

## Powley, Susan

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**From:** Nadejda Aletkina [r]  
**Sent:** Friday, October 08, 2010 3:01 PM  
**To:** Powley, Susan  
**Subject:** backyard hens

Hello,

I am Nadejda Aletkina, a resident in the Bayridge area, where I have a house and a garden on the backyard. Throughout the years it appeared more and more clearly to me that several by-laws urgently need updating to reflect our desire for a cleaner, quieter, friendlier environment and a more respectful treatment of our legal ownership rights over our properties from our neighbours and from the city.

My concern is regarding the Animals Control By-Law in the light of the city's considerations regarding the Backyard Hens.

### **Animal Control By-Law:**

The Backyard Hens policies to be finalized by October 25 and to be voted soon this year. I am aware that Lisa Osanik suggests to limit the number of the backyard hens to 4, without any serious reasoning or being consistent with other pets policies. The city decisions should be, and may be a better word to choose, **MUST be CONSISTENT, UNDISCRIMINATING, and REASONABLE.**

Common types of pets are cats, dogs, and now the Kingston Urban Agriculture Group proposes hens.

Currently, the city by-law does not limit the number of cats and dogs, while Lisa Osanik wants to restrict the number of hens. This is **INCONSISTENT** with the dogs and cats policies. There is an essential advantage that hens have towards making our city more sustainable and environmentally friendly, also promising to save thousands of dollars for the city on reduced amount of organic waste that the city collects and disposes.

	Considerations	Cats	Dogs	Backyard Hens
1	Towards Sanitary	Pollute on neighbors' properties	Pollute on city's property where residents clean	Produce a limited amount of high quality manure that does not have a greenhouse in-print.
2	Towards Community - People	Running free through other's properties	Pedestrians often step on the dogs droppings on the sidewalks, especially at night, and at a daytime, disgusted to see the droppings, at least able to avoid stepping on them	Do not interfere with pedestrians and neighbours due to being kept strictly within the owners' backyards
3	Towards Noise	Quiet	Noisy, especially seeing other dogs or cats. When my neighbour's dog comes to their backyard, it barks uncontrollably making my in-door cat that I supervise on my backyard scared crazy and jumping in an eye blink moment to the street and becoming out of reach for me – big problem	Quiet all time

4	Towards Clean Sidewalks	No interference	Fecal droppings are common on the city's part of the front yards, between the sidewalks and the street pavement, children often step on it and bring the matter to the houses	No interference with the public due to being kept on the backyards only
5	Towards Environment	Hunt for the birds commonly, leaving dead birds and their remaining. Infect the lawns with parasites, and their eggs. Litter on the lawns (droppings). Contribute to the general garbage disposal.	Scare little kids. Infect the lawns with parasites, and their eggs. Litter on the lawns (droppings). Contribute to the general garbage disposal.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Clean the environment against all kinds of pests and so eliminating the need for the pesticides.</li> <li>2. Hens eat wild animals' droppings and so eliminate their parasites, reducing the chances of infection in people.</li> <li>3. Eat the weeds, eliminating the need for herbicides</li> <li>4. Produce highest quality manure that organically fertilizes the soil promoting our gardens to produce more berries, fruits and vegetable.</li> <li>5. Eliminate a lot of a greenhouse gas emission they excludes the industrial manufacturing of the pesticides, herbicides, manure and the garden produce and delivery of those goods delivery from the manufacturer/farm to the store, from the store to the consumer's residence.</li> </ol>
6	Towards Foods Sustainability	-	-	Build up the food sustainability, producing a quality organic eggs that is almost Greenhouse Gas free ( no need to deliver from the farm to the store, from the store to the residence
7	Towards City's Economy	Litter boxes are emptied regularly to the city wastes, contributing to the volume and the accumulative costs of disposal	The droppings go to the city wastes contributing to the volume and the accumulative costs of disposal	<p>Eat literally all the household's organic wastes, peels of vegetables etc, and so reducing or even eliminating the need for disposal through the city. Ideally, if all households keep the backyard hens, city would be able to cancel the organic wastes collection and save a lot of money.</p> <p>The manure is used to fertilize the gardens, so it is waste free pet.</p>
8	Proposed limit	2 adult cats	2 adult dogs	8 hens

Above in the table I am trying to reason in favor of the backyard hens. **To be CONSISTENT**, the city should restrict the number of any kind of pets allowed per property, or not restrict any kinds of them, and to make the decision on that, the city **must be REASONABLE**, counting the environmental, economical (savings/costs), sustainability benefits for the city and the community. The city must **be UNDISCRIMINATING**. If the number

of adult cats and dogs who definitely interfere with the public interests are not restricted to a reasonable (proposed to be 2), then you can not restrict the hens that do not interfere with the public interests at all.

**Powley, Susan**

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**From:** Jenn and Keith Iskiw [mailto:jiskiwa@kingston.ca]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 03, 2010 10:41 PM  
**To:** Powley, Susan  
**Subject:** backyard hens

I am writing with questions regarding backyard hens. In the literature posted on the city of Kingston's website, it states that the chickens must remain in the coop at all times? What kind of life is that for the chicken? Would you lock your dog in a doghouse and never let him see the light of day? I'm appalled at this inclusion in the rules. The whole point in having your own hens is to provide a humane proper life for the chickens you want to get eggs from. The stipulation goes against the entire methodology. I hope Kingston is going to reconsider this rule, as I can guarantee the sounds of a couple of hens chirping in the backyard would be more welcome than screaming children, or loud obnoxious barking dogs that I can hear with all the windows closed...

Jennifer Iskiw  
Kingston Resident

I believe in animal rights, and high among them is the right to the gentle stroke of a human hand.  
~Robert Brault

*Copied to K. Leonard*