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December 13, 2024

## **Resolution Re: Regulating Exotic Animals and Licensing Zoos**

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At the regular Council meeting held on October 22, 2024, the following resolution was passed:

**MOVED BY HALLS, SECONDED BY BANFIELD  
BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

Council do hereby support the Town of Kirkland Lake and the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus resolutions with respect to petitioning the provincial government to implement provincial regulations to restrict the procession, breeding, and use of exotic wild animals and license zoos in order to guarantee the fair and consistent application of policy throughout Ontario for the safety of Ontario's citizens and the exotic wild animal population.

**CARRIED**

Sincerely,

Shannon Peart  
Administrative Assistant Clerk's Department  
Township of East Garafraxa

Enclosures: Town of Kirkland Lake Motion – Exotic Animals  
Western Ontario Wardens Caucus – Roadside Zoos Legislation

cc: Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Hon Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General  
Hon. Graydon Smith, Minister for Natural Resources and Forestry  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers  
Municipal Law Enforcement Officers' Association  
World Animal Protection  
All Ontario Municipalities

April 5, 2024

SENT VIA EMAIL ONLY

To Whom It May Concern:

**RE: Motion – Exotic Animals**

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At its meeting of April 2, 2024, the Council for The Corporation of the Town of Kirkland Lake resolved the following:

*“Moved by: Mayor Stacy Wight  
Seconded by: Councillor Rick Owen*

**WHEREAS** Ontario has more private non-native (“exotic”) wild animal keepers, roadside zoos, mobile zoos, wildlife exhibits and other captive wildlife operations than any other province;

**AND WHEREAS** the Province of Ontario has of yet not developed regulations to prohibit or restrict animal possession, breeding, or use of exotic wild animals in captivity;

**AND WHEREAS** exotic wild animals can pose very serious human health and safety risks, and attacks causing human injury and death have occurred in the Province;

**AND WHEREAS** the keeping of exotic wild animals can cause poor animal welfare and suffering, and poses risks to local environments and wildlife;

**AND WHEREAS** owners of exotic wild animals can move from one community to another even after their operations have been shut down due to animal welfare or public health and safety concerns;

**AND WHEREAS** municipalities have struggled, often for months or years, to deal with exotic wild animal issues and have experienced substantive regulatory, administrative, enforcement and financial challenges;

**AND WHEREAS** the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO), and the Municipal Law Enforcement Officers' Association (MLEOA) have indicated their support for World Animal Protection's campaign for provincial regulations of exotic wild animals and roadside zoos in letters to the Ontario Solicitor General and Ontario Minister for Natural Resources and Forestry;

***THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT*** *The Corporation of the Town of Kirkland Lake hereby petitions the provincial government to implement provincial regulations to restrict the possession, breeding, and use of exotic wild animals and license zoos in order to guarantee the fair and consistent application of policy throughout Ontario for the safety of Ontario's citizens and the exotic wild animal population;*

***AND FINALLY THAT*** *a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Ontario's Solicitor General, Ontario's Minister for Natural Resources and Forestry, MPP Timiskaming-Cochrane, AMO, AMCTO, MLEAO, Timiskaming Municipal Association (TMA), the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), and all municipalities within the District of Timiskaming.*

***CARRIED"***

As so directed, a copy of Council's resolution has been supplied above for your reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide clarification in this regard.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Spilman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Amberly Spilman  
Deputy Clerk/Lottery Licensing Officer



Friday, September 27, 2024

Sent via email  
[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Hon. Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Bldg, Rm 281  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford,

**Re: Roadside Zoos Legislation**

On Sunday, August 18, 2024 the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus passed the following motion:

**Moved by B. Clarke, seconded by K. Marriott:**

**"THAT** this report titled "Roadside Zoos" be received and filed; and

**THAT** the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus pass the following resolution and forward to all 117 municipalities in Western Ontario;

**WHEREAS** Ontario has more private non-native ("exotic") wild animal keepers, roadside zoos, mobile zoos, wildlife exhibits and other captive wildlife operations than any other province; and,

**WHEREAS** the Province of Ontario has of yet not developed regulations to prohibit or restrict animal possession, breeding, or use of non-native ("exotic") wild animals in captivity; and,

**WHEREAS** non-native ("exotic") wild animals can pose very serious human health and safety risks, and attacks causing human injury and death have occurred in the province; and,

**WHEREAS** the keeping of non-native ("exotic") wild animals can cause poor animal welfare and suffering, and poses risks to local environments and wildlife; and,

**WHEREAS** owners of non-native ("exotic") wild animals can move from one community to another even after their operations have been shut down due to animal welfare or public health and safety concerns; and,

**WHEREAS** municipalities have struggled, often for months or years, to deal with non-native ("exotic") wild animal issues and have experienced substantive regulatory, administrative, enforcement and financial challenges; and,

**AND WHEREAS** the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) and the Municipal Law Enforcement Officers'

Association (MLEOA) have indicated their support for World Animal Protection's campaign for provincial regulations of non-native ("exotic") wild animals and roadside zoos in letters to the Ontario Solicitor General and Ontario Minister for Natural Resources and Forestry;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus hereby petitions the provincial government to implement provincial regulations to restrict the possession, breeding, and use of non-native ("exotic") wild animals and license zoos in order to guarantee the fair and consistent application of policy throughout Ontario for the safety of Ontario's citizens and the non-native ("exotic") wild animal population;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution will be forwarded to all municipalities in Ontario for support and that each endorsement be then forwarded to the Premier of Ontario (premier@ontario.ca), Ontario Solicitor General (michael.kerzner@ontario.ca), Ontario Minister for Natural Resources and Forestry (graydon.smith@ontario.ca ) and AMO (amo@amo.on.ca) , AMCTO (advocacy@amcto.com) , and MLEAO (mleo@mleoa.ca)." - **CARRIED**

Sincerely,



Glen McNeil,  
Chair, Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus

cc:

Hon Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General  
Hon. Graydon Smith, Minister for Natural Resources and Forestry  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers  
Municipal Law Enforcement Officers' Association  
Western Ontario Municipalities