



## **The Corporation of the Town of LaSalle**

**To:** Mayor and Members of Council

**Prepared by:** Joe Milicia, CPA CA, Chief Administrative Officer

**Department:** Administration

**Date of Report:** July 18, 2019

**Report Number:** CAO-07-2019

**Subject:** Coyote Activity in LaSalle

---

### **Recommendation**

That the report provided from the Chief Administrative Officer dated July 18, 2019 (CAO-07-2019) regarding the activities of coyotes in LaSalle BE RECEIVED and that administration BE DIRECTED to organize a community informational meeting with representatives from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and the LaSalle Police and that public notice BE GIVEN.

### **Report**

As Council is aware, in early June of this year a family suffered the loss of a family pet to a coyote attack. Since that time there have been other incidents and with the recent media attention there has been increased community awareness of coyotes and other wildlife in the area. These types of situations have occurred over the years given LaSalle's unique blend of urban and natural & wooded areas. This mix of urban and natural environment has led to these types of conflicts between wildlife and residents and their properties.

Since the incident in early June the municipality has received by way of emails, phone calls, and website inquiries a relatively equal number of comments from both sides – some arguing that more needs to be done to address the coyote population including the elimination of coyotes, while others supporting the current approach of accepting wildlife as part of the natural environment and managing the interactions and conflicts. It is also important to note that although the media coverage has been focused on the Bouffard Road area, given the wooded nature of LaSalle, coyotes have been spotted in several other areas of the municipality.

Members of the LaSalle Police Service and Councilor Jeff Renaud met with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) to obtain information on what residents and municipalities can and cannot do. The MNRF helps educate residents on the management of wildlife in Ontario. They have a number of resources on their website about living with wildlife and protecting personal property. Links to the information can be found on the Town's website and have been included as an appendix to this report.

As a municipality, there is little that can be done that will effectively manage wildlife as choices for residents and municipalities are limited. Property owners, including the municipality, can hire a licensed trapper to catch the coyotes on their own property. The trapper can then either release the animal (within 1 kilometer of the location that it was caught) or dispose it. With that said, representatives from MNRF have indicated that should the property owners relocate or eliminate the current coyote(s), in all likelihood others will move into the territory given the food source.

The Town of LaSalle website as well as the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry website has information to assist residents in managing wildlife. Residents are urged to continue to be aware of the wildlife in the area and to take all precautions necessary to protect their family, pets and property. Wild animals, like coyotes, are attracted to places where food is available. A common concern is that residents are leaving food outside which can attract all types of wildlife to their property, including coyotes.

One of the pillars of the Town's strategic plan is to promote a healthy and environmentally conscious community. While within the authority of the legislation, it is not recommended that the municipality engage the services of a licensed trapper as this would ultimately result in the destruction of the coyotes, may result in the unbalancing of the ecosystem and, given the environment, may not effectively address the issues as coyotes are likely to live in the area.

Further, while the municipality is entitled to change, amend bylaws or introduce new bylaws, it is recommended that a status quo approach is maintained as changes to bylaws (fencing heights and limits, hunting, discharge of fire arms) may address this current issue but cause more significant issues in other areas.

In order to bring better awareness and educate to residents on how to effectively manage wildlife, what can be legally done and what expected results can be anticipated, it is recommended that a community meeting (in LaSalle) be held with representatives of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.

**Prepared By:**



Chief Administrative Officer

Joe Milicia

**Consultations**

- LaSalle Police Services
- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
- Town of LaSalle legal, planning and bylaw

**Financial Implications**

None

**Link to Strategic Priorities**

	Expanding and diversifying our assessment base
	Effectively communicating the activities and interests of the Town
	Managing our human and financial resources in a responsible manner
	Promoting and marketing LaSalle
Yes	Promote a healthy and environmentally conscious community

**Communications**

	Not applicable
Yes	Website
	Social Media

	News Release
	Local Newspaper
	Bids & Tenders
	Notification pursuant to the Planning Act

## Notifications

Name	Address	Email
Lori Quaggiotto	[REDACTED] LaSalle, Ontario N9J 1H1	[REDACTED]
Andrea Thielk	2510 Ouellette Place, Suite 301, Windsor, Ontario N8X 1L4	<a href="mailto:andrea@injurylawgroup.ca">andrea@injurylawgroup.ca</a>
Coyote Watch Canada Lesley Sampson	P.O. Box 507 341 Creek Road St. Davids, Ontario L05 1P0	<a href="mailto:info@coyotewatchcanada.com">info@coyotewatchcanada.com</a> <a href="mailto:coyotewatchcanada@gmail.com">coyotewatchcanada@gmail.com</a>
The Fur-Bearers Michael Howie	Suite 701, 718-333 Brooksbank Ave North Vancouver, BC V7J 3V8	<a href="mailto:michael@thefurbearers.com">michael@thefurbearers.com</a>
Melanie Coulter Windsor Essex Humane Society	1375 Provincial Road Windsor, Ontario N8W 5V8 P: 519-966-5751 F: 519-966-2546	<a href="mailto:melanie@windsorhumane.org">melanie@windsorhumane.org</a>
Richard Wyma Essex Region Conservation Authority	360 Fairview Ave West Essex, Ontario N8M 1Y6 P: 519-776-5209 F: 519-776-8688	<a href="mailto:rwyma@erca.org">rwyma@erca.org</a>

Steven Rowswell Melody Cairns	Ministry of Natural Resources - Aylmer District	<a href="mailto:steven.rowswell@ontario.ca">steven.rowswell@ontario.ca</a> <a href="mailto:melody.cairns@ontario.ca">melody.cairns@ontario.ca</a>
Cst. Terry Seguin S/Sgt Duncan Davies D/Chief Kevin Beaudoin Chief John Leontowicz	LaSalle Police Service	<a href="mailto:tseguin@lasallepolice.ca">tseguin@lasallepolice.ca</a> <a href="mailto:ddavies@lasallepolice.ca">ddavies@lasallepolice.ca</a> <a href="mailto:kbeaudoin@lasallepolice.ca">kbeaudoin@lasallepolice.ca</a> <a href="mailto:jleontowicz@lasallepolice.ca">jleontowicz@lasallepolice.ca</a>
Greater Essex County District School Board Stephanie Fathi	280 Eugenie St E Windsor ON N8X 2X8 P: 519 966-0034 Ext. 10522	<a href="mailto:Stephanie.Fathi@publicboard.ca">Stephanie.Fathi@publicboard.ca</a>
Lisa Billette		
Resident		

### Report Approval Details

Document Title:	CAO-07-2019 Coyotes Activity in the Town of LaSalle.docx
Attachments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- CAO-07-2019A - App A-LaSalle website coyote information.pdf</li><li>- CAO-07-2019B - App B-MNRF Website information.pdf</li><li>- CAO-07-2019C - App C-J Reanud notes from MNRF Meeting.pdf</li><li>- CAO-07-2019D - AppD-Information from LaSalle Police.pdf</li><li>- CAO-07-2019E - App E-Letter from L Quaggiotto.pdf</li><li>- CAO-07-2019F - App F-Letter from A Thielk.pdf</li><li>- CAO-07-2019G - App G-Letter from Coyote Watch, L Sampson, M Howie.pdf</li><li>- CAO-07-2019H – App H-Sandwich West Public School</li></ul>
Final Approval Date:	Jul 16, 2019

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:



Legal Counsel

**Domenic Dadalt**



---

## Contacts

### Town of LaSalle

5950 Malden Road  
LaSalle, ON N9H 1S4

### Map This Location

T: 519-969-7770

F: 519-969-4469

E-Mail Town of LaSalle

---

## Statement About Coyotes in LaSalle

Posted on Thursday June 06, 2019



Town of LaSalle Administration and Council are saddened to hear of the tragic loss of a dog due to a coyote attack. We have heard of these type of situations over the years, and are listening to the comments that we have been receiving. What makes LaSalle unique is the blend of urban and wooded areas which has led to these types of conflicts between wildlife and residents.

As a municipality, managing wildlife is out of our jurisdiction. The **Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry** (MNRF) helps manage wildlife in Ontario. They have a number of resources on their website about living with wildlife and protecting your property. Links to the information can be found on the Town's website.

We urge all residents to be aware of the wildlife in the area and to take all precautions necessary to protect your family, pets and property. Wild animals, like coyotes, are attracted to places where food is available. A common concern is that residents are leaving food outside which can attract all types of wildlife to your property, including coyotes. We strongly suggest that residents refrain from leaving food outside.

Anyone with questions or concerns is encouraged to contact the MNRF at 519-773-4728. Should a resident be in imminent danger of a coyote, they should call 911. Visit our website at [www.lasalle.ca](http://www.lasalle.ca).

[Back to Search](#)

---

© 2014 LaSalle

[Translate](#) [Home](#) [Report An Issue](#) [Privacy](#) [Accessibility](#) [Sitemap](#) [Contact Us](#) [Feedback](#)



---

## Contacts

### **Town of LaSalle**

5950 Malden Road  
LaSalle, ON N9H 1S4

### **Map This Location**

T: 519-969-7770

F: 519-969-4469

E-Mail [Town of LaSalle](mailto:info@lasalle.ca)

---

## Wild Animals in Ontario

Throughout Ontario, people and wild animals live side by side.

There are benefits to living near wild animals. Many people enjoy birds that visit their gardens, bats consume millions of mosquitoes, and coyotes eat mice and rats. However, conflicts can arise when humans encroach on wildlife habitat and wild animals behave in ways that damage our property, cost us money, or endanger our health or safety.

For more information about managing and protecting plants, animals, land, water, forests and other ecosystems, visit the Province of Ontario's **Wildlife and Nature** webpage.

### **Coyotes in Urban Areas**

Coyotes are part of a healthy ecosystem in Ontario. Learn how you can avoid attracting coyotes to your property, and how to protect pets and livestock. Visit the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry's webpage about **Preventing and Managing Conflicts with Coyotes, Wolves and Foxes**.

The following documents have been prepared by the Government of Ontario and will give you some more information about coyotes.

**The Nature of Coyotes** (PDF)

**Coyote-proofing your Property** (PDF)

**Encounters with Coyotes** (PDF)

**Predation and Compensation** (PDF)

**Protecting Dogs from Coyotes** (PDF)

**Wildlife and Protecting Your Property** (PDF)

### **Eastern Massasaugas in LaSalle**





LIVING WITH WILDLIFE:

# The Nature of Coyotes

Ontario is home to over 30,000 different species of animals and plants. This biodiversity provides us with many benefits, including healthier communities.

The Ministry of Natural Resources helps manage wildlife in Ontario and reduce conflict between people and species. We help people find ways to conserve nature and protect their family and property.

## What is a Coyote?

The eastern coyote, found throughout much of southern Ontario and agricultural areas in the north, is a hybrid between the smaller western coyote and the eastern wolf.

Adult females weigh an average of 13 to 16 kg., while males' average weight varies between 16 and 18 kg.

Coyotes are territorial animals, with their territory ranging from a few square kms where food is abundant to more than 100 square kms where food is very scarce.

## Diet

Coyotes are opportunistic feeders and will consume a variety of foods, including meat, carrion (dead animals), fruit and vegetables.

In winter, their diet consists mainly of rabbits, hares and deer when the snow is so deep that the deer's mobility is restricted. In spring, summer and fall, coyotes prey mainly on small mammals (fox, rodents, rabbits, mice and voles) and eat wild berries, birds, amphibians, grasshoppers and deer fawns.

## Life Cycle

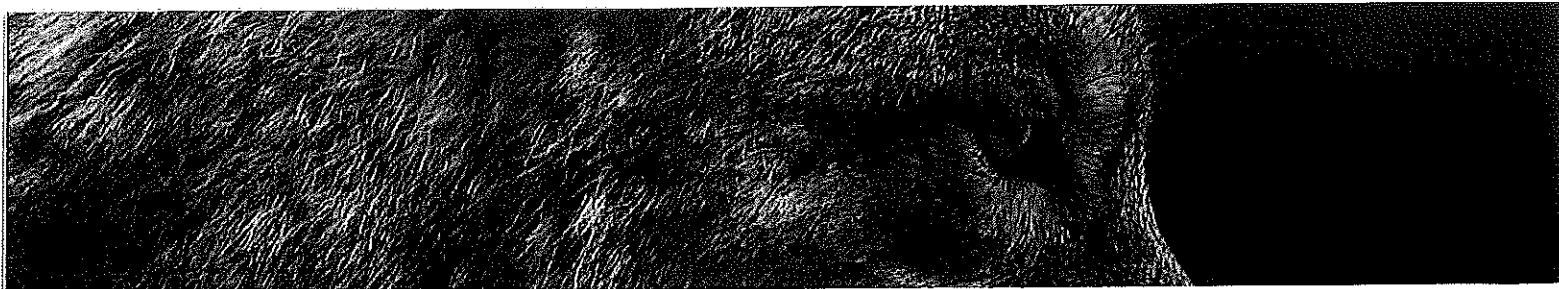
Coyotes often mate for life. Mated pairs usually breed in February, with pups born in April or May. Litters average five or six pups, but can range from two to 10. Both parents share pup-rearing duties, and begin to teach the pups hunting skills when the pups are eight to 10 weeks old.

Juveniles usually leave their parents' territory during their first autumn or winter to establish their own territory. What are sometimes referred to as "packs" of coyotes are generally an adult breeding pair and their pups from the most recent litter.

In some areas, coyotes can live eight to twelve years. In areas where they are hunted, or in populated areas like southern Ontario where vehicle collisions are common, the average life expectancy is less than five years.

## Habitat

Coyotes are most commonly associated with open, agricultural landscapes interspersed with woodlots and other brushy terrain. They are also found in green spaces and industrial areas within cities.



## Behaviour

Since migrating to Ontario more than 100 years ago, coyotes have adapted well to both rural and urban environments. The eastern coyote is now an integral and permanent part of our diverse landscape.

Many people hear coyotes without ever seeing them because of their night time howls, barks and yips. Coyotes howl to broadcast occupancy of their territory and keep members of the family group aware of each other's locations while hunting or travelling alone. Howling may also help co-ordinate some feeding activities.

Coyotes are usually wary of humans and avoid people whenever possible. They have adapted well to living near humans and development. In urban areas, they tend to be nocturnal, typically roaming at night looking for food and spending the daylight hours bedded in bushy or wooded areas.

It is unusual for coyotes to show no fear of humans. Coyotes displaying no fear of humans or exhibiting aggressive behaviours have likely been habituated to people through direct or indirect feeding.

## Size of Populations

Coyote populations normally fluctuate in response to the abundance or scarcity of food. When food supplies are limited, they experience a higher mortality rate and lower reproduction rates.

Humans account for the majority of coyote deaths through hunting, trapping and motor-vehicle accidents.

For more information  
and fact sheets on  
what you can do visit

[ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife](http://ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife)

Scan here for more  
information on  
Living with Wildlife



## Diseases

Coyote diseases or parasites are rarely a risk to humans.

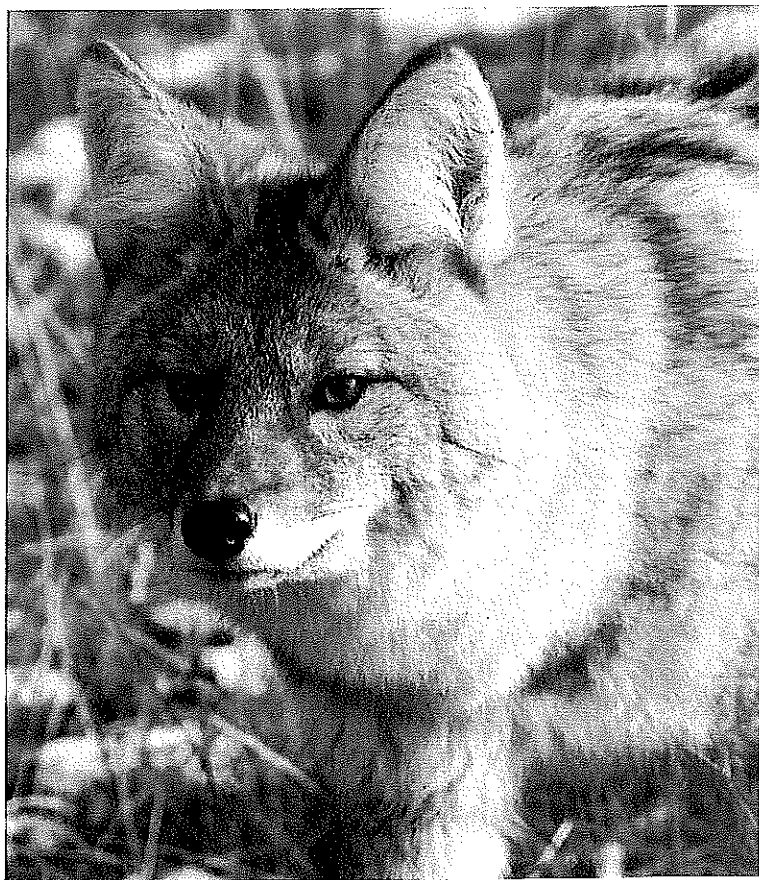
Rabies is rare in coyotes in Ontario. Coyotes may actually help to reduce the incidence of rabies in Ontario since they often prey on foxes, a species more likely to carry the disease.

Mange is common in coyote populations in Ontario. Mange is caused by a parasitic mite that burrows into the outer layer of the skin, resulting in loss of fur, extreme irritation and can cause death.

## Conflicts

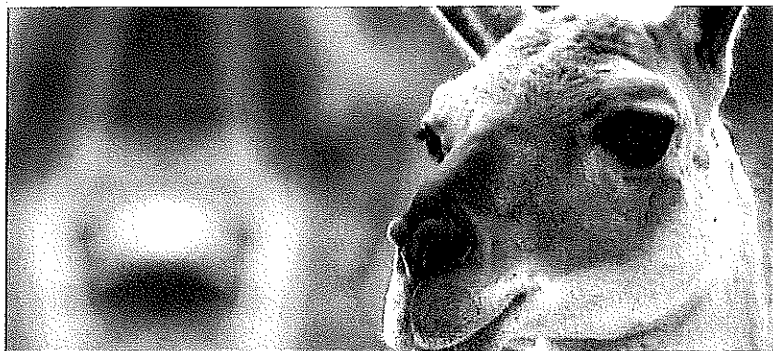
In a small number of cases coyotes lose their fear of people and start preying on livestock. These problem coyotes require more serious measures. There are tools for farmers and rural landowners that will help them deal with coyote conflicts and predation.

Visit [Ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife](http://Ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife)





# LIVING WITH WILDLIFE: Coyote-proofing your Property



## What You Can Do

People and wild animals live side by side in Ontario. Preventing a problem is a far better solution than dealing with wildlife after a conflict.

As a property owner, you have a role in making sure you are not attracting wildlife to your property that you don't want there.

For more information  
and fact sheets on  
what you can do visit

[ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife](http://ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife)

Scan here for more  
information on  
Living with Wildlife



## Preventing Encounters

### Limit attractants:

- Keep pet food indoors
- Use secure garbage containers with locking lids and store in an enclosed structure.
- Put garbage out the morning of a scheduled pickup.
- Use enclosed composting bins rather than exposed piles.
- Pick ripe fruit and seed from trees and remove fallen fruit from the ground.
- Protect vegetable gardens with heavy-duty garden fences or place vegetable plants in a greenhouse.

### Discourage coyotes from entering your property:

- Clear away bushes and dense weeds near your home where coyotes may find cover and small animals.
- Use motion sensor lights.
- Close off spaces under porches, decks and sheds. Coyotes use these areas for denning and raising young.
- If you fence your property, install a two-metre-high fence that extends at least 20 cm underground as coyotes may dig under a barrier.
- Electric fencing can also help deter coyotes.

### To prevent predation if you own livestock

- Where possible, bring your livestock into barns or sheds at night.
- Guard animals, such as donkeys, llamas and dogs can be cost-effective ways to protect livestock from coyotes. Guard animals develop bonds with livestock and will aggressively ward off predators.





# LIVING WITH WILDLIFE: Encounters with Coyotes

People and wild animals live side by side in Ontario. We all share responsibility for preventing and handling human-wildlife conflicts.

Coyotes find their way to residential areas where they may tear open garbage, cause concern for residents and even come into conflict with pets.

## Avoiding Coyote Conflicts

Coyotes are usually wary of humans and avoid people whenever possible. However, they are wild animals and should not be approached.

People should never feed coyotes. Feeding them makes the animals less fearful of humans and habituates them to foods provided by humans. Never attempt to "tame" a coyote.

Do not let pets chase coyotes as it could result in injuries to your pet.

For more information  
and fact sheets on  
what you can do visit

[ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife](http://ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife)

Scan here for more  
information on  
Living with Wildlife



## What to do if you Encounter a Coyote

Coyote sightings are commonplace. If you see a coyote, keep your distance and the animal will most likely avoid you.

**If you encounter an aggressive coyote, there are several things you should know and do.**

- Never approach or touch a coyote.
- Do not turn your back on, or run from, a coyote.
- Back away from the coyote while remaining calm.
- Stand tall, wave your hands and make lots of noise.
- Carry a flashlight at night to scare off coyotes.
- If a coyote poses an immediate threat or danger to public safety, call 911.



# LIVING WITH WILDLIFE: Predation and Compensation

The Ontario Wildlife Damage Compensation Program provides financial assistance to producers whose livestock, poultry and honey bees have been damaged by wildlife.

The program provides 100 per cent of the value of the loss up to the prescribed maximum compensation values.

## Eligibility

**In order to be eligible for compensation, you must meet certain criteria, including:**

- Have a valid Farm Business Registration number (FBR) or approved documentation issued by the ministry for new/retired farmers that do not qualify for an FBR number, or have a religious exemption approved by the Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs Appeal Tribunal or a confirmation letter provided by the Indian Agricultural Program of Ontario.
- Have a Premises Identification number or a confirmation letter provided by the Indian Agricultural Program of Ontario, unless a Premises Identification number is not available in that particular area.
- Demonstrate to the valuer that reasonable effort has been taken to prevent incidences of wildlife damage to livestock, poultry, beehives, bee colonies or beehive related equipment to be eligible for a claim.
- Fully cooperate in any audits that may be initiated in relation to any compensation the applicant receives under the program.

## How to Apply

You must notify the correct authority within 48 hours of discovering the death or injury. For livestock and poultry outside a municipality or for anything related to bees, contact OMAFRA.

For livestock and poultry within a municipality, contact your local municipal office.

## Appeals

If you do not agree with the valuer's report, you may appeal to the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA). You must appeal in writing within 20 days of receiving the valuer's report. A cheque or money order for \$25, payable to the "Minister of Finance" must accompany the appeal. The \$25 fee will be refunded to you if the appeal is upheld.

**For more information  
and fact sheets on  
what you can do visit**

[ontario.ca/predation](http://ontario.ca/predation)  
[ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife](http://ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife)

Scan here for more  
information on  
Living with Wildlife





# LIVING WITH WILDLIFE: Protecting Dogs from Coyotes

While coyotes, by nature, are wary of humans, they are opportunistic feeders and have been known to kill small dogs that have been left unattended.

Small dogs may be seen as prey by coyotes, while larger dogs may be injured in a confrontation.

## Protecting Your Dog on Your Property

- Coyotes are primarily nocturnal. Keep your dogs inside at night.
- Fence your property with a two-metre-high fence that extends at least 20 centimetres underground as coyotes may dig under a barrier. If you can't fence your yard, keep your dog on leash. If there are coyotes in your area, pet owners should keep a close eye on their pets at all times even if they are in a fenced in yard.
- Clean up after your dog. Coyotes are attracted to dog feces.
- Keep pet food indoors.

For more information  
and fact sheets on  
what you can do visit

[ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife](http://ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife)

Scan here for more  
information on  
Living with Wildlife



## Protecting Your Dog off Your Property

- Keep your dog on leash.
- Carry a flashlight at night to scare off coyotes.
- Do not let your dog chase a coyote as it could result in injury to your dog.

### Other tips

- Do not let your dogs roam from your property. Coyote diseases and parasites can be a risk to domestic dog.
- Spay or neuter your dogs. Coyotes are attracted to, and can mate with, domestic dogs that have not been spayed or neutered.





# LIVING WITH WILDLIFE: Wildlife and Protecting Your Property

## What Can You Do?

People and wild animals live side by side in Ontario. As a landowner, you can prevent or address problem wildlife on your property.

Ontario's Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act sets out the legal actions property owners can take to deal with problem wildlife.

As long as you don't cause unnecessary suffering to wildlife and follow all municipal by-laws, you may do what is necessary to prevent wildlife from causing damage to your property.

## If you Capture Wildlife

**If you capture wildlife, but don't kill it, within 24 hours of capture you must:**

- release wildlife as close as possible within a kilometre from the capture site and in similar habitat wherever possible
- deliver it to an authorized wildlife rehabilitation facility if injured, sick or orphaned.

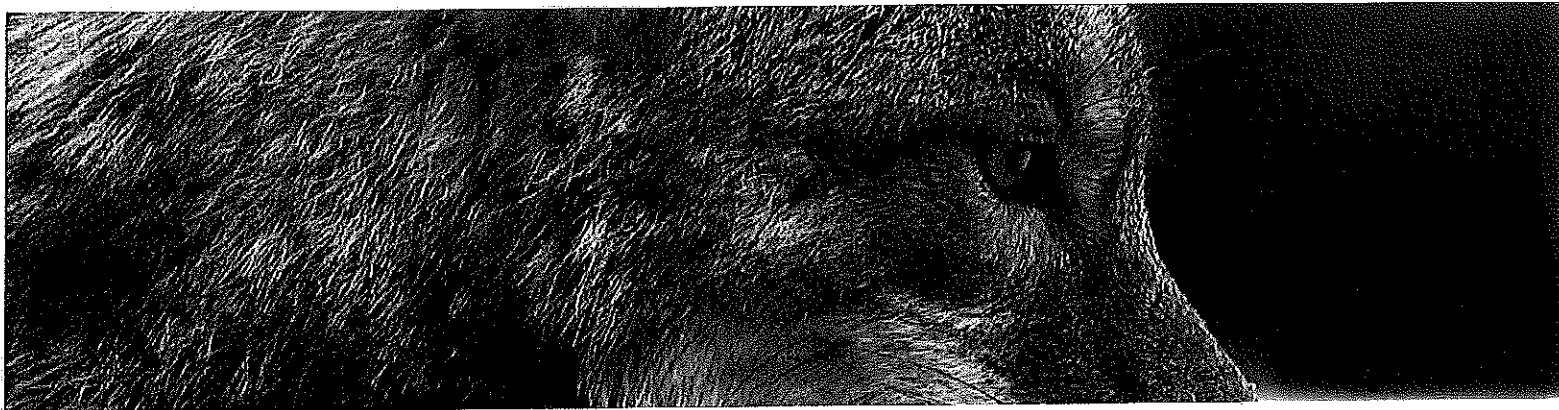


## Poisons and Adhesives

You may not use poisons or adhesives to kill, capture or injure wildlife, including in protection of property. There is an exemption for licensed poisons for the removal of pests such as mice and rats.

## Using an Agent

You may use an agent to act on your behalf to carry out or assist with wildlife removal. The agent must have authorization from the Ministry of Natural Resources or belong to a regulated class of agents.



## Checklist for Hiring a Wildlife Control Agent

### What to do first

Determine the service you require

### Finding an Agent

- Ask friends, family or neighbours for recommendations
- Check your local yellow pages, do an Internet search for pest control, or speak with your local Ministry of Natural Resources district office
- Set up a building inspection with the agent
- Ask a lot of questions to get to know the agent and the type of services they provide

### Getting Estimates and Proposals

- Obtain various estimates; they should include a detailed description of the work to be done
- Ask for references from past customers

### What Should be in the Contract?

- Your name, address and telephone
- Agent's name, address and telephone
- Description of the work being performed
- Costs
- Warranty information
- Start and completion date
- Signatures – after you have carefully reviewed the details



For more information  
and fact sheets on  
what you can do visit

[ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife](http://ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife)

Scan here for more  
information on  
Living with Wildlife





## Handling Conflicts with Wildlife

May 2018

Wildlife is an important part of Ontario's natural and cultural heritage. Wild animals can be fun to observe from a safe distance, but there are times when wildlife can become a problem.

### How can I prevent conflicts with wildlife?

Wildlife have the same basic needs as humans — food, water and shelter. Sometimes, humans and wildlife come into conflict when animals are trying to meet their basic needs. Often, conflicts can be prevented if we're willing to make small changes, such as storing garbage so animals can't get to it.

The best first step for dealing with unwelcome wildlife is to remove the food or shelter attracting them to your property. For more information about preventing and handling conflicts with different animals, visit [ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife](http://ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife) or contact your local Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry district office at [ontario.ca/mnroffices](http://ontario.ca/mnroffices).

### Who's responsible for managing problem wildlife on properties?

People are responsible for managing problem wildlife on their property. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry helps people and municipalities by providing information on steps they can take to address problems with wildlife.

### Using an agent

You may hire or ask someone to deal with problem wildlife on your property. This person is your agent. The following individuals are designated by the ministry to act as agents:

- Licenses hunters.
- Licensed trappers.
- Employees or agents of the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA).
- Members of a landowner's immediate family acting on behalf of the landowner.
- A person whose main business is removing problem wildlife.
- Municipal employees with specific responsibilities for wildlife control (animal services).

Contact your local Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry district office at [ontario.ca/mnroffices](http://ontario.ca/mnroffices) for more information.

### What actions can a landowner take?

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act sets out the legal actions property owners can take to deal with problem wildlife. Generally, landowners or their agents may capture, harass or kill problem wildlife to prevent damage to their property. There are important exceptions and requirements:

- White-tailed deer, moose, caribou and elk cannot be captured, harassed or killed in protection of property without prior authorization of the ministry. See the section below on elk and deer and agriculture-airports.
- You may not cause unnecessary suffering to any wildlife.
- Only people specifically authorized by the ministry can live-trap a black bear.
- A person who kills a black bear in protection of property anywhere in Ontario must immediately report it either through registering for a Notice of Possession — if keeping the bear, or by calling the local ministry office — if not keeping the bear.
- A person who kills a black bear in protection of property in central and northern Ontario (roughly north of the Severn River, Bancroft and Pembroke) must immediately report it either through registering for a Notice of Possession — if they wish to keep it for personal use only, or by calling their local ministry office in all other cases.

According to a regulation under the Endangered Species Act, any animal listed as threatened or endangered cannot be captured, harassed or killed in protection of property without authorization from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. The landowner must have reasonable grounds to believe the animal is damaging property and must enter into an agreement with the ministry describing what action may be taken to protect the property from that animal. For more information, contact your local Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry district office at [ontario.ca/mnroffices](http://ontario.ca/mnroffices).

### **Releasing captured wildlife**

If you capture wildlife for relocation, within 24 hours you must release it as close as possible to the capture site — less than a kilometre away — in similar habitat wherever possible, unless otherwise directed by the ministry.

If the animal is injured or sick, you can take it to an authorized wildlife rehabilitator. You may also take it to a veterinarian for temporary care and treatment. Please note that many veterinarians will not cover the cost. A list of authorized wildlife rehabilitators can be found at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/find-wildlife-rehabilitator>.

The fact sheet on what to do if you find a sick, injured or orphaned wild animal provides more information.

### **Additional requirements**

It is important to ensure that dependent offspring are not left behind when removing or relocating adults. In those cases, you should delay taking action until the young are old enough to fend for themselves or leave with the adults. If this is not practical or possible, orphaned animals can be taken to an authorized wildlife custodian.

If you must take action against wildlife, please consider your options and follow relevant laws and regulations. Property owners should check with their municipality about discharge of firearms bylaws. Only licensed trappers and farmers may possess and use body-gripping traps.

### **Farmers with problem deer or elk**

If you are a farmer who is experiencing problems with white-tailed deer or elk, you can apply for authorization from the ministry to harass or kill the problem white-tailed deer or elk on your property. There are special requirements and conditions that govern authorizations. Contact your local Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry district office at [ontario.ca/mnroffices](http://ontario.ca/mnroffices) for more information.

Authorizations for harassing or killing deer are also available to airports where deer pose public safety risks. Please contact the local ministry office for more information.

### **Learn more**

- Visit [ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife](http://ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife) for more information on preventing and handling conflicts with different wildlife.
- To learn more about preventing and handling conflicts with wildlife under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, please contact your local Ministry of Natural Resource and Forestry district office at [ontario.ca/mnroffices](http://ontario.ca/mnroffices).



Wildlife and nature (<https://www.ontario.ca/wildlifeandnature>) →

# Preventing and managing conflicts with coyotes, wolves and foxes

How you can avoid conflicts with coyotes, wolves and foxes, and what to do if you encounter these animals.

---

## What to do if you encounter a coyote, wolf or fox

If you see a coyote, wolf or fox, keep your distance and the animal will most likely avoid you.

If you encounter an aggressive animal:

- never approach or touch a wild animal
- do not turn your back or run from a wild animal
- back away from the animal while remaining calm
- stand tall, wave your hands, and make lots of noise
- carry a flashlight at night
- if a wild animal poses an immediate threat or danger to public safety — call 911

## How to make your property uninviting

- use flashing lights, motion sensors and noise makers
- put up two-metre high fence that extends at least 20 centimetres underground
- install a roller system to the top of your fence so animals can't gain a foothold

## How to prevent conflicts with dogs

- keep dogs inside at night
- clean up after your dog — coyotes are attracted to dog feces
- spay and neuter your dogs — coyotes are attracted to, and can mate with, domestic dogs that have not been spayed or neutered

## How to protect livestock

- where possible, bring your livestock into barns or sheds at night
- use guard animals, such as donkeys, llamas and dogs
- if livestock has been killed by predators, you may be eligible for compensation through the [Ontario Wildlife Damage Compensation Program](https://www.ontario.ca/predation) (<https://www.ontario.ca/predation>)

## Lethal action

- as a last resort, a farmer may humanely kill or trap wolves, coyotes or foxes that are damaging or about to damage their property
- if you are using a firearm, you must follow certain regulations and local bylaws
- landowners may also [hire an agent](https://www.ontario.ca/page/hire-wildlife-agent) (<https://www.ontario.ca/page/hire-wildlife-agent>) to act on your behalf

## How to report a wolf or coyote death

If you live in central and northern Ontario, you must report wolves and coyotes killed in protection of property to your local Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry offices (<https://www.ontario.ca/page/ministry-natural-resources-and-forestry-regional-and-district-offices>).

## How to find a trapper

To locate a licensed trapper, contact:

### **Ontario Fur Managers Federation**

705-254-3338

email: [Ontario Fur Managers Federation \(mailto:furmanagers@gmail.com\)](mailto:furmanagers@gmail.com)

Updated: March 27, 2019

Published: July 17, 2014

## Related

[Ontario Wildlife Damage Compensation Program \(https://www.ontario.ca/predation\)](https://www.ontario.ca/predation)

[Wildlife feeding \(https://www.ontario.ca/page/feeding-wildlife-dos-and-donts\)](https://www.ontario.ca/page/feeding-wildlife-dos-and-donts)

[Hire a wildlife agent \(https://www.ontario.ca/page/hire-wildlife-agent\)](https://www.ontario.ca/page/hire-wildlife-agent)



Wildlife and nature (<https://www.ontario.ca/wildlifeandnature>) →

# Wild animal control: rules for municipalities

The rules for municipalities that want to use licensed hunters or trappers to hunt or trap some species of wild animals in their communities.

Effective July 1, 2013.

## The law

Municipalities can use licensed hunters or trappers to help deal with furbearing mammals (e.g., coyotes, beavers, skunks, etc.) within their municipal boundaries.

These animal control activities can only be carried out during the open season unless the animal is damaging or about to damage property.

The municipality:

- sets the terms of arrangements with the hunter or trapper
- pays for any services

A municipality does not need a special permit or authorization from the Ministry of Natural Resources to do this.

Hired hunters or trappers must:

- comply with the conditions of their licence
- follow hunting and trapping rules (e.g., use of pelts)
- follow any local by-laws (e.g., when/where firearms can be used)

## Source law

This is a summary of the provincial laws. You can find a complete set of rules related to this activity in:

- Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997
- Ontario Regulations 665/98 (hunting), 667/98 (trapping)

## Bears

You need special authorization to use a hunter or trapper to deal with bears. But if a bear is posing an immediate threat (e.g., damaging property), no authorization is required.

[Harass, capture or kill a wild animal damaging private property \(https://www.ontario.ca/page/harass-capture-or-kill-wild-animal-damaging-private-property\)](https://www.ontario.ca/page/harass-capture-or-kill-wild-animal-damaging-private-property)

## Types of furbearing animals

Hunters or trappers can be used to control:

- beaver
- bobcat
- coyote
- fisher
- fox (Arctic, red)
- lynx
- marten
- mink
- muskrat
- opossum
- otter
- raccoon
- red squirrel
- striped skunk
- weasel (least, long-tailed, short-tailed or ermine)
- wolf

## Use a wildlife agent

You can also use a municipal employee to protect property from most species of wild animals on your behalf. The employee must have responsibilities related to animal control.

What is a wildlife agent? (<https://www.ontario.ca/faq/what-wildlife-agent>)

Harrass, capture or kill a wild animal damaging private property (<https://www.ontario.ca/page/harrass-capture-or-kill-wild-animal-damaging-private-property>)

Updated: May 9, 2019

Published: June 28, 2013

### Related

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997 (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/97f41>)

Hunting Regulations Summary (<https://www.ontario.ca/document/ontario-hunting-regulations-summary>)

Ontario regulation 665/98 (hunting) (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/980665>)

Ontario regulation 667/98 (trapping) (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/980667>)

Harrass, capture or kill a wild animal damaging private property  
(<https://www.ontario.ca/page/harrass-capture-or-kill-wild-animal-damaging-private-property>)

Find an MNR district office (<https://www.ontario.ca/mnroffices>)

June 26, 2019

Senior Constable Terry Seguin  
Staff Sergeant Duncan Davies  
Councillor Jeff Renaud

Notes Prepared  
By J. RENAUD

Steven Rowsell, Resource Management Technician, MNRF Aylmer District 519-773-4743  
[steven.rowsell@ontario.ca](mailto:steven.rowsell@ontario.ca)

Melody Cairns, A/Resources Operations Supervisor, MNRF Aylmer District 519-773-4720  
[melody.cairns@ontario.ca](mailto:melody.cairns@ontario.ca)

---

Wildlife Nuisance Control: What are our options?

Basic Information:

Ontario Law recognizes:

- LaSalle as a NO HUNT zone. Although language suggests that trapping is considered separately from hunting, the MNRF could not decisively say if sanctioned trapping was allowed in a NO HUNT zone. ***They committed to returning that answer to us.***
- any landowner may take whatever means necessary (within municipal bylaws) to protect their property (including livestock, crops and pets) from nuisance animals.
- wildlife control on Crown Land must be managed by the crown
- Wildlife control on municipal land must be managed by the municipality
- Wildlife control on private property is the responsibility of the landowner (as above)
- There is an OPEN season (trapping/hunting) with no limits in Ontario for coyote
- A municipality can only use licensed trappers (Ontario license to trap)
- Private owners need not use licensed individuals to trap on private property
- Only police (with warrant) are able to enter private land
- If a municipality wants to trap on private property, they must obtain written permission.
- Any live trapping cannot be removed beyond 1km for risk of disease/insect transfer
- There is no legal necessity to publish, inform or record trapping activity
- Licensed trappers have a responsibility to report trapping activity at their period (season) end

The MNRF will not make decisions on wildlife control or management

The MNRF will dispatch Conservation officers only when there is a report of a violation of legislation.

The MNRF is a resource and will act as advisors only. They will not make decisions for the municipality.

Licensed Trappers can be obtained through the  
Ontario Fur Managers Federation <https://furmanagers.com/>

---

#### LaSalle specific notes

Coyote reports (sightings) are on an increase

Coyote reports (attacks) include 2 in the last 3 weeks (with one other confirmed/unreported)  
(Quaggioto dog removed from yard, separate shitzhu attacked requiring \$1600 in vet)

All three reports are within a 1/8 mile of each other, along Bouffard, backing on the St. Michael Drain

There are suspected dens in our woodlots, but none are confirmed by professionals

Destroying a den will not remove the threat, a mating pair will only re establish a home

The more pups, the more aggressive the mating pair will be in order to feed those pups.

Removing both of the mating pair will only be a temporary solution, as coyote are proven to be highly adaptable and others will move in quickly to take over a reliable territory.

Sterilization of either of the mating pair has been discussed, but there is no evidence available to confirm that it will reduce the population overall, reduce aggressive behavior or cause rejection of either mating pair.

Finally, it is the municipalities right to choose the management

---

#### Lori's questions:

1) Does the town know how many dens/coyotes are in the area. ERCA reported that the population is NOT out of control but rising. Do they have a count and limit as to how many are acceptable in this environment?



2) Can the town elaborate on "out of our jurisdiction". In this case it would appear that it is NOT the responsibility of the MNRF to manage wildlife, but for each owner (including the municipality) to do their part. Nothing other than the regulation of licensed trappers is out of our jurisdiction.

3) What options are available to landowners? Are there any bylaws that can be reviewed? (fence, no hunt, noise restrictions) Bylaws can be reviewed, NO HUNT is not negotiable as it is written in provincial law (*note on fences: London is 7feet, Guelph is 8feet...for rear yards only, most locals are either 6 or 6.5 feet*)

4) What have other municipalities done? Terry and Duncan will review with Collingwood, Sarnia and London. All have had issues with coyotes in public parks in the last 5 years.

5) With increased aggressive behaviour on pets, can the town be 100% sure this is not a safety concern to residents? Research shows that animals are more aggressive when raising pups and trying to feed them. This is late spring and early summer. Aggression comes because of complacency on the part of the humans as well as the animals...the easier we make it for them (food sources), the more they come around. The hungrier they are when they are around..the more aggressive they can appear. Keep in mind, if they have a learned behaviour (they can get pets easy), they will adapt and become more brazen (opportunistic)

6) All other animals have a predator...who is theirs? Coyotes do not need a predator, they will self regulate. They have the sense/ability to increase frequency of litters when they have an abundance of food...and tend to stop mating when the food sources dry up. When a Coyote is removed from a mating pair...another is found to re-establish territory.

7) Because typical coyotes are nocturnal and we are seeing more out during the day...are we sure they are still coyotes and not coy-wolves? All of our coyotes are EASTERN coyotes. They are all a decendent of Western Coyotes (25-35 lb animal) which has moved east, mating with other classes of the species. The term coy-wolf is representative of the EASTERN. The fact that they are more brazen has more to do with feeding patterns and pack size than it does with what it mated with. That being said, there are some out there that are much larger than their WESTERN cousins...that gives them better physical abilities when needed, up to an including the securement of a food source.

8) What is the data the police have on sightings, issues and attacks.

Police can confirm...but in general	2014 was moderate for sightings
	2015 was moderate for sightings
	2016 had no sightings
	2017 had one dog approached on leash on the trail
	2018 had a higher number of sightings reported
	2019 has had two reports of attacks on pets

9) Is there a reporting system in place for residents? We do not have a system in place, however any resident that feels threatened by an animal can contact LaSalle police. They do not currently have a reaction system in place, but are looking for policy.

10) 2015 was a long time ago and alot has changed...what has changed from the eyes of the MNRF. -Nothing has changed. Any individual in a hunting zone can hunt with the permission of the landowner. Any individual can trap on their own property. A municipality has the ability to hire a provincially licensed trapper who must report to the province outcomes. MNRF still advocates co-existence and has updated their literature on the subject. (same info...consolidated on one sheet)



## LaSalle Police Service

1880 Normandy Street, LaSalle, Ontario, N9H 1P8

Phone # (519) 969 5210

Fax # (519) 969 2662

### PUBLIC MEMORANDUM

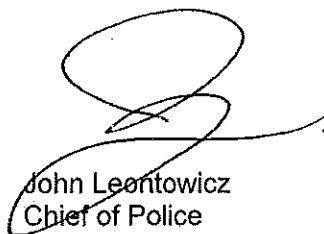
To: Joe Milicia, CAO  
From: John Leontowicz, Chief of Police  
Date: July 15, 2019  
Re: Information regarding Coyotes

---

As per your email dated July 15, 2019, please find attached information regarding coyotes in the Town of LaSalle and police involvement.

1. 2019 - 34 Administrative Directive – Coyote Complaints.
2. Meeting with Ministry of Natural Resources, Regional Office.
3. 2015 – 27 Occurrences involving Coyotes.
4. 2018 – 32 Handling Conflicts with Wildlife – Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry including: MNR correspondence dated May 16, 2018, Handling Conflicts with Wildlife, Encounters with Coyotes, Online Reporting.

Should you require any additional information, do not hesitate to contact me.



John Leontowicz  
Chief of Police

Attachment

File/h/docs/Chief's Correspondence



## LaSalle Police Service Reference Manual



Part A - Administration  
Section 1 - Orders  
Subsection 105 - 2019 Administrative Directives

### 2019 - 34 Coyote Complaints

Effective Date: 2019/07/11

Modified:

This directive is to provide information in addition to two others respecting the coyotes being:

-  2015 - 27 - Occurrences Involving Coyotes
-  2018 - 32 - Handling Conflicts With Wildlife

The recent attacks by coyotes are being actively addressed. On June 26th, 2019, Senior Constable SEGUIN and I, along with Councillor Jeff RENAUD attended a meeting with the MNR in Aylmer to discuss our issues with coyotes. I have included a summary of the meeting in the attachment which highlights the discussion and anticipated course of action. This summary is for your information and to give you a better understanding of where we are and where we may be heading. It is not for public dissemination but can be referenced when addressing residents concerns.



Meeting with MNR on Coyotes.docx

As Directive #2015-27 states - you have authority to destroy a dangerous or severely injured animal and is usually in the context of emergency response and what the animal's behaviour or condition is when observed by the Officer. If you are called to a coyote complaint after the fact such as the next day, you can conduct a search of the area for the coyote to ascertain whether or not it is or will act aggressively towards you. If so, you have authority under PSA Regulation 926 to destroy it. If it quickly runs away, there is no authority for you to hunt it and use lethal force as it is unknown whether or not this is the coyote responsible for the attack the previous day.

Further information and an action plan are expected in the near future.

Duncan DAVIES  
Staff Sergeant #216  
Operations & Corporate Support

### Meeting with MNR on Coyotes

On Wednesday June 26, 2019, TOL Councillor Jeff RENAUD, Community & Corporate Affairs Officer Senior Constable Terry SEGUIN and I attended the Ministry of Natural Resources Regional Office located in Aylmer Ontario. At 10:00 AM, we had a meeting with Resource Management Specialist Steven ROSEWELL and Acting Resources Operations Supervisor Melody CAIRNS.

During the meeting we discussed the coyote issue and concerns that we had in the Town of LaSalle. Several prepared questions were answered regarding an appropriate police response to this hot topic.

MNR started the conversation that, contrary to common belief, their role is to provide education and advice not to control nuisance or problem wildlife. They do not come out to deal with wildlife that may be dangerous or causing damage. They provide education and advice to landowners and others in their legal authorities to respond to wildlife concerns. The MNR has produced several fact sheets on interacting with wildlife.

The MNR elaborated on two sections of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act (FWCA) that gives authority to respond to wildlife issues.

#### **Section 31 of the FWCA states:**

- 31(1) If a person believes on reasonable grounds that wildlife is damaging or is about to damage the person's property, the person may, on the person's land,
- (a) harass the wildlife for the purpose of deterring it from damaging the person's property; or
  - (b) capture or kill the wildlife.
- 31(2) The person may use an agent to harass, capture or kill the wildlife under subsection (1) if the agent has the authorization of the Minister or belongs to a class of agents prescribed by the regulations (IE: licenced hunter or trapper)
- 31(3) Lists exceptions being moose, deer, etc.
- 31(4) A person who harasses, captures or kills wildlife under this section shall not harass, capture or kill more wildlife than is necessary to protect the property.
- 31(5) A person who harasses, captures or kills wildlife under this section shall not cause it unnecessary suffering.

**The definition of property includes pets and injury to persons. Section 31 also overrides any hunting or trapping regulations such as seasons and limits affording a timely response to specific wildlife problems.**

Section 31 gives authority to landowners to act when something is occurring or about to occur such as an attack on a pet or a person. Landowners include municipalities who can hire a licenced hunter or trapper to act on their behalf. It is suggested that if a licenced hunter or trapper is hired to deal with wildlife, written permission should be given. The MNR does not need to nor get involved in agreements between owners and trappers. Trappers may be paid for their services and they also may sell the pelts.

Some issues with trapping include using live traps which require the release of the trapped animal within one kilometre of where it was trapped (to avoid the spread of disease) but this does not help with coyotes as they will just stroll back. The other option is to kill the animal in a trap which could cause a response from animal rights groups and the possibility that domestic pets may be accidentally killed in the trap. Landowners can only use live trapping as only licenced trappers have authority to purchase and use traps that kill such as snares or leg traps.

The MNR reinforced the emphasis on education bringing to the public's attention to what is drawing animals in close proximity to homes, people and pets. Bird feeders bring birds which is food for wildlife. Unfenced gardens and scrap kitchen waste draws in wildlife looking for an easy meal. If small animals and deer come, so too does the carnivores to eat them.

**Section 133.2 of the FWCA states:**

133.2 (1) Clauses 11(1)(b) and (d) of the Act (speaks about hiring a hunter or trapper for gain) do not apply to a municipality that hires or employs a person to hunt or trap furbearing mammals (which includes coyotes) within the boundaries of the municipality.

As it stands now, MNR has provided education and advice that the municipality is within its lawful authority to hire a licenced hunter or trapper to deal with nuisance and/or dangerous wildlife. The question still to be answered is that LaSalle is one of the municipalities listed under the FWCA regulations as a no hunting area within Wildlife Management Unit 94. It is believed (and still needs to be clarified) that no hunting in LaSalle has been enacted through a municipal by-law with the MNR accordingly listing is as such. The MNR is not the one that excluded LaSalle from hunting - it was the municipality and therefore it is the municipality that can change or amend the by-law (hunting, discharge of firearms, etc.) to permit exemptions for hunters and/or trappers to deal with nuisance or aggressive wildlife.

There was some discussion on biology suggesting that coyotes removed from an area may actually proliferate and replace the population with more coyotes than what was originally there. They are described as very intelligent and difficult to hunt and trap. They are known to eat dog and cat food from porches and backyards and will also rummage through garbage. The ones in our area are believed to be eastern coyotes but some research suggests that there are dog/coyote hybrids around which are believed to be more aggressive than pure bred coyotes. The Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative out of Guelph may be interested in DNA samples for killed coyotes. Access to food is the best way to control coyotes.

Two municipalities with past coyote issues were Sarnia in the Canatara Park area and London in Westminster Ponds.

The MNR has a tip reporting line that the public can use to report wildlife issues mostly centred around the illegal taking of wildlife. It appears that the MNR will not get involved in something a wild animal does but would investigate or deal with persons who does something to wildlife.

The MNR indicated that a wildlife technician and/or biologist may be able to come and assist with a public forum on the issue. It was suggested that a lead time of a few months would help to facilitate that request.

The MNR stressed the importance of co-existing with wildlife. When issues occur, the first response is to harass them which may simply displace them to another area. There may be no choice but to act by hunting trapping and/or killing problem or nuisance wildlife.

Because there is a specific area of concern around the Bouffard Road area, there are reasonable grounds to believe that further damage may occur from coyotes therefore section 31 of the FWCA may be engaged by the landowner or a municipality.

If the LaSalle Police Service is notified that an attack by a coyote is about to occur or just occurred, Officers will investigate and respond which may include destroying the animal under the authority and provisions of PSA, O.Reg 926 regarding the use and discharge of police issued firearms. If a report to police is made well after the fact, Officers may search for and respond to any threatening animal they come into contact with. Simply entering a wooded area and shooting any wild animal encountered is not a reasonable response. It is also not reasonable for a homeowner to place a live trap (only option for them) in their tiny backyard and on the slight chance that they trap a coyote, their only option is to release it within one kilometre.

I know that if I were in my backyard and a coyote approached me, my pets or family in an aggressive manner and wasn't scared off, I would use lethal force in defence. The justification on the response is all in how the threat was perceived. I would not recommend that homeowners who aren't proficient in the use of a firearm or other device start blasting away at a fast moving animal as collateral damage may occur.

The MNR provided us with a copy of their latest fact sheet called "Living With Coyotes".

After the meeting, it was clear that the responsibility for nuisance or problem wildlife falls under the responsibility of the Town of LaSalle. The ultimate solution to this issue is for the Town of LaSalle to have a lawful process in place (amendment of by-laws) to contract the services of a licenced hunter or trapper to address specific wildlife problems and problem areas. Bouffard Road is obviously a problem area that requires immediate attention as there have been three attacks on domestic dogs in the last month. This may be by one or several different coyotes.

There is no authority for the Town or any agent to trespass onto private property for the purposes of hunting or trapping so proper permission would be needed preferably written. This means that if problem coyotes have a den on adjacent property that is privately owned, permission would be needed by the landowner to deal with the problem unless it was a case of fresh pursuit of a dangerous animal.

There was some discussion on employing the services of a consultant to determine the extent of the coyote population in the Town.

If the services of a licenced hunter or trapper are ultimately engaged, the residents in the surrounding vicinity need to be adequately informed of the activity to prevent domestic pets, children or anything other than coyotes from being harmed.

Councillor RENAUD indicated that he will be going back to Town Administration to initiate a proper and legal protocol that will directly address this issue. We may be called upon to provide assistance and statistics in support the Town's protocol.

Duncan DAVIES  
Staff Sergeant #216  
Operations & Corporate Support  
LaSalle Police Service



## LaSalle Police Service Reference Manual

Part A - Administration  
Section 1 - Orders  
Subsection 105 - 2015 Administrative Directives

### 2015 - 27 Occurrences involving Coyotes

Effective Date: 2015/10/22

Modified:

#### Supervisors

Supervisors are to ensure that officers attending coyote interaction calls involving animal contact with people, pets, livestock or other property provide a detailed report. The supervisor shall also ensure that the officer contacts the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) and provides them with the details of the incident.

#### Officers

Officers attending a coyote interaction incident shall ensure any injuries, loss or damage that the coyote is responsible for is listed in the report. A description of the animal including colour, length of fur and any other distinguishing marks should also be recorded. The Service will track incidents to determine if there is one or more animals that pose a risk to public safety and will engage the MNR in determining solutions. The officer shall provide the details of the incident and explore possible solutions. (harassing, trapping or displacing the animal with assistance from a Wildlife Agent). The MNR wildlife technician contact number for Police is 519-773-4728.

Officers have the authority under regulation 926 section 10(b) to "destroy an animal that is potentially dangerous". Officers shall ensure that prior to discharging a firearm to destroy a potentially dangerous animal they shall assess the area ensuring it can be done safely taking into consideration the proximity of the public and their property.

#### Communicators

Communicators shall dispatch an officer to investigate all calls related to a coyote sighting or interaction with the public. If a member of the public is seeking information related to coyotes or would like a contact number for the MNR they are to be provided with the *public call in number of 519-773-9241*.

S/Sgt. Chevalier





## LaSalle Police Service Reference Manual

Part A - Administration  
Section 1 - Orders  
Subsection 105 - 2018 Administrative Directives

### 2018 - 32 Handling Conflicts with Wildlife - Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

Effective Date: 2018/08/02

Modified:

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry has provided the attached information on Handling Conflicts with Wildlife, specifically involving Bears and Coyotes in Southern Ontario.



MNRF Memo.pdf



Handling Conflicts with Wildlife.pdf



Bear Wise.pdf



Encounters with Coyotes.pdf



MNRF On-Line Reporting.pdf

*Signed,*

**Kevin BEAUDOIN**  
**Staff Sergeant**  
**Operations & Corporate Support**

Ministry of Natural  
Resources and Forestry

615 John Street North  
Aylmer, ON N5H 2S8  
Tel: 519-773-9241  
Fax: 519-773-9014

Ministère des Richesses  
naturelles et des Forêts

615, rue John Nord  
Aylmer ON N5H 2S8  
Tél: 519-773-9241  
Téléc: 519-773-9014



May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018

LaSalle Police Service  
1880 Normandy Street  
LaSalle, ON N9H 1P8

Dear Police Chief John Leontowicz,

On behalf of Aylmer District Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), I would like to provide you and your staff with some updated information regarding black bears and other wildlife that police and the public may encounter. I would also like to offer to meet with you and your staff, at your convenience, to further discuss bears, wildlife and the role of MNRF in regards to managing wildlife.

### **Black Bear Sightings**

Although black bears sightings are not frequent within Aylmer District, occurrences have been reported. MNRF recommends that the public call 9-1-1 when there is an immediate threat to personal safety, and to call MNRF's *BearWise* reporting line (1-866-514-2327) for non-emergency bear encounters. All *BearWise* calls are documented within the Bear Incident and Response Tracking Application (BIRTA) which is monitored regularly and used to track and manage black bears.

A great resource for both police and the public is the *BearWise* website, which can be found here: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/prevent-bear-encounters-bear-wise>. The website provides detailed information on bear behaviour, how to prevent bear encounters, and what to do during an encounter. I have enclosed a document entitled *Black Bears in Southern ON Fact Sheet* that provides similar information, and includes Southern Ontario distribution data, which you may find useful. Enclosed you will also find a USB that contains a newly developed **Police Problem Bear E-Learning Training Program** that is being distributed to police detachments across Ontario. This training program will provide police with a basic understanding of bear behaviour as well as the roles of police and MNRF staff in responding to bear reports.

### **Human-Wildlife Conflicts**

Humans and wildlife occasionally come into conflict when animals are trying to meet their basic needs. I have enclosed two documents regarding coyotes entitled: *Encounters with Coyotes* and *The Nature of Coyotes*. These fact sheets tend to be effective in easing the minds of concerned residents who are living with coyotes in close proximity. Additionally, the following webpage <https://www.ontario.ca/page/preventing-and-managing-conflicts-coyotes-wolves-and-foxes> will provide police and public with information on what to do if an aggressive animal is encountered, and how landowners can protect their pets, livestock and property. Unless the public is in immediate danger and requires police assistance, wildlife related calls can be directed to Aylmer District MNRF's general phone line (519-773-9241).

as necessary. The enclosed fact sheet entitled *Handling Conflicts with Wildlife* provides further information on what steps a landowner can take to respond to problem wildlife.

### **Information Sessions**

Please feel free to share the resources included in this letter with your staff and the public. Additionally, if you are interested, a presentation and/or information session can be tailored to your needs and may include information about: dispatching deer, protocols for claiming road-killed/dead animals, nuisance wildlife, bear encounters/response, MNRF/OPP Memorandum of Understanding on bear response, wildlife disease, etc. If you or your staff have any further questions or concerns regarding black bears or nuisance wildlife issues, or are interested in an information session, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Juliana Skuza

**Wildlife Technician**

Aylmer District Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

Phone: 519-773-4728

Email: [juliana.skuza@ontario.ca](mailto:juliana.skuza@ontario.ca)

## Handling Conflicts with Wildlife

May 2018

Wildlife is an important part of Ontario's natural and cultural heritage. Wild animals can be fun to observe from a safe distance, but there are times when wildlife can become a problem.

### How can I prevent conflicts with wildlife?

Wildlife have the same basic needs as humans — food, water and shelter. Sometimes, humans and wildlife come into conflict when animals are trying to meet their basic needs. Often, conflicts can be prevented if we're willing to make small changes, such as storing garbage so animals can't get to it.

The best first step for dealing with unwelcome wildlife is to remove the food or shelter attracting them to your property. For more information about preventing and handling conflicts with different animals, visit [ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife](http://ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife) or contact your local Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry district office at [ontario.ca/mnroffices](http://ontario.ca/mnroffices).

### Who's responsible for managing problem wildlife on properties?

People are responsible for managing problem wildlife on their property. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry helps people and municipalities by providing information on steps they can take to address problems with wildlife.

### Using an agent

You may hire or ask someone to deal with problem wildlife on your property. This person is your agent. The following individuals are designated by the ministry to act as agents:

- Licensed hunters.
- Licensed trappers.
- Employees or agents of the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA).
- Members of a landowner's immediate family acting on behalf of the landowner.
- A person whose main business is removing problem wildlife.
- Municipal employees with specific responsibilities for wildlife control (animal services).

Contact your local Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry district office at [ontario.ca/mnroffices](http://ontario.ca/mnroffices) for more information.

### What actions can a landowner take?

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act sets out the legal actions property owners can take to deal with problem wildlife. Generally, landowners or their agents may capture, harass or kill problem wildlife to prevent damage to their property. There are important exceptions and requirements:

- White-tailed deer, moose, caribou and elk cannot be captured, harassed or killed in protection of property without prior authorization of the ministry. See the section below on elk and deer and agriculture-airports.
- You may not cause unnecessary suffering to any wildlife.
- Only people specifically authorized by the ministry can live-trap a black bear.
- A person who kills a black bear in protection of property anywhere in Ontario must immediately report it either through registering for a Notice of Possession – if keeping the bear, or by calling the local ministry office – if not keeping the bear.
- A person who kills a black bear in protection of property in central and northern Ontario (roughly north of the Severn River, Bancroft and Pembroke) must immediately report it either through registering for a Notice of Possession – if they wish to keep it for personal use only, or by calling their local ministry office in all other cases.

According to a regulation under the Endangered Species Act, any animal listed as threatened or endangered cannot be captured, harassed or killed in protection of property without authorization from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. The landowner must have reasonable grounds to believe the animal is damaging property and must enter into an agreement with the ministry describing what action may be taken to protect the property from that animal. For more information, contact your local Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry district office at [ontario.ca/mnroffices](http://ontario.ca/mnroffices).

### **Releasing captured wildlife**

If you capture wildlife for relocation, within 24 hours you must release it as close as possible to the capture site — less than a kilometre away — in similar habitat wherever possible, unless otherwise directed by the ministry.

If the animal is injured or sick, you can take it to an authorized wildlife rehabilitator. You may also take it to a veterinarian for temporary care and treatment. Please note that many veterinarians will not cover the cost. A list of authorized wildlife rehabilitators can be found at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/find-wildlife-rehabilitator>.

The fact sheet on what to do if you find a sick, injured or orphaned wild animal provides more information.

### **Additional requirements**

It is important to ensure that dependent offspring are not left behind when removing or relocating adults. In those cases, you should delay taking action until the young are old enough to fend for themselves or leave with the adults. If this is not practical or possible, orphaned animals can be taken to an authorized wildlife custodian.

If you must take action against wildlife, please consider your options and follow relevant laws and regulations. Property owners should check with their municipality about discharge of firearms bylaws. Only licensed trappers and farmers may possess and use body-gripping traps.

### **Farmers with problem deer or elk**

If you are a farmer who is experiencing problems with white-tailed deer or elk, you can apply for authorization from the ministry to harass or kill the problem white-tailed deer or elk on your property. There are special requirements and conditions that govern authorizations. Contact your local Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry district office at [ontario.ca/mnroffices](http://ontario.ca/mnroffices) for more information.

Authorizations for harassing or killing deer are also available to airports where deer pose public safety risks. Please contact the local ministry office for more information.

### **Learn more**

- Visit [ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife](http://ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife) for more information on preventing and handling conflicts with different wildlife.
- To learn more about preventing and handling conflicts with wildlife under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, please contact your local Ministry of Natural Resource and Forestry district office at [ontario.ca/mnroffices](http://ontario.ca/mnroffices).



# Living with Wildlife: Encounters with Coyotes

People and wild animals live side by side in Ontario. We all share responsibility for preventing and handling human-wildlife conflicts.

Coyotes find their way to residential areas where they may tear open garbage, cause concern for residents and even come into conflict with pets.

## Avoiding Coyote Conflicts

Coyotes are usually wary of humans and avoid people whenever possible. However, they are wild animals and should not be approached.

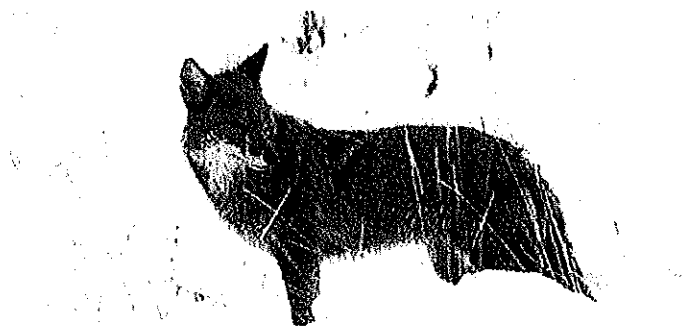
People should never feed coyotes. Feeding them makes the animals less fearful of humans and habituates them to foods provided by humans. Never attempt to "tame" a coyote.

Do not let pets chase coyotes as it could result in injuries to your pet.

For more information  
and fact sheets on  
what you can do visit

[ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife](http://ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife)

Scan here for more  
information on  
Living with Wildlife



## What to do if you Encounter a Coyote

Coyote sightings are commonplace. If you see a coyote, keep your distance and the animal will most likely avoid you.

If you encounter an aggressive coyote, there are several things you should know and do:

- Never approach or touch a coyote.
- Do not turn your back on, or run from, a coyote.
- Back away from the coyote while remaining calm.
- Stand tall, wave your hands and make lots of noise.
- Carry a flashlight at night to scare off coyotes.
- If a coyote poses an immediate threat or danger to public safety, call 911.



# Living with Wildlife: The Nature of Coyotes

Ontario is home to over 30,000 different species of animals and plants. This biodiversity provides us with many benefits, including healthier communities.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry helps manage wildlife in Ontario and reduce conflict between people and species. We help people find ways to conserve nature and protect their family and property.

## What is a Coyote?

The eastern coyote, found throughout much of southern Ontario and agricultural areas in the north, is a hybrid between the smaller western coyote and the eastern wolf.

Adult females weigh an average of 13 to 16 kilograms, while males' average weight varies between 16 and 18 kilograms.

Coyotes are territorial animals, with their territory ranging from a few square kilometres where food is abundant to more than 100 square kilometres where food is very scarce.

## Diet

Coyotes are opportunistic feeders and will consume a variety of foods, including meat, carrion (dead animals), fruit and vegetables.

In winter, their diet consists mainly of rabbits, hares and deer when the snow is so deep that the deer's mobility is restricted. In spring, summer and fall, coyotes prey mainly on small mammals (fox, rodents, rabbits, mice and voles) and eat wild berries, birds, amphibians, grasshoppers and deer fawns.

## Life Cycle

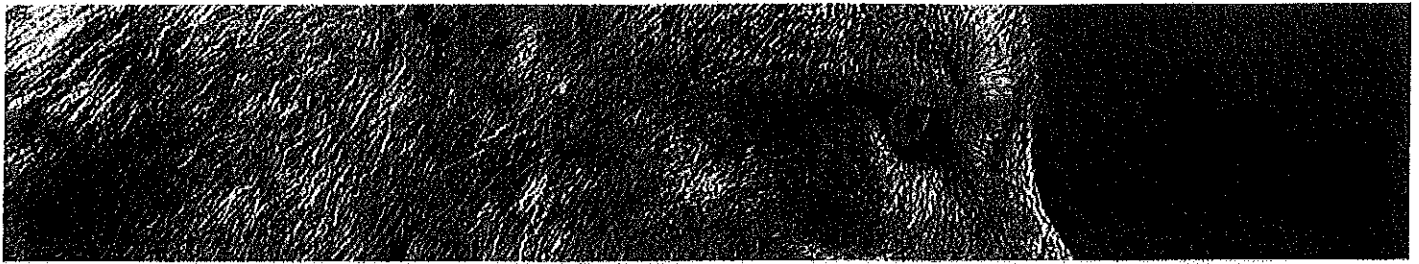
Coyotes often mate for life. Mated pairs usually breed in February, with pups born in April or May. Litters average five or six pups, but can range from two to 10. Both parents share pup-rearing duties, and begin to teach the pups hunting skills when the pups are eight to 10 weeks old.

Juveniles usually leave their parents' territory during their first autumn or winter to establish their own territory. What are sometimes referred to as "packs" of coyotes are generally an adult breeding pair and their pups from the most recent litter.

In some areas, coyotes can live eight to 12 years. In areas where they are hunted, or in populated areas like southern Ontario where vehicle collisions are common, the average life expectancy is less than five years.

## Habitat

Coyotes are most commonly associated with open, agricultural landscapes interspersed with woodlots and other brushy terrain. They are also found in green spaces and industrial areas within cities.



## Behaviour

Since migrating to Ontario more than 100 years ago, coyotes have adapted well to both rural and urban environments. The eastern coyote is now an integral and permanent part of our diverse landscape.

Many people hear coyotes without ever seeing them because of their night time howls, barks and yips. Coyotes howl to broadcast occupancy of their territory and keep members of the family group aware of each other's locations while hunting or travelling alone. Howling may also help co-ordinate some feeding activities.

Coyotes are usually wary of humans and avoid people whenever possible. They have adapted well to living near humans and development. In urban areas, they tend to be nocturnal, typically roaming at night looking for food and spending the daylight hours bedded in bushy or wooded areas.

It is unusual for coyotes to show no fear of humans. Coyotes displaying no fear of humans or exhibiting aggressive behaviours have likely been habituated to people through direct or indirect feeding.

## Size of Populations

Coyote populations normally fluctuate in response to the abundance or scarcity of food. When food supplies are limited, they experience a higher mortality rate and lower reproduction rates.

Humans account for the majority of coyote deaths through hunting, trapping and motor-vehicle accidents.

For more information  
and fact sheets on  
what you can do, visit

[ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife](http://ontario.ca/livingwithwildlife)

Scan here for more  
information on  
Living with Wildlife



## Diseases

Coyote diseases or parasites are rarely a risk to humans.

Rabies is rare in coyotes in Ontario. Coyotes may actually help to reduce the incidence of rabies in Ontario since they often prey on foxes, a species more likely to carry the disease.

Mange is common in coyote populations in Ontario. Mange is caused by a parasitic mite that burrows into the outer layer of the skin, resulting in loss of fur, extreme irritation and can cause death.

## Conflicts

In a small number of cases, coyotes lose their fear of people and start preying on livestock. These problem coyotes require more serious measures. There are tools for farmers and rural landowners that will help them deal with coyote conflicts and predation.

Visit  
([omafra.gov.on.ca/English/livestock/predation.htm](http://omafra.gov.on.ca/English/livestock/predation.htm))







## ONLINE REPORTING

If you want to keep a dead wild animal (white-tailed deer, moose, elk, black bear, hawk, eagle, owl, furbearing mammal) that has been killed or found on a roadway, you are required to submit a Notice of Possession promptly upon acquiring the dead animal. (Note: special rules apply to endangered or threatened species). You will need to register online through the [www.ontario.ca](http://www.ontario.ca) website or visit a ServiceOntario full service location to fill out a Notice of Possession form.

### HOW TO GET STARTED

- Go to the *Ontario.ca* website and search for "keep a dead wild animal." Read the material and select the registration link.
- For first time users, you will need to create two accounts:
  1. A One-key account will allow you to access all Ontario government services that are available online.
  2. A MNR account links your ONE-Key account to a specific registration form. You only need to set up each account once.
- You may wish to download the Natural Resources Registry Guide (either print a copy or keep the guide open in a separate tab on your computer).

### REGISTER AN ACTIVITY

1. Click "My Services"
2. Create "New Registration"
3. Confirm your MNR Profile information
4. Select Activity (e.g. Notice of Possession)
5. Register your activity
6. Submit the registration

You must keep your Confirmation of Registration for as long as you are in possession of the animal.

### QUESTIONS?

Contact 1-800-387-7011 or email: [mnr.rasc@ontario.ca](mailto:mnr.rasc@ontario.ca)

## Joe Milicia

---

**From:** Jeff Renaud  
**Sent:** Monday, June 10, 2019 10:52 PM  
**To:** Joe Milicia; Lori Quaggiotto  
**Subject:** Fwd: Issue and Information Requested  
**Attachments:** LT Town of LaSalle Council re coyote attack - June 8, 2019.pdf

Good Evening Joe,

As we discussed today, I will requesting a report from administration on LaSalle's options in controlling the coyote population at our meeting June 11, 2019. As we all know the Quaggiotto family has recently had a pet taken from their yard in daylight hours by a coyote. The family has asked me to forward the following email with hopes their questions can be considered in the report. They have also included a legal opinion.

Please ensure this is circulated as necessary.

Thankyou

Jeff Renaud  
Councillor  
Town of LaSalle

Sent by Councillor Jeff Renaud on his mobile device.

**From:** Lori Quaggiotto [REDACTED]  
**Date:** June 7, 2019 at 4:45:50 PM EDT  
**To:** [jrenaud@lasalle.ca](mailto:jrenaud@lasalle.ca); [a\\_riccio@hotmail.com](mailto:a_riccio@hotmail.com)  
**Subject:** Issue and Information Requested

If you can also please forward to the other Town Councillors as I don't have their email addresses.

Dear Town Councillors

Thank you very much for ensuring that our concerns with the Coyote issue are presented to the Town Council Meeting on Tuesday.

As you have seen from the Post there are many many LaSalle residents sharing the same concerns with the Coyotes (Coy Dog) issue at hand:

The main concern is safety. Safety to people (LaSalle residents) and their pets. We are fearful for our own safety, our safety of our children, and our pets. There appears to be an overpopulation of Coyotes (Coy Dogs) and there is no mechanism in place to keep this population under control. There also is direct examples where these animals no longer fear humans.

The coyote (coy wild dogs or cross breed) are coming out at any time of day or night, are not afraid to approach humans, jumping into peoples yards, sitting on back porches and attacking and killing dogs on leashes, off leashes, while people are walking, and as recent in our Maggie Sue was snatched in our own fenced yard within 30 seconds. All guidelines and precautions were taken and yet this still happened.

Below are some of my questions that should be answered within the reporting of this issue by administration and I'm sure you may also have questions so feel free to add:

- 1) Does the Town of LaSalle know how many coyotes are in the area and how many dens and where these dens are located? ERCA reported that the population is not out of control, what is the population and at what number is it out of control? How are these numbers tracked and reported? Are these numbers available to the public.
- 2) The Town of LaSalle has indicated that this issue "is out of their jurisdiction" and yet the Ministry of Natural Resources has indicated that it is within the municipality's responsibility. Can the Town of LaSalle elaborate on "out of their jurisdiction". If it is out of their jurisdiction, who's ultimate responsibility are the Coyotes.
- 3) What options are allowable to residents to ensure safety as the guidelines provided have not been sufficient enough to stop these animals from attacks. Are there bylaws that the Town can investigate and recommend to protect individuals from these animals (ie. fence height, no hunt, noise restrictions, etc..)
- 4) What have other municipalities in Ontario done to control the population of Coyotes in their area?
- 5) There have been reporting of attacks & casualties on humans in North America ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coyote\\_attack](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coyote_attack)) Research suggests that since these animals are coming out during the day (typically this animal is nocturnal) do we know what type of breed or cross breed we are dealing with. Is the Township 100% sure there is no safety concern to Residents. The video released in Colorado that Jeff Renaud also circulated suggests that if the animals are coming out during the day and are not fearing humans, human safety is a huge concern.
- 6) All other animals in the Ecosystem have a natural method for controlling population through Predators and food chain (ie. Deer, Rabbits, etc..). What is the method to control the population of Coyotes (Coy Dogs)
- 7) The coyotes typically are nocturnal meaning they only come out at night and yet we are finding these are coming out during daylight and all times of the day not only during mating season but all through the year which appears to be why these are referred to coy dogs and wild dogs. What breed of animal are we dealing with, do these coy dogs have rabies or is there a safety concern of rabies at all.
- 8) What is the data the Police/Town have on the number of coyote sightings, issues and attacks that have been reported to them by LaSalle Residents.
- 9) Some LaSalle Residents may not have been aware of the reporting system. Is there a process for sightings and reporting that LaSalle residents should be made aware of so the data is more

accurate on these sightings/attacks within the Town of LaSalle. Some may not be aware of how to report these instances so the data maybe inaccurate.

While we are aware that a public forum was held in October of 2015, a lot has changed since, for example, the development of land approved by the Town has continued to increase removing natural habitat areas so therefore to continue to site a public forum that was held 4 years ago to use as a response to current issues to LaSalle residents is out of date.

Below is a fact sheet obtained from the Ministry of Natural Resources outlining the Municipality's responsibility.

<http://www.ojibway.ca/Coyotes-factsheet-MNR.pdf>

Many thanks again for bringing these issues forward before any further attacks and/or casualties happen.

Respectfully,

Lori & Ron Quaggiotto

June 8, 2019

The Town of LaSalle Council  
c/o Mayor Marc Bondy and Councillors  
5950 Malden Road  
LaSalle, ON N9H 1S4

Dear Your Worship and Councillors:<sup>1</sup>

**Re: Coyote control in the Town of LaSalle and the importance of public protection**

This letter arises out of the coyote attack on a domestic dog in a resident's backyard on Bouffard Road on June 4, 2019. This letter is intended to provide guidance on Council's discussions on preventing reoccurrence of this unfortunate event on domestic animals and more importantly, on young children and other vulnerable residents.

**1. The Town of LaSalle has the necessary jurisdiction to take action**

The Provincial Government has conferred on municipalities with the jurisdiction to employ or contract licensed hunters or trappers to engage in "animal control activities" with furbearing animals, such as coyotes. The municipality is charged with setting the terms of the arrangements with the hunter or trapper, and paying for its services (i.e., out of tax revenue). A municipality does not require a special permit or authorization from the Ministry of Natural Resources to engage in these activities.<sup>2</sup>

Licensing requirements and restrictions on trapping and hunting are prescribed by provincial regulations; they do not, notably, restrict the trapping or hunting of coyotes within municipal boundaries, and particularly those that pose a threat to the safety of residents and preservation of property.<sup>3</sup> Similarly, the provincial legislation related to municipal powers does not appear to restrict any such action,<sup>4</sup> and it does not appear that the Town of LaSalle has not passed a by-law in relation to this issue.<sup>5</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> The author of this letter is a former LaSalle resident, and is licensed to practice law in the Province of Ontario with a specialization of complex civil and commercial litigation. The content of this letter is provided for general information purposes only and does not constitute legal or other professional advice or an opinion of any kind. Readers are advised to seek specific legal regarding any specific legal issues. The author of this letter does not warrant or guarantee the quality, accuracy or completeness of any information in this letter. This letter does not create a lawyer-client relationship. The opinions contained in this letter are personal opinions and are not the opinions of the author's firm, and should not be construed in such a way.

<sup>2</sup> Government of Ontario, "Wild animal control: rules for municipalities" (available online: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/wild-animal-control-rules-municipalities>).

<sup>3</sup> Trapping, O. Reg. 667/98; Hunting, O. Reg. 665/98. See also *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997, S.O. 1997, c. 41*.

<sup>4</sup> *Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25*: the closest provisions that apply relate to the impounding of animals (s. 103) and muzzling of dogs (s. 105). Essentially, these provisions allow municipalities to provide for impounding and sale of animals and establishment of pounds.

<sup>5</sup> The most relevant by-law to the matters at issue is By-law No. 7841 (Being a By-Law To Regulate, License and Control Animals within the Town of LaSalle), but again, that by-law is not on point..

Coyotes are not considered a "Species at Risk in Ontario" (i.e., they are not an endangered or threatened species),<sup>6</sup> and thus, they do not attract special rules in relation to their harassment, capture, or killing.

## **2. The Town of LaSalle faces potential liability for inaction<sup>7</sup>**

In the absence of some statutory restriction or limitation – which, as described above, does not exist relating to the matters at issue – a municipal corporation, acting through its officers and employees, which has occasioned loss or injury to anyone by its negligent act or omission is liable to such person in damages to be recovered in a civil action as though such injury had been due to the negligence of a private person.<sup>8</sup>

As a general rule, municipal authorities are not liable for failure to exercise discretionary powers, but they may be liable if they exercise these powers without reasonable care.

## **3. The Town of LaSalle should take reasonable care in addressing the matters at issue**

Given the risk of liability that the Town of LaSalle would face in a potential negligence claim for the harm or death of a resident, a costs benefit analysis would suggest that Council immediately exercise reasonable care by, among other things:

1. Take all reasonable means necessary to ensure the protection of its residents, their property, and domestic animals from packs of coyotes within the Town's boundaries and control; and
2. Take the necessary steps within its organization and with affiliated entities (i.e., the Essex Region Conservation Authority) to observe the packs of coyotes situated in the suburban centres in LaSalle; determine the threat they impose on these residential centres and communities; take all reasonable means necessary, including contracting or employing hunters or trappers, to address the issues observed in their findings. Any relevant study already taken by the Town of LaSalle and affiliated organizations that has been undertaken 4+ years ago is outdated and not relevant to the issue at hand.<sup>9</sup>

## **Conclusion**

The unfortunate event of June 4, 2019 provides a welcomed opportunity to Council – particularly in light of its new administration – to execute the duties of their offices by exploring, discussing, and taking action on the matters discussed herein.

Thank you for your thorough consideration and attentiveness to this important issue.

---

<sup>6</sup> Species at Risk in Ontario List, O. Reg. 230/08; Government of Ontario, "Species at risk in Ontario" (available online: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/species-risk-ontario>).

<sup>7</sup> This section is taken almost in full from Canadian Encyclopedic Digest – Municipal Corporations – By-laws, Permits and Legal Proceedings, XIII.4.a (available on Westlaw Next Canada).

<sup>8</sup> *Dixon v. Edmonton (City)* (1924), [1925] 1 D.L.R. 80 (S.C.C.).

<sup>9</sup> See e.g., Government of Ontario, "Provincial Wildlife Population Monitoring Program Plan" (available online: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/provincial-wildlife-population-monitoring-program-plan>): where the Government of Ontario renews its wildlife population monitoring efforts every four years.

## Coyotes in the Community

January 22, 2010

Coyotes, like other wild animals, sometimes come into conflict with humans. Since migrating to Ontario from the west over 100 years ago, coyotes have adapted well to urban environments and can now be found in both rural and urban settings. Changes in land use, agricultural practices, weather and natural food shortages may contribute to increased coyote sightings in your community.

### Responsibility for managing problem wildlife on properties

- Landowners are responsible for managing problem animals on their property. For example, if there are coyote problems on municipal property it is the municipality's responsibility to deal with them.
- The Ministry of Natural Resources helps landowners and municipalities deal with problem wildlife by providing fact sheets, appropriate agency and animal control services referrals, and information necessary to obtain authorizations where required.
- The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act sets out the legal actions property owners can take to deal with problem wildlife. Generally, landowners or their agents may capture, kill, or harass problem wildlife to prevent damage to their property. There is no closed season for coyotes in the majority of southern Ontario.

Homeowners can take steps to ensure coyotes aren't attracted to their property and to keep their pets safe. To reduce the potential for coyote encounters, the [Ministry of Natural Resources](#) has these tips for the public.

### Do not approach or feed coyotes

- Coyotes are usually wary of humans and avoid people whenever possible. However, they are wild animals and should not be approached.
- People should NOT feed coyotes. Feeding them makes the animals less fearful of humans and habituates them to foods provided by humans.
- Aggressive behaviour towards people is unusual for coyotes, but people should always exercise caution around wildlife.

### If you encounter a coyote

- Never attempt to "tame" a coyote.
- Do not turn your back on or run from a coyote. Back away from the coyote while remaining calm.
- Use whistles and personal alarm devices to frighten an approaching or threatening animal.

### Secure garbage and minimize attractants on your property

- Properly store and maintain garbage containers to help prevent coyotes from becoming a problem.
- Place trash bins inside an enclosed structure to discourage the presence of small rodents, which are an important food source for coyotes.
- Put garbage at curbside the morning of the scheduled pickup, rather than the night before.
- Use enclosed composting bins rather than exposed piles. Coyotes are attracted to dog and cat waste as well as products containing meat, milk and eggs.
- Pick ripe fruit from fruit trees and remove fallen fruit from the ground and keep bird feeders from overflowing as coyotes are fond of fruit, nuts, and seeds.

- Protect vegetable gardens with heavy-duty garden fences or place vegetable plants in a greenhouse. Check with your local nursery to see what deterrent products are available.
- Consider eliminating artificial water sources such as koi ponds.
- Keep pet food indoors.

#### **Use deterrents and fences to keep coyotes away from your home and gardens**

- Use motion-sensitive lighting and/or motion-activated sprinkler systems to make your property less attractive to coyotes and other nocturnal wildlife.
- Fence your property or yard. It is recommended the fence be at least six feet tall with the bottom extending at least six inches below the ground and/or a foot outward. A roller system can be attached to the top of the fence, preventing animals from gaining the foothold they need to pull themselves up and over the top of a fence.
- Electric fencing can also help deter coyotes from properties or gardens in some circumstances
- Clear away bushes and dense weeds near your home where coyotes may find cover and small animals to feed upon.
- Close off crawl spaces under porches, decks, and sheds. Coyotes use such areas for denning and raising young.

#### **Keep all pets on leashes or confined to a yard**

- Cats and small dogs may be seen as prey by coyotes, while larger dogs may be injured in a confrontation. To avoid these situations consider the following suggestions:
- Install proper fencing (see above).
- As coyotes are primarily nocturnal, animals should be kept inside at night.
- Keep cats indoors and do not allow pets to roam from home.
- Walk your dog on a leash at all times. If your yard does not have a fence, use a leash while on your property to keep your dog close to you.
- Spay or neuter your dogs. Coyotes are attracted to, and can mate with, domestic dogs that have not been spayed or neutered.

#### **Prevent predation on livestock**

- Barns or sheds can provide effective protection from coyote predation for livestock that bed inside or nearby at night.
- Guard animals, such as donkeys, llamas and dogs can be a cost-effective way to protect livestock from coyotes. Guard animals will develop a bond with livestock if they are slowly integrated and will aggressively repel predators.
- For more information on preventing livestock predation, please visit the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) website at [www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/sheep/predator.html](http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/sheep/predator.html).

#### **LEARN MORE**

- To learn more about coyotes, including how to deal with coyote problems, call your local Ministry of Natural Resources district office. If the coyote poses an immediate threat or danger to public safety, call 911.



ANDREA THIELK  
PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

BARRISTER • SOLICITOR • NOTARY PUBLIC

**Time Sensitive**

June 7, 2019

The Corporation of the Town of LaSalle  
5950 Malden Road  
LaSalle, Ontario  
N9H 1S4

**Faxed to: 519-969-4469**

**Attention: Legal Department, Enforcement Department and Councillors:**

Dear Mr. Domenic Dadalt, Legal Counsel; Marc Bondy, Mayor; Crystal Meloche – Deputy Mayor; Anita Riccio-Spagnuolo, Councillor; Jeff Renaud, Councillor; Mark Carrick, Councillor; Mike Akpata, Councillor; Sue Desjarlais, Councillor:

**Re: Safety Concerns for Tax Payers, Residents and Pets**

I have been a resident of the Town of LaSalle since 2002. I presently live on Golfwood Crescent with my family. I am also a lawyer.

I am writing to you to advise of my very serious concern for the growing population of what appears to be a wild, hybrid species of coyote and wolf. The "coywolf" species walks along our fence line on the closed municipal road behind our house. In my 17 years of living in LaSalle, I have never seen a coywolf or any kind of coyote species until this year. Now, I am seeing the coywolf at all hours during the day. The species are brazen, are not afraid of humans and they lurk around the property looking for food. We do not keep any food out that would attract them, and yet they are there during the day.

The Toronto Star published an article on August 15, 2009 entitled, *Meet the coywolf*, which provided a photograph of the species as well as information advising that these predators are plaguing the Durham Region and showing up in urban areas. Trent University geneticist, Bradley White, advised he has been studying the hybrid for a number of years. Farmers reported a large number of attacks on livestock including smaller animals, sheep and sometimes cattle. The food and agriculture ministry paid out a total compensation of \$168,000 in the region for 545 dead or injured animals.

The February 7, 2013 article of The Windsor Star, entitled, *The super-coyote is here*, warns that they have been turning up in greater numbers in built-up areas of suburbs near greenspace. Marc Montgomery in his November 17, 2014 publication entitled, *Coyote*

**INJURY LAW GROUP**

Civil Litigation • Condominium & Housing Law • Personal Injury • Human Rights & Advocacy  
2510 Ouellette Place • Suite 301 • Windsor, ON • N8X 1L4 • Canada • Phone 226-674-1000 • Fax 226-674-1001  
[www.injurylawgroup.ca](http://www.injurylawgroup.ca)

Excellence ♦ Dignity

attacks increase in Ontario, speak of a woman bitten on the leg in her driveway in Brampton by a coywolf, and a coywolf attack on an 8-year old girl playing in a wooded ravine in Oakville. Coyote Watch Canada was enlisted to investigate, and Lesley Sampson, founding executive director of Coyote Watch Canada was quoted in the Toronto Star saying, "Something's happened and there's been a change in coyote behaviour".

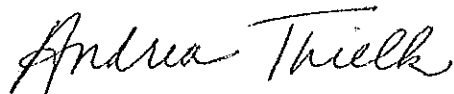
It appears that the coywolf (which is larger than a coyote) is now a safety issue for LaSalle. My family and I no longer feel safe in our own back yard. I have heard from many other residents who share our fear. We understand that as recently as June 4, 2019, a LaSalle family while they were present had their beloved dog snatched out of their fenced yard by a coywolf during daylight.

None of the traditional remedies that we learned, like making loud noises and waving arms, seems to frighten the species that are now accustomed to humans, as the coywolf population appears to be a growing, systemic problem in LaSalle's residential community. I am writing to you to notify you of the seriousness of the problem in order to obtain a resolution before someone gets hurt and more pets are lost.

I would like to be placed on the next available agenda for Council's Town Meeting to address Council on this very important safety issue.

Thank you for your anticipated response and assistance with this very serious matter.

Respectfully,



ANDREA M. THIELK\*\*, BA, LLB, JD, ACCI\*, FCCI

\* ACCREDITED BY CANADIAN CONDOMINIUM INSTITUTE -- CONDOMINIUM LAW

\*\* CERTIFIED BY OSGOODE HALL LAW SCHOOL -- HUMAN RIGHTS THEORY AND PRACTICE  
AMT/lc

cc: LaSalle Police  
1880 Normandy St, Windsor, ON N9H 1P8

Faxed to: 519-969-2662

cc: Ministry of Natural Resources

email: [NRISC@ontario.ca](mailto:NRISC@ontario.ca)

cc: Erie Wild Life  
Erie Wildlife Rescue  
11168 Tecumseh Road East  
Windsor, Ontario N8R 1A8

email: [info@eriewildliferescue.ca](mailto:info@eriewildliferescue.ca)

cc: Coyote Watch Canada

## Joe Milicia

---

**From:** Domenic Dadalt  
**Sent:** Friday, June 21, 2019 3:25 PM  
**To:** Joe Milicia  
**Subject:** Coyote Watch Canada Response  
**Attachments:** Town of LaSalle Response Letter.pdf

Hi Joe,

Attached is Coyote Watch Canada's letter in response to Andrea Thielk's fax of June 7.

For context, in Ms. Thielk's letter, she wrote about an 8-year old girl playing in a ravine in Oakville, stating "Coyote Watch Canada was enlisted to investigate, and Lesley Sampson, founding executive director of Coyote Watch Canada was quoted in the Toronto Star saying *"Something's happened and there's been a change in coyote behaviour"*.

They have asked me to forward to members of Council, as Ms. Thielk's letter was sent to each member as well. If you would like me to do so, let me know.

Thanks,  
Domenic

### **Domenic Dadalt, B.A., J.D.**

Legal Counsel,  
Town of LaSalle

**From:** Coyote Watch Canada Community Outreach Team <coyotewatchcanada@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 21, 2019 12:58 PM  
**To:** Domenic Dadalt <ddadalt@lasalle.ca>  
**Subject:** Coyote Watch Canada Response

Good afternoon Mr. Dadalt,

Please find the attached response to a letter sent to Council and Town Staff whereby a quote by our Executive Director was inappropriately referenced. Please kindly provide a copy of our response to all Councillors and Town of LaSalle personnel. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,

Coyote Watch Canada Community Education and Canid Outreach Team

Coyote Watch Canada  
P.O. Box 507  
341 Creek Rd.  
St. Davids Ontario  
L0S 1P0

Canid Hotline 905-931-2610  
[info@coyotewatchcanada.com](mailto:info@coyotewatchcanada.com)

Coyote Watch Canada  
[www.coyotewatchcanada.com](http://www.coyotewatchcanada.com)



## CREATING WILDLIFE CO-OPERATIVES

---

COYOTE WATCH CANADA, P.O. BOX 507, 341 CREEK RD., ST. DAVIDS ONTARIO, L0S 1P0

---

• COYOTE HOTLINE 905-931-2610 • [WWW.COYOTEWATCHCANADA.COM](http://WWW.COYOTEWATCHCANADA.COM) • [WWW.NIAGARAFALLS.CA/COYOTE/](http://WWW.NIAGARAFALLS.CA/COYOTE/) •

Dear Council,

It has come to the attention of Coyote Watch Canada (CWC) that you received a communication quoting a news article featuring CWC executive director Lesley Sampson. The quote referenced is in fact a misquote that was not corrected by the media source.

Coyote behaviour changes when activity causes it to change. Most often investigations reveal that this is a direct result of attractants or direct/indirect feeding, in addition to other human behaviours (such as development, traffic, removal of prey species and other natural food sources). Coyote behaviour can be managed through a combination of education of residents, enforcement of attractant/feeding by-laws on residents, and active, strategic protocols that include hazing.

The case mentioned in the news article was a direct result of feeding. Since that incident the Town of Oakville has implemented feeding and attractant by-laws and used enforcement tools to end inappropriate human activities at the location of the incident – there have been no further occurrences.

Coyote Watch Canada works with researchers, landowners, and municipalities to mitigate and minimize human-wildlife conflict with proven success in communities such as Toronto, Oakville, Niagara Falls, and more. Information about our resources and work can be found online at [coyotewatchcanada.com](http://coyotewatchcanada.com).

Respectfully,

Coyote Watch Canada

July 8, 2019

Re: Eastern coyotes in LaSalle

Dear Mayor Bondy and Council,

We were saddened to learn of the loss of one beloved pet, and the injury of another in incidents attributed to coyotes in your community. We are concerned that an attempt to 'manage' coyote populations through hunting or trapping will not have the desired result of limiting conflict and could in fact increase it. Further, traps and hunting activities put the lives of pets in jeopardy.

Eastern coyotes are a natural part of Ontario's ecosystems and play a vital role in managing populations of smaller mammals such as mice, voles, rats, rabbits and other species, and additionally assist in decreasing the prevalence of ticks that spread diseases to humans. When coyotes are appearing closer to homes and people, it is typically because they have been taught that there is a benefit to this through direct or indirect feeding.

Prior to any decisions regarding 'management' of coyotes, a full investigation by your by-law department should be underway to locate attractants and the potential for individuals directly feeding coyotes or other wildlife (which in turn attract coyotes). It should also be noted that coyotes are not the only animals in our ecosystems who can injure small dogs: raccoons, skunks, possums, outdoor cats, owls, hawks, eagles, weasels, and porcupines are also present and can be responsible for conflict with dogs.

Legal trap sets can and do injure and maim dogs across Canada with alarming regularity. The government of British Columbia acknowledges that an average eight dogs are reported injured or killed by traps annually -- and there is reason to believe that this number may be higher. Additionally, it should be noted that there are now multiple legal cases of dog owners suing trappers for the injuries or deaths caused by legally set traps. Removal of coyotes opens the habitat for more coyotes to arrive, particularly when attractants aren't addressed.

Adopting a coexistence program that educates residents and landowners, which also includes enforcement of wildlife feeding, attractant management or property standards by-laws is a positive solution that will not disrupt the ecosystem or put family pets (as well as non-target animals and humans) at risk of injury or death from cases of mistaken identities or indiscriminate traps.

Such programs exist and are extremely successful in communities across the country, and we strongly encourage council and staff to consider these before taking drastic action against wildlife that cannot be undone and could put a greater number of pets and families at risk.

Sincerely,

Lesley Sampson  
Founding Executive Director  
Coyote Watch Canada  
[info@coyotewatchcanada.com](mailto:info@coyotewatchcanada.com)  
[CoyoteWatchCanada.com](http://CoyoteWatchCanada.com)

Michael Howie  
Director of Advocacy and Communications  
The Fur-Bearers  
[michael@thefurbearers.com](mailto:michael@thefurbearers.com)  
[TheFurBearers.com](http://TheFurBearers.com)



August 13, 2019

Mayor Marc Bondy, Deputy Mayor Crystal Meloche and Councilors:

**Re: Report regarding the issue of coyotes in the Town of LaSalle**

The Greater Essex County District School Board ("the Board") is interested providing additional information for the Town's consideration regarding the report to be received by LaSalle Town Council this evening on the presence of coyotes in the LaSalle community.

Sandwich West Public School ("the School") is surrounded by wooded areas. The School is an elementary school with a before and after school day care program. In recent months, there have been coyote sightings on the school property. On June 27, 2019, a coyote was on the school playground while students were outside at recess, resulting in the school principal immediately calling for an indoor recess. Concerns have been raised by parents regarding the safety of their children in the school yard.

Considering recent news articles regarding injuries to pets, the Board is concerned over the safety of our students and staff. The School and the Board have contacted the Town of LaSalle, LaSalle Police and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to discuss the issue and to identify precautions that we might take to address the safety concerns. Through the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, the Board has shared information with the school principal on strategies to reduce potential coyote encounters, including securing of garbage, compost and other attractants, and actions to be taken should a coyote encounter occur. Given the continued presence of coyotes in the area, the Board is exploring the feasibility of installing perimeter fencing around the school property.

As the coyote population increases with urban sprawl and development, the Board seeks measures and guidance for the protection and safety of our students. The Board is appreciative of the natural habitats and woodlands that surround our communities. We are interested and committed to working with the Town of LaSalle to create a safe, vibrant learning and working environment for our students and staff.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Shelley Armstrong". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'S' and 'A'.

Shelley A. Armstrong, CPA, CA  
Superintendent of Business and Treasurer

cc: Erin Kelly, Director of Education  
Ron LeClair, Trustee