

**Purpose:**

To set out the criteria The City will use to determine and designate a dog as aggressive and to order the euthanasia of a dog or an aggressive dog.

**Policy Statements:**

1. The City will use the following behaviour assessment chart when evaluating a dog for aggressive behaviour:

<b>Level</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>1</b>	Dog growls, lunges, and/or snarls. Chases a person in a menacing fashion. No teeth touch skin. Mostly threatening behaviour toward a person.
<b>2</b>	Teeth touch skin but no puncture of the skin. May have red mark/minor bruising. A minor injury to a person.
<b>3</b>	Puncture wounds to the skin, no more than ½ the length of the dog's canine tooth; one to four puncture holes from a single bite. No tearing or slashing of the skin. Probable bruising. A minor injury.
<b>4</b>	One to four holes from a single bite; one hole deeper than ½ the length of the canine tooth, typically with contact or punctures from more than just the canines only. Deep tissue bruising, tears, and/or slashing wounds. Dog usually clamped down and held, shook, or slashed the victim. A severe injury. Also, an attack that results in the death of another domestic animal.
<b>5</b>	Multiple bites at Level 4 or above. A concerted, repeated attack. A severe injury.
<b>6</b>	Any bite resulting in the death of a human.

2. The City may designate a dog as aggressive if:
  - a) the dog has been involved in more than three incidents evaluated to be at Level 1;
  - b) the dog has been involved in more than two incidents evaluated to be at Level 2 or 3; or
  - c) the dog has been involved in an incident evaluated to be at Level 4.

3. The City may order euthanasia of a dog if:
- a) the aggressive dog has been involved in any additional incidents evaluated at levels 3, 4, or 5; or
  - b) the dog or aggressive dog is involved in an incident evaluated to be at Level 5 or 6.

**Definitions:**

Aggressive dog	any dog that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) has been designated an aggressive dog by the Inspections &amp; Licensing Manager; or</li><li>(b) has been made the subject of an order under the <i>Dangerous Dog Act</i>.</li></ul>
Minor injury	any physical injury to another domestic animal or a person, caused by a dog or aggressive dog, that results in bleeding, bruising, tearing of skin, or any other injury that is not life-threatening, disfiguring, or debilitating.
Severe injury	any physical injury to another domestic animal or a person, caused by a dog or aggressive dog, that results in broken bones or lacerations requiring sutures or cosmetic surgery.
Threatening behaviour	behaviour that creates a reasonable apprehension of a threat of physical injury and may include growling, lunging, snarling, or chasing in a menacing fashion.

**References / Links:**

1. Bylaw 3429/2009 The Dog Bylaw –  
<http://www.reddeer.ca/City+Government/City+Services+and+Departments/Legislative+and+Administrative+Services/City+Bylaws/default.htm>
2. The Municipal Government Act –  
<http://www.qp.gov.ab.ca/Documents/acts/M26.CFM>
3. The Dangerous Dog Act –  
[http://www.qp.gov.ab.ca/documents/Acts/D03.cfm?frm\\_isbn=0779700600](http://www.qp.gov.ab.ca/documents/Acts/D03.cfm?frm_isbn=0779700600)
4. 4416 - DP Dog Bylaw Aggressive Dog Designation procedure

**Document History:**

Date
Approved: September 21, 2009

**Administrative Revisions:**

Date:	Revision:
May 14, 2010	Policy number changed from 4418 to 6118