



P.O. Box 1749
 Halifax, Nova Scotia
 B3J 3A5 Canada

Item No. 15.4.1

Request for Council's Consideration		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Included on Agenda (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Thursday)	<input type="checkbox"/> Added Item (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Monday)	<input type="checkbox"/> Request from the Floor
<p>Date of Council Meeting: January 27, 2026</p> <p>Subject: Request for Provincial Action on Strengthening Dog Policies</p>		
<p>Motion for Council to Consider: THAT Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to provide a staff report to request the Mayor write a letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs John A. MacDonald by end of day on February 24 urging consideration of strengthened policies regarding dangerous animals, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Transferring dangerous dog legislation to the provincial level or mandating inter-jurisdictional communication on animal control to prevent relocation of dangerous dogs between municipalities. 2. Providing authority for immediate seizure of animals following a serious attack to ensure public safety during investigations. 3. Implementing stronger preventative measures, including higher penalties for owners who fail to control their dogs. <p>Reason: During the November 18 Regional Council meeting, a local family who survived a severe dog attack shared their experience and outlined three key requests to improve public safety. Their testimony highlighted gaps in current municipal authority and enforcement capacity. These measures require provincial cooperation to ensure dangerous dogs cannot be moved between jurisdictions, victims are protected during investigations, and stronger deterrents are in place for negligent owners. This request is additionally informed by the recent fatal dog attack in Welshtown, Nova Scotia, highlighting the need for stronger and more consistent provincial measures to protect public safety.</p> <p>Outcome Sought: Provincial engagement and legislative action to strengthen dangerous dog policies and enforcement mechanisms.</p>		
Councillor Trish Purdy Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon	District 4 District 1	