

25 June 2024

le 25 juin 2024

1. **Wildlife Strategy Review**

**Examen de la Stratégie de gestion de la faune**

**Committee Recommendation(s), as amended**

That Council approve the Action Plan described in this report, **as amended by the following:**

1. **That the Wildlife Resource Specialist, proposed in Action 7, in consultation with the Office of the City Clerk, review the membership, scope and objectives of a Department-led Working Group, in keeping with Action 2, including the potential participation of representatives from other levels of government, non-governmental agencies and Councillor Liaison(s); and**
2. **That staff report back to Council on the results of this review by Q3 2025**
3. **That staff in Climate Change and Resiliency provide an update to the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee and the Environment and Climate Change Committee of the revised Wildlife Strategy, two years after implementation, by Q2 2027**
4. **That the wildlife specialist work with IWSD to create an inventory of existing culverts and watercourses with ranking of beaver conflicts and feasibility of alternatives for each, and costing for those alternatives. Progress reports to come to both committees and council; and**
5. **That City Staff identify specific locations where alternative management practices such as flow devices will be used, excluding Municipal Drains under the Drainage Act, while maintaining its**

25 June 2024

le 25 juin 2024

responsibilities under the Drainage Act and that staff convene a public forum to learn more about the benefits of flow devices and their application within municipal infrastructure systems, specifically stormwater management systems pending confirmation that the Environmental Compliance Approvals for those facilities are not contravened. This forum should include an invitation to flow device experts, as well as a municipality with a proven track record of using these devices. City staff and the City's Drainage Engineers should also attend; and

6. That the City complete a summary of the amount of time per week, that City staff inspect and clean culverts and break up dams at the 30 to 50 beaver management sites in Ottawa. This summary should include where equipment is required along with staff time and salary costs, including expenses associated with any contracted service providers and overtime; and
7. That the City invite a flow device expert to analyze the results of the inventory of existing drains and watercourses, review current practices of the City for beaver management and provide recommendations on an approach that integrates flow devices as a beaver management tool for Stormwater Systems based upon respectful coexistence; and,
8. That the matter of costs to the OHS (for the provision of veterinary services for sick/injured wildlife delivered by By-Law staff outside of the Ottawa Humane Society's hours of operation) be brought forward to the 2025 budget for consideration as a potential grant to the OHS from the City, to include incremental annual increases.

25 June 2024

le 25 juin 2024

**Recommandation(s) du comité, telle que modifiée**

**Que le Conseil approuve le plan d'action décrit dans le présent rapport, telle que modifiée par ce qui suit.**

1. **que la ou le spécialiste des ressources fauniques (proposition à la mesure 7) examine, avec le Bureau du greffe municipal, la composition, le mandat et les objectifs d'un groupe de travail de la direction générale, comme le prévoit la mesure 2, notamment la participation potentielle d'autres ordres de gouvernement, d'organismes non gouvernementaux et de responsables de la liaison avec le Conseil;**
2. **que le personnel présente un rapport au Conseil sur les résultats de cet examen d'ici le troisième trimestre de 2025.**
3. **Que le personnel des Services des changements climatiques et de la résilience fasse le point, devant le Comité de l'agriculture et des affaires rurales et le Comité de l'environnement et du changement climatique, sur la version révisée de la Stratégie de gestion de la faune deux ans après sa mise en œuvre, soit d'ici le deuxième trimestre de 2027.**
4. **que la ou le spécialiste des ressources fauniques travaille avec la Direction générale des services d'infrastructure et d'eau pour produire un inventaire des ponceaux et des cours d'eau faisant état du degré de conflit avec les castors, et de la faisabilité et du coût des solutions de rechange pour chacun, et qu'un rapport d'étape soit présenté aux deux comités et au Conseil;**
5. **que le personnel de la Ville détermine où d'autres pratiques de gestion, comme des dispositifs de régulation du débit d'eau, seront appliquées, drains municipaux au sens de la Loi sur le drainage exclus, sans pour autant déléguer ses responsabilités aux termes**

25 June 2024

le 25 juin 2024

de la Loi sur le drainage, et qu'il organise un forum pour renseigner le public sur les avantages de ces dispositifs et leur utilisation dans les infrastructures municipales, en particulier les systèmes de gestion des eaux pluviales, pourvu qu'il soit confirmé que les autorisations environnementales pour ces installations ne sont pas enfreintes; devraient être invités au forum des spécialistes des dispositifs et des municipalités ayant obtenu de bons résultats en utilisant ces dispositifs, et devraient y assister le personnel et les ingénieurs et ingénieurs en drainage de la Ville;

6. que la Ville produise un résumé indiquant le nombre d'heures par semaine que le personnel passe à inspecter et à nettoyer les ponceaux, et à démanteler les barrages aux 30 à 50 sites de gestion des castors à Ottawa; ce résumé doit préciser où il faut de l'équipement ainsi que les coûts associés aux heures de travail et aux salaires du personnel, y compris les dépenses des fournisseurs de services sous contrat et les heures supplémentaires;
7. que la Ville demande à une ou un spécialiste des dispositifs de régulation du débit d'eau d'analyser les résultats de l'inventaire des ponceaux et des cours d'eau, d'examiner ses pratiques de gestion des castors et de recommander une approche intégrant ces dispositifs et reposant sur une coexistence respectueuse, comme outil de gestion des castors pour les systèmes de gestion des eaux pluviales
8. que le dossier des coûts facturés à la Société protectrice des animaux d'Ottawa (la prestation de services vétérinaires aux animaux sauvages malades ou blessés apportés par le personnel des Services des règlements municipaux en dehors de ses heures d'ouverture ) soit examiné dans le cadre du processus budgétaire de

**25 June 2024**

**le 25 juin 2024**

**2025 en vue de l'octroi potentiel d'une subvention municipale à la  
Société pour pallier la hausse annuelle des prix.**

Documentation / Documentation

1. Report from the Director, Climate Change and Resiliency, Strategic Initiatives Department, dated June 6, 2024 (ACS2024-SI-CCR-0001).  
  
Rapport du Directeur, Changements climatiques et Résilience, Direction générale des initiatives stratégiques, daté le 6 juin 2024 (ACS2024-SI-CCR-0001).
2. Extract of draft Minutes, Joint Meeting of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs and Environment and Climate Change Committees, June 17, 2024.  
  
Extrait de l'ébauche du procès-verbal, Réunion conjointe du Comité de l'agriculture et des affaires rurales et du Comité de l'environnement et du changement climatique, le 17 juin 2024.

**25 June 2024**

**le 25 juin 2024**

**Extract of Minutes 1  
Joint Meeting of Agriculture and  
Rural Affairs Committee and  
Environment and Climate Change  
Committees  
June 17, 2024**

**Extrait du procès-verbal 1  
Réunion conjointe du Comité de  
l'agriculture et des affaires et du Comité  
de l'environnement et du changement  
climatique rurales  
Le 17 juin 2024**

---

Wildlife Strategy Review

File No. ACS2024-SI-CCR-0001– City Wide

**Report recommendation(s)**

**That the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee and the Environment and Climate Change Committee jointly recommend that Council approve the action plan described in this report.**

Mr. Will McDonald, Director, Climate Change and Resiliency, Strategic Initiatives (SI) Department, introduced Mr. Nick Stow, Program Manager, Climate Mitigation, SI. Messrs. McDonald and Stow spoke to a brief slide presentation which served as an overview of the report.

The following members of staff were also present to respond to questions:

- Ms Tammy Rose, General Manager, Infrastructure and Water Services (IWS) Department
- Ms Marilyn Journeaux, Director, Water Services-Linear, IWS
- Mr. Tyler Hicks, Associate Director, Water Services-Linear, IWS
- Mr. Ryan Polkinghorne, Program Manager, Storm Water Management, Environmental Monitoring, IWS
- Mr. Roger Chapman, Director, By-Law and Regulatory Services (BLRS), Emergency and Protective Services (EPS) Department

**25 June 2024**

**le 25 juin 2024**

- Ms Christine Hartig, Program Manager, Operations Support and Regulatory Services, BLRS, EPS

Chair Menard asked that members present any Motions they might have prepared.

**Motion No. ARAC-ECCC 01-01**

Moved by Vice-Chair M. Carr (on behalf of Councillor L. Johnson):

**WHEREAS Ottawa's natural environment includes lands, flora, and fauna regulated and protected by municipal, provincial, and federal laws and agencies; and**

**WHEREAS the City would benefit from the expertise provided by industry and non-governmental organizations; and**

**WHEREAS improved public information, outreach, and education on prevention and resolution of human – wildlife conflicts is a key objective of the Wildlife Strategy; and**

**WHEREAS on July 12, 2023, City Council considered a report by the Office of the City Clerk titled, "Advisory Body Review" and, in doing so, approved several recommendations pertaining to the governance of Advisory Committees and Council Sponsors Groups, and referred recommendations related to Department-led Working Groups to the Mid-term Governance Review;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOVED that the Wildlife Resource Specialist, proposed in Action 7, in consultation with the Office of the City Clerk, review the membership, scope and objectives of a Department-led Working Group, in keeping with Action 2, including the potential participation of representatives from other levels of government, non-governmental agencies and Councillor Liaison(s); and**

**25 June 2024**

**le 25 juin 2024**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT staff report back to Council on the results of this review by Q3 2025.**

**Motion No. ARAC-ECCC 01-02**

Moved by Councillor R. Brockington:

**That staff in Climate Change and Resiliency provide an update to the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee and the Environment and Climate Change Committee of the revised Wildlife Strategy, two years after implementation, by Q2 2027.**

**Motion No. ARAC-ECCC 01-03**

Moved by Vice-Chair C. Kelly:

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOVED That the wildlife specialist work with IWSD to create an inventory of existing drains and watercourses with ranking of beaver conflicts and feasibility of alternatives for each, and costing for those alternatives. Progress reports to come to committee and council; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOVED That City Staff identify specific locations where alternative management practices such as flow devices will be used while maintaining its responsibilities under the Drainage Act and that staff convene a public forum to learn more about the benefits of flow devices and their application within municipal infrastructure systems, specifically stormwater management systems. This forum should include an invitation to flow device experts, as well as a municipality with a proven track record of using these devices. City staff and the City's Drainage Engineers should also attend; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOVED That the City complete a summary of the amount of time per week, that City staff inspect and clean culverts and break up dams at the 30 to 50 beaver management sites in Ottawa. This**



**25 June 2024**

**le 25 juin 2024**

**summary should include where equipment is required along with staff time and salary costs, including expenses associated with any contracted service providers and overtime; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOVED That the City invite a flow device expert to analyze the results of the inventory of existing drains and watercourses, review current practices of the City for beaver management and provide recommendations on an approach that integrates flow devices as a beaver management tool for Stormwater Systems based upon respectful coexistence.**

**Motion No. ARAC-ECCC 01-04**

Moved by Councillor S. Devine:

**WHEREAS the Ottawa Humane Society currently has an agreement with the Ottawa Animal Emergency & Specialty Hospital that includes the provision of veterinary services for sick/injured wildlife delivered by By-law staff outside of OHS's hours of operation; and**

**WHEREAS the Ottawa Humane Society currently covers the costs associated with the emergency veterinary clinic for overnight services rendered for wild animals delivered by By-law staff; and**

**WHEREAS in other Ontario municipalities, the cost for such services is borne by the local municipality; for example, in the City of Burlington, Animal Control has a contract with the City of Burlington for covering costs rendered; in the cities of Perth and Windsor, the contracts for overnight services are billed to the municipalities based on a list of animals and services that are pre-agreed to; and**

**WHEREAS in Ottawa, the emergency veterinary clinic that provides overnight services for wildlife invoice the Ottawa Humane Society within 48 hours of rendering services; and**

**25 June 2024**

**le 25 juin 2024**

**WHEREAS in 2023 the Ottawa Humane Society was invoiced \$22,000 for these services rendered for 252 wild animals delivered to the emergency veterinary clinic by By-law staff and is anticipating a substantial increase in 2024 and beyond, likely in the \$50,000 range; and**

**WHEREAS the Ottawa Humane Society can expect that this annual cost will increase due to reasonably projected increases in the cost of veterinary services; and**

**WHEREAS this annual cost to the Ottawa Humane Society is a significant impact to their strained capacity to provide overall services;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the matter of these costs to the OHS be brought forward to the 2025 budget for consideration as a potential grant to the OHS from the City, to include incremental annual increases.**

The Committee then heard from the following delegations:

1. Paul Mussell, Ottawa Federation of Agriculture
2. Sara Barnoski, Ottawa Humane Society and Stephen Smith, Senior Manager of Communications
3. Donna DuBreuil<sup>+</sup>, President, Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre
4. Kate MacNeil, Executive Director, Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre
5. Janet Stavinga, Friends of Stittsville Wetlands
6. Catherine Clysdale
7. Ross Owens
8. Lynda Cronin
9. Mary Sarumi<sup>+</sup>

**25 June 2024**

**le 25 juin 2024**

10. Erica Shardlow<sup>+</sup>, Community Associations for Environmental Sustainability (CAFES)
11. Selena Walker
12. Autumn Jordan, Nature Canada
13. Anita Utas
14. Ian McConnachie
15. Paul Johanis, Greenspace Alliance
16. William van Geest, Ecology Ottawa
17. Marianne Ariganello

[ <sup>+</sup> Slide presentations are held on file with the Office of the City Clerk. ]

Correspondence was also received from the following, as noted.

1. Email dated June 11, 2024 from Lisa Darragh
2. Email dated June 13, 2024 from Shirley Dolan
3. Email dated June 13, 2024 from Jean McKibbon
4. Email dated June 13, 2024 from Debbie Wall
5. Email dated June 13, 2024 from Janet Darlington
6. Email dated June 14, 2024 from Rebecca Last-Guenette
7. Email dated June 14, 2024 from Selena Walker
8. Email dated June 14, 2024 from Autumn Jordan
9. Email dated June 14, 2024 from Nicole Corrado (01)
10. Email dated June 14, 2024 from Nicole Corrado (02) transmitting Coyote petition
11. Emails dated June 14, 2024 from Nicole Corrado (03, 04, 05) transmitting Bear Cub petition

**25 June 2024**

**le 25 juin 2024**

12. Email dated June 14, 2024 from Michael Brownwell
13. Email dated June 14, 2024 from Leah Travis
14. Email dated June 14, 2024 from Jason Burggraaf, GOHBA
15. Email dated June 14, 2024 from Janice Saline
16. Email dated June 14, 2024 from Bird Friendly Ottawa
17. Email dated June 15, 2024 from Friends of Stittsville Wetlands
18. Email dated June 15, 2024 from Greg Lister
19. Email dated June 16, 2024 from C. Foulds

[ The above Individuals' submissions are held on file with the Office of the City Clerk. ]

Following questions to the delegations and to staff, and at the conclusion of Committee discussions, the following Motions were put forward for the Committee's consideration (Councillors Kavanagh and Kitts suggested friendly amendments to Councillor Kelly's Motion as outlined further below):

**Motion No. ARAC-ECCC 01-01**

Moved by Vice-Chair M. Carr (on behalf of Councillor L. Johnson):

**WHEREAS Ottawa's natural environment includes lands, flora, and fauna regulated and protected by municipal, provincial, and federal laws and agencies; and**

**WHEREAS the City would benefit from the expertise provided by industry and non-governmental organizations; and**

**WHEREAS improved public information, outreach, and education on prevention and resolution of human – wildlife conflicts is a key objective of the Wildlife Strategy; and**

**25 June 2024**

**le 25 juin 2024**

**WHEREAS on July 12, 2023, City Council considered a report by the Office of the City Clerk titled, "Advisory Body Review" and, in doing so, approved several recommendations pertaining to the governance of Advisory Committees and Council Sponsors Groups, and referred recommendations related to Department-led Working Groups to the Mid-term Governance Review;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Wildlife Resource Specialist, proposed in Action 7, in consultation with the Office of the City Clerk, review the membership, scope and objectives of a Department-led Working Group, in keeping with Action 2, including the potential participation of representatives from other levels of government, non-governmental agencies and Councillor Liaison(s); and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT staff report back to Council on the results of this review by Q3 2025.**

**Carried**

**Motion No. ARAC-ECCC 01-02**

Moved by Councillor R. Brockington:

**That staff in Climate Change and Resiliency provide an update to the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee and the Environment and Climate Change Committee of the revised Wildlife Strategy, two years after implementation, by Q2 2027.**

**Carried**

**Motion No. ARAC-ECCC 01-03**

Moved by Vice-Chair C. Kelly:

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That the wildlife specialist work with IWSD to create an inventory of existing culverts and watercourses with**

25 June 2024

le 25 juin 2024

ranking of beaver conflicts and feasibility of alternatives for each, and costing for those alternatives. Progress reports to come to both committees and council; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOVED** That City Staff identify specific locations where alternative management practices such as flow devices will be used, excluding Municipal Drains under the Drainage Act, while maintaining its responsibilities under the Drainage Act and that staff convene a public forum to learn more about the benefits of flow devices and their application within municipal infrastructure systems, specifically stormwater management systems pending confirmation that the Environmental Compliance Approvals for those facilities are not contravened. This forum should include an invitation to flow device experts, as well as a municipality with a proven track record of using these devices. City staff and the City's Drainage Engineers should also attend; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOVED** That the City complete a summary of the amount of time per week, that City staff inspect and clean culverts and break up dams at the 30 to 50 beaver management sites in Ottawa. This summary should include where equipment is required along with staff time and salary costs, including expenses associated with any contracted service providers and overtime; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOVED** That the City invite a flow device expert to analyze the results of the inventory of existing drains and watercourses, review current practices of the City for beaver management and provide recommendations on an approach that integrates flow devices as a beaver management tool for Stormwater Systems based upon respectful coexistence.

**Carried**, with Councillor Kavanagh dissenting on the second clause above.

**25 June 2024**

**le 25 juin 2024**

**Motion No. ARAC-ECCC 01-04**

Moved by Councillor S. Devine:

**WHEREAS the Ottawa Humane Society currently has an agreement with the Ottawa Animal Emergency & Specialty Hospital that includes the provision of veterinary services for sick/injured wildlife delivered by By-law staff outside of OHS's hours of operation; and**

**WHEREAS the Ottawa Humane Society currently covers the costs associated with the emergency veterinary clinic for overnight services rendered for wild animals delivered by By-law staff; and**

**WHEREAS in other Ontario municipalities, the cost for such services is borne by the local municipality; for example, in the City of Burlington, Animal Control has a contract with the City of Burlington for covering costs rendered; in the cities of Perth and Windsor, the contracts for overnight services are billed to the municipalities based on a list of animals and services that are pre-agreed to; and**

**WHEREAS in Ottawa, the emergency veterinary clinic that provides overnight services for wildlife invoice the Ottawa Humane Society within 48 hours of rendering services; and**

**WHEREAS in 2023 the Ottawa Humane Society was invoiced \$22,000 for these services rendered for 252 wild animals delivered to the emergency veterinary clinic by By-law staff and is anticipating a substantial increase in 2024 and beyond, likely in the \$50,000 range; and**

**WHEREAS the Ottawa Humane Society can expect that this annual cost will increase due to reasonably projected increases in the cost of veterinary services; and**

**25 June 2024**

**le 25 juin 2024**

**WHEREAS this annual cost to the Ottawa Humane Society is a significant impact to their strained capacity to provide overall services;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the matter of these costs to the OHS be brought forward to the 2025 budget for consideration as a potential grant to the OHS from the City, to include incremental annual increases.**

**Carried**

The report recommendation was then put before Committee and was 'CARRIED', as amended by Motions Nos. ARAC-ECCC 01, 02, 03 and 04.

**That the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee and the Environment and Climate Change Committee jointly recommend that Council approve the Action Plan described in this report, as amended by the following:**

- 1. That the Wildlife Resource Specialist, proposed in Action 7, in consultation with the Office of the City Clerk, review the membership, scope and objectives of a Department-led Working Group, in keeping with Action 2, including the potential participation of representatives from other levels of government, non-governmental agencies and Councillor Liaison(s); and**
- 2. That staff report back to Council on the results of this review by Q3 2025**
- 3. That staff in Climate Change and Resiliency provide an update to the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee and the Environment and Climate Change Committee of the revised Wildlife Strategy, two years after implementation, by Q2 2027**



25 June 2024

le 25 juin 2024

- 3. That the wildlife specialist work with IWSD to create an inventory of existing culverts and watercourses with ranking of beaver conflicts and feasibility of alternatives for each, and costing for those alternatives. Progress reports to come to both committees and council; and**
- 4. That City Staff identify specific locations where alternative management practices such as flow devices will be used, excluding Municipal Drains under the Drainage Act, while maintaining its responsibilities under the Drainage Act and that staff convene a public forum to learn more about the benefits of flow devices and their application within municipal infrastructure systems, specifically stormwater management systems pending confirmation that the Environmental Compliance Approvals for those facilities are not contravened. This forum should include an invitation to flow device experts, as well as a municipality with a proven track record of using these devices. City staff and the City's Drainage Engineers should also attend; and**
- 5. That the City complete a summary of the amount of time per week, that City staff inspect and clean culverts and break up dams at the -30 to 50 beaver management sites in Ottawa. This summary should include where equipment is required along with staff time and salary costs, including expenses associated with any contracted service providers and overtime; and**
- 6. That the City invite a flow device expert to analyze the results of the inventory of existing drains and watercourses, review current practices of the City for beaver management and provide recommendations on an approach that integrates flow devices as a beaver management tool for Stormwater Systems based upon respectful coexistence; and,**

25 June 2024

le 25 juin 2024

**7. That the matter of costs to the OHS (for the provision of veterinary services for sick/injured wildlife delivered by By-Law staff outside of the Ottawa Humane Society's hours of operation) be brought forward to the 2025 budget for consideration as a potential grant to the OHS from the City, to include incremental annual increases.**

**Carried, as amended, with Councillor Kavanagh dissenting on Clause 4 above.**