



# Regional Board Report

**TO:** Regional Board

**FROM:** Mary Jane Drouin  
Manager – Corporate Services

**DATE:** March 27, 2019

**SUBJECT:** Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the SPCA

*Voting Entitlement: All Directors – Weighted Vote – Simple Majority – LGA 210.2*

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**Purpose:** To renew a three-year Memorandum of Understanding with the SPCA for a spay and neuter funding, education program and adoption services for dogs from RDCO Dog Control.

## **Executive Summary:**

The Regional District's current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the SPCA for an education program, spay & neuter program, and adoption services expired December 31, 2018. Staff has reviewed the services provided by the SPCA during the previous MOU and is satisfied with their performance.

The first MOU was approved by the Regional Board back in 2006 and has been subsequently renewed on a three-year basis ever since. Staff is pleased to recommend renewing the MOU with the SPCA for a further three years with an expiry date of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT** the Regional Board approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the SPCA for a three-year period (2019-2021) at a cost of \$92,000 per year and authorize its' signing officers to sign the agreement.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mary Jane Drouin  
Manager – Corporate Services

Approved for Board's Consideration

Brian Reardon, CAO

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**Implications of Recommendation:**

<b>Strategic Plan:</b>	Provide safe and healthy services while delivering the best value.
<b>General:</b>	Communicate and work effectively with other agencies through an exchange of information and cooperation.
<b>Financial:</b>	\$17,000 for adoption of unclaimed, adoptable dogs that have been in the RDCO Pound for more than 72 hours; \$55,000 for their spay and neuter program; \$20,000 for an animal education program.

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**Background:**

The Regional District's Memorandum of Understanding with the SPCA expired December 31, 2018.

Allan Neilson-Welch's Dog Control Service Review in 2012 and 2018 recommended that the Board continue to support the SPCA's efforts related to the control of the local dog population and the provision of education on the care of animals.

The SPCA is called upon to accept unclaimed, adoptable dogs that have been in the Pound for more than 72 hours for adoption. For this service, the SPCA has received annual funding in the amount of \$17,000.

The 2019-2023 Financial Plan recently approved includes \$92,000 towards the SPCA programs: \$55,000 for a spay/neuter program, \$17,000 for the adoption process, and \$20,000 towards education. The SPCA has built an education facility at its site where various educational programs are offered including birthday parties, summer kids programs and school programs. The education grant assists in the hiring of an education coordinator.

The District's Chief Bylaw Enforcement officer communicates regularly with SPCA's management team to enhance the working relationship between our staff and SPCA's staff. A 'meet and greet' is organized in order for our dog control officers and SPCA staff to get together to further understand the others' role in the community. Education continues to be a priority for both organizations.

Should the Board wish to have a delegation by the SPCA Branch Manager, Sean Hogan would be pleased to speak directly with the Board at a future meeting.

**Alternative Recommendation:**

That the Board not approve the Memorandum of Understanding and consider funding the SPCA annually.

**Considerations not applicable to this report:**

- *Legislative*
- *Policy*

Attachment(s): Draft MOU  
SPCA 2018 Final Report