

**Ministry of Natural
Resources and Forestry**

Office of the Minister

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**Ministère des Richesses
naturelles et des Forêts**

Bureau du ministre

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Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1W3
Tél.: 416-314-2301



354-2020-1060

June 4, 2020

His Worship Jim Watson
Mayor
City of Ottawa
Jim.Watson@ottawa.ca

Dear Mayor Watson:

I am writing to address concerns regarding coyotes in urban communities and provide you with information to assist you in making decisions and/or taking action with respect to protection of property and the public related to coyote conflicts in your municipality.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) has worked with municipalities, stakeholders and non-government agencies for many years to prevent and manage conflicts between coyotes and humans. Coyote sightings in the City of Ottawa can be reported to the City or to the National Capital Commission (NCC). MNRF provides support to the City and the NCC by providing advice and expertise on how to prevent and manage human-coyote encounters.

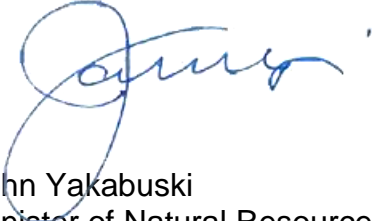
If a coyote poses an immediate threat or danger to public safety, the public is advised to call 911 immediately. Police can dispatch the animal if they deem it necessary to protect public safety.

I recognize that preventative measures and awareness may not always be effective in preventing conflicts with individual animals, especially when human-provided sources of food continue to be made available to coyotes. That is why the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act* (FWCA) allows property owners to protect their property by harassing, capturing or killing a variety of wildlife species, including coyotes, or to hire an agent to do so on their behalf. No approval or authorization is required from the MNRF in these cases.

The FWCA also permits municipalities to act on a property owner's behalf or retain the services of licensed trappers to resolve ongoing conflict situations and may do so with no prior authorization from MNRF. For additional information, please visit www.ontario.ca/page/wild-animal-control-rules-municipalities.

I trust that this information will be helpful in managing coyotes in your municipality. For additional information, please visit www.ontario.ca/page/preventing-and-managing-conflicts-coyotes-wolves-and-foxes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John Yakabuski', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

John Yakabuski
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

- c: Carole Anne Meehan, Councillor, Ward 22 Gloucester-South Nepean
Goldie Ghamari, MPP, Carleton
Merrilee Fullerton, MPP, Kanata-Carleton
Jeremy Roberts, MPP, Ottawa West-Nepean
Lisa MacLeod, MPP, Nepean