

By-Law No. 2609

A By-Law of the City of Lethbridge with respect to the keeping of Pigeons within the City of Lethbridge

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WHEREAS pursuant to Section 278 (f) of the City Act, City Council may regulate the keeping of wild or domestic poultry within the City and may by Section 278 (g) thereof prohibit the keeping of wild or domestic poultry in parts of the City where Council is of the opinion that such keeping is likely to cause a nuisance; and

WHEREAS pigeons are a species of poultry that require some regulation and control for the convenience and welfare of the inhabitants of the City;

NOW THEREFORE the Municipal Council of The City of Lethbridge duly assembled enacts as follows:

1. In this Bylaw:

- (a) "loft" shall mean the structures where the birds are confined including any run, fly-pen or aviary,
- (b) "pigeon" shall refer to birds of this species other than racing pigeons or show pigeons,
- (c) "racing pigeon" shall mean a pigeon banded with a numbered leg band issued by a racing club which is affiliated with a national organization.
- (d) "show pigeon" shall mean any species of pigeon that is kept in a fly pen, loft or other enclosure and which is not permitted to fly free of such enclosure.

2. No person shall keep racing pigeons, show pigeons or pigeons in any district of the City zoned primarily for residential purposes except in strict conformity with all provisions of this By-Law.

3. Every person keeping racing pigeons in Lethbridge shall be a bona fide member of a licensed racing pigeon club operating within the City whose name and address will be provided annually to the License Inspector by the officers of the racing pigeon club to which he belongs by March 31st of each year.

4. An owner of racing pigeons may permit them to be released for supervised exercise each day to achieve and maintain muscular condition providing the exercise period shall not exceed three hours daily, but the racing pigeons shall be confined to lofts by their owner except when racing or when exercising as herein provided.

5. The following regulations apply to racing pigeons, show pigeons and pigeons:

- (a) A loft is deemed an accessory use on residential property and no development permit pursuant to any zoning regulations is needed to erect a loft but the standard of construction is governed by the Lethbridge Building Code and so any person planning to construct a loft shall first obtain a building permit for the proposed structure.
- (b) No loft or any part thereof shall be built closer than 30 feet to any school, church, dwelling or other premises used for human habitation or occupancy other than the premises occupied by the keeper of such building or structure or members of his immediate family.
- (c) Every loft shall have the inside walls and ceiling portions lime-washed or painted at least once a year.
- (d) All runs and outside areas of confinement shall be dug or otherwise cleaned regularly to prevent odors arising therefrom.
- (e) All refuse resulting from the keeping of pigeons, racing pigeons, or show pigeons shall be disposed of in a sanitary manner in accordance with the requirements of the Medical Officer of Health. No owner of show pigeons or pigeons shall allow his birds to fly at large in the City.

6. (a) An annual City License for the period March 30th in a year to March 31st of the next year may be issued to any Racing Pigeon Club operating in Lethbridge for the sum of ten dollars if the Medical Officer of Health has approved the loft as complying with this By-Law and the relevant Public Health regulations or By-Laws. Such fee will license the club and every member thereof who has been listed by the club as a member in the current membership record supplied to the License Inspector.

(b) If complaints about racing pigeons are received the licensed racing pigeon club shall investigate and report upon the complaint to the City Medical Officer of Health.

(c) A club license may be obtained on the terms above set forth by any club in Lethbridge that is concerned with the keeping of show pigeons or pigeons.

(d) Any person not a member of a recognized club for keeping pigeons, show pigeons or racing pigeons, shall pay by March 31st in each year to the License Inspector a license fee of five dollars.

(e) The license of any individual or club may be suspended or may be cancelled at the discretion of the City Medical Officer of Health when he is satisfied that the terms of this By-Law are not being observed by the license holder.

7. No owner of show pigeons or pigeons shall allow his birds to fly at large in the City.

8. No person who is not the holder of a current and valid City license either personally or as a member of a club licensed by the City, shall harbour or keep racing pigeons, show pigeons or pigeons within the City of Lethbridge.

9. Any person violating any of the provisions of this By-Law shall be liable on summary conviction before a Magistrate to a penalty not exceeding \$100.00 exclusive of costs and in case of non-payment of the fine and costs, to imprisonment for a period not exceeding sixty days unless the fine and costs including the costs of committal are sooner paid.

DONE AND PASSED IN COUNCIL this 1st day of November, 1965

  
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Mayor

  
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City Clerk