

Britto, John

From: Beauchamp, Alexandra
Sent: May-31-16 9:47 AM
To: Britto, John
Subject: FW: "to be added to the agenda of The Committee of the Whole on June 1/16"

CW (WORKING SESSION)
 JUNE 1/16
 ITEM - 2

Hi John,

Please view the email below.

Thank you,
 Alex

From: Feline Friends Network [<mailto:info@felinefriends.ca>]
Sent: Monday, May 30, 2016 4:35 PM
To: Clerks@vaughan.ca
Cc: monikasudds@live.com
Subject: "to be added to the agenda of The Committee of the Whole on June 1/16"

To whom it may concern-

Regarding: The value of community Trap/Neuter/Return programs

As past-President and founder of registered charity Feline Friends Network of Stratford (FFN), I'd like to, in brief, tell you our story as an example of how and why Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) works. FFN started in 2006 because, as a volunteer at what was then our local OSPCA, I realized the toll of cats being killed there for space reasons was staggering, and unacceptable. Clearly adoption was not working to bring down the numbers, and I realized we needed to do something to stop the flow of cats coming into our shelter. That "something" was spaying and neutering *before* more litters were born. I then gathered some like-minded volunteers, begged my veterinarian for help, used some of my own money, and started two spay/neuter programs -- one to help low income people with the cost of neutering their cats, and the other trap/neuter/return. At the time TNR was not accepted practice in our city, but we had a good relationship with our local Animal Control, and they "looked the other way" as much as they could. After a few years of successful TNR, we presented our case to our city council, with numbers to back up the fact that TNR does indeed work, and so it became accepted practice. FFN has TNR'd approx. 700 cats in our county, 180+ of those in Stratford, and, while the numbers still needing to be done outside of our City (in smaller cities and towns, and on farms) remain considerable, we can honestly say that the results for starting TNR when we did speak for themselves. The value of this program shows itself:

- By the numbers -- Of the 180 cats TNR'd in Stratford, only 61 remained as of Dec. 2015...If we hadn't done TNR, what would those numbers be? And how many more cats would die in the humane society that is supposed to "shelter" them?
- In goodwill -- No one, whether they like cats or not, wants to see an animal unnecessarily killed...TNR is *humane*. People like to know the problem is being "fixed" in a humane manner. As well you will be very pleasantly surprised at the number of volunteers who will come forward to help when they know you are helping, not harming these cats.

C6.2

- In reduction of complaint calls to Animal Control...I don't have those numbers from our local Stratford-Perth Humane Society (SPHS), but I'm sure you would be able to find them out by contacting Kathy Innocente, Director of Operations for the Kitchener-Waterloo H.S. of which SPHS is a satellite. [<kathy.innocente@kwhumane.com>](mailto:kathy.innocente@kwhumane.com)

FFN is now finding the need to TNR many fewer cats in Stratford, and those we do find are usually abandoned or lost friendly cats. We are therefore now concentrating our TNR efforts in the surrounding area, as well as helping people on social assistance with free spay/neuter for their cats. We believe these two programs will be successful in ending "cat overpopulation" in our area. In fact, we believe it is already succeeding. (Since 2006 we have subsidized spay/neuter for over 1600 cats through all of our programs)

I strongly urge you to go ahead with Community TNR...It is a good feeling to choose "life" as your solution.

Very sincerely yours,

Cheryl Simpson (519-273-8067)

Past President

Feline Friends Network of Stratford (website and FB addresses below)

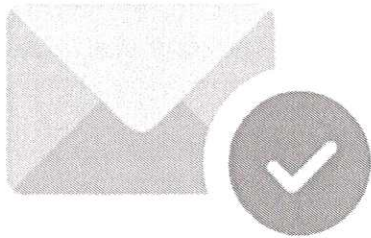
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Cheryl Simpson

Feline Friends Network

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