



TOPIC: North Toronto Cat Rescue

DATE: Feb. 11, 2021

The City of Vaughan prioritizes public safety and is committed to protecting the health of all members of the community – including pets and wildlife.

Vaughan Animal Services (VAS) provides many services, including pick up of injured or sick dogs, cats, wildlife and strays, and pet adoption. The City knows that a family pet is at the heart of many families. As a registered municipal pound, the VAS shelter is the only place where found stray cats can be turned over. Once a stray cat is turned over, the team then tries to locate the owner.

Animal rescue kennels that shelter animals require a business licence to operate lawfully in the City of Vaughan. As part of the licensing process, they must also meet other requirements, including zoning and animal control by-laws. In the case of the North Toronto Cat Rescue, at 1435 Centre St., this activity is not permitted to operate from this location, and it is not in compliance with the business licensing or animal control by-laws.

VAS is committed to working with individuals to ensure the safety and well being of animals.

Upon the applicant's request, the variance application on this matter will be rescheduled to a future Committee of Adjustment hearing. The Committee of Adjustment is a quasi-judicial body that has been appointed by Council to adjudicate applications for minor variances to the City's Zoning By-law under the Planning Act.

Several Members of Council are also pet owners and are sympathetic to the concerns of pet owners. VAS is dedicated to creating a safe community for pets and their owners. Services include dog and cat licensing, animal control by-law education, pick up of injured or sick animals, reuniting owners with lost pets and pet adoption.

Beyond the issue you have raised, VAS is committed to finding [lost pets](#). All stray pets found are posted on [PetHarbor](#), a pet recovery system that searches lost and found reports posted within the community and Ontario.

Please note that as a result of the global COVID-19 pandemic, the Vaughan Animal Shelter located at 70 Tigi Court is closed to the public until further notice. Adoption and pet recovery services are available by appointment. Please contact us at 905-832-2281 or at animal.services@vaughan.ca for assistance during this closure.