

**TOWN OF MINTO****DATE:** March 30, 2017**REPORT TO:** Mayor and Council**FROM:** Quinn Foerter Clerk's Department**SUBJECT:** Animal Waste Concern

STRATEGIC PLAN:

9.13 Implement short form wording and streamline by-law enforcement practices where possible to efficiently allocate resources to minor offences, and continue enforcing by-laws based on complaints keeping in mind available resources.

10.2 Promote urban forestry, low maintenance landscaping and park development to create more environmentally diverse green spaces including pursuing small plots/community gardens/remote plots in public space.

BACKGROUND:

At the last meeting Councillor Elliott raised concern about people not picking up dog droppings in Palmerston Lion's Park. Animal Waste Bylaw, 2000-46, stipulates that 'every person who owns, possesses or is in control of any animal shall be responsible for the immediate removal and sanitary disposition of any excrement of such animal deposited within the boundaries of the Corporation of the Town of Minto.' Any person who fails to comply with this bylaw will be considered guilty of an offense and upon conviction liable to a fine of up to \$200. This bylaw is short form worded so that the By-law enforcement officer or OPP constable can issue a ticket for the offense.

Currently, as there is no Animal Waste Disposal Stations available within the Town of Minto, pet owners must carry the excrement around with them until they find a suitable trash receptacle or until they return home. This may be why some people do not clean up after their pets. Installing Animal Waste Disposal Stations in Parks and along popular walking routes would remind, and encourage, pet owners to dispose of their animal's waste properly.

Below is a list of 4 suppliers and their corresponding prices. Please note that on average the Town will use between 500 and 2000 bags per month, per dispenser.

Supplier	Price	Waste Bags Refill Price	Can Liner Price
Dog Waste Solutions Canada	\$399	\$85/2000 Bags	\$89/200 Liners
U-Line Canada	\$452 \$422 each*if you buy more than 3*	\$95/2000 bags \$69/2000 bags if you order 3+	\$132/200 \$107/200 if you order 3+
Seton	\$536.80	Roll 178.90/2000 bags	No Price for Liners
Sudden Fun Recreation Equipment Ltd.	\$369	Roll \$89/2000 bags Pulls \$222/3200 bags	\$90/200

Stations are very easy, and quick to install. They consist of a 7ft post, with a bag dispenser, and your choice of either an 11 Gallon Rectangular Locking Can, or a 10 Gallon Round Can with Non-Locking Lid, as well as a 'Dog Waste Station' sign. All signs are made from commercial grade, no rust aluminum with a post made of powder coated steel, to ensure durability and longevity. All bags are 100% Oxo-Biodegradable

Here are some examples



Waste Station 'Gladiator'

- 11 Gallon Locking Can Prevents Vandalism and is easy to Empty
- Sealed Chute System prevents odours and keeps pests out
- Square Green Post



Waste Station 'Sentry'

- 10 Gallon Non-Locking Can
- Ventilated Mesh Can
- Green U-Channel Post
- Can Liner Clamp Holds Liner Bag in Place

Staff believes that both could accommodate a sponsor sticker or sign if the Town wished to pursue funds to assist with maintenance and installation.

COMMENTS:

Town staff and the OPP can enforce the bylaw if the act is seen by the officer. There are situations where a person can testify as to the activity and a charge issued. Our preference is to increase awareness and continue to remind people of the need to clean up after their pet. Animal waste stations can help with this awareness.

Installing animal waste stations can have several advantages for a community. They help to keep animal waste from, at a minimum, ruining someone's walk through a municipal park. Without these stations, pet owners may be tempted to not clean up after their animal, which creates an unfortunate mess in public areas, and leads to unhappy residents. Such waste can be a public health concern especially in large amounts. Animal waste can wash into storm drains and deplete the oxygen in source water.

One option is to purchase a few units and place them in key spots to see if this relieves the problem. This small investment could reduce maintenance time and improve the look of Town parks. If this is successful the Town could look at installations in other parks.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

To purchase three units including replacement bags for a year the estimated cost is about \$4,200 if 2,000 bags are used per month. This is not a budgeted cost although the Town may find a sponsor willing to participate in this program in return for exposure on the unit

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receives the Clerk's Department March 30, 2017 report Animal Waste Concern, and refers the matter to Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee to report to Council on the mechanics of installing stations and obtaining sponsorship.

Quinn Foerter
Clerk's Department

Supported by Bill White C.A.O. Clerk