Enclosure 1

Responsible Livestock Ownership

Bylaw Development Update
Public Engagement

STRATHCONA COUNTY

Outline

- Project background
- Engagement process and bylaw considerations
- What we heard:
  - Overall
  - Large animal
  - Poultry and fowl
  - Honeybees
  - Additional information
- Balancing input and next steps

Bylaw Preview

New inclusions

- Wild boar and genetic derivatives banned, excluding current producers in good standing of Provincial containment standards
- Inclusion of honeybees and hive limits within rural subdivisions
- For areas where livestock is not allowed, new temporary exemption permits provided on a case-by-case basis for:
  - Community events, parades, and business functions
  - Therapy animals at care facilities and schools

Bylaw modernization

- Update land use districts to reflect current Land Use Bylaw
- Addition of appeal process
- Land use districts where agriculture is a “permitted use”, continue to be out of scope for this bylaw

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Project background

- Review and combine
  - Animal Control Bylaw 18-2011
  - Apiculture Bylaw 43-2011

- Small parcels
  - Acreages less than five acres
  - Rural subdivisions

Engagement process

- Online survey
  - Survey conducted July 23 through August 16, 2020
  - 935 rural residents completed the survey
  - 85.7% drawn to quiet of rural living
  - 72.6% country lifestyle includes ability to have livestock

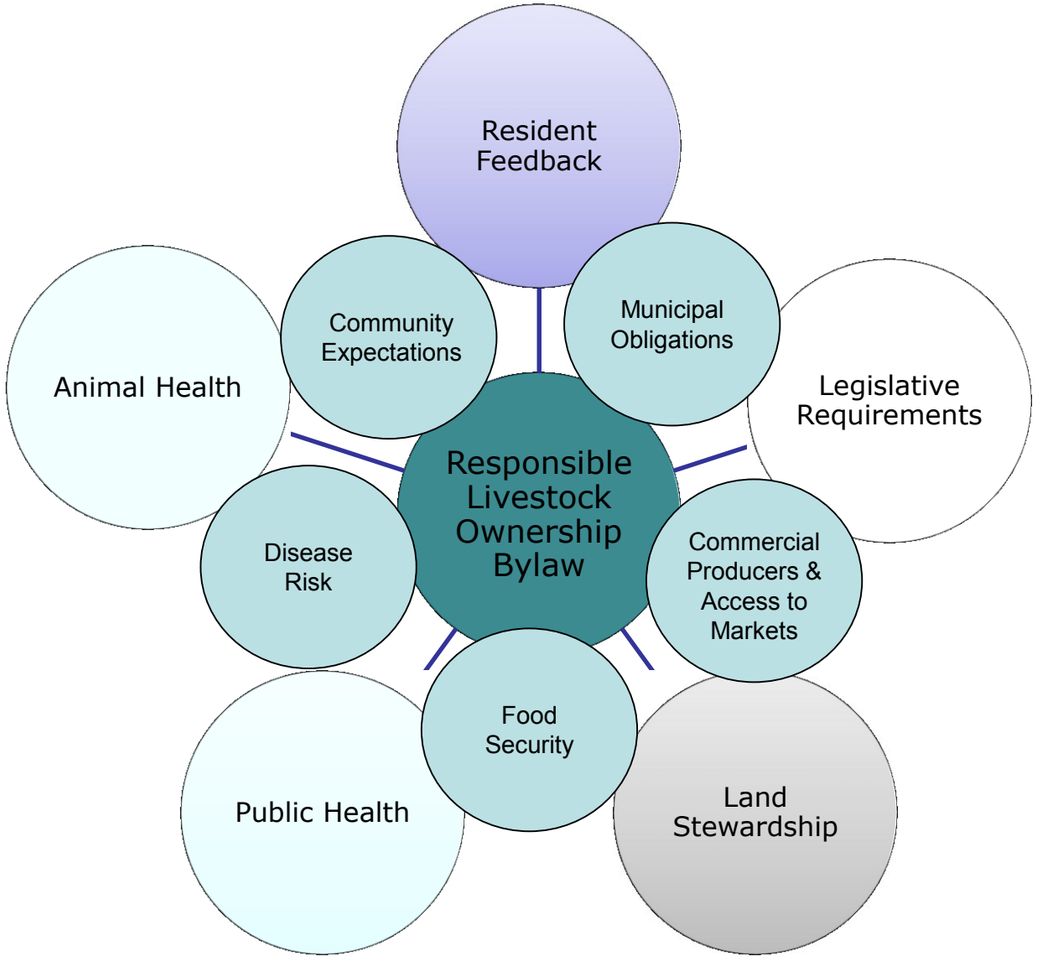
  - Animal noise concern
  - Buildup and smell of manure concern

  - Honeybees are suited to small properties
  - Mixed opinions about type and the amount of livestock that should be allowed
  - Less support for swine, cattle, and bison on small acreages

Engagement process

- Virtual focus groups
- 52 focus group participants
- Two sessions per topic, three topics:
  - Large animal
  - Poultry and fowl
  - Honeybees
- Properties less than five acres (2.02 hectares) in subdivisions
- Concerns, considerations, mitigation, transition?

Bylaw considerations



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What we heard – overall

- Stewards of the land
- Manage manure
- Balance expectations of rural living, neighbour relations, and community
- Reduce risks involved with livestock in close proximity to other livestock
- Awareness of other restrictions
- Clear communication

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What we heard – large animal

- Consider useable land area
- Herd animal considerations
- Standards for responsible livestock ownership
- Horses are important to country lifestyle and allowable numbers should stay the same
- Many different types of swine with different requirements and impacts
- Larger properties more suited to swine
- Donkeys used to protect other animals and more suited to larger properties with more animals

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What we heard – poultry and fowl

- Allowable numbers in subdivisions should reflect:
  - Personal use of poultry
  - Purpose of birds (meat or eggs)
- Limit loud birds on smaller properties
- Food security at the backyard and commercial levels

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What we heard - honeybees

- Commercial honey producers should be supported
- Location and size of property may allow for more hives per subdivision than provincial suggestions
- Balance needed to support honeybees, native bees and other pollinators
- All beekeepers must practice good management for the health of other honeybees

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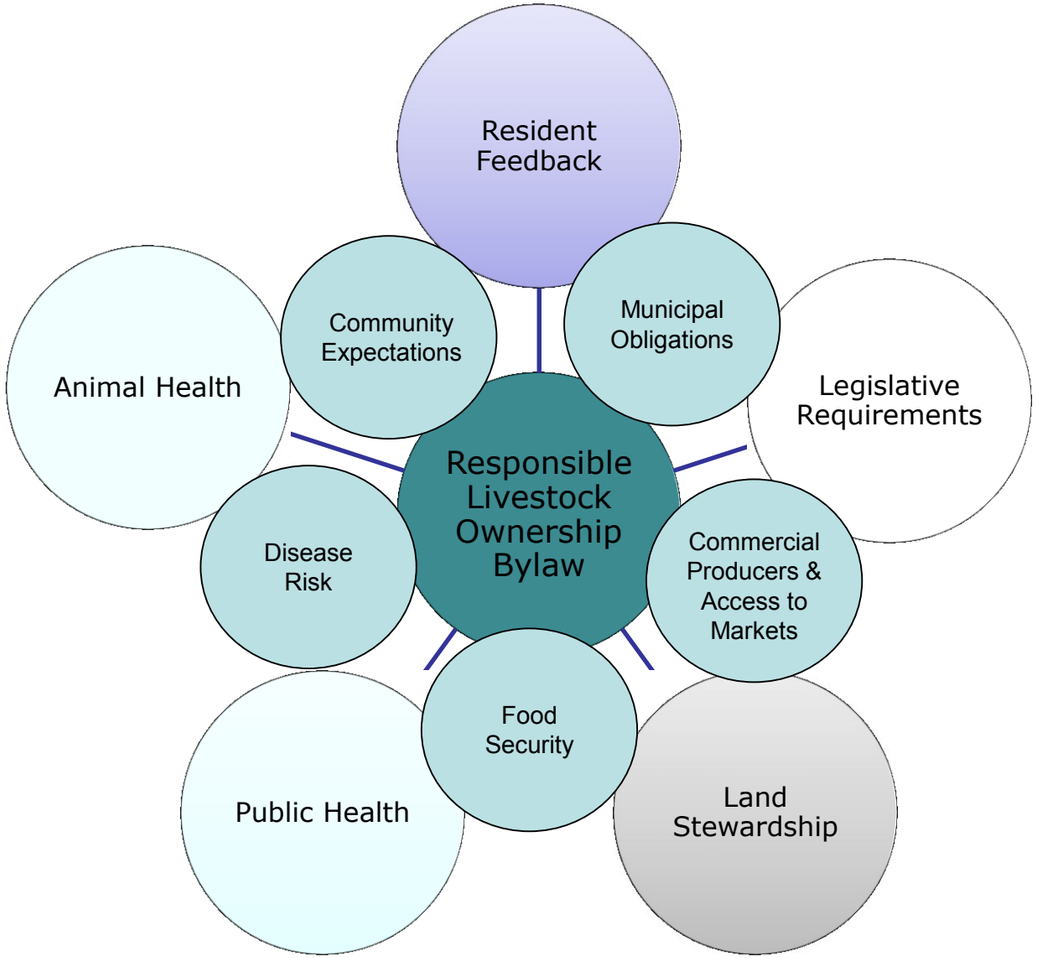
What else we heard

- Educational resources will support responsible livestock ownership
- County’s role to connect residents to educational resources
- If reductions of current allowable livestock numbers are necessary, transition periods need to be explored for each livestock type
- Manure management is a challenge in subdivisions
- Consult neighbours prior to livestock over-limit permits

Balancing input



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Next steps

- Feedback will be evaluated and compared with other limiting aspects to find the appropriate balance
- Bylaw to be drafted with recommendations and presented to Council for discussion and debate Q2 2021
- A program to support this bylaw will be developed after Council approval
- A communications plan will be developed once the bylaw is approved and associated program components are developed.