to reddish brown and later into grey or brown tones to blend in with seasonal earth tones. Often, a closer look is required to notice animals because what seems ordinary can really be a creature of extraordinary camouflage. Do you see a hidden animal in the photos below on the left side? The photos below on the right side are zoomed in for the reveal!

Fun facts about garter snakes are that they are non-venomous and eat insects and small rodents. Fun facts about frogs are that they hatch from eggs into tadpoles, undergo metamorphosis into frogs, and they can live for several years.

It is fun to learn about local wildlife because animals are amazing, and we have a shared environment that is important to protect. We can all do something to help, for example, disposing of garbage properly, keeping a respectful distance from wildlife, planting native plants to sustain local fauna, and preserving green space and trees....If you're curious to identify unknown flora and fauna, try using the free online iNaturalist app.

In a nutshell, our neighbourhood is a natural wonderland for all varieties of residents. So, whenever possible, enjoy the magic of observing animal friends in their natural habitat!