Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation

Animal Control By-Law No. 2026-01

Enacted on the date set out below showing Council's endorsement.

Preamble

A. Whereas the reserve is the home of the Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation and has been set aside for the First Nation's use and benefit; and

B. Whereas the Council of the Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation has declared it expedient and necessary for the benefit, comfort and safety of its members to make a by-law for the purposes of animal control, safety, and protection; and

C. Whereas Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation continues to exercise its inherent rights of self-governance as well as its by-law powers under section 81(1) of the *Indian Act*, RSC 1985, c I-5, particularly subsections (a) to provide for the health of residents on the reserve and to prevent the spreading of contagious and infectious diseases, as well as (d) the prevention of disorderly conduct and nuisances, (e) the protection against and prevention of trespass by cattle and other domestic animals, the establishment of pounds, the appointment of pound-keepers, the regulation of their duties and the provision for fees and charges for their services, and (r) the imposition on summary conviction of a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or imprisonment for a term not exceeding thirty days, or both, for violation of a by-law made under this section; and

D. Whereas the Council has a responsibility to maintain the health, safety, security, and well-being of the Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation's residents to the best of its ability; and

E. Whereas Council is of the opinion that uncontrolled ownership and running at large of animals may be detrimental to the health and safety of the residents of Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation and a nuisance to such residents.

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation, duly assembled, enacts as follows:

Short Title

This By-law may be cited as the *Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation Animal Control By-Law, 2026.*

Application

This By-law applies to all owners residing on, or visiting, Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation.

Interpretation

1. In this by-law:

(a) "abandoned animal" means:

i. an animal that appears ownerless after an Animal Control Officer has taken reasonable steps to locate its owner, except where an animal has been left at a licensed veterinary clinic, shelter or other authorized care facility for treatment or temporary care;

ii. an animal that has been left in the care of another person or establishment and remains uncollected for more than 5 calendar days after the agreed-upon time, except where the animal was left for veterinary treatment, boarding or other authorized temporary care.

(b) "aggressive animal" means:

i. any animal that demonstrates vicious, aggressive, or violent behaviour;

ii. any animal that an Animal Control Officer reasonably believes poses a threat to the safety of a person or another animal;

iii. any animal that has bitten or otherwise caused physical harm to a person or another animal without provocation;

iv. any animal whose owner has received a Notice of Offence under this By-law within the previous 12 months concerning that animal's aggressive behaviour or threat to safety;

v. any animal previously declared aggressive under this By-law or any other municipal or provincial legislation.

(c) "animal" means a dog, cat, or any other domestic animal, male or female, and of any age;

(d) "Animal Control Officer" means an individual designated as such by SIFN to enforce this By-law;

(e) "at large" means to be off the premises of an owner's property, or not under the physical control of a person by means of a leash or other restraint;

(f) "BCR" means a Band Council Resolution;

(g) "Council" means the duly elected Council of SIFN, including its Chief and Councillors;

(h) "distress" means:

i. being in need of proper care, shelter, food, or water;

ii. being in need of protection from heat or cold that is appropriate for the animal;

iii. being sick, injured, in pain, or suffering unnecessarily;

iv. being confined to an area that lacks sufficient space, ventilation or lighting, or that is unsanitary;

v. being deprived of medical care or treatment;

vi. being deprived of the opportunity for physical exercise;

vii. being abandoned in a way that is likely to cause distress.

(i) "injury" includes injuries caused by wounding, pursuing, or terrifying;

(j) "mitigating factors" shall mean any circumstances which reasonably excuse aggressive and uncommon behaviour of an animal that may include, but are not limited to:

i. the animal was, at the time of aggressive behaviour, acting in defence of an attack by a person or other animal; or

ii. the animal was, at the time of aggressive behaviour, being teased, provoked, or tormented.

(k) "Notice of Offence" or "Notice" means a notice that an owner has acted contrary to this By-law.

(l) "owner" means a person who has custody, charge, or possession of the animal or who is the owner of property, premises, or part of a premises where the animal is to be kept or permitted to live or remain;

(m) "reserve" means all lands set apart for the use and benefit of the Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation, known as Sheshatshiu Indian Reserve No. 3;

(n) "SIFN" means Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation;

(o) "Sheshatshiu" means all lands within the boundaries of the reserve; and

(p) "under control of a capable person" means an animal that is at all times, while the animal is off its owner's property, on a leash and under the care and control of a person physically capable of restraining the animal so as to prevent harm to a person or other animal.

2. General Prohibitions

2.1 Council may prohibit the keeping of animals within areas of the reserve. Where Council imposes such a prohibition, it shall post a notice of prohibition in the Administration Offices identifying the areas to which the prohibition applies.

2.2 No person shall establish, own, or operate a facility for the boarding, treatment or care of animals on the reserve without the express and written authorization of Council by way of a BCR.

2.3 No person shall keep, harbour or possess a wild animal on the reserve that may be dangerous to the health or safety of the residents of SIFN without express and written authorization of Council by way of a BCR.

2.4 All owners and persons on the reserve shall comply with any noise By-laws currently in force.

3. Prohibited Breeds

3.1 No person shall acquire or introduce a pit bull or any crossbreed of a pit bull on the reserve.

3.2 For greater certainty, "pit bull" includes:

(a) American Pit Bull Terrier;

(b) American Staffordshire Terrier;

(c) Staffordshire Bull Terrier; or

(d) any dog with physical characteristics substantially similar to these breeds.

3.3 Sections 3.1 and 3.2 do not apply to an owner who lawfully kept a pit bull on the reserve before the adoption of this By-law, who may continue to keep that animal, provided the owner complies with all provisions in this By-law.

4. Compliance and offences – prohibited breeds

4.1 Any person who contravenes section 3 commits an offence and is subject to the penalties set out in section 25.

4.2 An Animal Control Officer may seize any pit bull introduced in violation of section 3 above, and take further action in accordance with sections 21 and 24 of this By-law.

5. Registration of animals

5.1 Every owner shall register each animal kept on the SIFN reserve with the Animal Control Officer within:

(a) 14 calendar days of the adoption of this By-law; or

(b) 14 days of acquiring the animal,

whichever occurs later.

5.2 Owners shall provide the Animal Control Officer with the following information at the time of registration:

(a) owner's full name, address and contact information;

(b) the animal's species, breed, sex, age, colour and any distinguishing markings;

(c) proof of vaccination and health status; and

(d) microchip or tattoo identification, if applicable.

5.3 Where an animal is not microchipped at the time of registration, the owner shall ensure that the animal is microchipped within 14 days of registration. The Animal Control Officer may arrange for or perform the microchipping, with the owner's consent and where permitted by applicable law.

5.4 Where an owner fails to comply with section 5.3, the Animal Control Officer shall issue a written notice requiring the owner to have the animal microchipped within a reasonable period specified in the notice. The notice shall advise the owner that failure to comply may result in the seizure and impoundment of the animal for the purpose of microchipping.

6. Renewal and Update of Information

6.1 An owner shall notify the Animal Control Officer within 14 days of any change in ownership, address or the death of a registered animal.

7. Compliance and Offences – registration

7.1 Any person who fails to register an animal or maintain its registration as required by section 5 or 6 of this By-law commits an offence and is liable to penalties under sections 25 and 26.

7.2 An Animal Control Officer may seize any unregistered animal found on the reserve in violation of section 5 and take further action in accordance with sections 21 and 24 of this By-law.

8. Spay and neuter requirements – dogs and cats

8.1 Every owner shall ensure that each dog or cat is spayed or neutered by 6 months of age.

8.2 An owner who acquires a dog or cat older than 6 months shall ensure that the animal is spayed or neutered within 60 days of acquisition.

9. Exceptions – spaying and neutering

9.1 The requirements to spay and neuter in section 8 do not apply where:

(a) a licensed veterinarian certifies in writing that spaying or neutering the animal would endanger the animal's health; or

(b) the owner holds a breeder permit issued under this By-law, authorizing intentional breeding activities subject to conditions set by Council.

10. Compliance and offences – spaying and neutering

10.1 Any person who contravenes section 8 commits an offence and is liable to penalties under section 25 of this By-law.

10.2 The Animal Control Officer may require proof of spay/neuter status, including veterinary records or certificates.

10.3 An Animal Control Officer may seize the animal and take further action in accordance with sections 21 and 24 of this By-law.

11. Breeder permits – eligibility

11.1 An owner who wishes to breed an animal on the reserve shall apply for a breeder permit before breeding an animal.

11.2 The Animal Control Officer shall only issue a breeder permit to an owner who demonstrates:

(a) that the animal is in good health and suitable for breeding, verified by a licensed veterinarian; and

(b) the ability to provide adequate housing, care, and veterinary attention for the offspring.

12. Application process – breeder permit

12.1 An owner shall submit a written application to the Animal Control Officer, including:

(a) the animal's CKC registration number or equivalent proof of recognition;

(b) the name, age, species, and breed of the animal(s) to be bred; and

(c) proof of current vaccinations and veterinary health certification.

12.2 The Animal Control Officer shall review the application and either approve or deny the breeder permit within 14 days of submission.

13. Conditions of a breeder permit

13.1 A breeder permit authorizes the owner to keep an intact animal for the purposes of intentional breeding.

13.2 Permit holders shall comply with all conditions imposed by Council, including limits on the number of litters, recordkeeping, reporting requirements, and adherence to CKC breeding standards.

13.3 A breeder permit does not exempt the owner from other provisions of this By-law, except the spay/neuter requirements specified in section 8.

14. Compliance and Offences – breeder permit

14.1 A person who breeds an animal without a valid breeder permit, or fails to comply with permit conditions, commits an offence under this By-law and is liable to penalties under section 25.

14.2 The Animal Control Officer may revoke a breeder permit for non-compliance and may seize the animal and take further action under sections 21 and 24 of this By-law.

15. Responsibility of the Owner

15.1 Every owner shall ensure the health and safety of their animal and keep it leashed, fenced and humanely cared for.

15.2 Every owner shall provide secure fencing or restrain any animal by leash.

15.3 Where an animal is leashed, the owner shall ensure that the leash allows the animal sufficient space to move freely and safely.

15.4 Where an animal is kept within a fenced area, the owner shall ensure that the enclosure provides sufficient space for the animal to move freely and is free from hazards that may cause injury.

15.5 No owner shall permit any animal owned by them to be deprived of adequate food, water or other resources necessary for the animal's health or well-being, or to be kept in a manner that causes or is likely to cause unnecessary suffering or distress to the animal.

15.6 No owner shall cause or permit an animal to be subjected to abuse, neglect or any treatment that causes or is likely to cause unnecessary suffering, injury, or distress.

15.7 No owner shall permit any animal owned by them to run at large on the reserve.

15.8 The owner shall ensure that their animal is, at all times, under control of a person capable of restraining the animal to prevent harm, injury or damage.

15.9 No owner shall permit any animal owned by them to enter or cause damage to another person's property without the consent of the owner of the property.

15.10 Owners shall immediately remove and properly dispose of any animal waste deposited on public property or private property belonging to another person.

16. Exemptions – securing animals

16.1 Animals are exempt from the securing requirements of section 15, where the animal is:

(a) held and under the control of a capable person;

(b) performing hunting duties;

(c) performing herding duties; or

(d) performing aid duties including acting as a guide dog or medical aid where it is not practical for the animal to be securely leashed or fenced.

17. Compliance and offence – responsibilities of owners

17.1 A person who contravenes section 15 commits an offence under this By-law and is liable to penalties under section 25 of this By-law.

17.2 Any person who interferes with an Animal Control Officer enforcing these provisions shall be deemed to have committed an offence.

17.3 An Animal Control Officer may seize an animal and take further action in accordance with sections 21 and 24 of this By-law.

18. Health of Animals

18.1 Where an animal is suspected of having rabies or any other communicable disease, or has been exposed to such a disease, the owner shall promptly notify an Animal Control Officer and take reasonable steps to prevent the animal from coming into contact with other animals or persons.

18.2 An Animal Control Officer who receives a report under subsection 18.1 shall notify the appropriate animal health authorities of the matter.

18.3 Where an animal requires quarantine, testing, treatment or destruction due to a communicable disease, the owner shall comply with any lawful direction by a person authorized under applicable law.

18.4 Where an Animal Control Officer has reasonable grounds to believe that an animal is in distress, the Animal Control Officer shall take reasonable steps to obtain veterinary assistance or otherwise arrange for the animal's care in accordance with applicable law.

18.5 Subject to any authorization required from the appropriate animal health authorities, where quarantine is required by applicable law or a veterinarian, an Animal Control Officer may assist in arranging quarantine or hold the animal in quarantine for a period of 10 days, or for any longer period required.

18.6 An Animal Control Officer may investigate any complaint or report where there are reasonable grounds to believe that an animal is being subjected to abuse, neglect, distress or undue suffering contrary to this By-law.

18.7 In conducting an investigation under subsection 18.6, an Animal Control Officer may:

(a) make reasonable inquiries of the owner or other persons who may have information relevant to the investigation;

(b) observe and document the condition of an animal from any place where the Officer is lawfully present;

(c) with the consent of the owner or lawful occupant, enter premises to examine the animal and its living conditions;

(d) obtain photographs, witness statements, veterinary records or other relevant information voluntarily provided; and

(e) consult a veterinarian or seek assistance from a provincial animal protection inspector or peace officer.

18.8 Where an Animal Control Officer has reasonable grounds to believe that an owner has contravened the animal care requirements under section 18, the Officer may issue a

written Notice of Offence requiring the owner to take reasonable steps to remedy the contravention within a specified period.

18.9 An owner who receives a notice under subsection 18.8 shall comply with the requirements of the notice within the specified period.

18.10 Where an Animal Control Officer has reasonable grounds to believe that an animal is experiencing serious or immediate distress, or that an offence may have been committed under applicable provincial or federal animal protection legislation, the Animal Control Officer shall promptly refer the matter to a provincial animal protection inspector or the RCMP.

18.11 The Animal Control Officer must document all steps taken and include all applicable information in a written report, which the Animal Control Officer shall file and maintain as a record.

18.12 The owner shall be responsible for reasonable costs lawfully incurred in the care, quarantine or treatment of the animal.

18.13 Nothing in this section authorizes an Animal Control Officer to enter or search premises without consent or other lawful authority, seize an animal without lawful authority, or exercise powers reserved to an inspector or peace officer under applicable law. Refusal to consent to an inspection under paragraph 18.7(c) does not, by itself, constitute obstruction under this By-law.

19. Aggressive animals designation

19.1 An Animal Control Officer or the Director of Public Works may designate an animal as aggressive where there are reasonable grounds to believe that the animal meets the definition of "aggressive animal" under section 1(b) and poses a threat to the safety of persons or other animals.

19.2 The Animal Control Officer or Director of Public Works shall provide written notice to the owner of the designation, including reasons for the decision and the requirements imposed under section 20.

19.3 An owner may request a review of an aggressive designation in accordance with section 27.

20. Requirements for aggressive animals

20.1 When an Animal Control Officer or the Director of Public Works deems an animal aggressive under section 19, the owner shall:

(a) securely fence or leash the animal at all times, whether on private or public property;

(b) post clearly visible signage on the property where the animal is kept, notifying the public that an aggressive animal is present; and

(c) muzzle the animal at all times when off the owner's property.

20.2 The owner shall be responsible for all costs associated with compliance with section 20.1, including fencing, tethering, signage and muzzling.

21. Seizure and impoundment of animals

21.1 Subject to this By-law, an Animal Control Officer may seize or impound an animal where the Animal Control Officer has reasonable grounds to believe that the animal:

(a) is running at large contrary to this By-law;

(b) is running at large and poses an immediate threat to the safety of persons, other animals or property; or

(c) is in distress and immediate intervention is necessary to protect its welfare, where the Animal Control Officer is legally authorized to take such action.

21.2 Any person who encounters an animal running at large may provide photographs and relevant information to an Animal Control Officer for the purposes of identification and owner notification. Submission of such information does not, by itself, authorize seizure of the animal.

21.3 An Animal Control Officer must document each seizure, including the grounds for the decision, the condition of the animal and any steps taken to locate the owner.

21.4 Within 24 hours of seizing an animal, an Animal Control Officer shall take all reasonable steps to notify the owner and provide written notice of the seizure, including the reasons for seizure and the procedure for reclaiming the animal.

21.5 Except where otherwise authorized or required by applicable law, an animal seized under this By-law shall be held for an initial period of 5 calendar days to allow the owner an opportunity to reclaim the animal in accordance with section 23.

21.6 Where an owner fails to comply with a notice issued under section 5.4, the Animal Control Officer may seize and impound the animal for the purpose of having it microchipped by a person authorized to perform the procedure under applicable law.

21.7 An animal seized under subsection 21.6 shall be returned to its owner as soon as reasonably practicable after being microchipped.

21.8 An owner shall be responsible for the reasonable costs lawfully incurred in the seizure, impoundment and care of an animal, including necessary veterinary treatment and microchipping, where applicable.

22. Immediate seizure – aggressive behaviour

22.1 An Animal Control Officer may immediately seize an animal where the Officer has reasonable grounds to believe that the animal is demonstrating aggressive behaviour that poses an immediate threat to the safety of persons or other animals, including:

(a) biting;

(b) pursuing;

(c) lunging; or

(d) attacking.

22.2 An Animal Control Officer who seizes an animal under this section shall comply with the reporting and notification requirements under section 21.

23. Reclaiming and disposition of animals

23.1 An Animal Control Officer shall restore possession of an animal to its owner where:

(a) the owner claims possession within the applicable 5 calendar day holding period;

(b) the owner pays any chargeable costs associated with the animal's seizure and care; and

(c) where necessary, the owner provides written confirmation of the steps that will be taken to prevent a recurrence of the circumstances leading to seizure.

23.2 An Animal Control Officer may refuse to release an animal where there are reasonable grounds to believe that its release would pose an immediate and serious threat to public safety. The Animal Control Officer shall provide written reasons for the decision.

23.3 If the animal is not reclaimed within 5 days from the date of seizure, the Animal Control Officer may:

(a) seek the owner's voluntary surrender of the animal under section 28; or

(b) arrange for the animal's continued care or transfer custody to an appropriate shelter or organization; or

(c) initiate forfeiture and humanely destroy or euthanize the animal in accordance with this By-law.

24. Destruction or euthanasia or animals

24.1 Any person who witnesses an animal running at large that is pursuing or attacking a person or another animal, or causing injury or damage to persons, animals or property, may report the incident to an Animal Control Officer as soon as practicable.

24.2 Animal Control Officers receiving a report under section 24.1 shall act in accordance with this By-law and applicable law.

24.3 Subject to applicable law, an Animal Control Officer may humanely destroy or cause an animal to be euthanized only where:

(a) the Animal Control Officer has reasonable grounds to believe that an animal running at large poses an immediate and serious threat to:

i. a person;

ii. another animal that is tethered; or

iii. domestic livestock;

and the threat cannot reasonably be addressed through capture, containment or other less restrictive measures; or

(b) a veterinarian has determined that the animal is in such distress that it cannot be relieved of its distress or live without undue suffering, and euthanasia is carried out by a person legally authorized to do so.

24.4 Before an animal is humanely destroyed or euthanized under section 24, the Animal Control Officer shall, as soon as reasonably practicable, attempt to locate and notify the owner.

24.5 Despite section 24.4, an Animal Control Officer may proceed without prior notification where immediate destruction or euthanasia is reasonably necessary to protect public safety where the animal presents an immediate danger and cannot be safely captured or contained.

24.6 Where an animal is humanely destroyed or euthanized under section 24, an Animal Control Officer shall immediately:

(a) report the incident to the Director of Public Works;

(b) take all reasonable steps to locate and notify the owner; and

(c) prepare and maintain a written report documenting the circumstances, grounds for the decision, alternatives considered and method of destruction or euthanasia.

24.7 An owner whose animal is humanely destroyed or euthanized in accordance with this section shall not be entitled to any damages or compensation.

24.8 Any destruction or euthanasia under this section shall be carried out humanely and in accordance with applicable law, including any requirements respecting the method used.

25. Offences and Penalties

25.1 Any person who contravenes any provision of this By-law or a condition of a permit issued under this By-law commits an offence.

25.2 Any person who obstructs, interferes with or attempts to obstruct or interfere with an Animal Control Officer in the lawful exercise of their duties, including interference with equipment used in carrying out those duties, commits an offence.

25.3 Any owner who fails to secure an animal in accordance with section 15, or allows an animal to run at large contrary to this By-law, commits an offence.

25.4 Any person who removes or attempts to remove an animal from the lawful custody of an Animal Control Officer without authorization commits an offence.

25.5 Any person who keeps, harbours or possesses a wild animal on the reserve that may be dangerous to the health or safety of SIFN residents without written authorization from Council by way of a BCR in accordance with subsection 2.3 commits an offence.

25.6 A person who commits an offence under this By-law is liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding $1,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 30 days, or both.

26. Notices of Offence and Enforcement

26.1 An Animal Control Officer who has reasonable grounds to believe that a person has contravened this By-law may issue a written warning or Notice of Offence.

26.2 A written warning or Notice of Offence issued under subsection 26.1 shall be in the form set out in Schedule "B" attached and shall:

(a) identify the contravention and the relevant provision of this By-law;

(b) provide the date and the particulars of the alleged contravention;

(c) identify any corrective action required, where applicable; and

(d) advise that further contraventions may result in enforcement action under this By-law.

26.3 For a first contravention, an Animal Control Officer shall issue a written warning, unless the nature or seriousness of the contravention warrants further enforcement action.

26.4 Where a person commits a second contravention within a 12-month period, an Animal Control Officer may issue a Notice of Offence and issue a fine not exceeding $50.

26.5 Where a person commits a third or subsequent contravention within a 12-month period, an Animal Control Officer may:

(a) issue a Notice of Offence;

(b) issue a fine not exceeding $100; and

(c) seize the animal.

26.6 In determining the appropriate enforcement action, an Animal Control Officer may consider:

(a) the nature and seriousness of the contravention;

(b) any previous warnings, Notices of Offence or convictions within the preceding 12 months;

(c) any risk to public safety or animal welfare; and

(d) the person's efforts to remedy the contravention.

26.7 For the purposes of determining whether a contravention is a first, second, third or subsequent contravention under this section:

(a) contraventions shall be counted in relation to the owner, regardless of whether they involve the same animal or different animals under that owner's care or control;

(b) contraventions arising from the same incident shall be treated as one contravention for the purposes of escalating enforcement under this section;

(c) a previous contravention shall only be counted where the owner received a written warning or Notice of Offence, or was convicted, before the subsequent contravention occurred; and

(d) a warning or Notice of Offence that is subsequently rescinded shall not be counted.

26.8 The owner shall be responsible for paying the outstanding fine and a fee of $50 for each day or part thereof that the animal is held following seizure.

26.9 Where an animal is not reclaimed and the applicable fines and fees have not been paid in full within the 5 calendar day period set out in subsection 21.5, the animal shall become the property of SIFN.

26.10 Upon an animal becoming the property of the SIFN, an Animal Control Officer may make arrangements:

(a) to keep and place the animal up for adoption;

(b) to surrender the animal to a humane society or equivalent organization; or

(c) for the animal to be humanely destroyed or euthanized.

26.11 SIFN shall, after providing written notice, deduct any unpaid fines imposed under this By-law from any SIFN community distributions or other SIFN-provided financial benefits.

26.12 Schedule "B" forms part of this By-law.

27. Request for Review

27.1 An owner may request a review by Council of:

(a) an aggressive animal designation under section 19;

(b) a decision to seize an animal under this By-law;

(c) a refusal to release an animal under section 23;

(d) a decision to deny or revoke a breeder permit under sections 12 or 14; or

(e) a written warning, Notice of Offence or administrative requirement issued under this By-law.

27.2 A request for review shall:

(a) be submitted to Council in writing, within 14 days of receiving notice of the decision, or within any longer period Council considers reasonable;

(b) identify the decision being challenged and the reasons for requesting a review;

(c) include any new information or mitigating factors the owner wishes the Council to consider; and

(d) where the request relates to a denied breeder permit, include the breeder permit application and any relevant supporting information.

27.3 Council shall review the decision and any relevant information provided by the owner and may confirm, vary or rescind the administrative decision, subject to applicable law.

27.4 Council shall provide the owner with written notice of its decision and the reasons for that decision.

27.5 A request for review does not suspend any immediate measures necessary to protect public safety or animal welfare.

27.6 Council may rescind a Notice of Offence if Council accepts an owner's statement of mitigating factors.

27.7 An owner shall not request more than 3 reviews in a calendar year.

28. Voluntary Surrender of Animals

28.1 An owner may voluntarily surrender an animal to an Animal Control Officer.

28.2 An Animal Control Officer shall not accept the surrender of an animal unless the owner signs a Voluntary Surrender Waiver in the form attached as **Schedule "A"** to this By-law.

28.3 Upon execution of the waiver, the owner transfers all rights, title, and interest in the animal to the Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation.

28.4 An owner who surrenders an animal has no right to reclaim the animal.

28.5 An Animal Control Officer may arrange for the care, transfer, adoption, or humane euthanasia of a surrendered animal in accordance with this By-law.

28.6 The owner shall pay all costs associated with the care of the animal up to the date of surrender, unless waived by the SIFN.

28.7 Schedule "A" forms part of this By-law.

29. Coming Into Force

29.1 This by-law comes into force after its enactment on the day it is published in the *First Nations Gazette* or on another internet site.

This *Animal Control By-law* is hereby enacted by a quorum of the Council of the Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation at a duly convened meeting on the 10 day of November, 2026.

Chief Eugene Hart

Councillor

Councillor

Councillor

Councillor

Councillor

Councillor

Councillor

Councillor

Schedule "A"

Voluntary Surrender Waiver and Release

1. Owner Information
Full Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone Number: _____
Email (optional): _____

2. Animal Information
Type of Animal: _____
Breed: _____
Sex: _____
Age (approx.): _____
Colour/Markings: _____
Microchip/Tattoo (if any): _____

3. Voluntary Surrender

I, the undersigned, voluntarily surrender the animal described above to the Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation ("SIFN").

I confirm that I am the lawful owner of the animal and have full authority to surrender it.

4. Transfer of Ownership

I acknowledge and agree that, upon signing this waiver:

(a) ownership of the animal is permanently transferred to SIFN;
(b) I relinquish all rights, title, and interest in the animal; and
(c) I have no right to reclaim the animal.

5. Disposition of Animal

I understand that SIFN may, at its sole discretion:

(a) place the animal for adoption;
(b) transfer the animal to a third party, including a shelter or other agency; or
(c) humanely destroy or euthanize the animal.

I understand that SIFN makes no guarantees regarding the future care or disposition of the animal.

6. Health and Behaviour Disclosure

To the best of my knowledge:

(a) the animal's health condition is: _____;
(b) the animal has / has not (circle one) bitten or injured a person or another animal;
(c) any known behavioural concerns are: _____.

7. Release and Indemnity

I release and discharge SIFN, its Council, employees, and Animal Control Officers from any and all liability, claims, or demands arising from:

(a) the surrender of the animal; and
(b) any future care, handling, transfer, or euthanasia of the animal.

8. Acknowledgement

I confirm that:

(a) I have read and understand this waiver;
(b) I sign this voluntarily; and
(c) I understand the legal effect of this document.

9. Signatures

Owner Signature:_____ Date: _____

Animal Control Officer: _____ Date: _____

Schedule "B"

Notice of Offence

Notice No.: _____

Date Issued: _____

1. Owner Information

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

2. Animal Information

Type of Animal: _____

Breed: _____

Colour/Markings: _____

Animal Name or Registration No.: _____

Number of Animals Involved: _____

3. Details of Alleged Contravention

Date of Incident: _____

Time of Incident: _____

Location of Incident: _____

Section(s) of By-law Contravened:

Description of Alleged Contravention:

4. Notice and Enforcement Action

Pursuant to section 26 of the Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation Animal Control By-law, 2026, you are hereby notified of an alleged contravention of the By-law.

Type of Notice:

☐ First Contravention — Written Warning

☐ Second Contravention within 12 Months

☐ Third or Subsequent Contravention within 12 Months

☐ Other Enforcement Action

Escalating Penalty Amounts:

Second contravention: Fine not exceeding $50

Third or subsequent contravention: Fine not exceeding $100

5. Corrective Action Required

The owner is required to take the following corrective action, where applicable:

Deadline for Compliance:

Date: _____ Time: _____

Failure to remedy the contravention may result in further enforcement action under the By-law.

6. Request for Review

Under section 27 of the By-law, an owner may request that Council review this Notice.

A request for review must:

(a) be submitted to Council in writing within 14 days of receiving this Notice, or within any longer period Council considers reasonable;

(b) identify the decision being challenged and the reasons for requesting a review; and

(c) include any relevant information or mitigating factors the owner wishes Council to consider.

A request for review does not suspend immediate measures necessary to protect public safety or animal welfare.

7. Issuing Animal Control Officer

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

8. Delivery of Notice

Method of Delivery:

☐ Personally delivered to owner

☐ Delivered to owner's address

☐ Sent electronically

☐ Other: _____

Date of Delivery: _____

Time of Delivery: _____

Officer's Notes (if applicable):