

## 1ST REPORT OF THE

### ANIMAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting held on August 2, 2012 commencing at 4:10 p.m.

PRESENT: B. Sayler (Chair), B. Barr, D. Fortney, E. Gerrow, W. MacKay, J. McFadden, A. Pappmehl, M. Puzanov, S. C. Rans, M. Shepherd-Ennis, G. Sturm, V. VanLinden, M. Warder and J. Martin, Secretary.

ALSO PRESENT: D. Clarke, R. Oke and C. Saunders.

#### **I DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest 1. That B. Barr disclosed a pecuniary interest in clause 12 of this Report, having to do with a proposed amendment to the Animal Control By-law banning the retail outlet sale of companion animals, by indicating that he is the local pet shop owner representative.

#### **II YOUR COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Election of Chair 2. That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) elected B. Sayler as its Chair for the term ending November 30, 2012.

Election of Vice Chair 3. That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) elected S. Rans as its Vice Chair for the term ending November 30, 2012.

Orientation 4. That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) heard a verbal orientation and received the attached presentation from C. Saunders, City Clerk.

Dog Park Sub-committee 5. (A) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) received a verbal update from B. Sayler, on behalf of the Dog Park Sub-committee; it being noted that the Sub-committee is moving forward to establish an additional off-leash park in the Southwest quadrant of the city.

Breeders Sub-committee 6. (B) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) received a verbal update from B. Sayler, on behalf of the Breeders Sub-committee with respect to the function and initiatives of the Breeders Sub-committee.

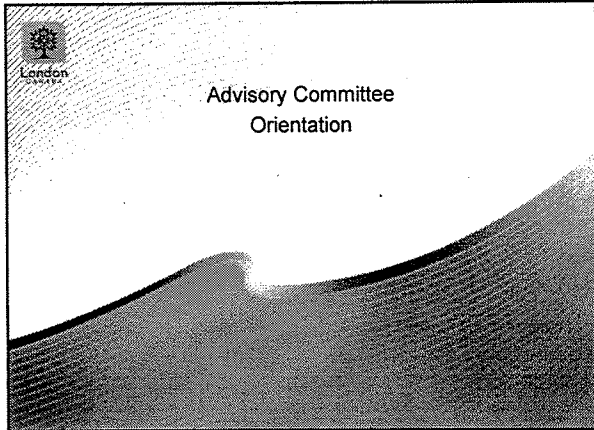
Wildlife Sub-committee 7. (C) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) received the attached presentation and reports, dated July 30, 2012 and August 2, 2012, respectively from S. Rans, on behalf of the Wildlife Sub-committee, and held a general discussion with respect to beaver intervention. The AWAC will request delegation status at all standing committee meetings where the intervention of beavers is considered; it being noted that the AWAC received the attached July 24/25, 2012 council resolution; it being further noted, that the AWAC requested the Chair to prepare a letter to J. Braam addressing the AWAC concerns, with respect to this matter.

Do Not Feed the Wildlife Signage 8. (4) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) received a verbal update from M. Shepard-Ennis with respect to the "Do Not Feed the Wildlife" signage. D. Clarke, Manager, Parks Operations advised signage is planned for Gibbons Park, Harris Park and Riverside and Wonderland; it being noted the members are requested to identify any additional locations and submit to D. Clarke. The AWAC requested its Committee Secretary to investigate the process to implement an educational program and report back at a future meeting.

Living With Wildlife 2012 Conference 9. (5) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) held a general discussion with respect to the Living with Wildlife Conference to be held at the Central YMCA in Toronto on September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The AWAC approved the expenditure of a registration fee of \$35.00 and transportation costs for E. Gerrow to attend the Conference; it being noted that there is sufficient funds to cover this expense within the AWAC's 2012 Budget-allocation. Ms. Gerrow will provide a report to the AWAC, following the Conference.

- Guardian Campaign 10. (6) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) held a general discussion with respect to replacing the word “owner” with the word “guardian” in all animal-related matters; it being noted that additional research with respect to this matter will be provided at a future meeting.
- Animal Control By-law – Limitation of Pets Per Household 11. (8) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) asked V. VanLinden to prepare a report, on behalf of the AWAC, for the Public Safety Committee with respect to a recommendation for a proposed pilot project to change the number of pets permitted, per foster household.
- Animal Control By-law – Ban of Retail Outlet Sale of Companion Animals 12. (9) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) asked V. VanLinden (AWAC) to prepare a report, on behalf of the AWAC, for the Public Safety Committee with respect to amending the Animal Control By-law to ban the retail outlet sale of companion animals.
- RedRover Responders Workshop 13. (10) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) held a general discussion with respect to hosting a RedRover Responders Workshop; it being noted that B. Saylor has agreed to take the lead role for this initiative, and bring forward additional information.
- Pottersburg Creek 14. (12) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) held a general discussion with respect to the PCB’s identified in Pottersburg Creek. The Committee Secretary will contact the Civic Administration and request the following information for the next AWAC meeting:
- (a) locations where the testing has been completed; and,
  - (b) what contaminants have been identified.
- Deferred Matters 15. That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) deferred consideration of the following items to a future AWAC meeting:
- (a) (11) discussion with respect to ear tipping; and,
  - (b) (13) discussion with respect to a fois gras ban.
16. That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) received and noted the following:
- (a) (1) the 5th Report of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee from its meeting held on June 7, 2012;
  - (b) (2) a Municipal Council resolution adopted at its meetings held April, 5, May 3 and June 7, 2012 with respect to the 3rd, 4th and 5th Reports of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee; and, a communication dated July 16, 2012, from the Honourable Joe Fontana, Mayor, with respect to Bill 69, Elephant Protection Act;
  - (c) (3) a Municipal Council resolution adopted at its meeting held June 12, 2012 with respect to the Appointments to the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee; and,
  - (d) (7) a communication dated July/August 2012, from Dogs Naturally Magazine, with respect to a New Age of Animal Sheltering.
- Next Meeting 17. That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee will hold its next meeting on September 6 at 4:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.



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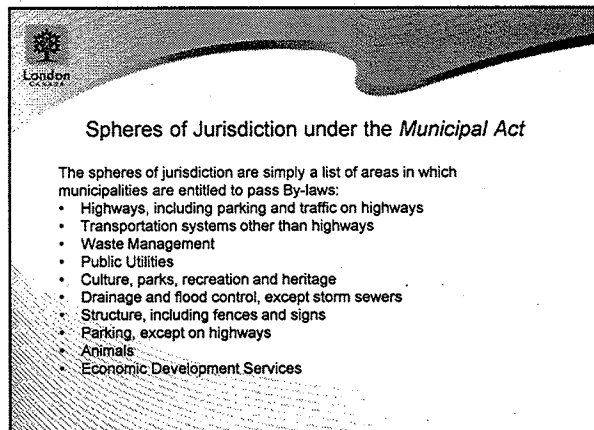
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### Spheres of Jurisdiction under the *Municipal Act*

The spheres of jurisdiction are simply a list of areas in which municipalities are entitled to pass By-laws:

- Highways, including parking and traffic on highways
- Transportation systems other than highways
- Waste Management
- Public Utilities
- Culture, parks, recreation and heritage
- Drainage and flood control, except storm sewers
- Structure, including fences and signs
- Parking, except on highways
- Animals
- Economic Development Services

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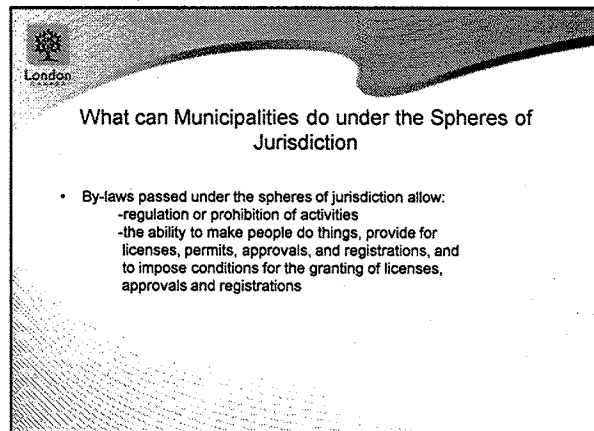
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### What can Municipalities do under the Spheres of Jurisdiction

- By-laws passed under the spheres of jurisdiction allow:
  - regulation or prohibition of activities
  - the ability to make people do things, provide for licenses, permits, approvals, and registrations, and to impose conditions for the granting of licenses, approvals and registrations

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### Role of Council

Under the *Municipal Act* it is the role of Council

- to represent the public and to consider the well-being and the interests of the municipality
- to develop and evaluate the policies and programs of the municipality
- to determine which services the municipality provides
- to ensure that administrative practices and procedures are in place to implement the decisions of Council
- to maintain the financial integrity of the municipality and
- to carry out the duties of Council under this or any other Act

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### Role of Municipal Administration

Under the *Municipal Act* it is the role of the officers and employees of the municipality

- to implement council's decisions and establish administrative practices and procedures to carry out council's decisions
- to undertake research and provide advice to council on the policies and programs of the municipality and
- to carry out other duties required under this or any Act and other duties assigned by the municipality

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### Advisory Committee Jurisdiction

- provide recommendations, advice and information to Municipal Council on those specialized matters which relate to the purpose of the advisory committee
- to facilitate public input to City Council on programs and ideas to assist in enhancing the quality of life for the community in keeping with the City's Strategic Plan
- advisory committees shall not give direction to the Civic Administration or any local board or commission
- advisory committees shall not request, without approval of City Council, the preparation of any administrative reports, research or work assignments
- advisory committees may ask the Civic Administration for information and data when, such requests can be reasonable accommodated within the existing workload

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### Standing Committees

- advisory committees recommendations are forwarded to the Standing Committee having jurisdiction over the matters being considered by the advisory committee by means of a Report
- the Reports are prepared by the committee's recording secretary
- the advisory committee chair, or their designation, may be requested by the standing committee to be a delegation to the standing committee meeting to provide further information or clarification
- the advisory committee chair, or designate shall accurately represent the views of the advisory committee as a whole

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### Appointment Process

- current term expires February 28, 2015
- in September 2014, City Council will be inviting applications for the term commencing March 1, 2015 to February 28, 2019
- a Striking Committee will be appointed to review the applications and provide recommendations to City Council for consideration in November 2014
- vacancies that occur throughout the term will be considered by the Finance and Administrative Services Committee

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### Advisory Committee Code of Conduct

- abide by the provisions of the Ontario Human Rights Code, City of London policies and any other applicable related statutes
- treat every person, including other committee members, corporate employees and the public with dignity, understanding and respect
- act in the best interest of the municipality
- members shall not place themselves in a position where they are under any obligation to any person or organization who may seek preferential treatment
- members shall not place themselves in a position where they could drive any direct benefit or interest from any matter about which they can influence a decision

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### Municipal Conflict of Interest Act

- advisory committee members are required to disclose when they have any pecuniary interest in a matter to be considered at a meeting
- the disclosure of a pecuniary interest shall be made prior to consideration of the matter and the general nature of the interest must be disclosed
- members must remove themselves from the table for the duration of time that that the matter is being considered and during in-closed session leave the room and shall not attempt in any way before, during or after the meeting attempt in any way to influence the voting on the matter

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### Role of the Chair

- to act as a facilitator for the advisory committee
- to monitor issues to ensure adequate input and discussion
- to represent the advisory committee and to present its recommendations to the appropriate Standing Committee
- to remind the advisory committee of its mandate, purpose and mission

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### Meeting Guidelines

- before speaking, wait to be recognized by the Chair
- when speaking to a motion, confine remarks to the motion
- do not speak more than once to a motion, until all who desire to speak have spoken once
- please do not interrupt the person who is speaking
- questions should be addressed through the Chair
- motions must be seconded before being debated or put to a vote
- business which is not on the agenda will not be considered unless it is an emergency or it relates to a specific agenda item

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### Beaver: A Keystone Species

Report by the Wildlife Subcommittee of the  
Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, City of  
London  
In response to the City's Station Creek and  
Hyde Park SWM Facility 4 - Scoped  
Environmental Impact Study, recommended  
by the City Engineer 1 Outline Jan. 25/12

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### Benefits of Beaver

- Beavers support one of the most productive ecosystems- wetlands
- Beaver clear channels and keep waterways open
- Beaver ponds improve water quality of streams and lakes
- Beaver ponds decrease erosion and filter sediments, toxins and excess nutrients from the water




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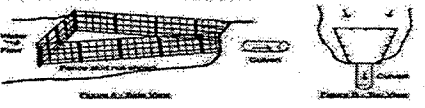
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### Non-lethal, Effective Solutions

- To protect trees, use wire mesh wraps
- To prevent floods, use flow devices such as the Flexible Leveler or the Castor Master
- To prevent blocked storm sewers, use the Beaver Deceiver, the Beaver Baffle, or the trapezoidal fence and pipe system

Diagrams - Trapezoidal Fence for Dammit Protection.




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**AWAC recommends ...**

The city utilize relatively inexpensive and easily built flow devices that have been adopted by 4 Ontario municipalities:

- Oakville
- Oshawa
- Richmond Hill
- Cornwall



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July 30, 2012

**Subject:** Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) - Beaver and Beaver Dam Removal, Section 8.2.2.4 of the Stanton Drain Remediation and Hyde Park SWM Facility 4 – Scoped Environmental Impact Study, Prepared by AECOM January 25, 2012 #60189325

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**Previous Reports Pertinent to This Matter:**

Council – June 26 & 27, 2012 – 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Reports of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

This report is in support of the motion tabled May 3, 2012, *and approved accordingly*, “That the Civic Administration **BE REQUESTED** to take no action with respect to the removal of the beavers in the Stanton Drain Remediation Project; it being noted that the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) is preparing a full report providing evidence of the key role the beaver plays in the ecosystem.”

From our preliminary review, AWAC recommends alternative, non-lethal solutions instead of beaver *and dam and lodge* removal. Four Ontario municipalities have adopted such solutions. This would be in line with our January 10, 2012 recommendation to council, “That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee received and reviewed the (attached) presentation and heard a verbal presentation from B. Bergsma, Ecologist Planner, City of London, with respect to a beaver management strategy; it being noted that the AWAC will work with Civic Administration to develop recommendations for policies and best practices to handle wildlife specific to the City’s beaver management practices.”

A number of premises and statements contained in the AECOM report do not address and define the key role the beaver plays in the ecosystem and in *restoring damaged ecosystems*. The report does not consider any of the cost-efficient and successful non-lethal conflict mitigation measures recommended by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR). These measures, which are being used by other Ontario municipalities, were not presented as viable, more up-to-date options that favour restoration of the watershed.

AECOM's recommendation to remove the beavers and dams did not consider the science-based rationale that supports and encourages the presence of beavers. Beavers are a *keystone species*, which is “a species that has a disproportionately large effect on its environment relative to its abundance. Such species play a critical role in maintaining the structure of an ecological community, affecting many other organisms in an ecosystem and helping to determine the types and numbers of various other species in the community” [from Paine, R.T. (1995). “A Conversation on Refining the Concept of Keystone Species”. *Conservation Biology* 9 (4): 962–964. [doi:10.1046/j.1523-1739.1995.09040962.x](https://doi.org/10.1046/j.1523-1739.1995.09040962.x)]. Beavers are being *reintroduced* into communities to build up

depleted habitats. The ability of beavers to restore and replenish areas result in numerous benefits including: the return of fish due to a healthier aquatic system, regrowth of vegetation, water purification, increased habitat for amphibian and other species, soil stabilization and prevention of erosion.

Our second concern with the AECOM report is that outdated information from the OMNR was used. This information is contained under the heading, Legislative Requirements, notably 1.4.5 page 5, Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997 that was based on the Ontario Natural Heritage Manual (revised 2005) on the harvesting wildlife orientation toward game species.

The AECOM report does not reference or acknowledge the government's move to a more ecological system approach to infrastructure. Therefore it needs to refocus and address two key changes: the policy shift within the OMNR and the government's move toward a more ecological system approach to infrastructure.

The political focus drastically shifted in 2012, with the OMNR developing a 3-year process to reshape, realign and modernize the ministry by providing a broader scope regarding all species. The new model is based on partnerships, science, and ecosystems, and supports biodiversity rather than the previous emphasis on individual species. The approach by AECOM does not incorporate this paradigm shift in their recommendations. See: Ontario Budget, <http://www.fin.gov.on.ca/en/budget/ontariobudgets/2012/addendum.html>. Ministry of Natural Resources, section More Effective and Efficient Delivery Models, pages 18 and 19.

The Environmental Commissioner of Ontario as noted in their 2010/2011 Report (Part 3: Biodiversity Matters 3.6 Recognizing the Need for Green Infrastructure – page 46; Part 4: Planning Solutions Natural Heritage System Planning – page 53; Part 4.5 Planning Solutions - Stormwater: Our Neglected Headwaters – pages 69-73; [http://www.eco.on.ca/uploads/Reports-Annual/2010\\_11/Final-English-Bookmarked-2010-AR.pdf](http://www.eco.on.ca/uploads/Reports-Annual/2010_11/Final-English-Bookmarked-2010-AR.pdf)) favours a more holistic approach. The latter acknowledges stormwater ponds are designated as natural heritage systems planning linked by natural corridors, and as a whole, interconnect the woodlands with wetlands. Stormwater ponds are no longer viewed as gray infrastructures but as an integral part of biodiversity and a form of the green watershed function. *“Water management tends to be compartmentalized into distinct disciplines and separate bureaucratic entities– such as stormwater, sewage and drinking water management – rather than viewed holistically in the context of the watershed. Stormwater management facilities function much like headwater drainage features or first order streams – as originating points of river or stream flows – although these facilities are often perceived as grey infrastructure because they are constructed. While management practices have progressed in the last 20 years to include a treatment train approach, including low-impact (lot-level) development, further evolution of our thinking is needed. Many conservation authorities and municipalities are beginning to embrace the concept of integrated watershed management, which considers all components that influence hydrology. Some organizations are also asking*

*the government to fully recognize green infrastructure in provincial policies The ECO believes that water policy in Ontario should clearly recognize that stormwater management facilities and systems, while man-made, are a form of green infrastructure and part of a watershed's hydrological function. "*

Therefore, there is a disconnect in the AECOM report between the technology and ecology. Areas suspected of suffering damage through the AECOM implementation process are not recognized as areas or issues that are positively enhanced and benefitted by the presence of beavers. For example, the speculated outcomes of some of the recommendations include: *soil compaction and root damage, loss of amphibian breeding habitat and breeding birds, obstructions or pollution, and loss of marginal habitat.*

Also missing is an informed understanding of conflict mitigation measures that will increase *fish passage and migratory corridors*, and prevent flooding and damming without having to destroy and remove the dams and beavers. The report lacks an informed understanding of conflict mitigation measures, and the situations in other communities where recognizing the value of the beaver has provided positive outcomes. The changes in those communities were largely an outcome of public protest objecting to the removal or killing of beavers, and the growing concern of trap safety. According to one trapper, *"Dogs and cats are frequent victims of these cruel traps. Owls, ducks, jays, porcupines, rabbits, etc. are also caught. They are 'unwanted' and are thrown away, or let free, often painfully and sometimes fatally injured. Some non-target catches are even endangered species, such as eagles, badgers and others"*. This excerpt, and more information on the harm of traps, can be acquired from the Association for the Protection of Fur Bearing Animals, British Columbia, [http://furbearerdefenders.com/downloads/PDFs/Types of Cruel Traps.pdf](http://furbearerdefenders.com/downloads/PDFs/Types%20of%20Cruel%20Traps.pdf).




Lastly, a very disconcerting part of the report is the recommendation to engage the services of a licensed trapper to destroy the beaver dam and *relocate the family*. Under the OMNR regulations, it is **illegal to relocate any adult wildlife more than 1 km from its original point of origin**. Breaking up the dam and relocating the beaver will not solve the problem as the beavers will return or others will move in to fill the void (which can be likened to the situation with the deer at Sifton Bog). Furthermore, trappers are required by the OMNR to reach 75% of their quota in order to remain licensed. It is highly profitable for a trapper to kill beavers to sell their pelts rather than release them. It is known that lethal conibear traps will be used and this presents a significant health and safety risk to residents, pets and wildlife.


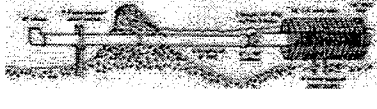
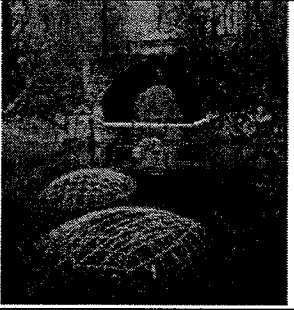
Municipalities seeking guidance from the OMNR on human-wildlife conflict are always presented with lethal trapping as the solution. However, the OMNR's publication 'Extention Notes—Options for Controlling Beaver on Private Land' recognizes the important role the beaver plays by "creating wetland habitat for many animals", and acknowledges the futility of lethal trapping offering other more effective solutions. Such solutions include the 'beaver baffler', as mentioned by the OMNR, or the 'beaver

deceiver' and 'wire mesh'. These cost-efficient and effective devices are currently used by other municipalities in Ontario, other provinces, and in the United States in conjunction with their stormwater ponds and other infrastructures. Their success has been widely documented. For more information and a chart showing the various flow devices, please see the attached document, or visit its source at <http://www.martinezbeavers.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/DEVICE.pdf>.

Respectfully submitted,

Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, Wildlife Subcommittee

PHOTO	DEVICE	ITEM	USE	INVENTOR	MORE INFO
	<b>Beaver Deceiver</b> also called Culvert protective fence, trapezoidal fence or culvert fence	Trapezoidal fence to prevent beaver damming of culverts.	Very common, very successful. Term is often misapplied to other tools.	Skip Lisle Beaver Deceivers Int'l 802-289-2899 Vermont	Living with Wildlife book by Sherri Tippie, Grand Canyon Land Trust
	<b>Flexible Leveler</b>	Flexible Pipe and round fence ("Filter") filter to prevent flooding by lowering pond height	Very common, 75% success. Biggest failure is lowering the dam by too much.	Mike Callahan Beaver Solutions MA (413) 527-6472	Best Beaver Management practices DVD Beaversolutions.com
	<b>Castor Master</b>	Double walled flexible pipe and round fence ("Filter") to prevent flooding by lowering pond height	Used by Skip Lisle. 75% success.	Skip Lisle Beaver Deceivers Int'l 802-289-2899 Vermont	Living with Wildlife book by Sherri Tippie, Grand Canyon National Trust. Also film on Animal Protection NM.

	<p>Beaver Baffle Also called <b>Beaver Stop</b> specific device in Canada</p>	Fence covered pipe through culvert.	Very common in Canada. Validity not reported	Nick Thurber Beaver Stop (403) 282-6136 Canada	Unexpected Wildlife Refuge web page
	<p><b>Clemson Pond Leveler</b></p>	Perforated solid pipe installed through dam to prevent flooding	Old version Hard to install and expensive. Well known because it's been around a long time.	Clemson University	<a href="http://www.clemson.edu/psapublishing/pages/afw/afw1.pdf">http://www.clemson.edu/psapublishing/pages/afw/afw1.pdf</a>
	<p><b>Pipe and Fence System</b></p>	Trapezoidal fence and 'pipe' system used to encourage beavers to build "diversion dams" rather than build in the culvert.	New but increasing use	Various	Mike's DVD or Sherri's Book both describe
None available	<p>Limiters (Historic)</p>	Pipe Controlled flooding	No longer used but formative to the practice	Michel LeClair Gateau Lake Canada	

## AWAC – Wildlife Subcommittee Report – August 2, 2010

There have been 2 formal subcommittee meetings since our last AWAC meeting in June. In addition various members of the subcommittee have met to attend meetings of Public Safety, Council, Planning and Development and again Council. Deb and I met several times to redraft and revise the powerpoint presentation in your minutes from June. And several communications have flown amongst and between Subcommittee members, the Clerk's Office, the Engineer's Office and the offices of many Councillors.

Here's the chronology of events.

Council made a decision June 26<sup>th</sup> to direct Civic Administration to refrain from further action with respect to any current beaver intervention, pending AWAC's report on the developing a policy with respect to beaver in London. The expectation was that no lethal intervention will occur and non-lethal solutions would be found.

On Sunday July 22, I received notice that the Planning and Environment Committee of Council had a Beaver report as a consent item from the Engineer's Office on its Monday agenda. In it, the department wished to continue its current practice of removing beaver, lodges, and dams where beaver appeared to compromise municipal infrastructure. Subcommittee members attended and thought the entire matter was referred back to Staff pending a report. This was not the case, so on Tuesday we attended Council, after spending some time educating Councillors and Civic Administration regarding this issue. On Tuesday the June 26 direction of Council was upheld and reinforced and the Report was properly referred back to the Engineer's Office. Between then and now, I was assured that AWAC would receive a copy of the resolution letter within a few days, that the Engineer's Office would involve us in their research and keep us informed should any matters move to a Committee or Council Agenda, and that monitoring would be done to inform us should matters related to animal welfare were to be on an agenda other than Public Safety, we would be informed. The final thing that happened is that the RFP for the Stanton Drain Remediation Project came out with no reference to the beaver. We are waiting to see Addenda to the RFP on this. We should mention that it is a fascinating experience to visit the Stanton area as the ecosystem being repaired by the beaver is teeming with wildlife, including muskrats, blue heron, frogs, fish, etc. It is to be found along a path just west of Hyde Park Road (the easiest entry is off Sarnia Road and it goes to Fanshawe/ Egremont. Remediation will mean the loss of this ecosystem and we'd like to study this further.

To be done: ~~show the show and~~ again approve the revised powerpoint which will be ready for a requested delegation to the Public Safety Committee; receive approval of our preliminary review regarding a beaver management strategy dated July 30, which you received from Elizabeth Gerrow this past Tuesday morning by email. This review is being provided ahead of our final report to begin assisting Civic Administration. We will continue meeting with Mr. Braam, the Acting Executive Director of Planning, Environmental and Engineering Services and City Engineer and Bonnie Bergsma, Ecologist, Parks and Planning, to assist the City in preparing policy which seeks humane resolutions to human-wildlife conflicts.



300 Dufferin Avenue  
P.O. Box 5035  
London, ON  
N6A 4L9

**London**  
CANADA

July 25, 2012

J. Braam  
Acting Executive Director, Planning, Environmental and Engineering Services

I hereby certify that the Municipal Council, at its session held on July 24 and 25, 2012 referred clause 3 of the 20th Report of the Planning and Environment Committee back to the Planning and Environment Committee for further consideration after the Civic Administration has completed and reported back on the development of a progressive and humane response program related to human-wildlife conflicts with respect to stormwater management facilities and Municipal Drains and watercourses; it being noted that in the meantime the Civic Administration will continue to undertake any non-lethal intervention as deemed to be necessary to maintain the operation of these facilities.

Clause 3 read as follows:

3. That, on the recommendation of the Acting Executive Director Planning, Environmental and Engineering Services & City Engineer, the following actions be taken with respect to beaver activity in the vicinity of infrastructure, such as stormwater management facilities and Municipal Drains or watercourses:

- a) the Civic Administration **BE DIRECTED** to refrain from interfering with beaver dams where the damming activity does not compromise the operation of infrastructure, such as, stormwater management (SWM) facilities, municipal drains, channels, and/or does not create flooding conditions that impacts the safety of people or property; and/or does not adversely impact the environment and ecological conditions of the water resources system;
- b) the Civic Administration **BE DIRECTED** to maintain the City's existing practices in accordance with requirements identified and governed by the Ministry of Natural Resources that allow the removal of beaver dams to protect, maintain or construct municipal infrastructures, protect the safety of the people and properties in accordance with the City of London's operating authority responsibilities for water resources/SWM infrastructure under the *Ontario Water Resources Act, Drainage Act, Environmental Assessment Act, Fisheries Act*, as well as Riparian Rights Law and other applicable laws, wherein beaver dams compromise the operation of infrastructure, such as, SWM facilities, municipal drains, channels, open watercourses, present a barrier to fish movement, cause a hazard to public health, alter sediment transport regimes, increase water temperatures or cause adverse flooding of private or public land; and,
- c) the Civic Administration **BE DIRECTED** to report back on the outcome of what actions are undertaken with respect to the beavers;

it being noted that the Planning and Environment Committee received a communication, dated July 22, 2012, from Sara Rans, Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, with respect to this matter. (2012-W10-00/P04-00) (AS AMENDED) (3/20/PEC)

C. Saunders  
City Clerk  
/jb

cc: B. Krichker, Manager, Stormwater  
Animal Welfare Advisory Committee  
PEC Deferred List

The Corporation of the City of London  
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Fax: 519-661-4892  
www.london.ca