

Agenda Item: B.2

# **Briefing Note**

Title	Community Standards Bylaw – Update for Council
Issue	The purpose of this presentation is to provide Council with an update on the progress of a Community Standards Bylaw for Sturgeon County.
Previous Council Direction	None.
Report	Background Information
	• For the past several years, requests for service have been received by Protective Services and issues raised with Council over noise, unsightly properties, number of animals on property, outdoor storage, chickens/urban hens, etc.
	• Discussion has been held by various staff and Council over several years about the viability of a "Community Standards Bylaw" to guide issues raised by the public (residents, property owners, and visitors).
	<ul> <li>Further, the idea was to identify and be able to address items that may not have been captured within the newly passed Land Use Bylaw.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>As part of its 2018 Department Business Plan, Protective Services committed to conducting research into what other municipalities are doing by way of bylaw.</li> </ul>
	• In a collaborative approach with the assistance and support of Development Services, preliminary research was conducted and a report of findings was compiled. These findings were presented to Council at the August 28, 2018 Committee of the Whole meeting.
	Collaborative work has continued over the last several months with meetings between Agriculture Services, Community Services, Development Services and Protective Services, which has resulted in a draft Community Standards Bylaw.
	External Communication
	This presentation and draft bylaw are for information only. It is

receive input from Council.

meant to provide an update and to answer any questions and/or

Date Written: June 27, 2019 Committee of the Whole Date: July 9, 2019

- As outlined in the previous presentation to Council and again today, perhaps the most important message is that this bylaw does not include land zoned Agricultural.
- Administration is recommending that such a bylaw only be applicable to Sturgeon County areas districted (zoned) Residential.
   These are the areas of the County that generate the majority of the issues that a bylaw of this nature is meant to address.

## Relevant Policy/Legislation/Practices:

None.

### **Implication**

#### Strategic Alignment:

Strong Local Governance and Regional Leadership, Planned Growth and Prosperity – Research conducted with other municipalities demonstrates the development of a "Community Standards" type bylaw is consistent with legislation, master plans, policies and procedures. Bylaw development, reviews and updates are a normal process in municipal governance.

#### Organizational:

Support for a new bylaw of this nature will provide benefits to residents and guidance. It will allow Enforcement (County and RCMP) a mechanism to deal with several items that currently are difficult to deal with, as the current bylaws are either outdated and unenforceable, or items have never been addressed.

#### Financial:

Low impact; there will be some advertising costs in relation to the bylaw's development, public awareness, input.

### **Follow Up Action**

- 1. Evaluate comments from Council; add or delete any applicable information of concern.
- 2. The draft bylaw will be sent for legal review and presented to Council at a future date.
- 3. Once first reading has been approved by Council, in consultation with the Communications Department, staff will firm up means of communications related to development of such a bylaw and best means of allowing public to provide feedback.

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## Attachment (s)

- 1. Community Standards and Animal Bylaw Research Report 2.0
- 2. Draft Version Community Standards Bylaw

## **Report Reviewed**

by:

Pat Mahoney, Manager of Protective Services/Fire Chief

Scott MacDougall, General Manager, Municipal Services

Reegan McCullough, County Commissioner - CAO