

Title

1. The title of this policy is the Pets Policy 25-03.

Purpose

2. This policy establishes guidelines regarding the presence of pets within the Municipality's Service Centres and the Dr. Carson and Marion Murray Community Centre (DCMMCC), and to ensure the safety, health, and comfort of employees, council members, committee members and visitors to the buildings.

Permissions and Exceptions

3. Pets are not permitted inside Service Centres and the DCMMCC, except for reasons outlined in 4 and 5 below.
4. Service animals are permitted in the Service Centres, as well as the DCMMCC (subject to restrictions set out in section 5). Service animals should be identifiable, must always be under the control of their owner/handler, and should be on a leash or harness.
5. When the Municipality hosts an event at the DCMMCC that includes by its nature the presence of animals (for example dog or cat shows, dog obedience or agility competitions or reptile exhibitions) the owner(s) or handler(s) of the animals that are participating in, or are the subject of, the event are permitted to bring the animals into the DCMMCC, provided due care and control is exercised at all times. This permission does not extend to spectators of the event that are not event participants.

Pet Restrictions

6. Size and Temperament Restrictions: To ensure the safety and comfort of everyone in the building, exempt pets must be of a size and temperament appropriate for the size and use of the space they are in.
7. Noise & Disruption: Exempt pets must always be kept under control. Excessive barking, howling, or other disruptive behaviors are not permitted. Owners/handlers must immediately address any disruptive behaviour and remove the pet from the building.

Responsibilities of Pet Owners/Handlers

8. Leash & Containment: Exempt pets must always be on a leash or harness, or in a secure carrier.
9. Cleaning & Hygiene: Exempt pet owners/handlers are responsible for cleaning up after their pets, both in the building and on the property surrounding it. Owners/handlers must ensure that their pets are well-groomed and healthy to minimize any risks related to allergies or pests.

10. Liability: Pet owners/handlers are responsible for any damage caused by their pets, including damage to municipal property, or the personal property of others. Owners/handlers must also ensure their pet does not pose a health or safety risk to others.

Policy Violations

11. Any person who brings or attempts to bring any pet into a Service Centre or the DCOMMCC in contravention of this Policy must remove the pet immediately.
12. Any person who refuses to immediately remove a pet when requested to do so by any employee of the Municipality, or who attempts to bring a pet into a service centre or the DCOMMCC after having been informed of this Policy, may be ordered to leave the premises immediately.

Previous Policies

13. Dr. Carson & Marion Murray Community Centre Pets Policy 16-06 is hereby repealed.

Policy Review

14. This policy will be periodically reviewed and updated as required.

Clerks Annotation for Official Policy Book

Date of Notice to Council Members of Intent to Consider (7 days minimum): May 16th, 2025

Date of Passage of Policy: May 26th, 2025

I hereby certify that this Policy was adopted as indicated above.

Deputy Clerk: *Amanda Hennean*

Date: May 27th, 2025

Plain Language Summary

This plain language summary is intended to help understand the policy. When a question about the policy comes up, the full policy is to be used to address the issue.

Purpose:

This policy explains when pets are allowed in the Municipality's Service Centres and the Dr. Carson and Marion Murray Community Centre (DCMMCC). It aims to keep everyone safe, healthy, and comfortable.

When Pets Are Allowed:

- Pets are generally **not** allowed inside these buildings.
- **Service animals** are allowed if they are clearly identified, under control, and on a leash or harness.
- Animals are allowed during special events at the DCMMCC (like pet shows or competitions), but only if they are part of the event and under control. Audience members cannot bring pets.

Rules for Allowed Pets:

- Pets must be a suitable size and have a calm nature for the space they're in.
- They must not bark, howl, or act out. If they do, the owner must take them out right away.

Pet Owner Responsibilities:

- Pets must be leashed, harnessed, or in a carrier.
- Owners must clean up after their pets and make sure they are clean and healthy.
- Owners are responsible for any damage their pets cause and must ensure the pet doesn't risk anyone's health or safety.

Breaking the Rules:

- If someone brings a pet against the rules, they must take it out right away.
- If they don't, or try again after being told about the policy, they can be asked to leave immediately.