

<b>TO:</b>	<b>CHAIR AND MEMBERS COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING ON MAY 29, 2018</b>
<b>FROM:</b>	<b>SCOTT STAFFORD MANAGING DIRECTOR, PARKS AND RECREATION</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>PARKS &amp; RECREATION AREA BY-LAW PR-2 AMENDMENTS FEEDING OF WILDLIFE IN PARKS AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE REVISIONS</b>

**RECOMMENDATION**

That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director of Parks and Recreation, the attached proposed By-law (Appendix A) **BE INTRODUCED** at the Municipal Council meeting on June 5, 2018, to amend the Parks & Recreation Area By-Law PR-2 to address the feeding of wildlife in city parks and other administrative amendments.

**PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER**

**Community and Protective Services Committee:**

- Parks and Recreation By-Law - June, 17, 2013
- Parks and Recreation By-Law - June 22, 2009
- Revised Parks and Recreation By-Law - April 25, 2005
- New Parks By-Law – July 29, 1996

**BACKGROUND**

The existing Parks and Recreation By-Law was last revised in 2013. Over the past 4 years, a number of issues have arisen that should now be addressed by the by-law.

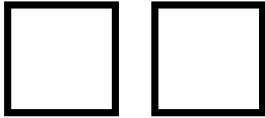
**The feeding of Wildlife in Parks** is one of the key items to be addressed. Civic Administration is recommending changes to the Parks & Recreation Area By-law to better deal with excessive feeding of wildlife in parks and natural areas.

**PROPOSED PR-2 BY-LAW UPDATES**

**Feeding of Wildlife**

While most wildlife regulations are governed by the Ministry of Natural Resources, the feeding of wildlife on municipal lands can be regulated by the Municipality. The Ministry of Natural Resources recommends that the feeding of wildlife be discouraged as it can increase disease transmission and decrease natural foraging skills. Deposited foods are typically nutritionally incompatible with normal wildlife diets and create a reliance on human interaction. The feeding of deer can also create unnatural herding and migration patterns in many natural areas which can cause damage to neighbouring properties.

Wildlife in the city is a natural occurrence and for the most part, Londoners have learned to live with various forms of wildlife and have grown to appreciate most. On occasion, wildlife becomes



a nuisance to park users, adjacent home owners and city maintenance activities. This was the case with the feeding of deer in Sifton Bog which lead to an over-population of deer in the Bog causing environmental damage. There have also been calls in the past to control the dumping of bread and feed to feed geese along the river which have caused traffic delays and unsafe road conditions.

The intent of previous reports in this regard was to propose the addition of a new section to prohibit the feeding of animals in parks and natural areas. This recommendation was referred back to staff to find a clearer way to deter the excessive dumping of feed while not prohibiting the occasional feeding of small amounts of food to animals like squirrels and ducks. Upon further review by multiple service areas, it was determined that the existing Section 3.1 (23) offence of “Failing to deposit refuse in containers or failing to remove refuse from parks” would already cover the feeding of wildlife, since the “refuse” definition includes “discarded food”.

However, the use of Section 3.1(23) has proven ineffective in resolving the bulk feeding issue. Therefore staff is proposing that a new definition of bulk feeding of quantities greater than 250ml be introduced with a corresponding by-law to prohibit the bulk feeding of wildlife be added to the Parks and Recreation By-law (PR-2). This will help to clarify that the bulk feeding of wildlife is prohibited for the wellbeing of the animals and the safety and enjoyment of the park users.

The Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, at its May 3, 2018 meeting, fully supported the implementation of this update to the By-Law.

**Administrative and Modernization amendments**

Other minor administrative amendments include the elimination of wording regarding pens, and animals in Storybook Gardens, updating of service animal implications and gender neutral language.

**CONCLUSION**

The proposed By-law changes are required to address the recurring bulk feeding issues within the City’s park and open space system. The modernization and administrative revisions will also allow the Parks and Recreation By-Law (PR-2) to address these issues and will help manage activities in our parks and natural areas. Please note that the by-law will come into effect on August 1<sup>st</sup> to allow time for new set fine orders to be attained.

<b>RECOMMENDED BY:</b>	<b>PREPARED BY:</b>
<b>SCOTT STAFFORD MANAGING DIRECTOR, PARKS AND RECREATION</b>	<b>LYNN LOUBERT DIVISION MANAGER, PARKS AND RECREATION</b>



## APPENDIX A

Bill No.  
2018

By-law No.

A By-law to amend By-law No. PR-2, entitled "A by-law relating to the use, protection and regulation of PUBLIC PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS IN THE CITY OF LONDON"

WHEREAS subsection 10(2) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that a municipality may pass by-laws respecting Health, safety and well-being of persons, and Protection of persons and property;

AND WHEREAS subsection 5(3) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* S.O. 2001, c.25, as amended, provides that a municipal power shall be exercised by by-law;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the City of London enacts as follows:

1. Section 1.1 of By-Law PR-2 is amended by adding the definition of "Bulk feeding", means the depositing of food greater than 250ml for the purpose or intention of feeding of wildlife including but not limited to deer, geese, ducks, squirrels and groundhogs.
2. Section 1.1 of By-Law PR-2 is amended by deleting the definition of "Managing Director" and replacing it with a new definition as follows: "Managing Director means the Managing Director, Parks and Recreation and the Managing Director of Neighbourhood, Children and Fire Services, their designate and any City employee acting under their direction".
3. Section 1.1 of By-Law PR-2 is amended by deleting the definition of "Trained Service Animal" in its entirety and replacing it with a new definition as follows: "Trained Service Animal" includes a guide dog or other certified service animal often identifiable by a harness or vest used principally to assist persons with sight or physical assistance, warning of seizures or other disabilities.
4. Section 3.1 of By-Law PR-2 is amended by inserting new subsection 3.1 (44) "bulk feeding of wildlife"
5. Section 3.1(33) of By-Law PR-2 is amended by deleting the current definition in its entirety and replacing with the new definition as follows: "enter or use gender segregated facilities that do not correspond to their lived gender identity, in any park or facility, set apart for the opposite gender. This shall not apply to children who are 10 years of age or younger and who are, at the time accompanied by a parent, guardian, caregiver or caretaker."
6. Section 5.3(1) of By-Law Pr-2 is amended by deleting "10:00am" and replacing with "8:00 am".
7. Section 5.3(2), (3) and (4) of By-Law Pr-2 is amended by deleting it in its entirety.
8. Section 5.5(1), (2), (3), (4), (5) of By-Law PR-2 is amended by deleting Section 5.5 in its entirety and replaced by a new phrase as Section 5.5 (1) " All persons playing golf shall conform to the rules of conduct and operating practices as established by the Managing Director.



9. This by-law shall come into force and effect on \_\_\_\_\_, 2018.

PASSED in Open Council on \_\_\_\_\_, 2018

Matt Brown  
Mayor

Catharine Saunders  
City Clerk

First reading -  
Second reading -  
Third reading -