

# Cats in Our Community

Pet Industry Survey Report on a Responsible Cat Ownership Bylaw



Dear Neighbours,

On the night of January 5th our cat was **badly injured** and taken from our front yard by a **large predator**, likely the coyotes that live in the area. **We wanted to share this in hopes that it might help keep another beloved pet safe.**

We have seen coyotes during the night and early mornings on Garland Crescent and at the entrance to Craigavon Meadows Park over the last couple of years.

Please keep your pets inside and safe in the evenings and night. There are coyotes in the area, and even if you don't see them or hear them, your pets could be at risk.

Sending love to you and all your fur babies.



# **Stray & unwanted cats – a national issue**

Cats at large, not on their own property, are exposed to disease, traffic, predators and prone to damage property and become lost”.

....Bad for the Cats

....Bad for Owners

And

....Bad for the Neighbours.

In 2017, Humane Canada reported “that 121,477 cats and dogs were accepted into shelters across Canada. Out of that only 71,916 were adopted, meaning 41 per cent of pets were left homeless”.

The Calgary Humane Society, committed to caring for homeless and abandoned animals, house approximately 4,600 animals each year and take in an average of 400 to 600 animals per month. (2017)

Edmonton’s Animal Care and Control Centre has dealt with overcrowding, sometimes with 57 cats being admitted in a single day. Sometimes the high influx of cats puts the shelter around 200 per cent capacity and creates concerns around care with higher likelihood of stress and spread of illnesses. (2019)



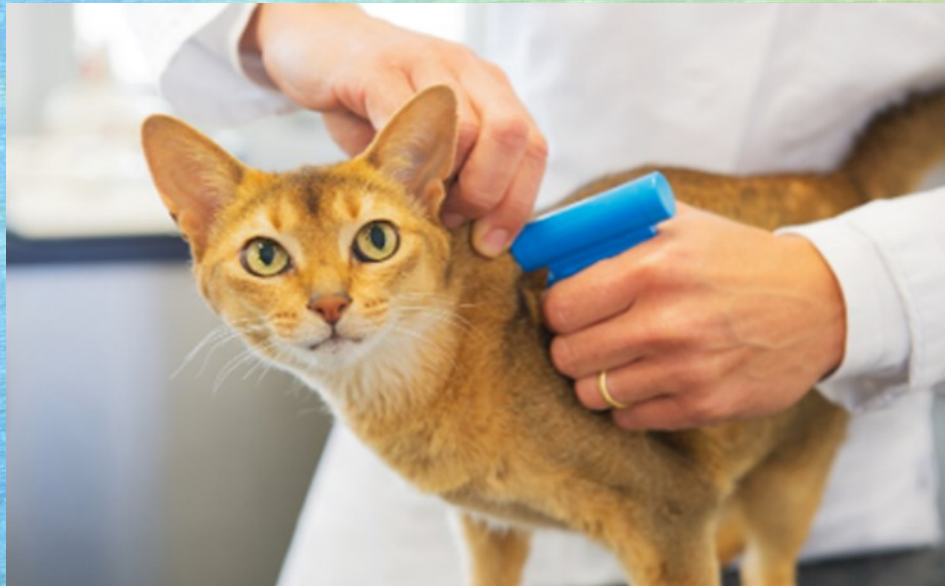
# No Roam Bylaw

Cats are safer at home





# Identification makes return possible



## MICROCHIP YOUR PET

Microchips don't replace a tag and collar, but they can make all the difference when it comes to getting your pet back.



### Did You Know?



**1 in 3** family pets will get lost



But only about **6 out of 10** microchips are registered



Microchipped dogs are more than twice as likely to be returned to their owners.



Microchipped cats are more than 20 times as likely to be returned to their owners.

### Successful Reunions



Gidget, a dog from Pittsburgh, PA, was found more than **2500 miles** away in Portland, OR



George, a cat in California was reunited with his family after **13 years**

**When a microchipped pet isn't returned home, it's usually due to incorrect or missing owner information in the microchip registry.**

In 2015, HomeAgain reunited **227,274 pets**



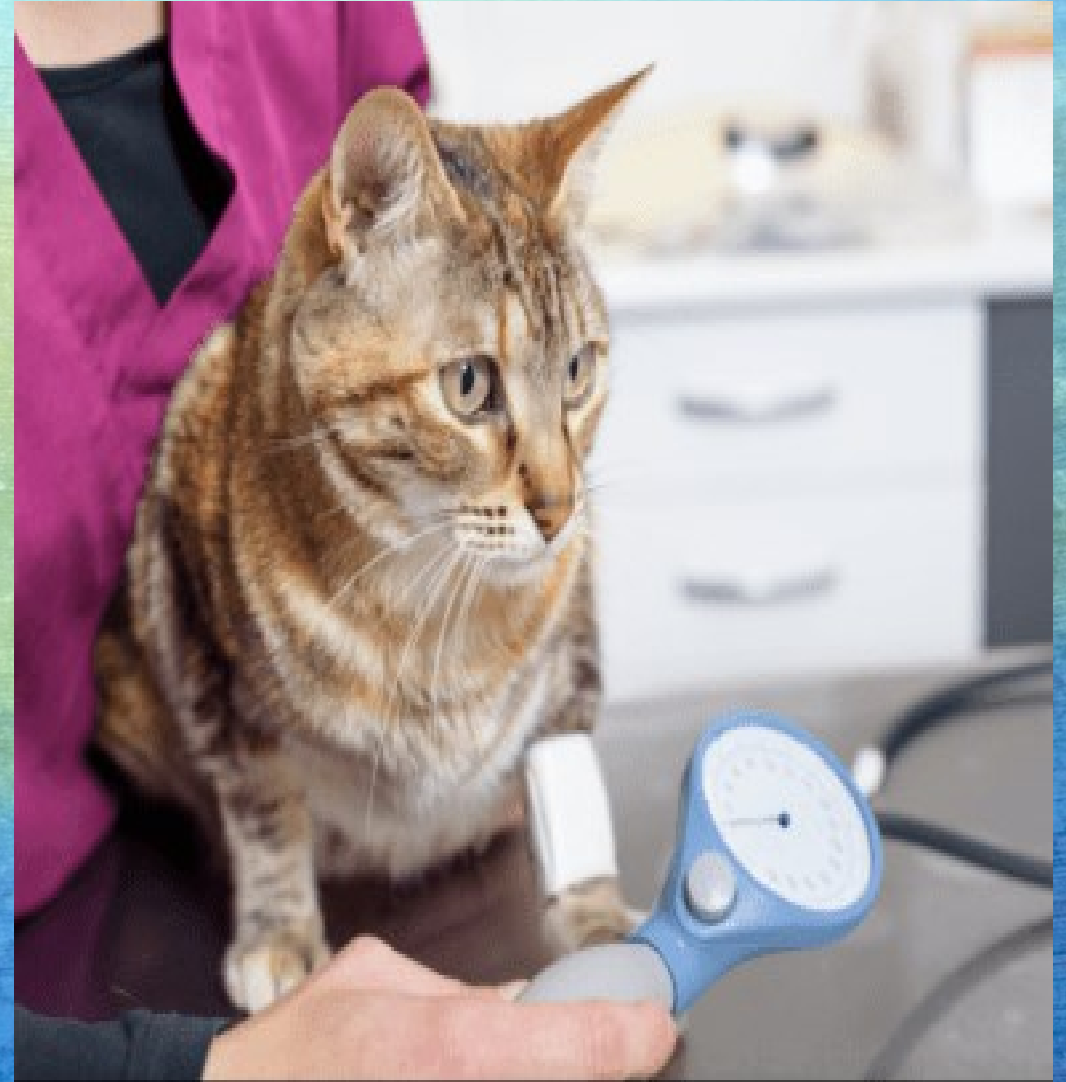
To date, HomeAgain has reunited over **2,000,000 pets** with their owners



**Register and update your pet's microchip!**



# **Spay/Neuter programs decrease unwanted cats**





# Working Together for Success

**There is a positive partnership environment between non-profit cat welfare agencies, local veterinarians and pet stores in Strathcona County.**

“Our Vets volunteer with Alberta Spay Neuter task force and donate time and services to dogs going to veterans”.  
(Ardrossan Vets)

“We work with SCARS to provide spay/neuter and vet services to homeless/rescued animals”. (Aspen Trails Vets)

“PetSmart fosters pets; has Adoption Days; promotes our fundraisers; has a donation box; and donates supplies and food”.  
(SCARS)

“Pet Valu brings in pets for adoption and promotes our events. Global donates food and supplies. We also work with ARCCs, Berkely’s Place, Pets Pantry and Zoe’s in redistributing food and supplies as needed.  
(Paws in Need Rescue)”

“We work with Alberta SPCA and Misfits of Alberta”. (Granada Vets)

“We work with Senior Animal Rescue; PAWS In Need; Alberta Homeward Hound”  
(Emerald Hills Vets)





## Cats in the Cold

Check under your hood and inside wheel wells, and make some noise in an attempt to flush out any hitch hikers before starting your engine.

**N**on-profit cat welfare agencies, local veterinarians and pet stores educate the public and share resources.



## Shelter – a cost effective option

*Aggressive enforcement in collecting strays with paid municipal staff may not be necessary.*

*Outlay of huge infrastructure dollars and hiring of more municipal staff may not be needed.*



### **Hear what some area non-profits have to say:**

“Yes, it is in our strategic plan to open a small intakes facility for dogs and cats”.

“We would be interested in having a facility for a variety of reasons – to run our pantry program, to offer emergency space for placement, and more”.

“We are interested in having a shelter facility. We are looking at a partnership venture in the future – we could supply volunteers and expertise but need a space”.



**Questions?**