

Pets

Purpose of the policy

To regulate the number, type and behaviour of pets in our co-op, and to stress member responsibility for pets.

Policy

1. No pets allowed other than contained pets such as: fish, birds, gerbils, hamsters or guinea pigs. The board may permit other contained pets but may reasonably withhold permission. Contained pets must remain inside their tank or cage when outside the unit.
2. Guide dogs and other assistance dogs are not counted in the number of pets per unit in Policy #1.
3. Animals not listed in Point #1 and Point #2 are not allowed. Pets of guests are not allowed to stay overnight.
4. Animals or breeds defined as “vicious” by municipal or regional bylaw are not allowed in the co-op.
6. The co-op reserves the right to refuse any pet it considers dangerous, and to require the member to remove any pet that causes persistent noise, damage or other problems.
7. All cats and dogs that were “grandfathered” in the No Pet Policy must:
 - wear identification tags when outside
 - not be tied up and/or left unattended for unreasonable periods of time when outside
 - be spayed or neutered.
 - be vaccinated.

8. Dogs must be on a leash when outside on co-op common property. Cats are not allowed outside the unit.
9. Owners must immediately pick up any animal droppings left by their pet.
10. Members are responsible for any damage caused by a pet.

Policy approved by general meeting:

Replaces policy dated:

Procedures needed to carry out this policy

1. Procedure for declaring pet(s) on member application form or when pet moves in. Information to all applicants and members about the policy.
2. Where members must register pets.
3. Registration form including proof of neutering or spaying and vaccination.
4. Pet records will be included in a member's unit file.
5. A registered training certificate if required for an assistance dog.
6. Permitted size of fish tanks and/or required water damage liability insurance.

Options

Options: Point #1

Fill in the number and pet type in the first sentence e.g. “two cats and one dog” or “one cat”, etc.

Change the list of permitted contained pets as you choose.

Note: If you decide to reduce the number of pets, consider a grandfather clause. Members with “grandfathered pets” must not replace the pet after it dies. To be sure that the pet owners clearly understand this, your co-op could ask them to sign an agreement.

Option: Point #4

Your co-op can define vicious or dangerous animals or breeds.

Note: Excerpts from a municipal animal control bylaw are in the resources section.

Option: Point #8

Cats [**must be kept indoors**].

Other option

11. The co-op will establish a pet committee to administer the pet policy and keep pet records.

Note: This option makes a pet committee a standing committee with administrative responsibilities. The sample policy assumes that pet registration and administration can be part of routine office procedures.

Resources

Municipal animal control bylaw – excerpts
www.city.vancouver.bc.ca/bylaws