

# Dog Control Bylaw Review

RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP – WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU?

Strathcona County is currently reviewing its existing Dog Control Bylaw (85-2006) in preparation for an update.

## Survey results

This past December, the public was invited to complete a survey about responsible dog ownership. We received over 1,900 surveys with 80% of respondents from urban areas and 20% rural areas.

The survey invited feedback about what current dog ownership requirements are working, not working, and where improvements can be made.

## Survey highlights

### Dog ownership

- 93% of respondents own up to two dogs
- 85% of respondents own at least one dog
- 85% of dog owners have owned a dog for more than three years
- 55% of respondents feel that rural areas should have a higher dog limit

### Licensing

- 77% of respondents believe the County should send one licencing reminder notice
- 61% of respondents believe a 30 day grace period for licencing a new dog is appropriate
- 56% believe a second form of ID to tags should be required, at the owner's cost (microchip or tattoo)
- 50% of respondents would prefer to renew dog licences online over other options
- 37% of dog owners prefer to receive dog ownership information with their dog licence renewal notice while 24% preferred an email notice.

### Fees

- 87% of respondents believe [two separate fees](#) should continue to be charged depending on whether the dog is spayed/neutered
- 78% of respondents feel the [current licence fee](#) should be maintained

## What's next?

The survey responses were used as a basis for deeper discussion that took place at four public workshops in February 2017. Participants discussed what is currently working and where improvements can be made to the Dog Control Bylaw to ensure responsible dog ownership. Input received through the survey and public workshops will form the foundation of a final report, scheduled for Council presentation in late spring, 2017.