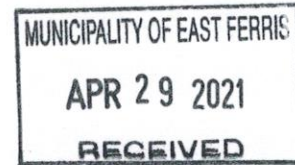


Mayor and Municipal Councillors  
390 Highway 94  
Corbeil, ON P0H 1K0



April 9, 2021

Re: Concern for Personal Safety

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

We, your constituents, are writing this letter with the expectation that you will address a safety concern that has gone unresolved in your riding, despite numerous attempts to address it. This concern results from the threatening behaviour of aggressive dogs whose owner, Mr. Mark Harrison, refuses to properly care for or contain to his property.

Mr. Harrison has rented 15 Knutson Court since August 2017 and has been made aware of our concerns on numerous occasions. The property owner, Mr. Lee MacAllister, who currently resides in Conception Bay, Newfoundland, has also been made aware. Unfortunately, nothing has been done to rectify the issue and we continue to contend with the safety concerns that result from aggressive dogs, likely pitbulls, roaming our previously safe and quiet neighbourhood.

Regardless of whether these dogs are pitbulls or bulldogs, as claimed by the owner, the females have been bred multiple times, each time becoming more aggressive and threatening. When loose, these dogs have chased, stalked, growled and lunged at people on their own property.

Below are some specific examples of past safety concerns and their outcomes:

**Knutson Family: 21 Knutson Court**

On two occasions the family dog was attacked while tied up. Luckily, Mr. Knutson witnessed these attacks and was able to defend the dog before it was seriously injured. Unfortunately, Mr. Knutson had to kick the dog before it would leave.

On Thanksgiving Day, 2020, the family dog was attacked and bit in the chest while being held by Mr. Knutson. This resulted in veterinary care when the wound became infected. Pictures of the wound are available.

On March 25, 2021, one of the dogs attacked Sarah Peddle's other dog while being held by Mr. Knutson. Again, Mr. Knutson was forced to kick the dog in the ribs and yell at it before it would return to its property. This incident was captured on video.

Two of the dogs scared Mr. Knutson's girlfriend, Sarah Peddle and his son Chase by chasing them around the house and barking at them as they tried to get into Ms. Peddle's vehicle. It took Mr. Harrison several attempts at calling the dogs, before they finally retreated and returned home.

**Paleczny Family: 3 Knutson Court**

Mrs. Tamra Paleczny, has had multiple encounters with the dogs sneaking up behind her while she is gardening. Upon being noticed and told to go home, the dogs have become aggressive, snarling and baring

their teeth and then chasing Mrs. Paleczny to her door. These incidents have been very frightening, and left her visibly trembling in fear.

Mr. Jim Paleczny, has also had the dogs surprise him and aggressively chase him back into his home. This has occurred on numerous occasions at various times of the day.

Unfortunately, the concerns with these dogs exist even when they are not roaming the neighbourhood. When left tied up, the dogs bark incessantly, often becoming so distressed that they will knock their water over and tangle their chain to the point that they can't move. This barking often continues for many hours whether Mr. Harrison is home or not. Many beautiful summer days have resulted in the whole neighbourhood being filled with frustration, anger and worst of all worry for the well-being of the dogs.

As a result of and in an attempt to stop further incidents from occurring, we have individually contacted the OPP, The Humane Society, The SPCA, The East Ferris by-law officer, and the homeowner, Lee MacAllister, in many cases multiple times.

These attempts seem to have been a waste of time. When we contact one organization we are told it should be handled by another one or reports that are submitted, are often not followed up on; if someone does come to address it, they have had no history of or access to previous reports so it is considered a first-time offense.

We have been told by the OPP that we have the right to defend our property by any means necessary, including taking the dog's life. It is unacceptable that this responsibility is being put on community members. If one of us, or one of our pets, suffers from a completely avoidable incident is that also our responsibility?

We, as a community, are fed up with the situation and are reaching out to you for help to solve this matter.

The questions we present to you as the leaders of East Ferris are these:

Why are your constituents left unassisted and being put in a position of having to choose to take a potentially violent action against these dogs? And, more importantly, how are you going to address our concern?

Respectfully submitted,



Warren Knutson

*W Knutson*

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Sarah Peddle

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