



THE DISTRICT OF NORTH VANCOUVER

KEEPING OF HENS BYLAW

BYLAW 8211

Effective Date – September 11, 2017

CONSOLIDATED FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY

This is a consolidation of the bylaws below. The amending bylaws have been combined with the original bylaw for convenience only. This consolidation is not a legal document. Certified copies of the original bylaws should be consulted for all interpretations and applications of the bylaw on this subject.

Original Bylaw

Bylaw 8211

Date of Adoption

September 11, 2017

Amending Bylaw

8559

Date of Adoption

May 30, 2022

The bylaw numbers in the margin of this consolidation refer to the bylaws that amended the principal bylaw (Keeping of Domestic Hens Bylaw 8211, 2016). The number of any amending bylaw that has been repealed is not referred to in this consolidation.

The Corporation of the District of North Vancouver

Bylaw 8211

A bylaw to regulate the keeping of domestic *hens*

The Council for The Corporation of the District of North Vancouver enacts as follows:

1. Citation

This bylaw may be cited as “Keeping of Domestic *Hens* Bylaw 8211, 2016”.

2. Definitions

In this bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:

- a) “*chicken*” means a domesticated *chicken*;
- b) “*coop*” means that part of an *enclosure* that is constructed of solid walls on all sides and covered with a solid roof, with a wood or concrete floor;
- c) “*District*” means the District of North Vancouver;
- d) “*enclosure*” means an enclosed structure designed for the keeping of *chickens*, and consists of a *run* and a *coop*;
- e) “*hen*” means a female *chicken*;
- f) “*rooster*” means a male *chicken*; and
- g) “*run*” means the outdoor part of an *enclosure* that is fully enclosed by wire or mesh on all sides and covered with a solid roof.

3. Applicability

The keeping of *hens* is permitted on properties located in any of the single family residential (RS) zones defined in the District of North Vancouver Zoning Bylaw 3210, subject to compliance with this Bylaw.

4. General Regulations

No person shall keep *hens* unless they:

- a) obtain a permit for the *hens* from the *District* by filling out all fields of the *hen* permit application form and submitting it with the appropriate permit application fee set out in the Fees and Charges Bylaw 6481, if any, along with any additional information required by the District of North Vancouver General Manager –

Planning, Properties and Permits, or his or her designate and obtaining an inspection in accordance with section 5 of this bylaw;

- b) pay the annual *hen* permit fee prescribed in the Fees and Charges Bylaw 6481;
- c) construct and maintain an *enclosure*, including a *coop* and a *run*, which *enclosure* shall:
 - (i) be enclosed by electric fencing designed and maintained in accordance with the electric fencing guidelines of the WildSafeBC program developed by the British Columbia Conservation Foundation;
 - (ii) be at least two metres in height;
 - (iii) be constructed only in a rear yard;
 - (iv) comply with the following property setbacks:
 - a) From a rear lot line 1.2 metres (3.9 feet) minimum
 - b) From an interior side 1.5 metres (4.9 feet) minimum
lot line
 - c) From a dwelling unit 1.2 metres (3.9 feet) minimum
 - (v) include a *coop* having:
 - A. a floor area of at least 0.4 square metres per *hen*, provided that no *coop* floor area shall exceed 5 square metres;
 - B. an inclined roof constructed of a material that does not collect and hold heat, which roof shall be covered with waterproof material (but tarps shall not be permitted);
 - C. a wooden floor at least 0.3 metres above grade, or a concrete floor;
 - D. at least one nest box; and
 - E. for each *hen*, a minimum of one perch at least 0.25 metres in length;
 - (vi) include a *run* with a floor consisting of any combination of vegetated or bare earth, with at least 1 square metre of floor area per *hen*;
 - (vii) be constructed so as to prevent the escape of *hens* and access by other animals; and
 - (viii) be located in an area that provides shade, direct sunlight, good drainage, and protection from wind;

- d) maintain the *enclosure* and all parts thereof in good and sanitary condition and repair;
- e) construct and maintain the *enclosure* so as to prevent any vermin from harbouring beneath the *enclosure* or within it or its walls, and to prevent entrance by other animals;
- f) secure all food and water containers in a *coop*, or otherwise in a manner to avoid attracting other animals;
- g) remove leftover feed, trash, and manure in a timely manner so as to prevent obnoxious odours, attraction of pests and wildlife, or conditions that could interfere with the health or well-being of a *hen*;
- h) follow bio-security procedures recommended by the *Canadian Food Inspection Agency*;
- i) keep *hens* for personal use only, and not sell, trade or barter eggs, manure, meat, or other products derived from the *hens*;
- j) ensure that all *hens* are kept within a secure and locked *coop* from dusk until dawn or from 9:00 p.m. where dusk falls later than 9:00 p.m. and until 7:00 a.m. where dawn occurs earlier than 7:00 a.m.; and
- k) ensure that each *hen* remains at all other times in the *enclosure*.

5. Inspection

The *enclosure* must be inspected by the *District* for compliance with the provisions of section 4 of this bylaw as a condition of issuing a *hen* permit and must be inspected annually thereafter, but no such inspection will be conducted by the *District* unless the annual permit fee required pursuant to section 4(b) of this bylaw and prescribed in the Fees and Charges Bylaw 6481 has been paid.

6. Prohibited Uses

No person shall:

- a) keep or permit to be kept any *rooster* on property that they own or occupy;
- b) keep or permit to be kept any *chicken* younger than 4 months on property that they own or occupy;
- c) keep or permit to be kept more than 6 *hens* on any single family residential lot;
- d) keep fewer than 2 *hens*, if *hens* are kept;
- e) have or permit more than one *enclosure* per single family residential lot;

- f) keep a *chicken* in a cage, other than an *enclosure*, unless for the purpose of transport;
- g) slaughter, euthanize, or attempt to euthanize a *chicken*, provided that this will not apply to veterinary clinics or abattoirs that are legally permitted to slaughter or euthanize *chickens*;
- h) bury a *chicken*;
- i) leave a dead *chicken* for more than one day on a property that they own or occupy;
- j) dispose of a dead *chicken* except by delivering it to a farm, abattoir, veterinarian or other facility that is legally permitted and able to dispose of *chicken* carcasses;
- k) construct or permit to be constructed an *enclosure* in the front yard or side yard of a property that they own or occupy, or otherwise keep or permit to be kept any *hens* in any such front yard or side yard; or
- l) deposit manure in the municipal sewage or storm drain system, or compost manure in such a way as to allow manure to enter the municipal sewage or storm drain system.

7. Enforcement

The Animal Welfare Officer, Bylaw Enforcement Officer and Medical Health Officer are authorized to enforce this Bylaw and for that purpose may enter at all reasonable times upon any property to ascertain whether or not the provision of this bylaw is being obeyed.

8. Obstruction

No person shall interfere with, delay, obstruct or impede a Bylaw Enforcement Officer or other person lawfully authorized to enforce this Bylaw in the performance of duties under this Bylaw.

9. Seizure and Disposition

The Animal Welfare Officer or Bylaw Enforcement Officer reserves the right (but is not in any way obligated) to seize and impound any *chicken* running astray. If any impounded *chicken* is not claimed within 24 hours, the Animal Welfare Officer or Bylaw Enforcement Officer, or the designate of either of them, may donate, euthanize or otherwise dispose of the *chicken* in any manner he or she sees fit. To claim an impounded *chicken*, the owner shall pay the fees set out in the Fees and Charges Bylaw 6481.

10. Offences and Penalties

a) Any person who:

- i. contravenes a provision of this bylaw;
- ii. causes, consents to, allows or permits an act or thing to be done contrary to this bylaw;
- iii. neglects or refrains from doing anything required by a provision of this bylaw; or
- iv. fails to comply with any order, direction or notice given under this bylaw,

commits an offence and is subject to the penalties imposed by this bylaw and the *Offence Act*.

(b) Each instance that a contravention of a provision of this bylaw occurs and each day that a contravention occurs or continues shall constitute a separate offence.

(c) A person found guilty of an offence under this bylaw is subject to a fine of not less than \$1,000.00 and not more than \$50,000.00 for every instance that an offence occurs or each day that it occurs or continues, plus the costs of prosecution.

(8559)

11. Designation of Bylaw

This bylaw is designated pursuant to section 264 of the *Community Charter* as a bylaw that may be enforced by means of a ticket in the form prescribed, and may be enforced by any person listed in section 7 of this bylaw.

(8559)

12. Municipal Ticket Enforcement

The words or expressions listed below in the Designated Expression column are authorized to be used on a ticket issued pursuant to 264 of the *Community Charter* to designate a violation of the corresponding section of the bylaw appearing in the Section column. The amounts appearing in the Fine column and the Late Penalty column are the fines set pursuant to section 265 of the *Community Charter* for contravention of the corresponding section of the bylaw set out in the Section column.

Section number	Designated Expression (Short-Form Description)	MTI Fine (\$)	Late Penalty Fine (if Fine unpaid after 30 days) (\$)
4(a)	Failure to register	150	180
4(b)	Failure to pay <i>hen</i> permit fee	150	180
4(c)	Improper <i>enclosure</i>	200	230
4(d)	Failure to maintain <i>enclosure</i>	200	230
4(e)	Failure to exclude other animals	200	230

4(f)	Failure to properly secure food and water containers	150	180
4(g)	Failure to prevent obnoxious, unsafe or unhealthy conditions	150	180
4(h)	Failure to follow bio-security procedures	150	180
4(i)	Commercial use of <i>chickens</i>	200	230
4(j)	Failure to secure <i>chickens</i> in <i>coop</i>	150	180
4(k)	Failure to secure <i>chickens</i> in <i>enclosure</i>	150	180
5	Failure to have <i>enclosure</i> inspected	150	180
6(a)	Keeping <i>roosters</i>	150	180
6(b)	Keeping juvenile <i>chickens</i>	150	180
6(c)	Keep more than six <i>chickens</i>	150	180
6(d)	Keep fewer than two <i>chickens</i>	150	180
6(e)	More than one <i>chicken enclosure</i>	150	180
6(f)	Keep <i>chicken</i> in cage except for transport	200	230
6(g)	Killing a <i>chicken</i>	200	230
6(h)	Burying a <i>chicken</i>	200	230
6(i)	Failure to dispose of dead <i>chicken</i> within one day	150	180
6(j)	Improper disposal of dead <i>chicken</i>	200	230
6(k)	Keep <i>chickens</i> or construct <i>enclosure</i> in front yard or side yard	250	280
6(l)	Deposit or permit manure in sewer or storm drain	250	280

READ a first time April 10th, 2017

PUBLIC HEARING held May 16th, 2017

READ a second time as amended July 24th, 2017

READ a third time July 24th, 2017

ADOPTED September 11th, 2017

Mayor

Municipal Clerk

Certified a true copy

Municipal Clerk