

**DATE:** June 7, 2021

**TO:** MAYOR AND COUNCIL

**NAME AND TITLE:** Adam Davey, Director, Community Services and Public Safety

**SUBJECT:** Five-Year Contract Renewal with the SPCA

**ATTACHMENT(S):** Animal Pound Operation & Maintenance Agreement

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

That Council AUTHORIZES the Acting City Manager to sign the Animal Pound Operation & Maintenance Agreement with The British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) and its North Cariboo Branch, in the form attached to the staff report to Council dated June 7, 2021, from the Director, Community Services and Public Safety, titled "Five-Year Contract Renewal with the SPCA."

**PURPOSE:**

To advise Mayor and Council the previous Operation and Maintenance Agreement between the City of Prince George and The British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and its North Cariboo Branch [SPCA] expired in December, 2019. The new agreement has now been approved by the SPCA and requires signature by City Administration. The agreement is scheduled to be in effect until December 31, 2025 and is valued at \$1,105,855.36. The Agreement it is being presented to Council for authorization to sign.

**BACKGROUND:**

The City of Prince George has long contracted the SPCA to operate as the City Pound. This is authorized by the *Responsible Animal Ownership Bylaw*. The building itself is located at 4011 Lansdowne Road and is owned and maintained by the City of Prince George. The Agreement price of \$1,105,885.36 is to be paid in installments of approximately \$18,500.00 per month for the term of the Agreement. This money pays for the following:

1. Salaries including benefits salary and hourly wages;
2. Medical Treatments for Animals including medical supplies;
3. Spay and Neuter for Stray Animals;
4. Equipment maintenance, food supplies and shelter supplies;
5. Vehicle repair, fuel and insurance;
6. Communications – telephone, internet and postage; and
7. Office Supplies.

The monthly amounts paid by the City of Prince George represent 58% of the actual total costs with the remaining 42% being paid by the SPCA.

Having this facility is imperative for the effective use of the Responsible Animal Ownership Bylaw within the City. Animal Control Officers enjoy a positive relationship with the SPCA staff and work well together to ensure the safe and humane treatment of local animals. The relationship with the SPCA goes beyond them simply serving as our “pound”. The SPCA serve as Subject Matter Experts and provide valuable advice to Animal Control Officers in relation to their investigations. They also have an established training of training opportunities, which are routinely shared with city employees and are generally free of charge.

**SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:**

The British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is a valued strategic partner of the City of Prince George and in particular the Animal Control Program. The extension of this Operation and Maintenance Agreement is important in relation to maintaining this partnership in providing a necessary service to the residents of Prince George. Administration is seeking Council Authorization to continue this Agreement through the end of 2025.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:**

Adam Davey, Director, Community Services and Public Safety

**PREPARED BY:** [Charlotte Peters, Manager, Bylaw Services]

**APPROVED:**

Walter Babicz, Acting City Manager

Meeting Date: [2021-06-14]